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Edwin T. McFadden III  
Daniel C. Naumann

General Manager  
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel  
David D. Boyer

**MINUTES**  
**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 4, 2021, 9:00 A.M.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair Lynn E. Maulhardt  
Director Edwin T. McFadden III  
Director Daniel C. Naumann

**STAFF ATTENDING**

Mauricio Guardado, Jr., general manager  
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer  
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager  
Brian Collins, chief operations officer  
John Carman, operations and maintenance program supervisor  
Hannah Garcia-Wickstrum, associate environmental scientist  
Michel Kadah, engineer  
Evan Lashly, environmental scientist  
Tessa Lenz, associate environmental scientist  
Craig Morgan, engineering manager  
Josh Perez, chief human resources officer  
Zachary Plummer, senior technology systems specialist  
Linda Purpus, environmental services manager  
Adrian Quiroz, associate engineer  
Robert Richardson, senior engineer

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

No members of the public were present at the meeting

**OPEN SESSION: 9:00 a.m.**

Chair Maulhardt called the Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Committee Members Roll Call**

Clerk called the roll. Committee members: Chair Maulhardt, Director Naumann and Director McFadden were present.

**1. Public Comment**

Chair Maulhardt asked if there were any public comments for the Committee. None were offered.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the Minutes from the October 7, 2021 Engineering and Operations Committee meeting, Director Naumann; Second, Director McFadden. Voice vote: three ayes (Naumann, Maulhardt, McFadden); none opposed; Motion carried, 3/0.

General Manager Mauricio Guardado stated that item 3.2 will be removed from this agenda.

## **3. November 10, 2021 Board Meeting Motion Agenda Items**

### **3.1 Resolution 2021-22 Approving the California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption Determination for the Lake Piru Sediment Sampling Project**

Associate Environmental Scientist Tessa Lenz addressed the committee and provided a slide presentation (see attached) regarding staff's request to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-22, adopting the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption (NOE) determination for the Lake Piru Sediment Sampling Project (Project) and authorizing staff to file a NOE for the Project with the Ventura County Clerk and Recorder's Office, to the full Board.

Director Naumann asked about the project details. Chief Engineer Maryam Bral stated the purpose of the Project is to evaluate sediment removal. As part of this effort, sampling will be conducted to characterize the soil and determine if the Project is economically feasible. Director McFadden asked if there is any concern regarding impacts to cultural resources within the project location. Ms. Lenz stated that no impacts to cultural resources are expected to result from the project.

The committee members agreed to recommend approval of the motion item to the full Board.

### **3.2 Resolution 2021-23 Approving the California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption Determination for the El Rio Water Well No. 19 Project**

This motion item was removed from the agenda.

### **3.3 Execution of a Contract Amendment with Cramer Fish Sciences for the Fish Passage Pre-Implementation Studies under FERC Project**

Environmental Scientist Evan Lashly addressed the committee and provided a slide presentation (see attached) regarding staff's request to recommend authorizing the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Cramer Fish Sciences to provide fish passage pre-implementation studies in accordance with the FERC license for the Santa Felicia Project, to the full Board.

Director Naumann asked about the project time frame. Mr. Lashly stated that staff initially completed the first year of the project and embarked on the second year, but were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Lashly stated that the fieldwork has been on hold since March 2020, but the PIT antennas have been monitoring activity since then. The purpose of this proposal is to resume the project activities.

Director McFadden asked about the size range of the tagged fish. Mr. Lashly stated that the minimum size for tagging fish is 60 millimeters. Director McFadden then asked if

there is anything that keeps the fish from swimming under or around the rotary screw trap. Mr. Lashly stated that this is a shortcoming of the screw trap, it only samples a small portion of the channel.

Director Naumann asked about the current creek flows. Mr. Lashly stated that it is currently dry. Mr. Guardado asked where the fish are currently pooling. Mr. Lashly stated it is reasonable to assume the habitat located in the upper sections have now become very small. He added, Middle Piru Creek and Agua Blanca have remained wet therefore this is where the fish may have been able to weather the drought.

The committee members agreed to recommend approval of the motion item to the full Board.

#### **4. Project Highlights**

##### **4.1 Environmental Services Department Update**

Environmental Services Manager Linda Purpus provided updates and slides (see attached) on the Environmental Services department's activities. Ms. Purpus stated that all work related to the Freeman Geotechnical Project is complete. Staff continues to collaborate with agencies and are making efforts to resolve challenges related to the Freeman Sediment Management Project. In addition, Ms. Purpus reported that staff supported Engineering in reviewing and submitting application packages for permits and authorizations for the Lake Piru sediment sampling project.

##### **4.2 Operations and Maintenance Department Monthly Update**

Chief Operations Officer Brian Collins provided updates and slides (see attached) on the operations and maintenance department's activities for the month. Mr. Collins stated that staff identified a preliminary failure on a bearing and were able to send it out for repairs. Shortly afterwards, PTP Well No. 4 went out of service which caused a 40% reduction in production capacity. Mr. Collins stated that this occurred during the peak season for the PTP system and that PTP Well No. 4 is a large producer for the system. As a result of this service interruption, staff leveraged Well No. 12 and were able to utilize the goose neck air gap and restore lost production. Since then, staff has repaired the problem on the PTP system and now need to work on administrative items related to the allocation that was drawn. Director Naumann asked how long it took to get the well back online. Mr. Collins stated that it took 8 days to get PTP Well No. 4 back online. Staff uses Demaria Electric for repairs and since working with them failures have dropped 80%. Director McFadden inquired if staff has spare motors. Mr. Collins stated that the wells have differing horse powers and there are redundancies for the wells and reservoirs.

Director Naumann asked if Well No. 19 is in the Upper Aquifer system. Mr. Collins stated that yes, it is, and from preliminary results the water from this well looks very good.

#### **5. Future Agenda Topics**

No future agenda topics were offered.

#### **ADJOURNMENT 9:49 a.m.**

Chair Maulhardt adjourned the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting at 9:49 am.

UWCD Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting MINUTES

November 4, 2021

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I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of November 4, 2021.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Maulhardt", is written over a horizontal line.

Lynn Maulhardt, Chair



# Resolution 2021-22

## Lake Piru Sediment Sampling Project CEQA NOE

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE | NOVEMBER 4, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 3.1

Recommendation for Board consideration in adopting  
the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)  
Notice of Exemption (NOE)  
for the Lake Piru Sediment Sampling Project



2021-11-04 EngOps Committee Minutes - Agenda  
Item 3.1

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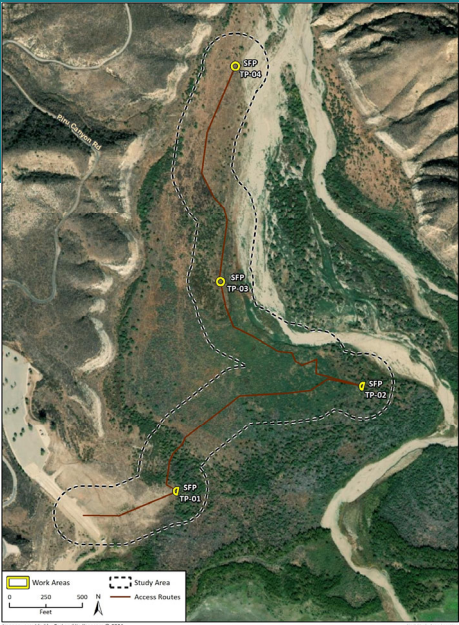
# Project Overview


**Objective**

- Obtain information on the character of accumulated sediments in Lake Piru
- Four exploratory test pits (12 feet in depth)

**CEQA Findings**

- Categorical Exemption: Information Collection (Class 6, Section 15306)





2021-11-04 EngOps Committee Minutes - Agenda  
Item 3.1

2

# Request to Engineering and Ops. Committee:

Consider recommending that the Board adopt a Resolution to approve the CEQA Findings (NOE) for the Lake Piru Sediment Sampling Project

*Questions*







United Water Conservation District



# Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting

November 4, 2021

**Agenda Item 3.3**

Request to consider recommending that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Cramer Fish Sciences to continue Santa Felicia fish passage pre-implementation studies (\$440,950)



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## Project Background

**2008 - NMFS Biological Opinion**


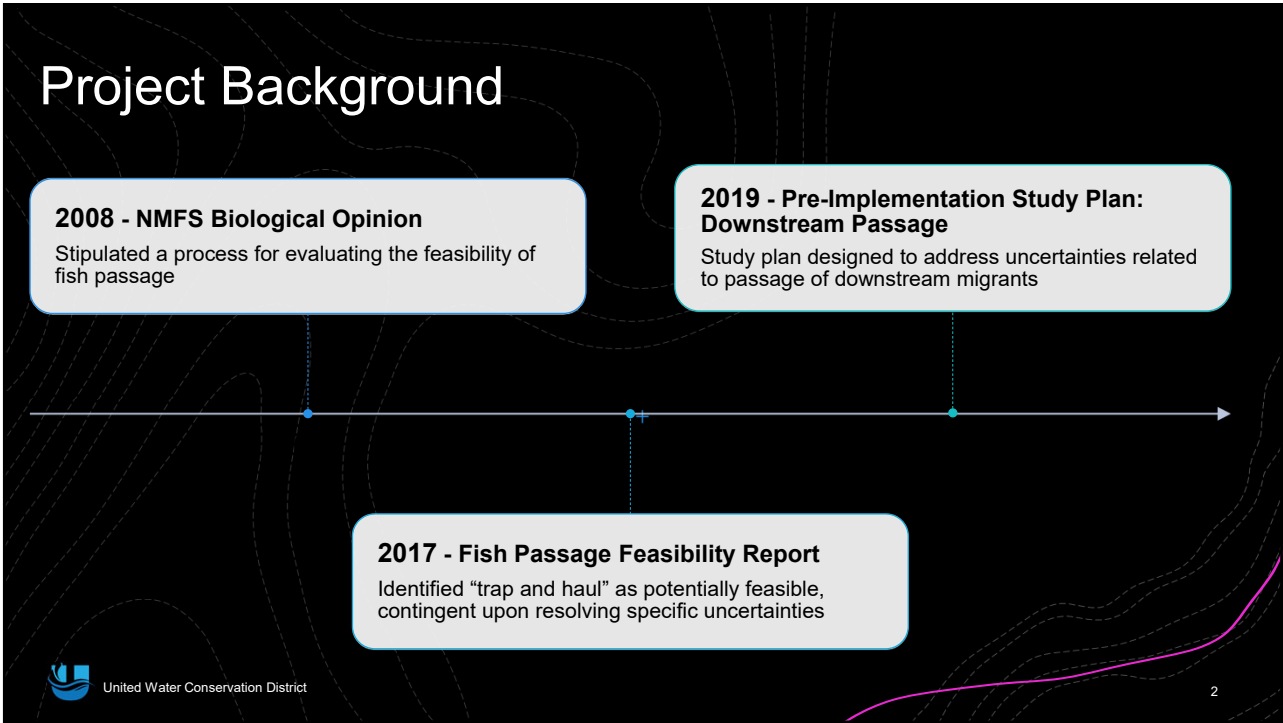
Stipulated a process for evaluating the feasibility of fish passage

**2017 - Fish Passage Feasibility Report**

Identified “trap and haul” as potentially feasible, contingent upon resolving specific uncertainties

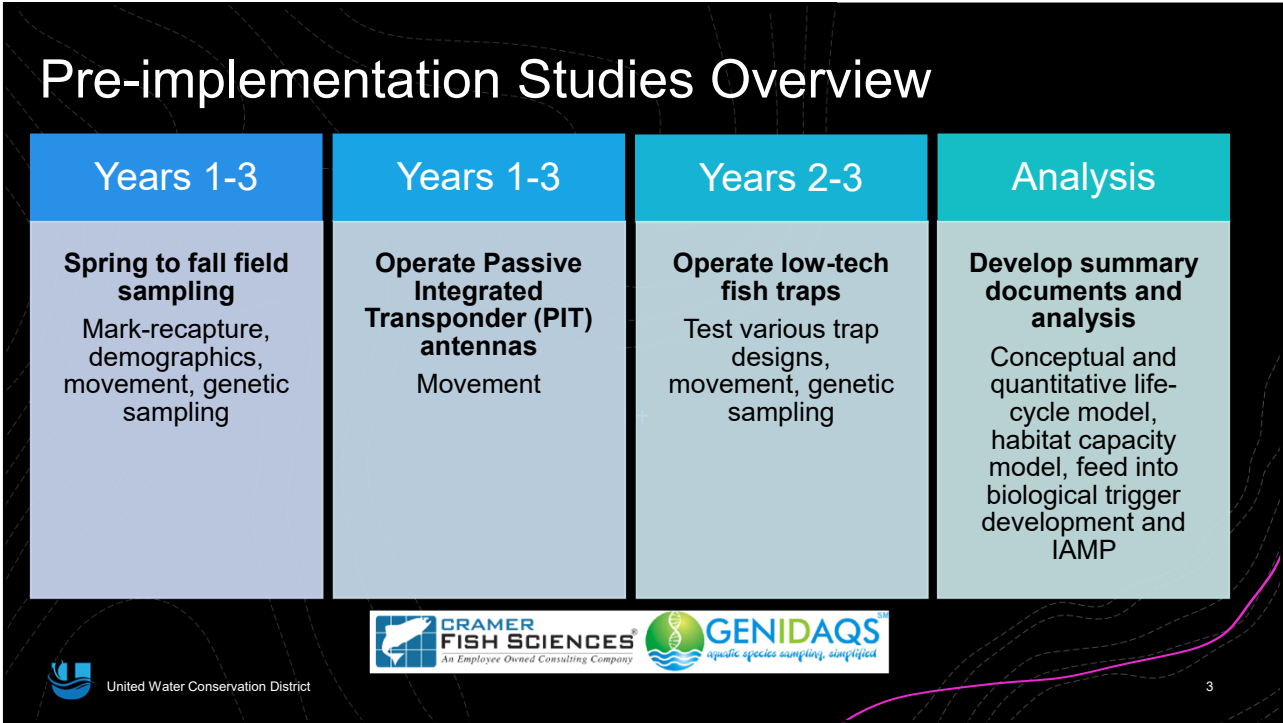
**2019 - Pre-Implementation Study Plan: Downstream Passage**

Study plan designed to address uncertainties related to passage of downstream migrants

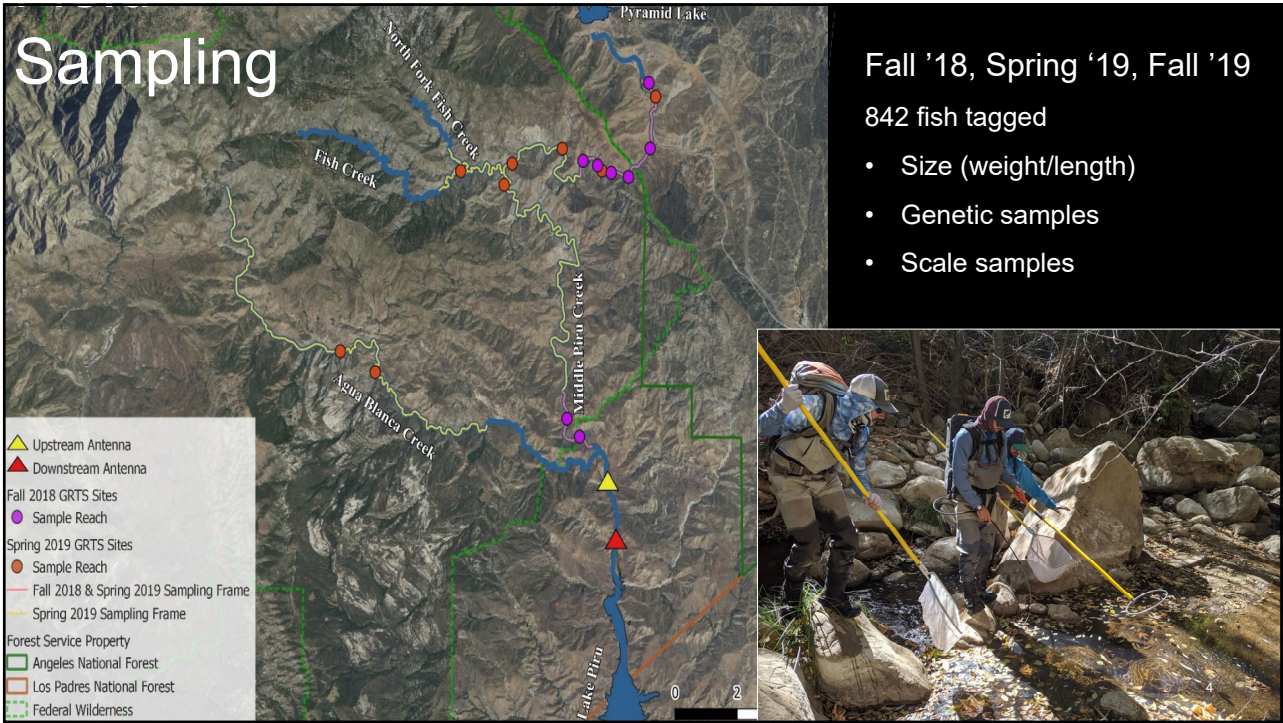


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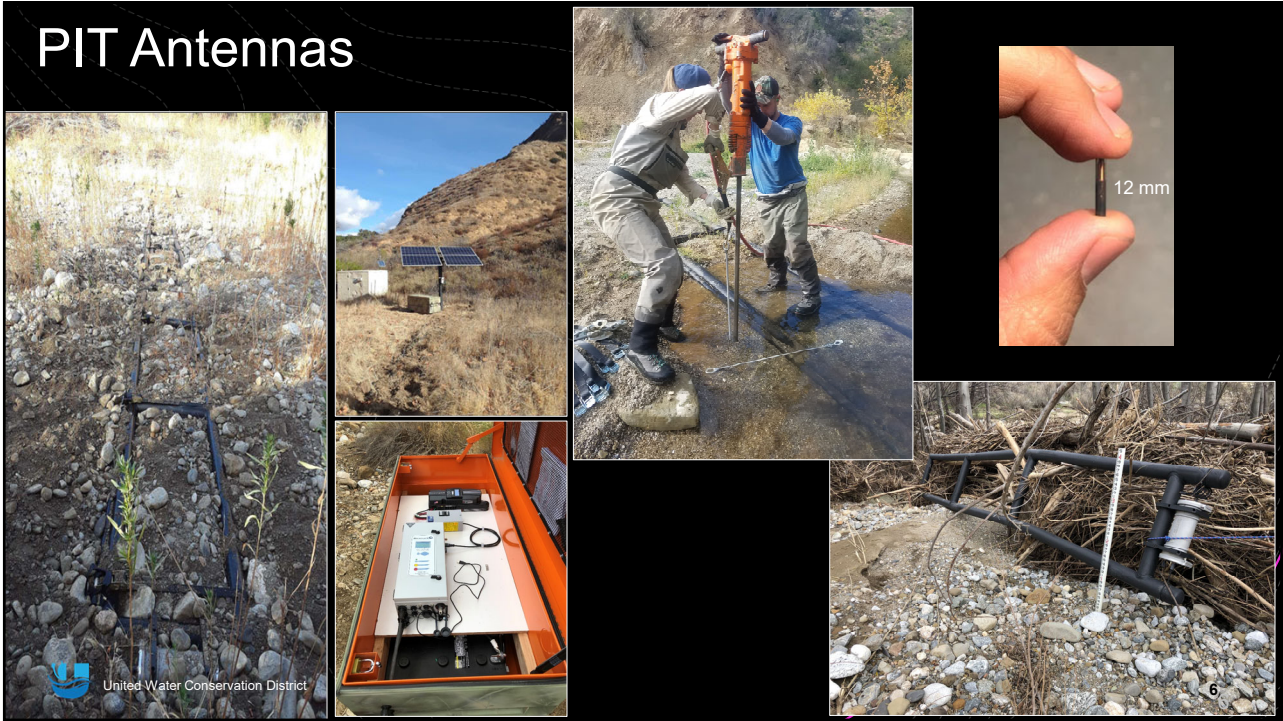


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# Fish Traps

(operated Nov. 2019 – March 2020)

A



United Water Conservation District

B





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# Staff Recommendation

The Committee recommend authorizing the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Cramer Fish Sciences for \$440,950 (for a contract total NTE \$1,275,490) to the full Board

## Next Steps

- Genetic analysis
- Pick up where year 2 left off



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# Summary Updates

- Freeman Geotechnical Exploration
- Freeman Sediment Management
- Lake Piru Sediment Sampling Project

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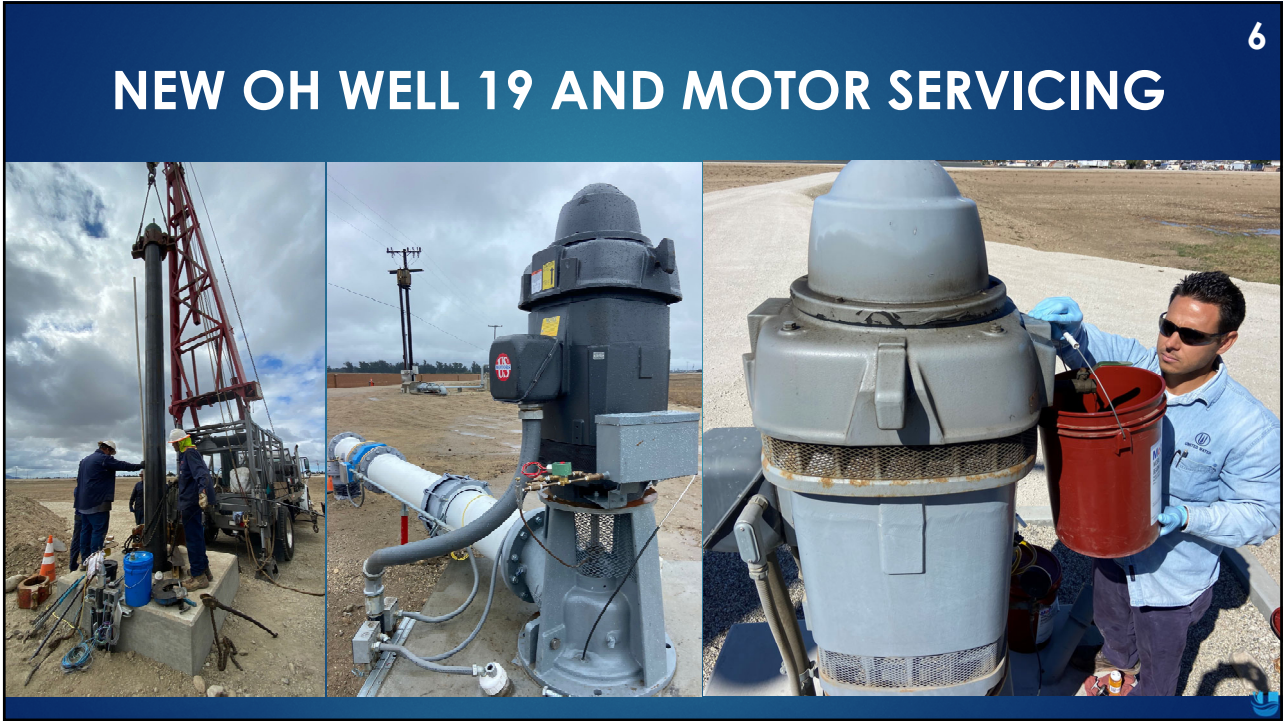


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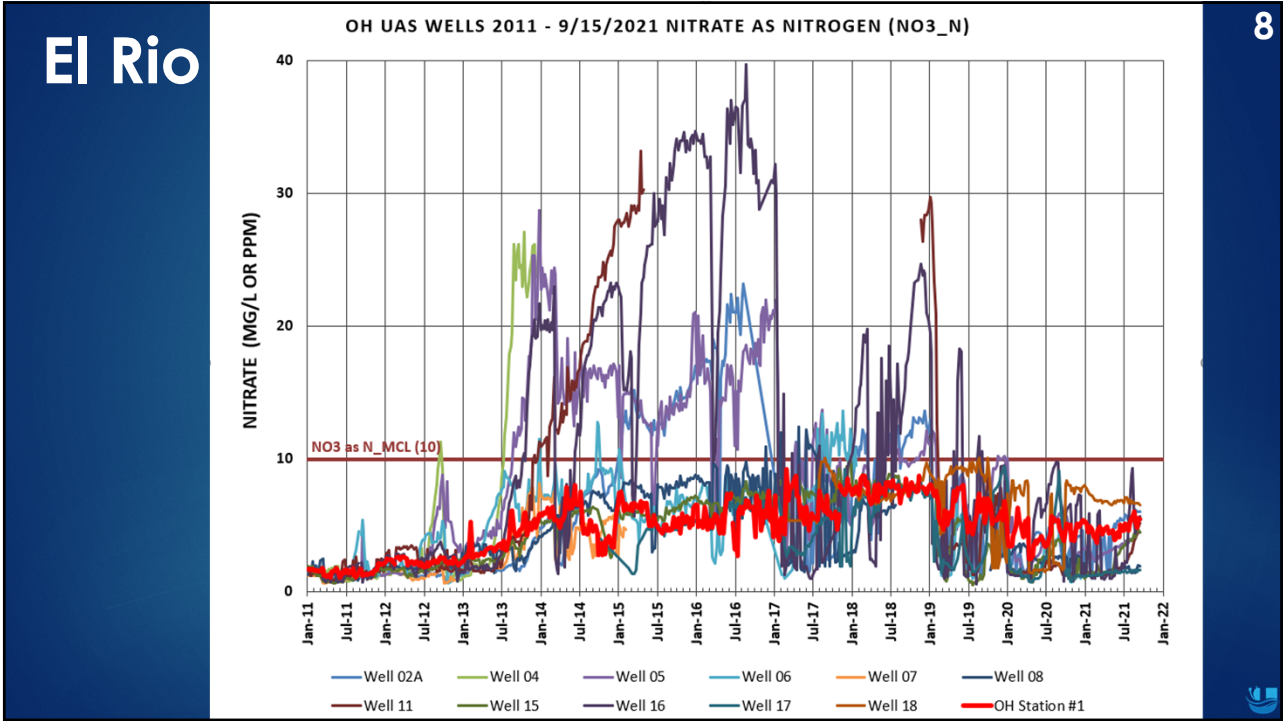


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Questions?

