



Board of Directors
Bruce E. Dandy, President
Sheldon G. Berger, Vice President
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Secretary/Treasurer
Mohammed A. Hasan
Catherine P. Keeling
Gordon Kimball
Daniel C. Naumann

General Manager
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel
David D. Boyer

AGENDA
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 12:00 P.M.
Board Room, UWCD Headquarters
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

BOARD MATTERS

*Normally, Action (Motion) Items will be considered and acted upon separately; Consent Items will be considered and acted upon collectively, although a Consent Item may be considered and acted upon separately; and Information Items will be considered separately without action.
The Board of Directors in its discretion may change the order of agenda items.*

1. FIRST OPEN SESSION 12:00 P.M.

Items to be discussed in Executive (Closed) Session will be announced.

1.1 Public Comments
Information Item

Members of the public may address the Board on any matter on the Closed Session agenda or on any non-agenda item within the jurisdiction of the Board. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit.

1.2 EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 12:05 P.M.

The Board will discuss matters outlined in the attached Executive (Closed) Session Agenda (Exhibit A).

2. SECOND OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER 1:00 P.M.

2.1 Pledge of Allegiance

2.2 Public Comment
Information Item

Members of the public may address the Board on any item on the Consent Calendar or on any non-agenda item within the jurisdiction of the Board. No action will be taken by the Board on any non-agenda item. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit.

2.3 Approval of Agenda
Motion

2.4 Oral Report Regarding Executive (Closed) Session
Information Item

Presented by District Legal Counsel David D. Boyer.

2.5 Board Members' Activities Report

Information Item

The Board will receive and file information regarding meeting participation provided by each of the Board Members through Monthly Activities (aka per diem) Reports.

2.6 General Manager's Report

Information Item

The General Manager will present information on his activities of possible interest to the Board and that may have consequence to the District.

2.7 Election of Officers

Motion

The Board will accept nominations and elect officers for 2023.

2.8 Staff Service Awards for 2022

Ceremonial Item

The Board will present service awards to:

Peter Cervantez – 5 years

Eric Elliott – 5 years

Eva Ibarra – 5 years

Michael Kaminski – 5 years

Robert Marshall – 5 years

Erik Zvirbulis – 5 years

Jason Sun – 10 years

Kelly Johnson – 15 years

Bryan Schaffer – 15 years

3. CONSENT CALENDAR: All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of December 14, 2022.

B. Groundwater Basin Status Reports

Information Item

Receive and file Monthly Hydrologic Conditions Report for the District.

C. Monthly Investment Report

Information Item

Report on the District's investments and the availability or restriction of these funds. All investments are in compliance with the District's investment policy, which is reviewed and approved annually by the Board.

- D. Resolution 2023-01 Subsequent Finding that the Governor of California issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020 relating to the COVID-19 virus and local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus and Authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of United Water Conservation District for the period of January 11, 2023, through February 8, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions**

Motion

The Board will consider approving subsequent AB361 Findings and adopt Resolution 2023-01 reaffirming that the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by the Governor of California issued on March 4, 2020 relating to the Covid-19 Virus remains in effect and local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the Covid-19 virus and re-authorize remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of United Water Conservation District for the period of January 11, 2023 through February 8, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS (By Department)

Administrative Services Department – Brian Zahn and Josh Perez

4.1 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report – Josh Perez and Brian Zahn

Information Item

Summary report on the monthly activities of the Administrative Services Department including but not limited to issues associated with budget development, financial performance versus budget plan, financial accounting requirements and procedures, potential debt issuance and related financial services, status of District investments and reserves, updates on its capital improvement programs, human resources and safety, District property and facilities maintenance and administration, District records and reports, groundwater extraction statements administration, risk management and District liability insurance matters, management of District contracts, policy development, governance procedures, and supporting activities of Board and staff.

Engineering Department – Dr. Maryam Bral

4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report

Information Item

Summary report on the monthly activities of the Engineering Department, including but not limited to water resources, planning efforts and department programs impacting the District, such as project design and construction; dam safety; FERC license compliance; Freeman Diversion; recycled water; pipeline operations and various engineering analysis.

Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus

4.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report

Information Item

Summary report on the monthly activities of the Environmental Services Department, including but not limited to environmental and regulatory issues of note to the District, water releases, operations of the fish ladder at the Freeman Diversion, various monitoring efforts, study plans and issues associated with the Endangered Species Act, including the Section 10 MSHCP process, future fish passage requirements, compliance with the District's FERC license/Biological Opinion, the Santa Felicia Dam, studies and operations in and near Piru Creek, and any interactions with Rancho Temescal and Rancho Camulos.

Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins

4.4 Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report

Information Item

Summary report on monthly activities of the Operations and Maintenance Department, including but not limited to the District's facilities (Santa Felicia Dam and hydroplant; the Piru Groundwater Recharge facility; the Freeman Diversion; the Saticoy and El Rio Groundwater Recharge facilities; the Pleasant Valley and Pumping Trough Pipeline systems; and the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline system), encompassing operating plans, the quantity and quality of water diverted and delivered, fish ladder operations, major maintenance problems and repairs, status of Operations and Maintenance projects and safety and training issues.

Park and Recreation Department – Clayton Strahan

4.5 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report

Information Item

Summary report on monthly activities of the Park and Recreation Department, including but not limited to the Lake Piru Recreation Area, encompassing camping and boating policies at the lake; operations and activities; financing and status of facility improvement projects; maintenance activities; security issues; and emergency response activities.

Water Resources Department – Dan Detmer

4.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report

Information Item

Summary report on the monthly activities of the Water Resources Department including but not limited to updates to the Ventura Regional Groundwater Flow Model; brackish water treatment feasibility study; upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL; hydrologic and well conditions statewide and locally; available Forebay storage; Ventura County well ordinance update; Fox Canyon GMA issues; City of Oxnard's recycled water program; potential water supply and recycled water projects, including use of United's terminal reservoirs; and various user groups (including but not limited to Oxnard Plain and Pumping Trough Pipeline groups) and the activities of the three local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) –

Mound Basin GSA, Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA, and the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, for which the District serves as a member director and the Santa Paula basin (adjudicated) Technical Advisory Committee.

5. MOTION ITEMS (By Department)

Engineering Department – Dr. Maryam Bral

5.1 Authorization of a Supplemental Appropriation of Funds for the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project (8007)

Motion

The Board of Directors will consider approving a supplemental appropriation of \$1.5 million for the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project (CIP 8007) at its regular January 11, 2023, meeting.

Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus

5.2 Resolution 2023-02 Approving Adoption of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption and the Approval of the Categorical and Statutory Exemption for the Proposed Multi-Year State Water Project Transfer from Casitas Municipal Water District to United Water Conservation District

Motion

The Board will consider approving Resolution 2023-02 adopting the CEQA Notice of Exemption for the Proposed Multi-Year State Water Project Transfer from Casitas Municipal Water District to United Water Conservation District.

Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins

5.3 Resolution 2023-03 Authorization of the Purchase of Table A Water from Casitas Municipal Water District

Motion

The Board will consider adopting Resolution 2023-03, approving the authorization of the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract for the purchase of Table A water from Casitas Municipal Water District for a five-year term.

6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS READING FILE

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


8. ADJOURNMENT

The Board will adjourn to the **Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2023** or call of the President.

All testimony given before the Board of Directors is recorded. Materials, which are non-exempt public records and are provided to the Board of Directors to be used in consideration of the above agenda items, including any documents provided subsequent to the publishing of this agenda, are available for inspection at the District's offices at 1701 N. Lombard Street, Suite 200, Oxnard CA 93030 during normal business hours.

The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the District's services, programs or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or if you require agenda materials in an alternative format, please contact the District Office at (805) 525-4431. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.

UWCD Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
January 11, 2023
Page 6

Approved: 
Anthony Emmert – Assistant General Manager

Posted: (date) January 6, 2023 (time) 8:30a.m. (attest) *Kris Sofley*
At: United Water Conservation District Headquarters, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

Posted: (date) January 6, 2023 (time) 8:45a.m. (attest) *Kris Sofley*
At: www.unitedwater.org

EXHIBIT A
EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION AGENDA

1. LITIGATION

1.1 Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), one (1) case.

1.2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

- A. City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 19CV06168, pending before the Court of Appeal of the State of California, Second Appellate District, Division 6, Court of Appeal No. B312471.
- B. Wishtoyo Foundation, et al v. United Water Conservation District, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, Case No.2:16-cv-03869 GHK (PLAx).
- C. OPV Coalition v Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Ventura, Case No. 56-2021-00555357-CU-PT-VTA; Complaint for Comprehensive Groundwater Adjudication of the Oxnard Groundwater Subbasin (No. 4-004.02) and Pleasant Valley Subbasin (No. 4-006) Pursuant to Sections 830, *Et Seq.* of the Code of Civil Procedure; Declaratory Relief; Quiet Title; and Petition for Writs of Mandate.
- D. United Water Conservation District v United States, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 22-542L; Complaint for Just Compensation under the 5th Amendment.
- E. United Water Conservation District v. California Fish and Game Commission, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 2STCP02661; Petition for Writ of Mandate (CESA)



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

Date: January 4, 2023 (January 11, 2023 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.5 Board Members' Activities Reports
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file information regarding meeting participation provided by each of the Board of Directors through Monthly Activities (aka per diem) Reports.

Discussion:

This item is provided on the agenda of each regular District Board of Directors meeting in order to allow Directors to report on non-agenda activities such as:


1. UWCD Committee participation – Committee Chair to report on Committee's objectives and actions to Board.
2. Meetings, workshops, conferences and functions attended during the previous month on behalf of the District.
3. Possible conflicts that Directors might have with respect to issues on the Agenda.

Attachments: A – Directors' Monthly Activities Reports (per diem)
B - 2023 AWA VC Calendar of Meetings and Events

Board of Directors
Activities and Expenses for Month Dec **Year** 2022

Due on last day of month

Director: Sheldon Berger

1. UWCD Board Meetings Regular, special or emergency meetings.			Date	Mileage	✓
			12/14	20	
2. UWCD Committee/Advisory Body Meetings Environmental, Executive, Finance/Audit, Groundwater, Operations, Planning, Recreation and RiverPark JPA Committees.		Committee Name & Location	Date	Mileage	✓ ✓
		Exec	12/7	20	
		Finance	12/5	20	
3. Meeting with GM or District Legal Counsel (LC)	W/ GM or LC	Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage	
4. Conferences/Trainings. Includes conferences or educational activities organized by ACWA, AWAVC & CSDA.		Event Name & Location	Date	Mileage	
5. Appointed representative to meetings of other entities' Boards. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA and GSA. Or preparatory meetings with GM regarding above meetings.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage	
6. Meetings of other government entities at request of BoD, BP or GM. Such as PVCWD, FCGMA or Oxnard City Council.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage	
7. Meetings with board members or executive management of other agencies. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA, GSA.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage	
8. Public meetings hosted by District regarding District matters		Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage	

Board of Directors
 Per Diem and Expenses for Month Dec Year 2022

Due on last day of month

9. Meetings with state or federal legislators or officials or representatives from other entities. At the request of the BoD, BP or GM.	Official Name/Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage

Other Expenses	Total
Days of out of town travel	
Lodging*	\$
Meals*	\$
Transportation*	\$
Misc.*	\$

* attach all receipts

This section to be completed by Finance Department only			
Phone Allowance			\$50.00
Total # of meetings**	3	x \$248	\$ 744.00
**not to exceed 10 meetings and \$2,260. per month or 1 meeting per day			
Total days of travel		x \$100.00/day	
Total # of miles	60	x \$0.625/mile	\$ 37.50
Total other expenses			\$
TOTAL MILEAGE AND OTHER EXPENSES			\$ 831.50

Director Signature

Date: 1-4-23

General Manager Signature

Date: 05 Jan 2023
 For MEG

Definitions

BoD: Board of Directors

BP: Board President

GM: General Manager

Board of Directors
Activities and Expenses for Month December Year 2022

Due on last day of month

Director: Bruce Dandy

1. UWCD Board Meetings Regular, special or emergency meetings.		Date	Mileage	✓	
		12/14	8		
2. UWCD Committee/Advisory Body Meetings Environmental, Executive, Finance/Audit, Groundwater, Operations, Planning, Recreation and RiverPark JPA Committees.	Committee Name & Location	Date	Mileage	✓	
	Execuctive	12/7	8		
3. Meeting with GM or District Legal Counsel (LC)	W/ GM or LC	Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage	✓
	GM	Board Prep	12/13	8	
4. Conferences/Trainings. Includes conferences or educational activities organized by ACWA, AWAVC & CSDA.	Event Name & Location	Date	Mileage	✓	
	AWA	12/6	44		
5. Appointed representative to meetings of other entities' Boards. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA and GSA. Or preparatory meetings with GM regarding above meetings.	Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
6. Meetings of other government entities at request of BoD, BP or GM. Such as PVCWD, FCGMA or Oxnard City Council.	Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
7. Meetings with board members or executive management of other agencies. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA, GSA.	Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage	✓	
	Mtg w/ Dir. Keeling	12/27	36		
8. Public meetings hosted by District regarding District matters Such as Section 10 HCP, Vern Freeman Fish Panel.	Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage		

Board of Directors
Per Diem and Expenses for Month December Year 2022

Due on last day of month

9. Meetings with state or federal legislators or officials or representatives from other entities. At the request of the BoD, BP or GM.	Official Name/Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage

Other Expenses	Total
Days of out of town travel	
Lodging*	\$
Meals*	\$
Transportation*	\$
Misc.*	\$

* attach all receipts

This section to be completed by Finance Department only			
Phone Allowance			\$50.00 ✓
Total # of meetings**	<u>5</u>	x \$248	\$ <u>1240.</u> ✓
**not to exceed 10 meetings and \$2,260. per month or 1 meeting per day			
Total days of travel		x \$100.00/day	
Total # of miles	<u>104</u>	x \$0.625/mile	\$ <u>65.</u> ✓
Total other expenses			\$
TOTAL MILEAGE AND OTHER EXPENSES			\$ <u>1355.</u> <u>10</u>

Director Signature Bruce Dandy Date: 12/31/22

General Manager Signature [Signature] FOR MEG Date: 01 JAN 2023

Definitions

BoD: Board of Directors

BP: Board President

GM: General Manager

Board of Directors
Activities and Expenses for Month 12 **Year** 22

Due on last day of month

Director: Mohammed A. Hasan, P.E.

1. UWCD Board Meetings Regular, special or emergency meetings.		Date	Mileage	✓	
		12-14	12		
2. UWCD Committee/Advisory Body Meetings Environmental, Executive, Finance/Audit, Groundwater, Operations, Planning, Recreation and RiverPark JPA Committees.	Committee Name & Location	Date	Mileage	✓	
	Finance	12-5	12		
3. Meeting with GM or District Legal Counsel (LC)	W/ GM or LC	Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage	
4. Conferences/Trainings. Includes conferences or educational activities organized by ACWA, AWAVC & CSDA.	Event Name & Location	Date	Mileage	✓ ✓ ✓	
	ACWA Fall conf.	12-1	225		
	AWA corporate	12-6	42		
	Ventura Chamber awards	12-8	14		
5. Appointed representative to meetings of other entities' Boards. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA and GSA. Or preparatory meetings with GM regarding above meetings.	Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
6. Meetings of other government entities at request of BoD, BP or GM. Such as PVCWD, FCGMA or Oxnard City Council.	Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
7. Meetings with board members or executive management of other agencies. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA, GSA.	Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
8. Public meetings hosted by District regarding District matters Such as Section 10 HCP, Vern Freeman Fish Panel.	Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage		

Board of Directors
Per Diem and Expenses for Month 12 **Year** 22

Due on last day of month

9. Meetings with state or federal legislators or officials or representatives from other entities. At the request of the BoD, BP or GM.	Official Name/Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage

Other Expenses	Total
Days of out of town travel	1
Lodging*	\$
Meals*	\$
Transportation*	\$
Misc.*	\$

* attach all receipts

This section to be completed by Finance Department only			
Phone Allowance		\$50.00	✓
Total # of meetings**	<u>5</u>	x \$248	\$ <u>1240</u> ✓
**not to exceed 10 meetings and \$2,260. per month or 1 meeting per day			
Total days of travel	<u>1</u>	x \$100.00/day	<u>100.</u> ✓
Total # of miles	<u>305</u>	x \$0.625/mile	\$ <u>190.63</u> ✓
Total other expenses		\$	
TOTAL MILEAGE AND OTHER EXPENSES		\$ <u>1580.63</u>	<u>160</u>

Director Signature

Mohammed Haseen Date: 12/31/22

General Manager Signature

[Signature] For Date: 04 Jan 2023
 MEG

Definitions

BoD: Board of Directors

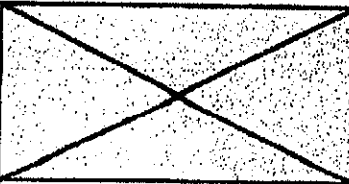
BP: Board President

GM: General Manager

Board of Directors
Activities and Expenses for Month December **Year** 2022

Due on last day of month

Director: Lynn Maulhardt

1. UWCD Board Meetings Regular, special or emergency meetings.			Date	Mileage
			Dec 14	3.2
2. UWCD Committee/Advisory Body Meetings Environmental, Executive, Finance/Audit, Groundwater, Operations, Planning, Recreation and RiverPark JPA Committees.		Committee Name & Location	Date	Mileage
		Engineering & Operations	Dec 1	3.2
		Finance and Audit	Dec 5	3.2
		Executive Committee	Dec 7	3.2
3. Meeting with GM or District Legal Counsel (LC)	W/ GM or LC	Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage
	GM	meeting with Dr. Mathis	Dec 19	3.2
	GM	meeting with David Boyer	Dec 30	na
4. Conferences/Trainings. Includes conferences or educational activities organized by ACWA, AWAVC & CSDA.		Event Name & Location	Date	Mileage
5. Appointed representative to meetings of other entities' Boards. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA and GSA. Or preparatory meetings with GM regarding above meetings.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage
		prep for FCGMA Special Board mtng	12/7	
		FCGMA Special Board meeting	12/9	28
6. Meetings of other government entities at request of BoD, BP or GM. Such as PVCWD, FCGMA or Oxnard City Council.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage
7. Meetings with board members or executive management of other agencies. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA, GSA.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage
8. Public meetings hosted by District regarding District matters Such as Section 10 HCP, Vern Freeman Fish Panel.		Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage

NA

Board of Directors
Per Diem and Expenses for Month December **Year** 2022

Due on last day of month

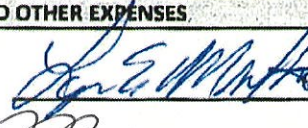
9. Meetings with state or federal legislators or officials or representatives from other entities. At the request of the BoD, BP or GM.	Official Name/Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage

Other Expenses	Total
Days of out of town travel	
Lodging*	\$
Meals*	\$
Transportation*	\$
Misc.*	\$


* attach all receipts

This section to be completed by Finance Department only			
Phone Allowance			\$50.00
Total # of meetings**	6	x \$248	\$ 1,738.00
**not to exceed 10 meetings and \$2,480. per month or 1 meeting per day			
Total days of travel		x \$100.00/day	
Total # of miles	44	x \$0.625/mile	\$ 27.50
Total other expenses			\$
TOTAL MILEAGE AND OTHER EXPENSES			\$ 1,813.50

Director Signature

 Date: 1/4/23

General Manager Signature

 FOR MEG Date: 04 JAN 2023

Definitions

BoD: Board of Directors

BP: Board President

GM: General Manager

Board of Directors
Activities and Expenses for Month December **Year** 2022

Due on last day of month

Director: Daniel C. Naumann

1. UWCD Board Meetings Regular, special or emergency meetings.				Date Dec 14	Mileage 12	✓
2. UWCD Committee/Advisory Body Meetings Environmental, Executive, Finance/Audit, Groundwater, Operations, Planning, Recreation and RiverPark JPA Committees.		Committee Name & Location Engineering & Operations Committee	Date Dec 1	Mileage 12		✓
3. Meeting with GM or District Legal Counsel (LC)		W/ GM or LC GM	Meeting Description & Location	Date Dec 14		NA ✓
4. Conferences/Trainings. Includes conferences or educational activities organized by ACWA, AWAVC & CSDA.		Event Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
5. Appointed representative to meetings of other entities' Boards. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA and GSA. Or preparatory meetings with GM regarding above meetings.		Entity Name & Location AWA-VC and VCSDA Year End event	Date 6	Mileage 56.6		✓
6. Meetings of other government entities at request of BoD, BP or GM. Such as PVCWD, FCGMA or Oxnard City Council.		Entity Name & Location	Date	Mileage		
7. Meetings with board members or executive management of other agencies. Includes FCGMA, LAFCO, RiverPark JPA, AWAVC BoD, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, ACWA, CSDA, GSA.		Entity Name & Location PVCWD meeting w/T Vujovich	Date 15	Mileage 14		✓
8. Public meetings hosted by District regarding District matters Such as Section 10 HCP, Vern Freeman Fish Panel.		Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage		

Board of Directors
Per Diem and Expenses for Month _____ Year _____

Due on last day of month


9. Meetings with state or federal legislators or officials or representatives from other entities. At the request of the BoD, BP or GM.	Official Name/Meeting Description & Location	Date	Mileage

Other Expenses	Total
Days of out of town travel	
Lodging*	\$
Meals*	\$
Transportation*	\$
Misc.*	\$


* attach all receipts

This section to be completed by Finance Department only			
Phone Allowance			\$50.00 ✓
Total # of meetings**	4	x \$248	\$ 992.00 ✓
**not to exceed 10 meetings and \$2,480. per month or 1 meeting per day			
Total days of travel		x \$100.00/day	
Total # of miles	94.6	x \$0.625/mile	\$ 59.13 ✓
Total other expenses			\$
TOTAL MILEAGE AND OTHER EXPENSES			\$ 1,101.13 ✓

Director Signature

 Date: 1-5-2023

General Manager Signature

 FOR Date: 05 Jan 2023
MEG

Definitions

BoD: Board of Directors

BP: Board President

GM: General Manager



2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Meeting/Event notices with all details will be sent via email prior to each occurrence. Contact AWA for more information

JANUARY	5	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	17	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	19	WaterWise Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	25	Channel Counties/Water Systems	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
FEBRUARY	2	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	16	WaterWise Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	21	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	22	Channel Counties/Water Systems	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
MARCH	2	Board Meeting (Annual Meeting-Elections)	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	16	WaterWise Program (Installation/Directors)	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	21	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	22	Channel Counties/Water Systems	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
APRIL	6	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	20	Annual Water Symposium & Exposition (Hybrid)	8:00am–2:00pm, Thurs.	Courtyard Marriott Oxnard?
	20	Operators Tech Workshop & Exposition	8:00 am–3:30pm, Thurs.	Courtyard Marriott Oxnard?
MAY	4	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	16	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	18	WaterWise Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	24	Channel Counties/Water Systems	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
	—	Math Workshop: Water Distribution Exam Review	8:30am–Noon	(Virtual?)
JUNE	1	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	15	WaterWise Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	20	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	28	Channel Counties/Water Systems	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
JULY	6	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	18	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	20	WaterWise Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	26	Channel Counties/Water Systems	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
AUGUST		DARK		
SEPTEMBER	7	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	*14	Reception for Members/Elected Officials	4:00 pm, Thursday	(In-Person Members/Guests)
	19	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	27	Channel Counties/Water Systems Luncheon	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
	—	VCFD/AWA Confined Space Training	8:00 am - Noon	(VCFD / In-Person)
	—	Math Workshop: Water Treatment Exam Review	8:30am–Noon	(Virtual?)
OCTOBER	5	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	17	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	19	WaterWise Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	25	Channel Counties/Water Systems Luncheon	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
NOVEMBER	2	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	16	WaterWise Breakfast Program	8:00 am, Thursday	(Hybrid)
	21	Water Issues Committee	7:00 am, Tuesday	(Hybrid/Members Only)
	29	Channel Counties/Water Systems Lunch	8:00 am, Wednesday	(Virtual)
DECEMBER	7	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm,	(Hybrid)
	7	Holiday Mixer/Corporate Night	5:00 pm, Tuesday	(Members/Guests In-Person)

* Indicates change from typical event date



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

From: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

Date: January 4, 2023 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.6 General Manager's Report
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The General Manager will present information on his activities of possible interest to the Board and that may have consequences to the District.

Discussion:

The General Manager's primary responsibility is to ensure that the policies and directions of the Board of Directors are adhered to as he oversees and manages the efforts of the department managers and their staff in the day-to-day operation and administration of the District. All of these efforts are to be consistent with the District's Mission Statement and within the fiscal constraints set by the Board of Directors.

The District's managers provide detailed monthly updates to the Board of Directors which outline projects' statuses, accomplishments, issues of concern, projects planning, etc. The monthly General Manager's report provides an opportunity for the General Manager to discuss issues that may impact the efforts of the separate departments as they pursue their defined goals and objectives. The report also provides the Board with information on the District's efforts and involvement in local, regional and state-wide issues.

Finally, the monthly General Manager's report offers the Board of Directors an overview of how their policies and directions are being administered through discussion of the work plan and efforts of the General Manager.



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Kris Sofley, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

Date: January 4, 2023 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.7 Election of Officers
Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will accept nominations and elect officers for 2023.

Discussion:

The Board's Policies and Procedures establishes January as the month for annual election of officers. Traditionally, the Board has taken nominations for the offices of President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Board and has voted and announced the results of the election immediately following the close of nominations for each position.

In accordance with the Policies and Procedures, no Director may serve for more than two consecutive one-year terms in any one of the three Board offices. President Bruce E. Dandy, Vice President Sheldon G. Berger and Secretary/Treasurer Lynn E. Maulhardt have each served in their current posts for one year. Consequently, all three Board offices may be re-elected to their current posts or these posts can be filled by new Directors.

The Board's Policies and Procedures also fix the regular February Board meeting as the time the Board President makes committee assignments and assignments of District representatives to outside organizations for the year. As the District's Standing Committees may be reorganized for the year ahead, any Director who wishes to state a preference for committee assignments should inform the Board President or staff before the February meeting. A 2022 committee roster is attached. The Board President may only serve on the Executive Committee. No action on committee assignments will be made at the January 11, 2023 Board Meeting.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact for this motion.

Attachments: A – 2022 Roster of Revised Standing Committees and Appointments as Representatives to Outside Agencies



2022 ROSTER OF COMMITTEES

Revised July 13, 2022

STANDING COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: [GM] Overall responsibility
for Governance Issues and HR/Personnel policies

President: Bruce E. Dandy

Vice President: Sheldon G. Berger

Sec./Treasurer: Lynn E. Maulhardt

Meets as appropriate

ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

[AGM, Chief Engineer, Operations & Maintenance
Manager] Projects, Operations, Permits, Planning, Equipment, Dam
Safety, Facilities

Chair: 1 Lynn E. Maulhardt

2 Gordon Kimball

3 Daniel C. Naumann

Meets 1st Thursday of the Month

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE: [AGM, CFO]

Budgets, Rates, Audit, Appropriations, and Grant Administration; HR/ Risk
Management and IT

Chair: 1 Lynn E. Maulhardt

2 Sheldon G. Berger

3 Mohammed A. Hasan

Meets 9 days before the Regular Monthly Board Meeting

RECREATION COMMITTEE [Chief Park Ranger]

Lake Piru Recreation Area, Park Ranger Staff, Concessionaire

Chair: 1. Sheldon G. Berger

2. Mohammed A. Hasan

3. Michael W. Mobley

Meets 1st Wednesday of the Month

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE: [Chief

Engineer] Groundwater, Surface Water, Water Quality and Modeling,
Overdraft, Seawater Intrusion, Replenishment, FCGMA, GSAs

Chair: 1 Daniel C. Naumann

2 Gordon Kimball

3 Lynn E. Maulhardt

Meets 1st Tuesday of the Month

UWCD REPRESENTATIVES

ACWA JPIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruce E. Dandy

Alternate: Mauricio E. Guardado Jr

**COALITION OF LABOR, AGRICULTURE
AND BUSINESS OF VENTURA COUNTY
(CoLAB)**

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Anthony Emmert

Dan Detmer

FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GSA

Gordon Kimball

**FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Lynn E. Maulhardt

Alternate: Bruce E. Dandy

MOUND BASIN GSA

Michael Mobley (Chair)

OXNARD CHAMBER WATER COMMITTEE

Bruce E. Dandy

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

**VENTURA COUNTY AWA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sheldon G. Berger

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

**VENTURA COUNTY AWA
WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE**

Mohammed A. Hasan

Alternate: Bruce E. Dandy

**VENTURA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION**

Bruce E. Dandy

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

VENTURA WATER COMMISSION

Michael Mobley

Alternate: Mohammed A. Hasan



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager Josh

From: Perez, Human Resources Manager

Date: January 4, 2023 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.8 Staff Service Awards for 2022
Ceremonial item

Staff Recommendation:

Present service awards to staff for service through the end of 2022.

Discussion:

The following staff members have earned longevity of service awards in the past year:

5 Years

Peter Cervantez
Eric Elliott
Eva Ibarra
Michael Kaminski
Robert Marshall
Erik Zvirbulis

10 Years

Jason Sun

15 Years

Kelly Johnson
Bryan Schaffer



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 12:00 P.M.
Board Room, UWCD Headquarters
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

Board of Directors
Bruce E. Dandy, President
Sheldon G. Berger, Vice President
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Secretary/Treasurer
Mohammed A. Hasan
Catherine P. Keeling
Gordon Kimball
Daniel C. Naumann

General Manager
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel
David D. Boyer

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE

Bruce E. Dandy, Board president
Sheldon G. Berger, Board vice president
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Board secretary/treasurer
Mohammed A. Hasan, director
Catherine P. Keeling, director
Gordon Kimball, director (arrived at 2:30pm)
Daniel C. Naumann, director (left meeting at 1:15 pm)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Mauricio Guardado, general manager
David Boyer, legal counsel
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer
John Carman, operations and maintenance program supervisor
Brian Collins, chief operations officer
Dan Detmer, water resources manager
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager
Hannah Garcia-Wickstrum, associated environmental scientist
Robyn Gorecki, environmental services field technician
Tony Huynh, risk and safety manager
Tessa Lenz, environmental scientist-regulatory affairs
Craig Morgan, engineering manager
Josh Perez, chief human resource officer
Zachary Plummer, technology systems manager
Linda Purpus, environmental services manager
Ed Reese, technology systems specialist
Robert Richardson, senior engineer
Destiny Rubio, human resource generalist
Daryl Smith, controller
Kris Sofley, executive assistant/clerk of the Board
Clayton Strahan, chief park ranger
Ambry Tibay, senior accountant

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Dorothy Keeling
Oakley Keeling
Marsha Maulhardt
Roger Martinez, Vasquez & Company
Dan and Susan Pinkerton

1. FIRST OPEN SESSION 12:00 P.M.

President called the meeting to order at 12noon. He then asked District Legal Counsel David Boyer to outline the topics for discussion in Executive (Closed) Session.

Mr. Boyer stated that, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), one (1) case of anticipated litigation and, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1), five cases of existing litigation, including City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al.; Wishtoyo Foundation, et al v. United Water Conservation District; OPV Coalition v Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency; United Water Conservation District v United States; and United Water Conservation District v. California Fish and Game Commission, would be discussed by the Board in Executive (Closed) Session.

**1.1 Public Comments
Information Item**

President Dandy asked if there were any public comments to be offered to the Board members. None were offered

1.2 Oath of Office Administered to Directors Gordon Kimball, Catherine P. Keeling, and Mohammed A Hasan

The Clerk of the Board administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Board member Catherine P. Keeling, representing Division 2; re-elected Board member Mohammed Hasan, representing Division 3; and appointed Director Gordon Kimball, representing Division 1, who was late in arriving, took his oath of office later in the meeting.

Director Keeling made a brief statement thanking voters as did Director Hasan

1.3 EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 12:15 P.M.

President Dandy adjourned the meeting into Executive (Closed) Session at 12:15p.m.

2. SECOND OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER 1:21 P.M.

President Dandy called the second open session to order at 1:21p.m. He asked Director Keeling to lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.1 Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Director Keeling

**2.2 Public Comment
Information Item**

President Dandy asked if there were any public comments for the Board members. None were offered.

2.3 Approval of Agenda

Motion

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Hasan. Voice vote: five ayes (Berger, Hasan, Keely, Maulhardt, Dandy), none opposed, two absent (Kimball, Naumann). Motion carries 5/0/2.

2.4 Oral Report Regarding Executive (Closed) Session

Information Item

President Dandy asked District Legal Counsel David D. Boyer to report the Board's actions during Executive (Closed) session. Mr. Boyer reported that the Board took no action during Executive (Closed) session that is reportable under the Brown Act.

2.5 Board Members' Activities Report

Information Item

President Dandy asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the Board members' monthly activities reports. Director Hasan reported that he received a letter of congratulations from Kai Luoma, executive officer of LAFCo, on Director Hasan's election to the Special District Alternate seat on the LAFCo Board. President Dandy added that Calleguas Water District's Raul Avila was elected to the primary Special District seat on the LAFCo Board.

2.6 General Manager's Report

Information Item

The General Manager reported that the District's federal legislative advocate Dennis Cardoza of Foley & Lardner, was voted "top lobbyist" of the year.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR: All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

President Dandy asked if there were any questions or if any of the Board members required discussion of a particular Consent Calendar item. No requests were offered. President Dandy then asked for a motion.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Hasan; Second, Director Keeling. Roll call vote: five ayes (Berger, Hasan, Keeling, Maulhardt, Dandy); none opposed; two absent (Kimball, Naumann). Motion carries unanimously 5/0/2.

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Approval of the Minutes for the Special Board Meeting of November 7, 2022, and the Regular Board Meeting of November 9, 2022.

B. Groundwater Basin Status Reports

Information Item

Receive and file Monthly Hydrologic Conditions Report for the District.

C. Monthly Investment Report

Information Item

Report on the District's investments and the availability or restriction of these funds. All investments are in compliance with the District's investment policy, which is reviewed and approved annually by the Board.

D. First Quarter Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Financial Reports (July 1, 2022 – September 30, 2022)

Information Item

The Board will receive a presentation from staff on the First Quarter 2022-2023 Financial Reports for the period of July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022.

E. Resolution 2022-45 Subsequent Finding that the Governor of California issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020 relating to the COVID-19 virus and local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus and Authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of United Water Conservation District for the period of December 14, 2022, through January 13, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions

Motion

Subsequent AB361 Findings May 11, 2022 through June 8, 2022 A Resolution Of The Board Of Directors Of United Water Conservation District Reaffirming That The Proclamation Of A State Of Emergency By The Governor Of California Issued On March 4, 2020 Relating To The Covid-19 Virus Remains In Effect And Local Officials Continue To Recommend Social Distancing Measures To Mitigate The Spread Of The Covid-19 Virus And Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings Of The Legislative Bodies Of United Water Conservation District For The Period of December 14, 2022 through January 13, 2023 Pursuant To Brown Act Provisions

4. PRESENTATIONS AND MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS (By Department)

Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins

4.1 Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report

Information Item

Chief Operations Officer Brian Collins introduced himself to Director Keeling and began his presentation (see attached slides), reporting on clean-up activities following the recent rain event, and ongoing efforts in the District's Sediment Management program under the existing CDFW permit. He also thanked Environmental Services' team for its support in this endeavor. Mr. Collins added that OH Well #12 had a VF drive failure and was being repaired. He also stated that staff is seeing slight increases in nitrates, but that increase is being offset by

the water that is currently being diverted. He reported a “catastrophic failure” of PTP Well #3 and staff is moving forward on repair, which should be completed by early January.

Park and Recreation Department – Clayton Strahan

4.2 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report

Information Item

Chief Ranger Strahan stated that since there was no Recreation Committee meeting in December, he had no presentation but would answer any questions the Board may have regarding his summary report on monthly activities of the Park and Recreation Department. No comments or questions were offered.

Water Resources Department – Dan Detmer

4.3 Monthly Water Resources Department Report

Information Item

Water Resources Manager Dan Detmer stated that since there was no Water Resources Committee meeting in December, he had no presentation but would answer any questions the Board may have regarding his summary report on monthly activities of the Water Resources Department. No comments or questions were offered.

Administrative Services Department – Daryl Smith

4.4 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report –

Information Item

Controller Daryl Smith introduced Roger Martinez of the Vasquez & Company auditing firm to present the District’s final audit report to the Board. (see attached slides). Mr. Smith stated that the audit report includes input from the Board, staff, upper management and included examinations of IT specific control areas, the acquisition and disposal of capital assets and exposure to litigation.

Director Maulhardt stated that Mr. Martinez presented the report to the Finance and Audit Committee, adding that the District has been doing these audit reports for a long time and they are always clean. He said that a clean audit reflects well on management, staff and the Board and that all take the audit and the auditing process very seriously, and thanked staff and Mr. Martinez for their efforts.

Engineering Department – Dr. Maryam Bral

4.5 Monthly Engineering Department Report

Information Item

Chief Engineer Dr. Bral addressed the Board and began her presentation (see attached slides), which included updates on the Outlet Works project as well as regulatory compliance efforts for the Santa Felicia Dam, including functional exercise every five years, which is scheduled for February 2023. She also discussed the three phases of the Condor Point project at Lake Piru Recreation Area, including new shade structures in the picnic area, landscaping improvements and, by 2024, an improved swim beach. She also reported the anticipated completion of the Iron

and Manganese treatment project by Spring 2023 and staff's involvement in public outreach efforts including a FERC webinar on November 2, a tour of Pyramid Dam on November 15 and the California Coastal Commissions CalAm Desal tour on November 17. She asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. None were offered.

Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus

4.6 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report
Information Item

Environmental Services Manager Linda Purpus addressed the Board and began her presentation (see attached slides). Ms. Purpus reported that this presentation was given to the Engineering and Operations Committee, who requested three key items be brought to the Board's attention. This included pre-implementation study of middle Piru Creek in early November, FERC Fish Passage feasibility assessment addressing engineering and biological issues and CDFW permitting which included a sampling at over 12 sites. Ms. Purpus also reported partnership building with the California Conservation Corp and that, during November, Park Services documented a rock slide on Piru Creek up above Piru Canyon Road, identifying some engineering feasibility issues. Other issues were discussed between Board members and Ms. Purpus which ended with Director Maulhardt thanking Mr. Purpus and staff for all of their efforts.

5. MOTION ITEMS (By Department)

Administrative Services Department – Brian Zahn and Josh Perez

**5.1 Resolution 2022-38 Adopting UWCD Unmanned Aircraft System -
Authorization and Operations Policy**

Motion

Chief Human Resources Officer Josh Perez addressed the Board regarding adoption of Resolution 2022-38, approving an unmanned aircraft system (drone) authorization and operations policy for the District. Mr. Perez stated that the policy had been reviewed by the District's risk and safety manager, legal team and management and was brought to the Finance Committee, who recommended bringing the motion forward to the Board. Mr. Perez explained that the policy would mitigate risk of using drones and adopts the standard practices of both state and federal laws. Director Maulhardt stated that he was aware that this is a big issue with the FAA and that the Committee members agreed to recommend approval of the Resolution and adoption of the new policy.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-38, approving an unmanned aircraft system (drone) authorization and operations policy for the District, Director Hasan; Second, Director Berger. Roll call vote: five ayes (Berger, Hasan, Keeling, Maulhardt, Dandy); none opposed; two absent (Kimball, Naumann). Motion carries unanimously 5/0/2.

Engineering Department – Dr. Maryam Bral

5.2 Contract Award to Kennedy Jenks Consultants, Inc. for Design Services Related to the Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project (CIP 8019)

Motion

Dr. Bral addressed the Board, requesting they authorize the General Manager to execute a professional consulting services agreement with Kennedy Jenks Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$2,069,912 [\$1,881,738 plus 10% contingency (\$188,174)] to complete the design and bid documents for Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish (EBB) Water Treatment Project (CIP 8019).

Director Hasan stated that the general liability insurance should be for \$2 million and not the \$1 million that the contract currently requests. Dr. Bral replied that design projects typically haven't required that level of liability insurance, but it is something that could be considered for the future. Director Hasan said he would not vote for the award of the contract until liability insurance is increased to \$2 million.

Director Maulhardt said that this motion was presented to the Engineering and Operations Committee and presents a long-range view of District projects. He added that the US Navy is on board, and while he appreciates Director Hasan's comments, he proposed that the Board pass the motion and address increasing liability insurance coverage at the next Engineering and Operations Committee meeting. General Manager Mr. Guardado commented that he appreciates the comments made by both Director Maulhardt and Director Hasan relating to this project but would like to remind the Directors that this is not a construction project and liability is low and the dollar amount was recommended by the District's insurance carriers and a good firm may not have that level of coverage for analysis and design services.

Motion to award contract to Kennedy Jenks Consultants for design services related to the Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project in the amount of \$2,069,912 to complete the design and bid documents for Phase I of the EBB Water Treatment project, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Berger. Roll call vote: four ayes (Berger, Keeling, Maulhardt, Dandy); one opposed (Hasan); two absent (Kimball, Naumann). Motion carries 4/1/2.

Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus

5.3 Authorize a Contract with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to provide Consultant Services for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation and Regulatory Permitting for the Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project

Motion

Environmental Scientist- Regulatory Affairs Tessa Lenz addressed the Board to request the Board's authorization of the General Manager to execute an agreement with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) in the amount of \$908,256

[\$825,687 + 10% contingency (\$82,569)] to provide consultant services for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation, Processing, and Regulatory Permitting for the Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project (EBB Water). Ms. Lenz stated that the permitting for this phase of the project was being done in collaboration with project partner US Navy. The job was posted and the District received five proposals, and from those, three firms were interviewed and Environmental Science Associates was determined to be the top candidate.

Director Maulhardt said this was discussed at the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting and the Committee was recommending approval. Director Hasan interjected, stating that again, he has the same problem with this agreement as he believes the level of liability insurance coverage should be \$2 million. District's Legal Counsel Mr. Boyer reminded Director Hasan that the contract was AALRR's standard template and the liability insurance is for bodily injury not professional negligence. Director Hasan said he doesn't agree with the comments made and while the District may not need or use it, even smaller firms carry general liability insurance at \$2million. Mr. Guardado replied that perhaps staff could clarify for the Board why liability levels were set at that amount in the District's professional consulting services agreements at a later date.

Motion to authorize a contract with Environmental Science Associates in the amount of \$908,256 to provide consulting services for CEQA and NEPA documentation and regulatory permitting for Phase 1 of the EBB Water Treatment Project, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Berger. Roll call vote: four ayes (Berger, Keeling, Maulhardt, Dandy); one opposed (Hasan); two absent (Kimball, Naumann). Motion carries 4/1/2.

Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins

5.4 Authorize an Amendment to the University of Iowa Contract for the Physical Modeling of the Vertical Slot for the Freeman Expansion Project

Motion

Mr. Collins addressed the Board, requesting it authorize an amendment to the University of Iowa contract for the operational and stress physical modeling of the Vertical Slot for the Freeman Expansion Project in the amount of \$387,165. Mr. Collins said that the Board previously approved an additional \$600,000 as part of the first amendment to this agreement, executed on March 4, 2022, which also extended the scope of work. He added that no additional funding was needed, but rather he is requesting \$387,000 of that amount be spent for a different purpose.

Director Maulhardt said he appreciates staff bringing this back to the Board and made a motion to authorize the amendment to the University of Iowa contract for the physical modeling of the Vertical Slot for the Freeman Expansion project. Second, Director Keeling. Roll call vote: six ayes (Berger, Hasan, Keeling, Kimball, Maulhardt, Dandy); none opposed; one absent (Naumann). Motion carries unanimously 6/0/1.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

President Dandy asked if there were any suggested topics for future agenda discussions. Director Hasan asked that staff prepare a report on legal costs analysis. President Dandy that analysis discussion would be done in Executive (Closed) Session. Mr. Guardado stated that the monthly financial report includes a spreadsheet identifying and tracking legal costs as previously requested by the Board. Director Hasan clarified that he was asking for an analysis to reduce costs and Mr. Guardado replied that while staff is always looking to reduce costs, he would task staff to take a look at it. Director Hasan added that the Board has a fiduciary responsibility beyond staff reports that includes some understanding of how to minimize costs. Director Maulhardt stated that in raising issues of fiduciary responsibility, the District has mechanisms in place to watch for that and staff are required to track and report on those issues while also being conscious of the sensitivity of some of this legal work.

Director Hasan then asked Mr. Guardado when the Master Plan would be presented to the Board, adding that he asked for that at the meeting at Lake Piru. Mr. Guardado replied that the document is referred to as a Facilities Improvement Plan, not a master plan, and would be presented first to the Recreation Committee at its February meeting.

Director Maulhardt stated that over the past 37 years he has seen many plans, some not very well defined, including state and federal requirements, construction and personnel costs, subsidies et cetera, but the results come with making the plan work. Today, he added, we are in the best place we've ever been, thanks to Clayton Strahan's leadership. Financial reports are functioning exceedingly well. The District can't control regulatory agencies, but there is a logical plan converting camping spots into drive through RV units, Olive tree replacement and more. Then he addressed Director Hasan stating that this is an evolutionary process, including ongoing staff coordination and Mauricio Guardado's leadership. Five-to-ten-year plans don't work, because we need to be fluid and flexible in response to what's going on. Director Hasan replied that engineers know you need a plan, doing as you go isn't right. Mr. Guardado interrupted to say that a draft of the Facilities Improvement plan will be presented to the February Recreation Committee, which includes proposed improvements, costs associated with those improvements and timelines as well as alternatives. Director Maulhardt added that the first stop was the Recreation Committee.

ADJOURNMENT 3p.m.

President Dandy adjourned the Board meeting at 3p.m. to the next Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2023, or call of the President.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Board of Directors meeting of December 14, 2022.

ATTEST: _____
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Board Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board



Board of Directors
Bruce E. Dandy, President
Sheldon G. Berger, Vice President
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Secretary/Treasurer
Mohammed A. Hasan
Catherine P. Keeling
Gordon Kimball
Daniel C. Naumann

General Manager
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel
David D. Boyer

ATTENDANCE LIST

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 12noon

MEETING: UWCD Board of Directors Meeting

The signing or registering of your name on this sign-up form is not required but is voluntary. All persons may attend the meetings of the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District without signing or registering their names on this form.

Name (Please Print)

Representing

MARsha Maulhardt

SCA



OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY UPDATE

December 14, 2022



1

Santa Felicia Dam

Rain Event 1.86 inches – Treatment Plant Filter Media



2

2

Freeman Diversion

Sediment Management Project



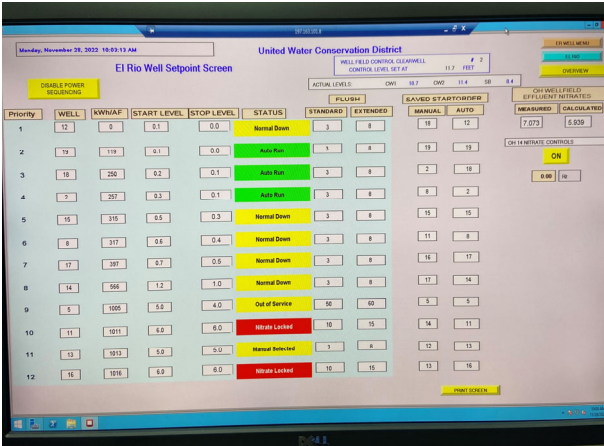




3

3

OH Delivery

OH Well 12 VFD – Nitrate Blend Mode









4

4

PTP

PTP Well #3



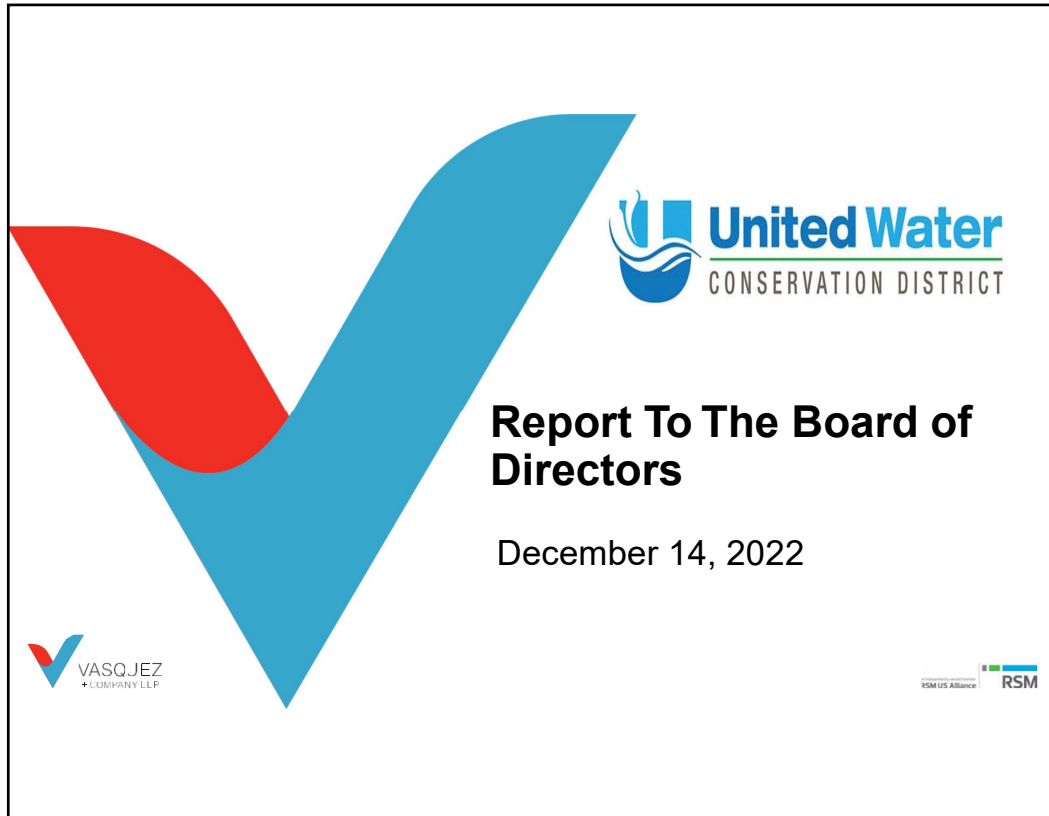


5

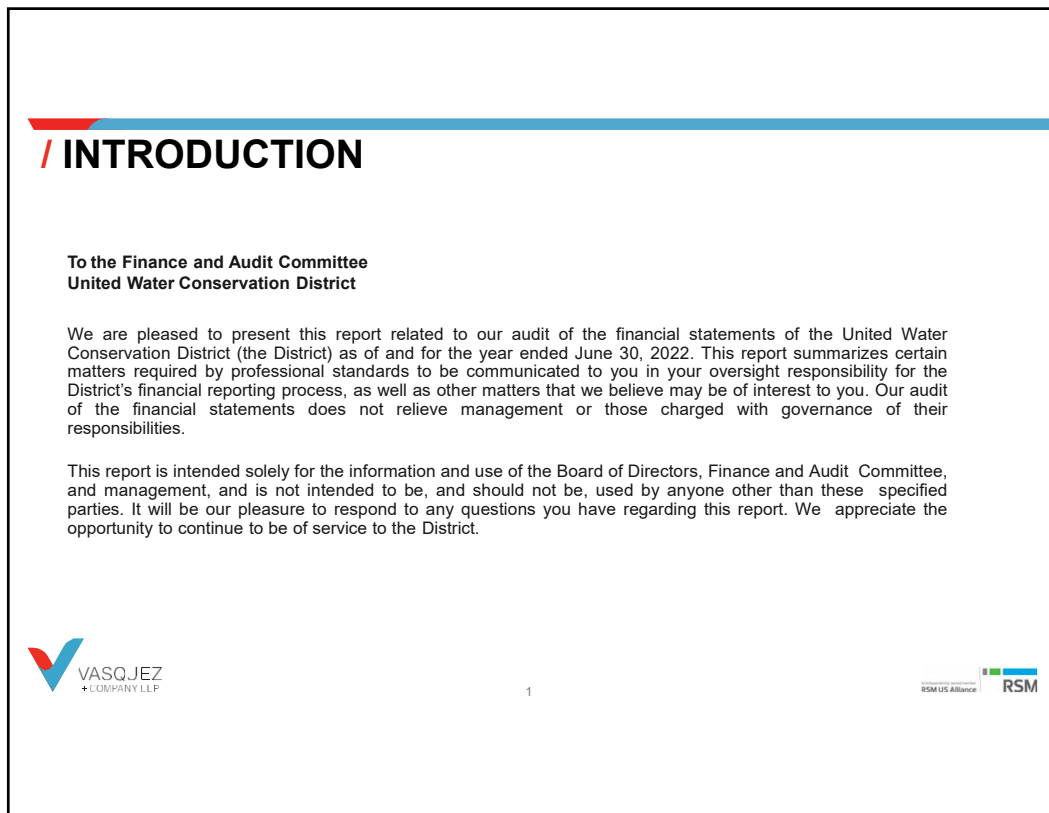
Questions?



6



1



2

/ AGENDA

- ❑ The Engagement Team
- ❑ Independence
- ❑ Scope of Engagement
- ❑ Summary of Audit Results
 - Independent Auditor's Report
 - Audit Areas of Emphasis
- ❑ Performance Improvement Observations
- ❑ Financial Statements
- ❑ Recently Issued Accounting Standards
- ❑ AU-C 260 Communications

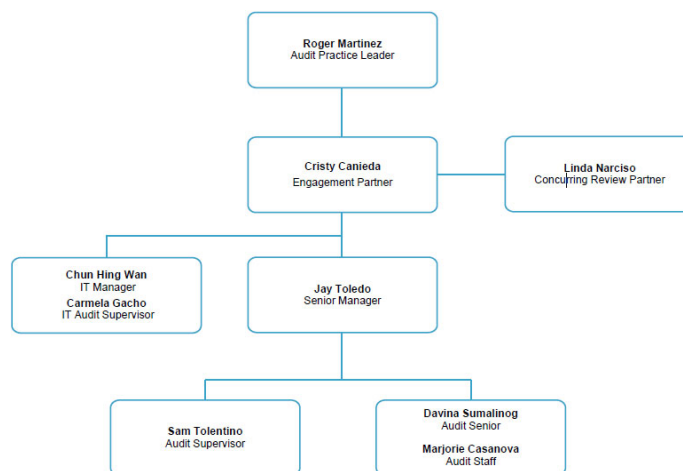


2



3

/ THE ENGAGEMENT TEAM



3



4

/ INDEPENDENCE

There are no relationships between any of our representatives and the District that in our professional judgment may reasonably be thought to bear on independence.

Vasquez & Company LLP meets the independence requirements of the *Government Accepted Auditing Standards* as it relates to the District.



4



5

/ SCOPE OF ENGAGEMENT

Financial statement audit

- in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards and the State Controller's Minimum Audit Requirements for California Special Districts.
- as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022

Single audit

- To be completed and submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse on or before March 30, 2023



5



6

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS



6



7

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

• Independent Auditor's Report

Unmodified "Clean" Opinion on the financial statements.

- Audit performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the State Controller's Minimum Audit Requirements for California Special Districts

The financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the District's:

- Net Position
- Revenues, Expenses and changes in Net Position
- Cash flows



7



8

/ SIGNIFICANT AUDIT AREAS

AN OVERVIEW

- ☐ Information Technology Controls
- ☐ Management Override of Controls – fraud risks
- ☐ Cash and Investments
- ☐ Receivables and Charges for Services, Property Taxes
- ☐ Capital Assets
- ☐ Net Pension Liability, Net OPEB Liability and the related accounts
- ☐ Contingencies and Claims



8



9

/ SIGNIFICANT AUDIT AREAS

Information Technology Controls

- ☐ Updated our understanding of the General IT Controls of the District. The areas reviewed include the following:
 - IT Organization and Management
 - IT Policies and Procedures
 - Change Management
 - Information Security/ User Access Management
 - Computer Operations (e.g. capacity planning, network management, helpdesk)
 - Incident Management
 - Data Integrity (DRP, backup, restoration, retention)

Management Override of Controls (Fraud Risk)

- ☐ Obtained an understanding of the District's financial reporting process.
- ☐ Examined selected journal entries and other adjustments.
- ☐ Conducted procedures to evaluate fraud risks.



9



10

/ SIGNIFICANT AUDIT AREAS, Continued

Cash and
Investments


- ☐ Tested controls over cash receipts and disbursements.
- ☐ Confirmed material cash and investment balances as of June 30, 2022.
- ☐ Tested bank reconciliation statements and transfers for proper cut-off.
- ☐ Reviewed valuation of investments.



No material exceptions were noted.

Receivables
and
Charges for
Services,
Property
Taxes

- ☐ Reviewed the revenues recognized during the fiscal year against the District's revenue recognition policy.
- ☐ Performed tests of controls over cash receipts process.
- ☐ Examined supporting documents for subsequent collections.

No material exceptions were noted.


10

11

/ SIGNIFICANT AUDIT AREAS, Continued

Capital Assets

- ☐ Examined significant additions during the year.
- ☐ Tested the reasonableness of depreciation.

No material exceptions were noted.

Net Pension
Liability, Net
OPEB Liability,
and Deferred
Inflows/Outflows
of Resources
Related to
Pension and
OPEB


- ☐ Obtained and reviewed the valuation reports.
- ☐ Reviewed the actuarial assumptions used in the valuation reports.
- ☐ Recalculated the net pension liability using the CalPERS 68 tool.



No material exceptions were noted.

Contingencies and
Claims

- ☐ Reviewed legal responses for any commitments made subsequent to year end and evaluated if adjustment is necessary.
- ☐ All outstanding legal commitments are properly accrued and disclosed.

No material exceptions were noted.


11

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PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT OBSERVATIONS



1. Enhance the development, approval, and implementation of IT policies and procedures to address noted observations and to ensure that overall company objectives are met. *(Repeat Finding)*
2. Obtain and review annual Tyler Incode SOC report.
3. Create/assign specific user accounts for AD Administrator accounts.
4. Remove unused system accounts in Tyler Incode and AD.
5. Establish Business Continuity Plan (BCP) and Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP), including performance of regular testing.
6. Perform regular user access reviews.



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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



13



14

/ STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

	June 30		Increase (decrease)	
	2022	2021	\$	%
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash	\$ 2,174,016	\$ 2,046,318	127,698	6%
Investments	43,215,465	45,880,905	(2,665,440)	-6%
Receivables				
Accounts receivable, net	10,219,803	9,170,957	1,048,846	11%
Property taxes	535,072	97,703	437,369	448%
Interest	49,516	23,041	26,475	115%
Prepayments	258,845	246,693	12,152	5%
Total current assets	56,452,717	57,465,617	(1,012,900)	-2%
Noncurrent assets				
Restricted investments	-	-	-	-
Net OPEB asset	369,583	189,136	180,447	95%
Capital assets not being depreciated	53,578,645	39,699,185	13,879,460	35%
Capital assets being depreciated, net	61,437,137	60,997,221	439,916	1%
Total noncurrent assets	115,385,365	100,885,542	14,499,823	14%
Total assets	171,838,082	158,351,159	13,486,923	9%
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	2,671,895	2,926,737	(254,842)	-9%
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	27,490	29,651	(2,161)	-7%
Total deferred outflows of resources	2,699,385	2,956,388	(257,003)	-9%
	174,537,467	161,307,547	13,229,920	8%



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/ STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

	June 30		Increase (decrease)	
	2022	2021	\$	%
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable	4,932,531	2,456,890	2,475,641	101%
Deposits	39,766	44,247	(4,481)	-10%
Accrued interest payable	283,524	294,923	(11,399)	-4%
Accrued wages and benefits	292,129	250,452	41,677	17%
Unearned revenue	21,972	19,737	2,235	11%
Compensated absences	1,054,701	820,814	233,887	28%
Accrued legal liability	730,743	730,743	-	0%
Long-term debt - due within one year	1,105,197	1,196,353	(91,156)	-8%
Total current liabilities	8,460,563	5,814,159	2,646,404	46%
Noncurrent liabilities				
Net pension liability	6,491,456	11,546,367	(5,054,911)	-44%
Compensated absences	647,363	604,314	43,049	7%
Accrued legal liability	-	730,743	(730,743)	-100%
Long-term debt - due in more than one year	30,735,130	31,846,928	(1,111,798)	-3%
Total noncurrent liabilities	37,873,949	44,728,352	(6,854,403)	-15%
Total liabilities	46,334,512	50,542,511	(4,207,999)	-8%
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	6,164,159	743,354	5,420,805	729%
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	142,378	6,362	136,016	2138%
Total deferred inflows of resources	6,306,537	749,716	5,556,821	741%
	52,641,049	51,292,227	1,348,822	3%
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	95,791,311	87,849,478	7,941,833	9%
Restricted for:				
Capital projects	11,510,659	19,000,000	(7,489,341)	-39%
State Water Import	4,851,640	2,170,847	2,680,793	114%
Unrestricted	9,942,808	994,995	8,947,813	899%
Total net position	\$ 121,896,418	\$ 110,015,320	\$ 11,881,098	11%



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/ STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Years Ended June 30		Increase (decrease)	
	2022	2021	\$	%
Operating Revenues				
Charges for services	\$ 29,633,974	\$ 28,392,365	1,241,609	4%
Total operating revenues	<u>29,633,974</u>	<u>28,392,365</u>	<u>1,241,609</u>	<u>4%</u>
Operating Expenses (income)				
Salaries and benefits	11,518,294	10,793,756	724,538	7%
Services and supplies	12,374,484	13,232,147	(857,663)	-6%
Depreciation	2,661,133	2,424,699	236,434	10%
Other (income) expenses	(168,564)	266,935	(435,499)	-163%
Total operating expenses	<u>26,385,347</u>	<u>26,717,537</u>	<u>(332,190)</u>	<u>-1%</u>
Operating income	<u>3,248,627</u>	<u>1,674,828</u>	<u>1,573,799</u>	<u>94%</u>
Non-operating revenues (expenses)				
Property taxes	6,552,274	4,265,948	2,286,326	54%
Grants and contributions	1,319,241	311,624	1,007,617	323%
Investment (loss) earnings	(298,789)	65,108	(363,897)	-559%
Other income	2,311,534	1,768,405	543,129	31%
Gain on sale of capital assets	-	12,151	(12,151)	-100%
Interest expense	(1,251,789)	(1,120,315)	(131,474)	12%
Non-operating revenues	<u>8,632,471</u>	<u>5,302,921</u>	<u>3,329,550</u>	<u>63%</u>
Change in net position	<u>11,881,098</u>	<u>6,977,749</u>	<u>4,903,349</u>	<u>70%</u>
Net position				
Net position, at beginning of year	110,015,320	103,037,571	6,977,749	7%
Net position, at end of year	<u>\$ 121,896,418</u>	<u>\$ 110,015,320</u>	<u>11,881,098</u>	<u>11%</u>



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RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS



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RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

GASB Current Year Standards

GASB No. 87

In June 2017, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 87 "Leases". The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021.

GASB No. 89

In June 2018, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 89 "Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred before the End of a Construction Period". The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2020.

GASB No. 92

In January 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 92, "Omnibus 2020." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021.

GASB No. 93

In March 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 93, "Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021.



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RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS, CONTINUED

GASB No. 97

In June 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 97, "Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan – an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14, 84, and a suppression of GASB Statement No. 32." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021.

The implementation of the above statements had no significant impact on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Pending Accounting Standards (continued)

GASB No. 91

In May 2019, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 91, "Conduit Debt Obligations." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2021.

GASB No. 94

In May 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 94, "Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022.



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RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS, CONTINUED

GASB Pending Accounting Standards (continued)

GASB No. 96

In May 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 96, "Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022.

GASB No. 99

In May 2022, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 99, "Omnibus" providing clarification guidance on several of its recent statements, including GASB Statement No. 87 Leases and GASB Statement No. 96 Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2022.

GASB No. 100

In May 2022, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections – An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2023.

GASB No. 101

In May 2022, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences." The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2023.



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AUDITOR'S REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE (AU-C 260)



21



22

REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

Management's Responsibility	Management has primary responsibility for the accounting principles used, including their consistency, application, clarity and completeness.
Consultations with Other Accountants	We are not aware of any consultations by management with other accountants about accounting or auditing matters.
Difficulties with Management	We did not encounter any difficulties with management while performing our audit procedures that require the attention of the Board.
Disagreements with Management	We encountered no disagreements with management on financial accounting and reporting matters as they relates to the current year financial statements.



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REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, continued

Significant Accounting Policies	The District's significant accounting policies are appropriate, and management has applied its policies consistently with prior periods in all material respects.	
Management's judgments and accounting estimates	Significant items subject to estimates include:	The determination of estimated net pension liability and net OPEB liability and the related deferred inflows and deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB,
		The collectability of receivable, and
		The determination of useful lives for depreciable assets.



23



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REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, continued

Controversial issues	No significant or unusual transactions or accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is lack of authoritative guidance or consensus were identified.
Audit Adjustments	All adjustments that we proposed related to GASB 68 and GASB 75 were recorded by the District and are reflected in the financial statements.
Passed Audit Differences	There were no uncorrected misstatements (passed audit differences).
Conditions of Retention	No significant issues were discussed, or subject to correspondence, with management prior to retention.



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REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, continued

Material Weakness and Significant Deficiency	There were no material weakness and/or significant deficiency identified.
Irregularities, Fraud or Illegal Acts	No irregularities, fraud or illegal acts or that would cause a material misstatement of the financial statements, came to our attention as a result of our audit procedures.
Management Representations	The District will provide us with a signed copy of the management representation letter prior to issuance of our audit report.



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QUESTIONS



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/ Contact Information

Vasquez + Company LLP has over 50 years of experience in performing audit, accounting, and consulting services for all types of private companies, nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, and publicly traded companies. Vasquez is a member of the RSM US Alliance.

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Los Angeles \ San Diego \ Irvine \ Sacramento \
Fresno \ Phoenix \ Las Vegas \ Manila, PH



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213-873-1700
solutions@vasquezcpa.com

PRIVATE - CONFIDENTIAL

**Thank you for your time
and attention**

 VASQUEZ
+ COMPANY LLP

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 RSM



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY UPDATE

December 14, 2022



Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project

Interagency Emergency Action Plan and Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project Coordination Workshop on Nov. 15

- DWR and United reviewed Santa Felicia Dam, Pyramid, and Castaic Emergency Action Plans.
- SFD Safety Improvement Project and proposed construction schedule, pre-construction risk reduction measures and hydrological risk assessment during construction, were discussed.
- Staff from several DWR divisions, LADWP, GEI, Catalyst, and United were in attendance.
- Next coordination meeting is tentatively scheduled for early 2023.





Santa Felicia Dam Safety Regulatory Compliance

Quinquennial SFD EAP Functional Exercise Feb. 23, 2023

- Staff e-filed the District Plan and Schedule for the exercise with FERC on November 18. Gannett Fleming will facilitate the exercise and ensure compliance with FERC guidelines.

Quinquennial ODSP External Audit

- Staff is currently reviewing the draft report that was prepared and submitted for review on October 28. The final copy is due to FERC by December 31, 2022.

Triennial Spillway Underdrain System Inspection

- The video inspection was conducted by HDR Engineering on November 17 and 18 and the draft inspection report will be ready for staff review by December 7.

3

3

Condor Point Improvements



4

4

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



Nov. 14, 2022, at 11:58:20 AM
Oxnard CA 93036
United States



Nov. 14, 2022, at 2:32:13 PM
Oxnard CA 93036
United States

Filter vessel interior preparation prior to concrete pour



5

5

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



Nov. 16, 2022, at 11:04:25 AM
Oxnard CA 93036
United States



Nov. 15, 2022, at 2:02:20 PM
Oxnard CA 93036
United States

Underground piping and valving



6

6

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



Installation of MCC in the Fe/Mn Building



7

7

Public Outreach

- ❑ FERC-D2SI Security Branch Fall 2022 Webinar (Nov 2)
- ❑ Pyramid Dam Tour (Nov 15)
- ❑ CA Coastal Commission Cal Am Desalination Hearing (Nov 17)



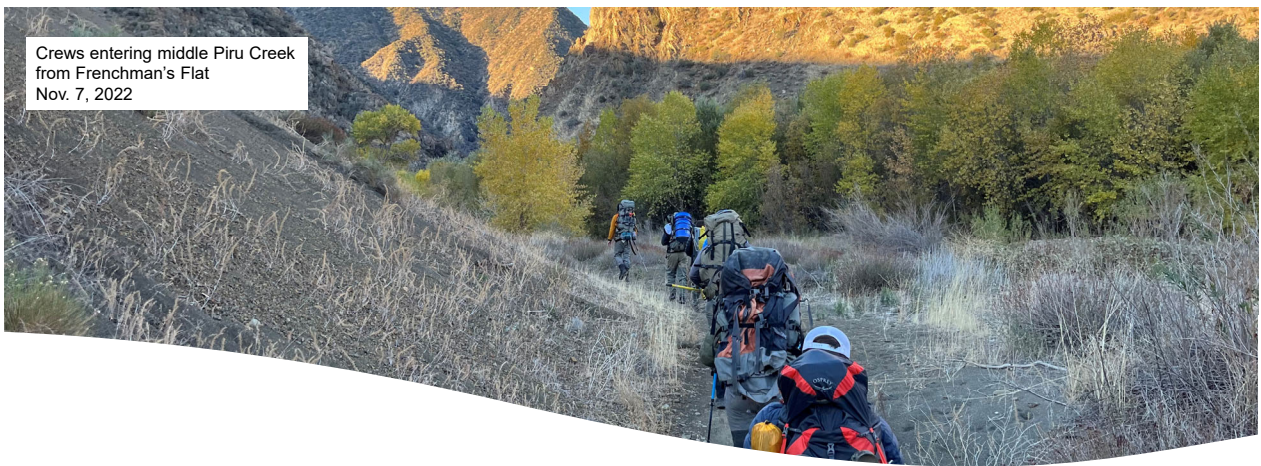
The DWR Southern Field Division provided a tour of Pyramid Dam to Staff from Engineering, Environmental Services and Water Resources departments

8

QUESTIONS



9



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT MONTHLY UPDATE

December 14, 2022



1

Department Summary Updates


- FERC Fish Passage Pre-implementation Study
 - Purpose: Resolve uncertainties related to 1) biological, and 2) engineering feasibility
 - Fall Monitoring
 - o 698 O. mykiss implanted with PIT tags
 - o 12 plus sites sampled
 - o Fyke and Screw Traps deployed
 - o Partnership building opportunity
 - Of note: Documented rockslide on Piru Canyon Road




2

Department Summary Updates

- Permitting
 - Freeman Sediment Management Project - Complete



Nov. 22, 2022



3

Department Summary Updates

- SWRCB Approval of Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring Report
 - The Challenge
 - New outlet work design will resolve issue
 - District's proposal for interim period
 - Multiple agencies with conflicting interests
 - Interim measures approved by SWRCB

Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project
new outlet works design feature

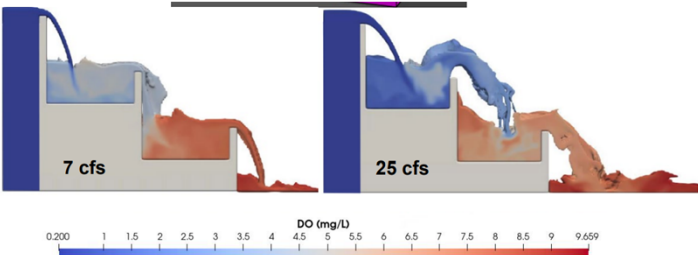



Figure 6. Photographs of a Typical Step Cascade Aerator, Dimensions of CFD Model, and Output for Flows of 7 cfs and 25 cfs



3

QUESTIONS





Fall monitoring middle Piru Creek, Nov. 2022

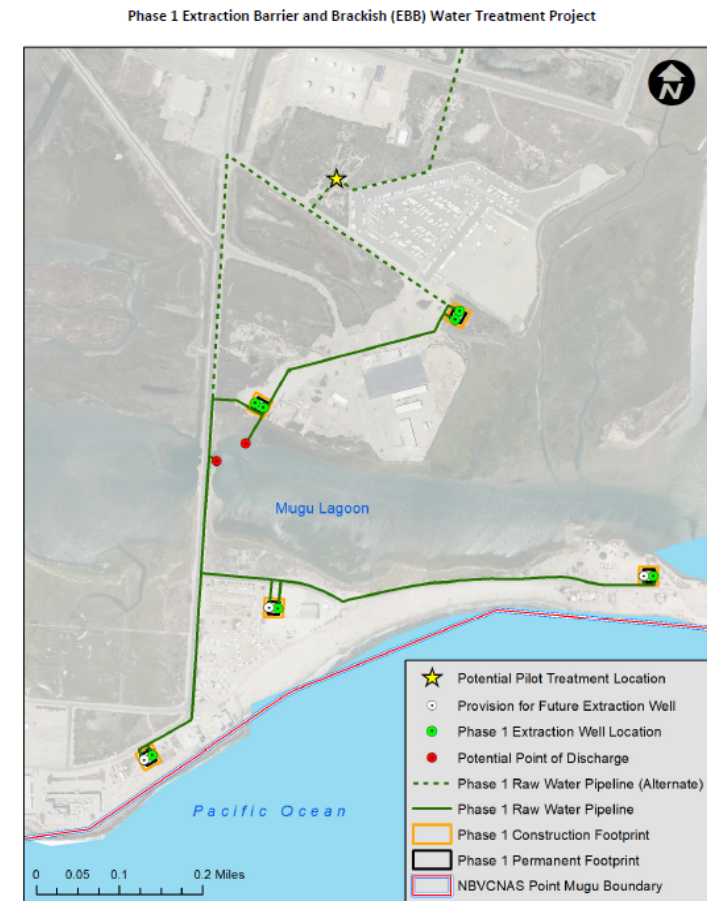
5

Motion Item

5.2

Design Services Contract Award to Kennedy Jenks for Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project

- ☐ RFQ/P released on August 12
- ☐ Received one proposal on September 22
- ☐ Interview panel met with Kennedy Jenks (KJ) consultants on November 8 and selected KJ for design services
- ☐ Staff discussed PM and SOW with KJ on November 9
- ☐ Staff recommends approval of a contract with KJ for \$2,069,912 (includes 10% contingency)



Motion Item 5.3

CEQA and NEPA Documentation and Regulatory Permitting Services Contract Award to Environmental Science Associates for Phase 1 of the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project

- ☐ RFQ/P released on August 8, 2022
- ☐ Received five proposals on September 15, 2022
- ☐ Three firms were interviewed
- ☐ Environmental Science Associates (ESA) was selected by the interview panel
- ☐ Contract amount: \$908,256 (includes 10% contingency)



Motion Item 5.4

Amendment to the University of Iowa Contract for the Physical Modeling of the Vertical Slot for the Freeman Expansion Project

- ☐ Staff recommends approval of a contract amendment with the University of Iowa for \$387,165





Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Dan Detmer, Water Resources Manager

From: Kathleen Kuepper, Hydrogeologist
Bram Sercu, Senior Hydrologist

Date: January 4, 2023 (January 11, 2023 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 3.B Groundwater Basin Status Report
Informational Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file the Monthly Hydrologic Conditions Report for the District for the month of December 2022.

Summary:

Diversions, Recharge and Ag Pipeline Deliveries for Month of December 2022*

Activity	Amount (acre-feet)
Total Diversions at Freeman Diversion	1,360
Lloyd-Butler Mutual Water Company surface water use	NA
Recharge to Saticoy basins (metered + unmetered)	901
Recharge to Noble and Rose basins	0
Recharge to El Rio basin	387
Total Ag Pipeline Deliveries of water diverted at Freeman	72.4
Total Ag Pipeline Deliveries of water pumped from Saticoy Well Field	0
Recharge to Piru spreading grounds	0

*Provisional data. Final data are made available in the September Hydrologic Conditions Report of each water year.

Groundwater Basin Available Storage at End of Month of December 2022

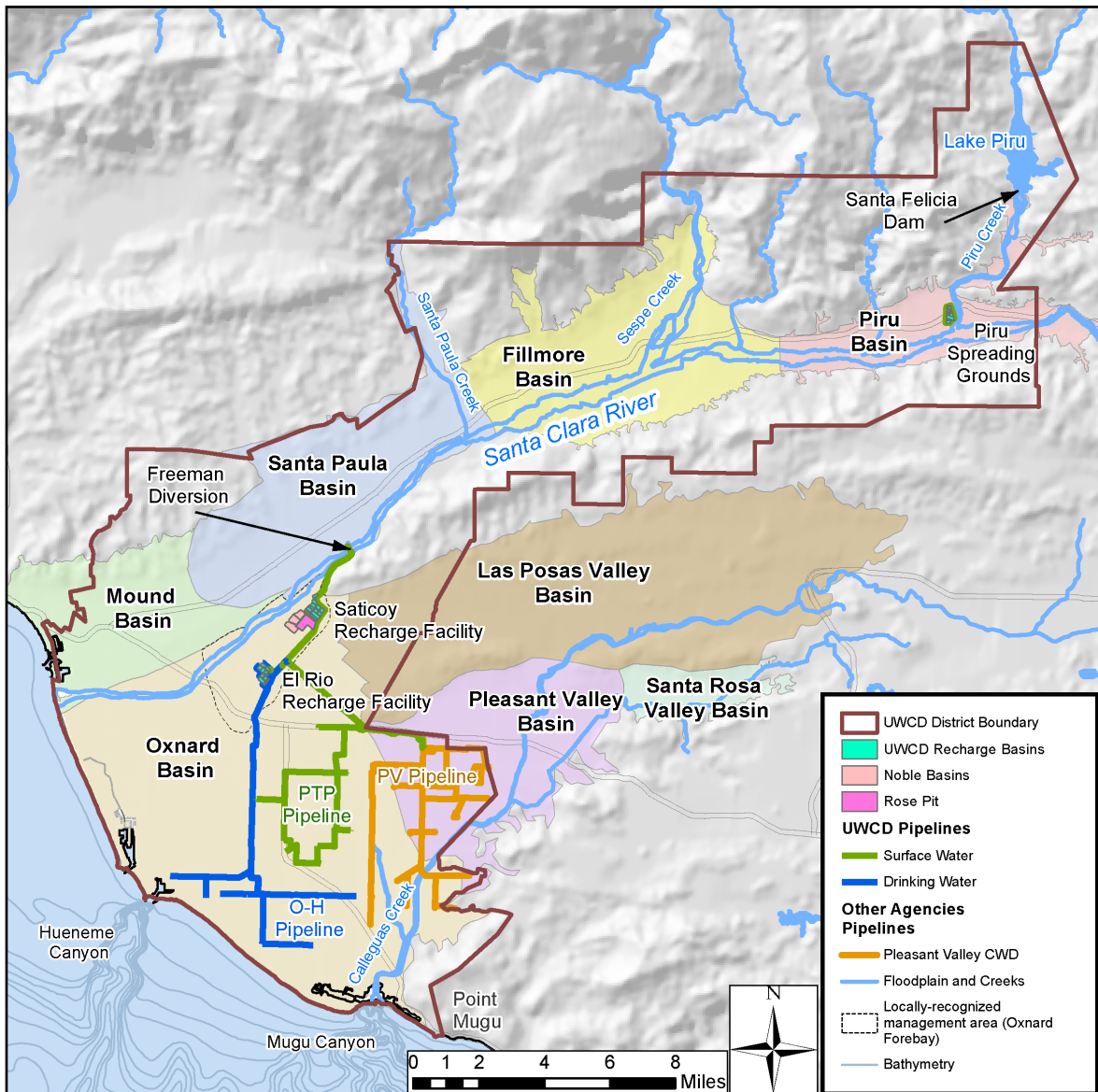
Basin	Available Storage (acre-feet)
Oxnard Forebay	121,300

Precipitation for Month of December 2022

Location	Precipitation (inches)
Lake Piru	5.11
Santa Paula	4.12
El Rio	2.33

December 2022 Hydrologic Conditions Report 2022/23 Water Year

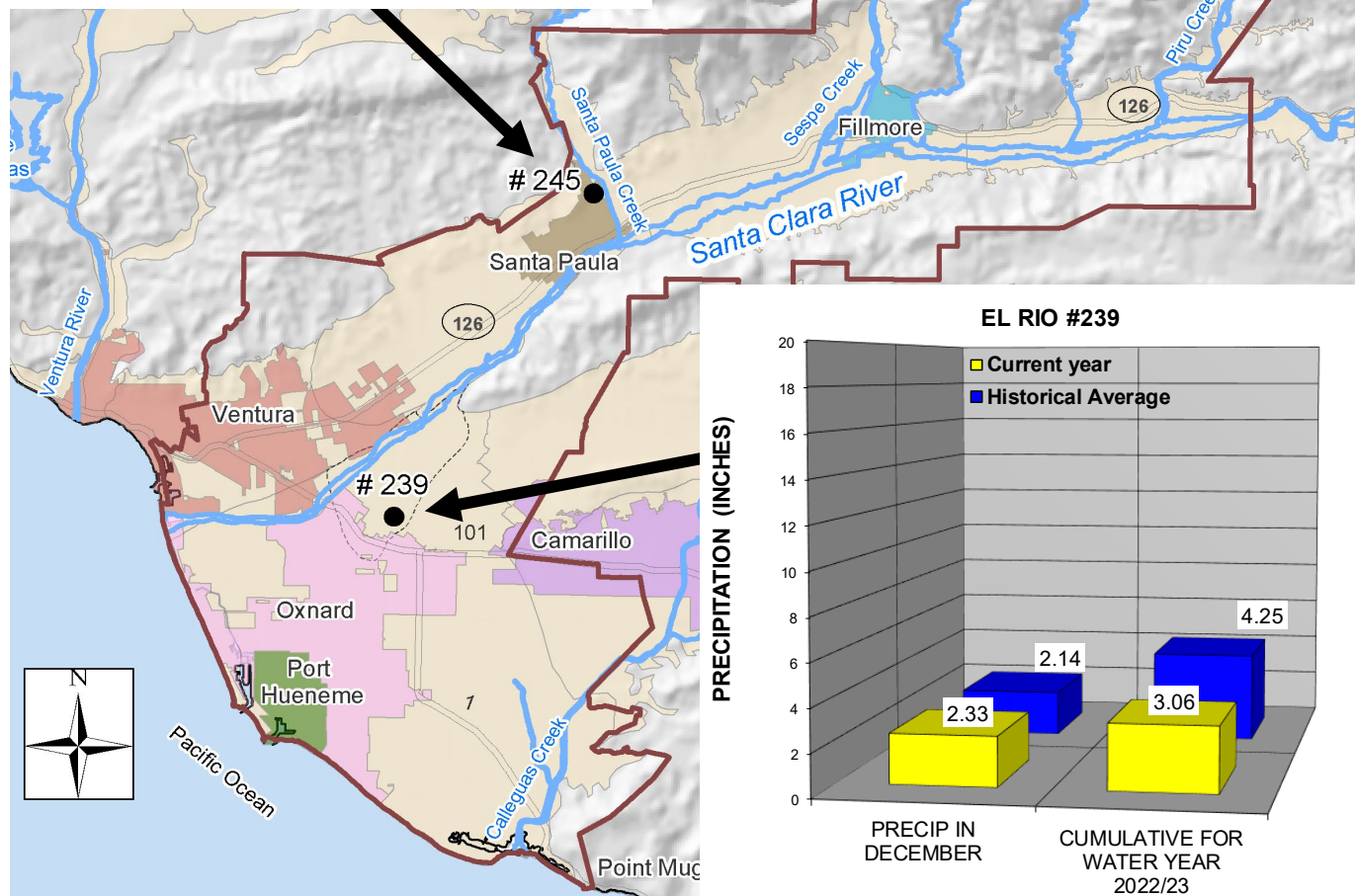
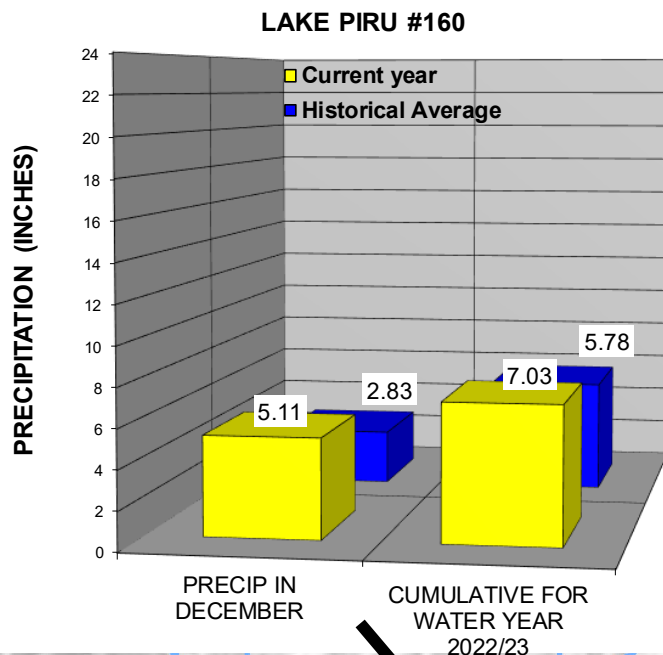
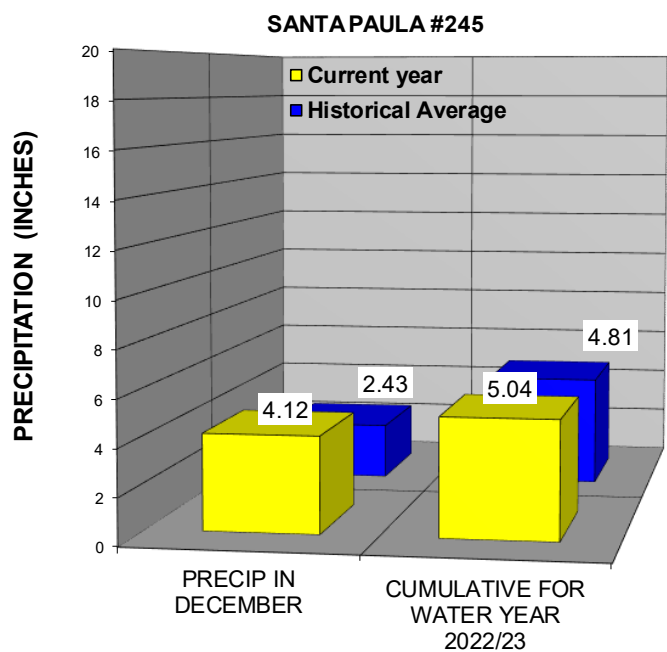
January 4, 2023



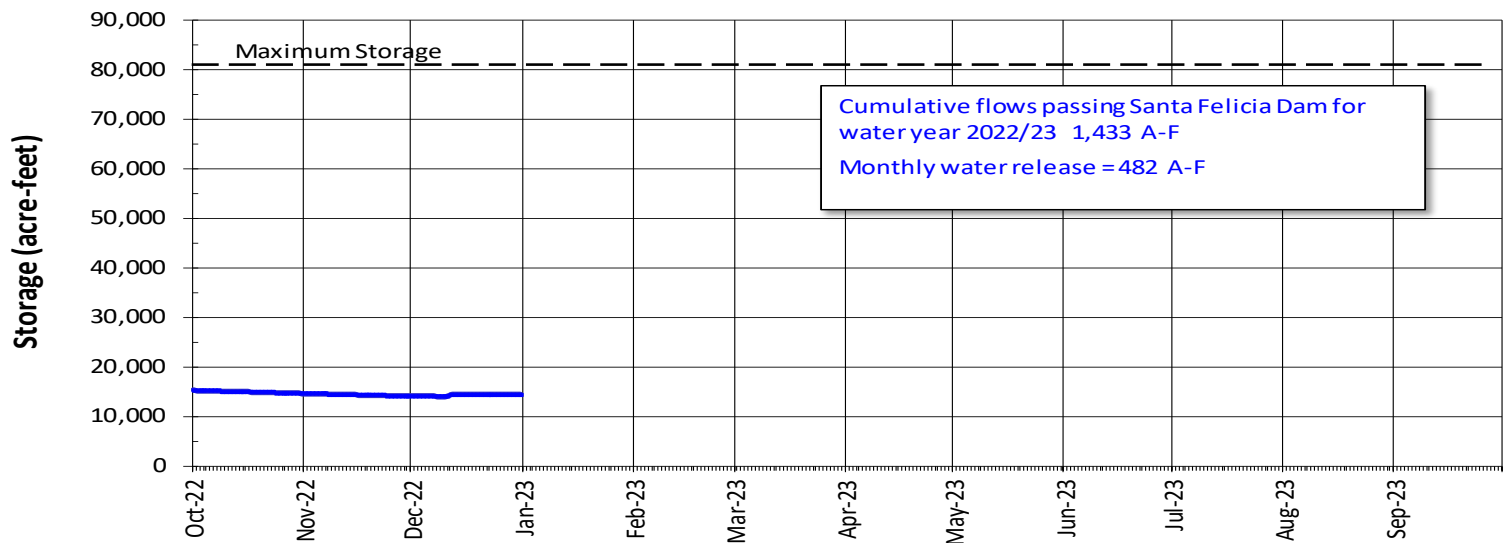
Note: This report may contain provisional data until final review at the end of the water year.

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Precipitation

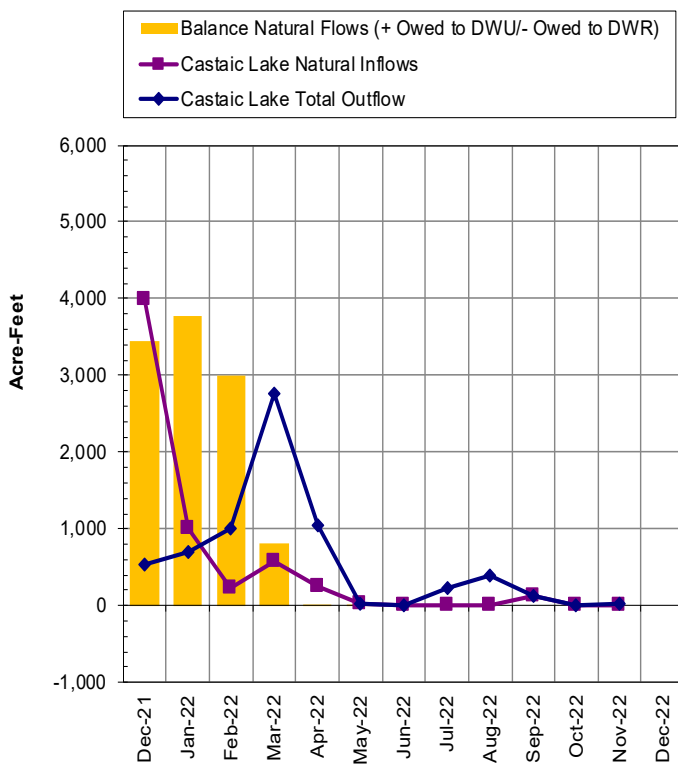


District-wide percent of normal precipitation = 102%

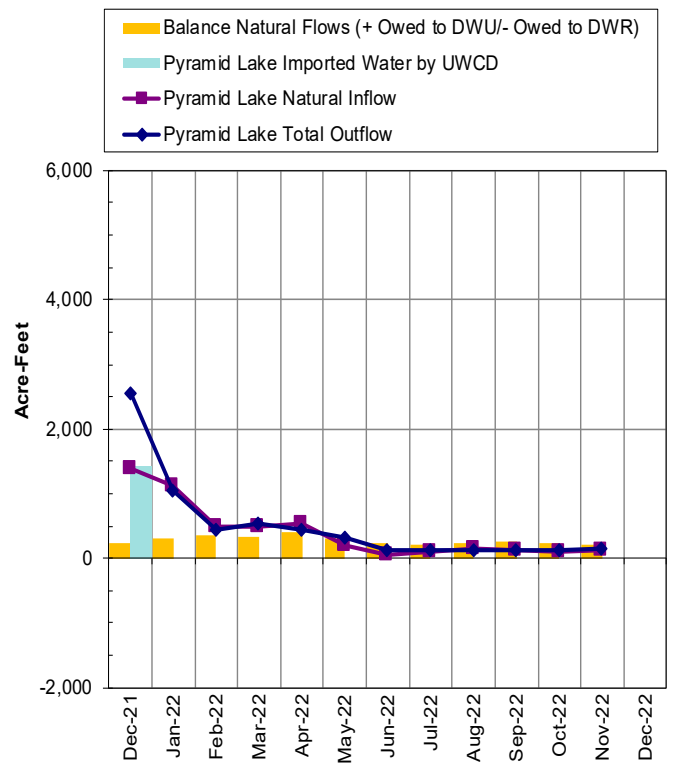


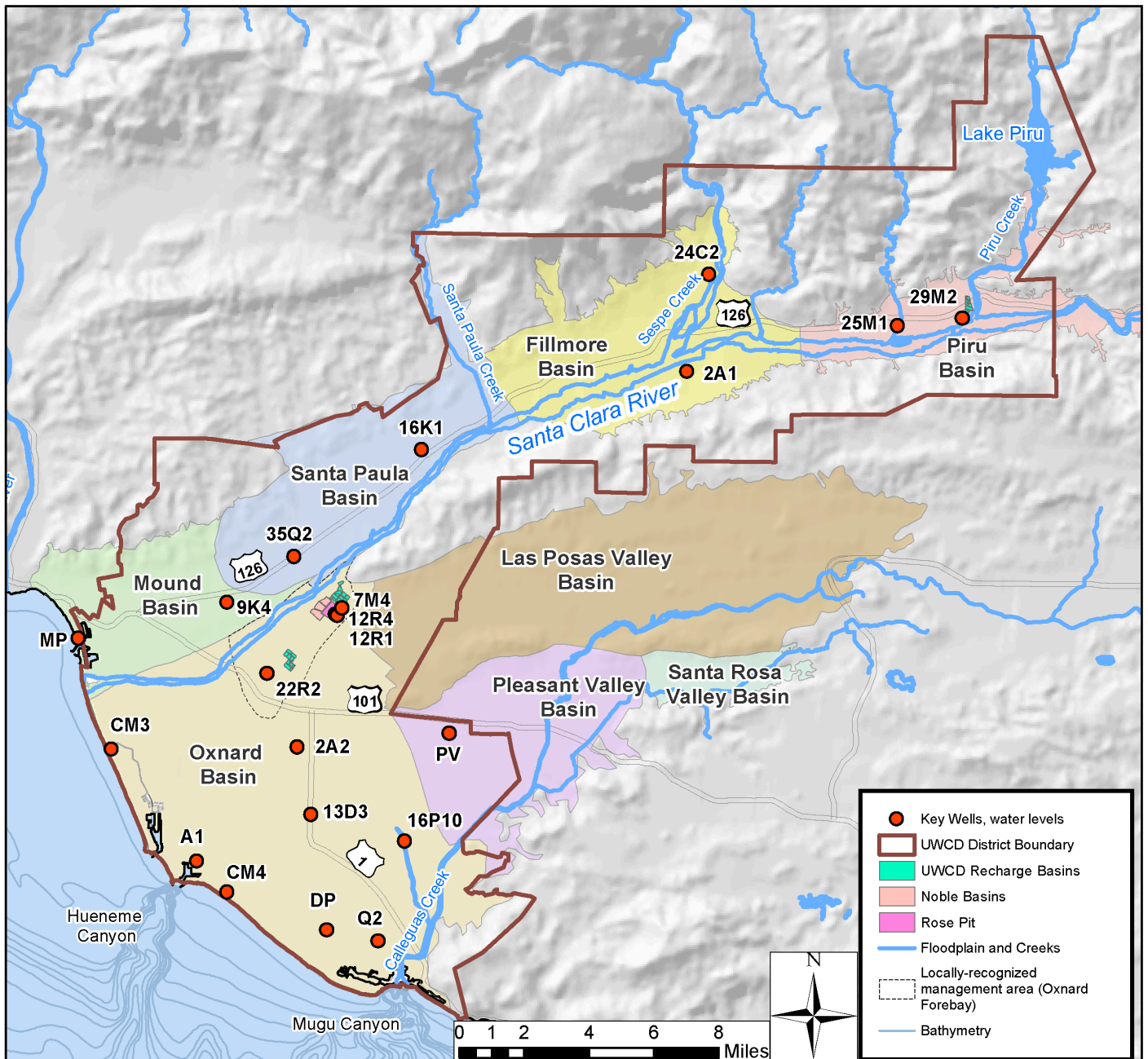
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Hydro Plant Outflow (Acre-Feet)	0	0	0									
Cumulative Hydro Plant Outflow (A-F)	0	0	0									

Castaic Lake releases to downstream water users (DWU)



Pyramid Lake releases to UWCD

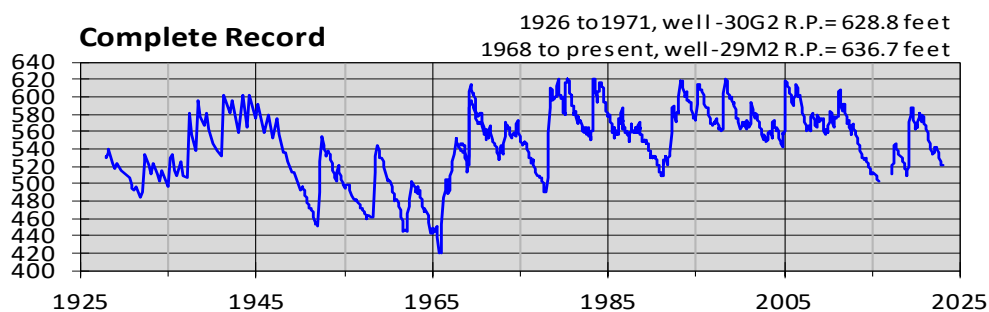
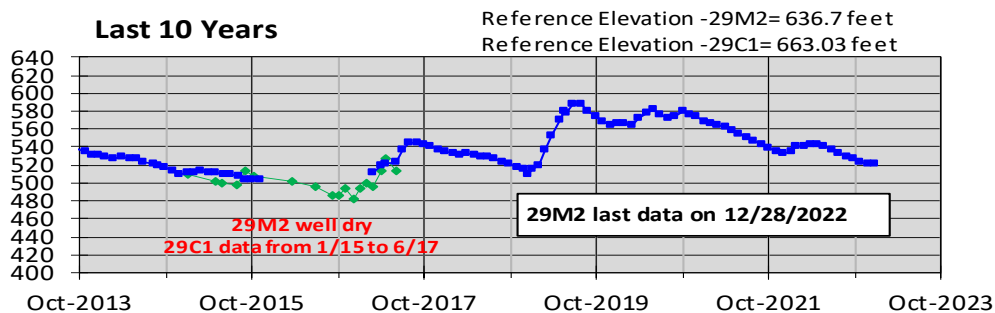




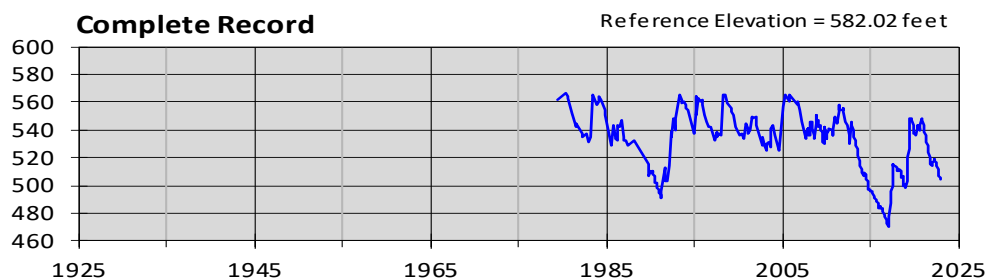
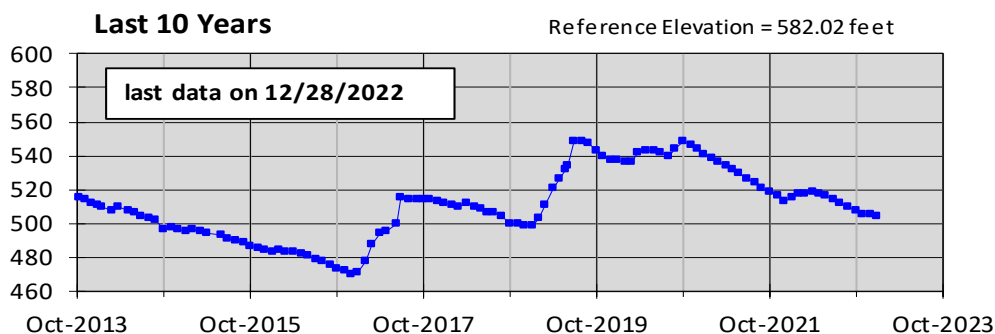
Locations of Key Wells, Monthly Groundwater Elevation Monitoring

Groundwater Elevation Records – Piru Basin

Well 04N18W29M02S (29M2)

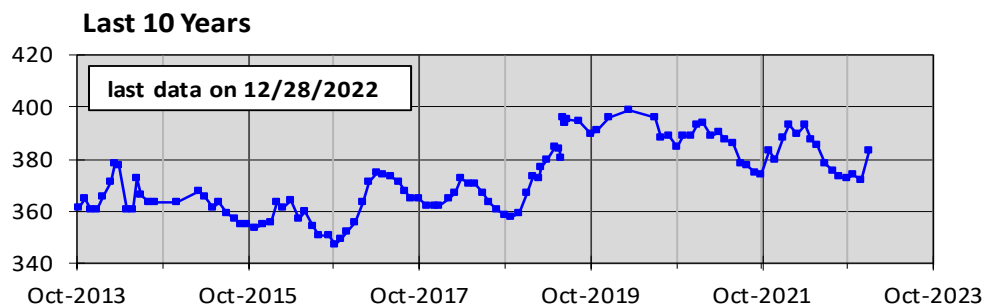


Well 04N19W25M01S (25M1)

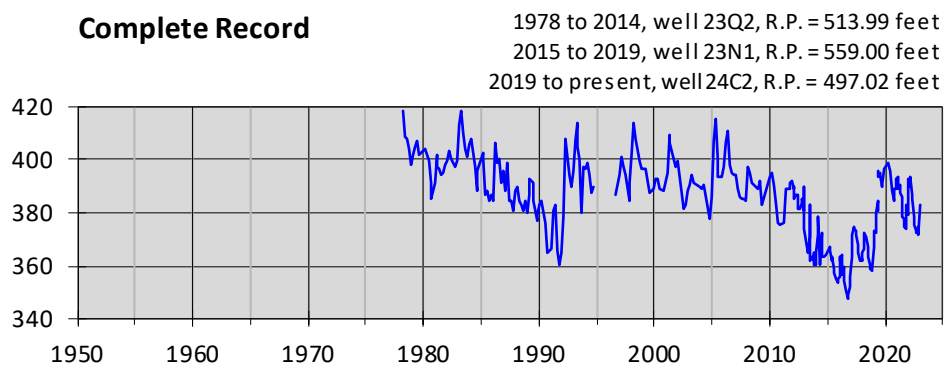


Groundwater Elevation Records – Fillmore Basin

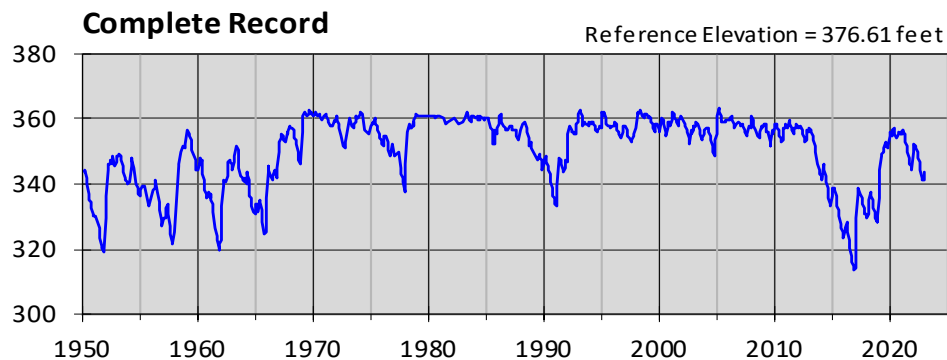
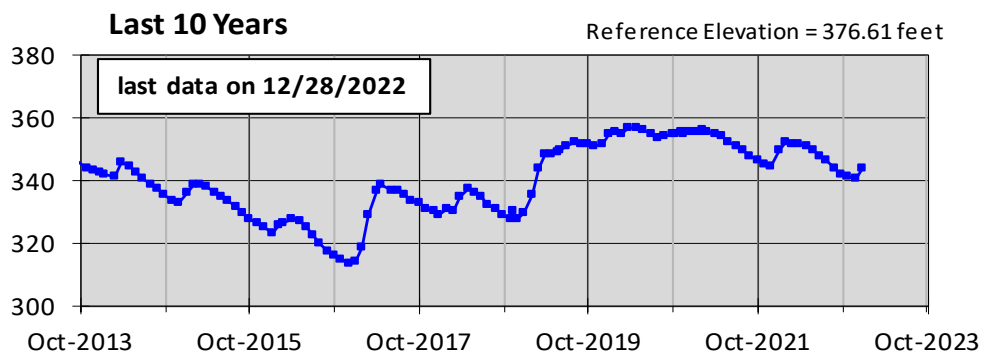
Well 04N20W24C02S (24C2)



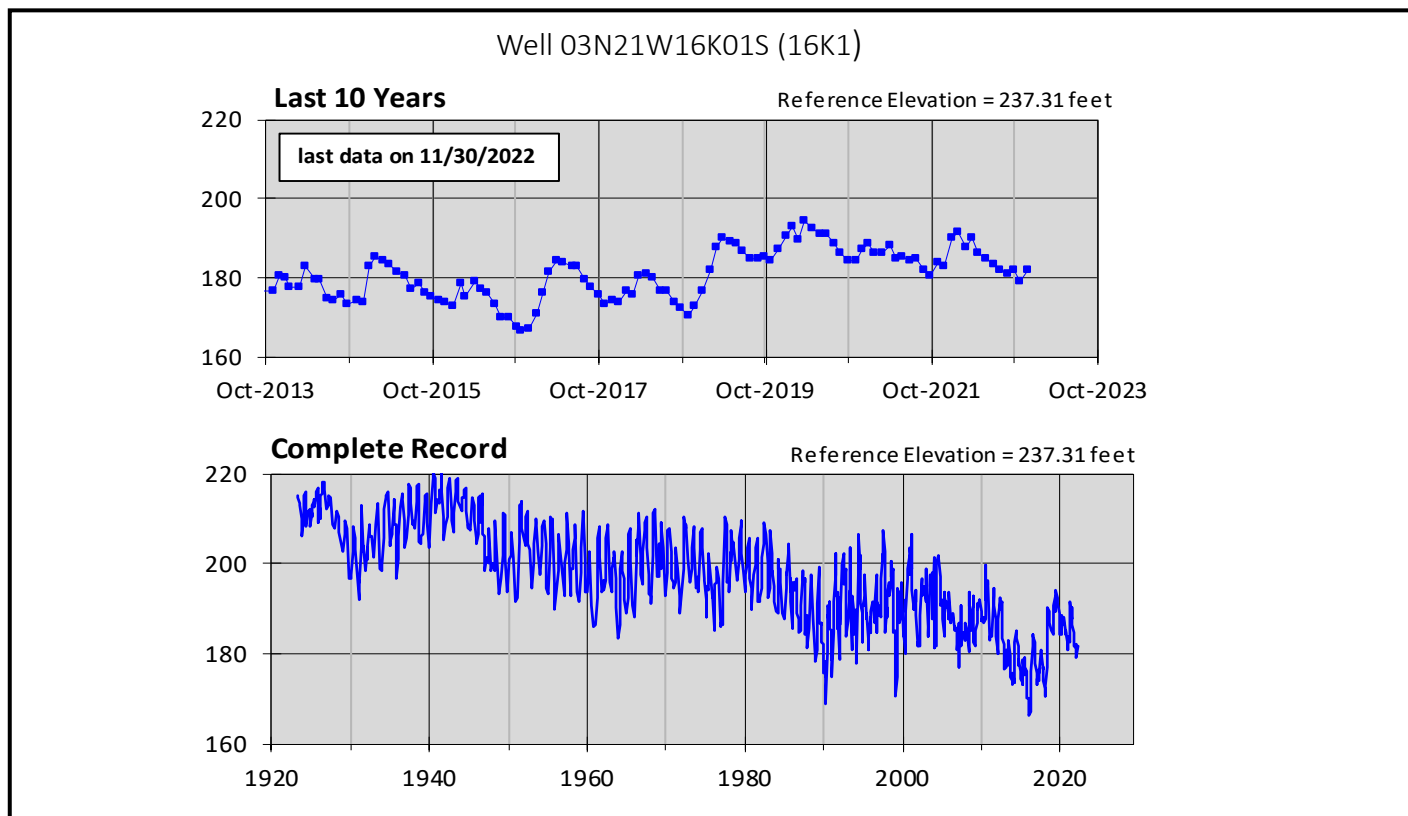
Complete Record



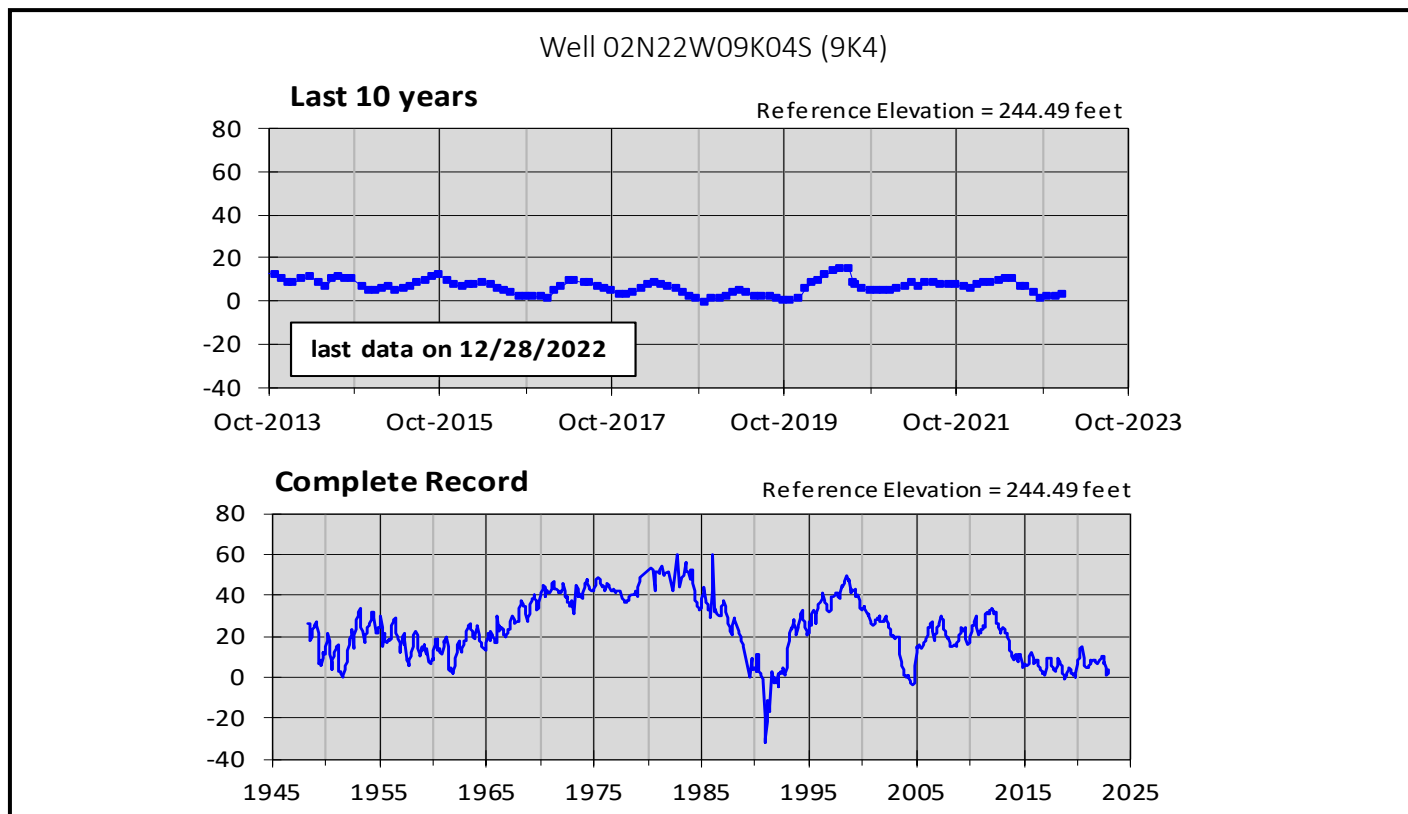
Well 03N20W02A01S (2A1)



Groundwater Elevation Records – Santa Paula Basin



Groundwater Elevation Records – Mound Basin

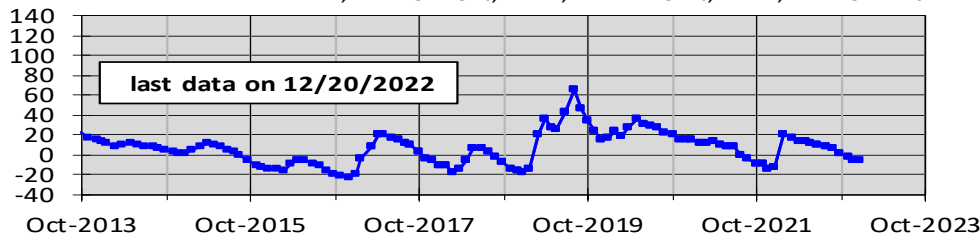


Groundwater Elevation Records – Oxnard Basin, Forebay

Wells 02N22W12R01S (12R1), 02N22W12R04S (12R4), and 02N21W07M04S (7M4)

Last 10 Years

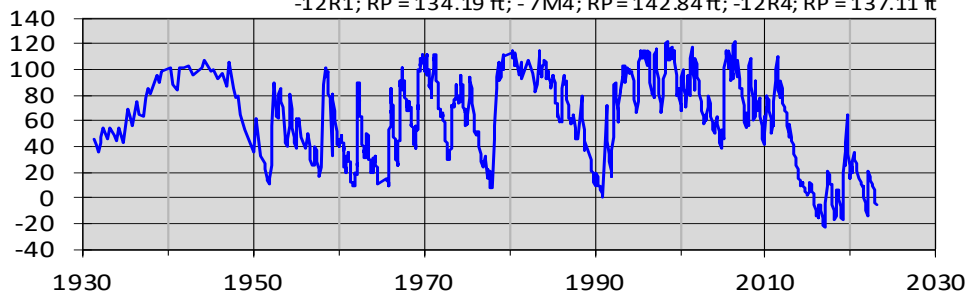
-12R1; RP = 134.19 ft; - 7M4; RP = 142.84 ft; -12R4; RP = 137.11 ft



Note: Well 12R1 was destroyed in 2014 and replaced with well 12R4. When well 12R4 goes dry at approximately 9 ft msl, well 7M4 is used to measure groundwater level.

Complete Record

-12R1; RP = 134.19 ft; - 7M4; RP = 142.84 ft; -12R4; RP = 137.11 ft

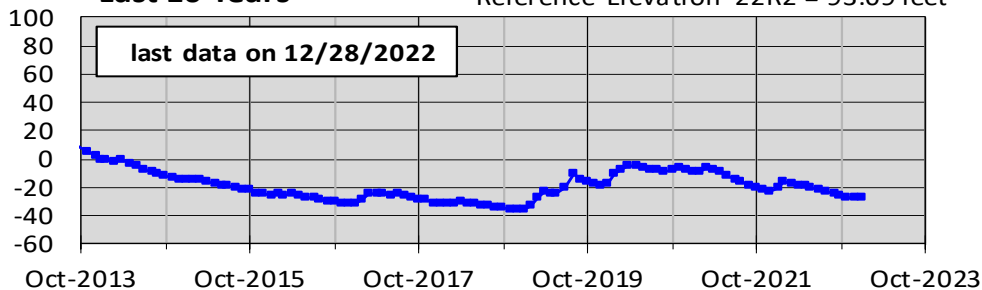


Note: Well 12R1 was destroyed in 2014 and replaced with well 12R4. When well 12R4 goes dry at approximately 9 ft msl, well 7M4 is used to measure groundwater level.

Well 02N22W22R02S (22R2)

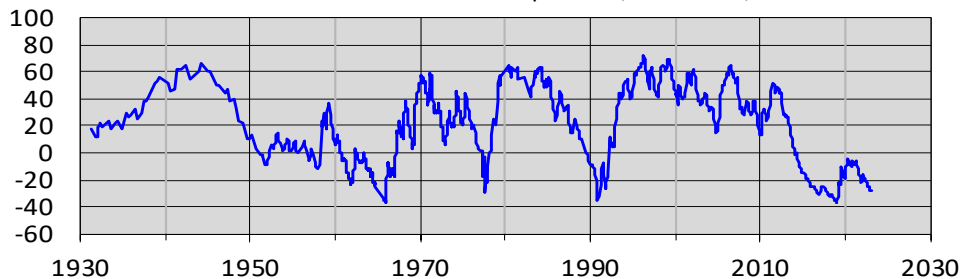
Last 10 Years

Reference Elevation -22R2 = 93.09 feet



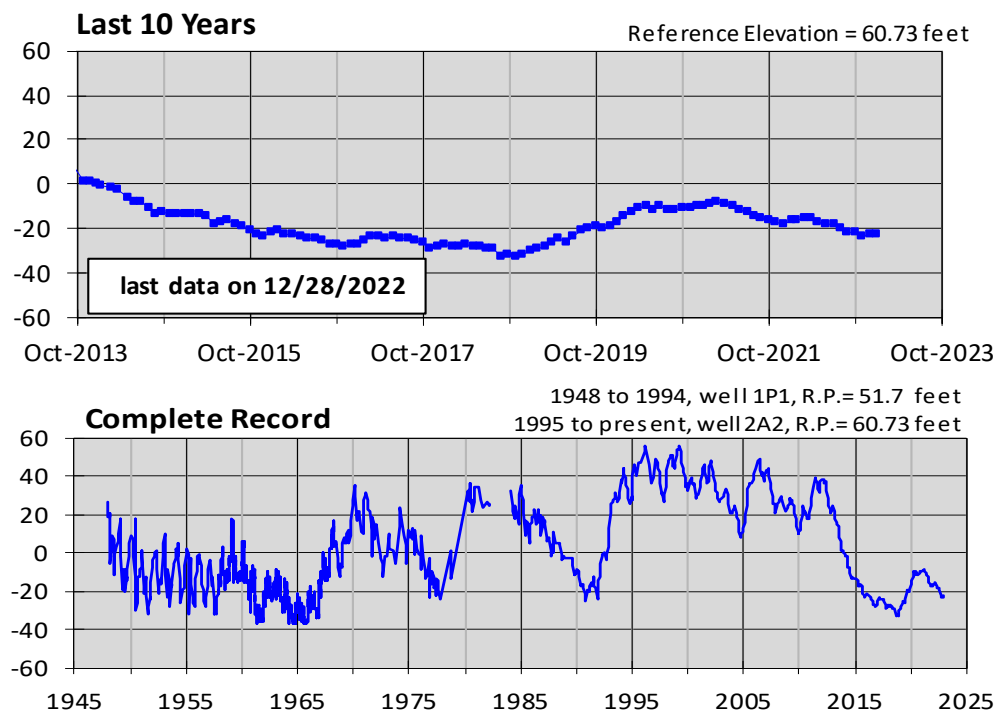
Complete Record

1931 to 2004, well -22R1, RP = 93.6 feet
2004 to present, well -22R2, RP = 93.09 feet

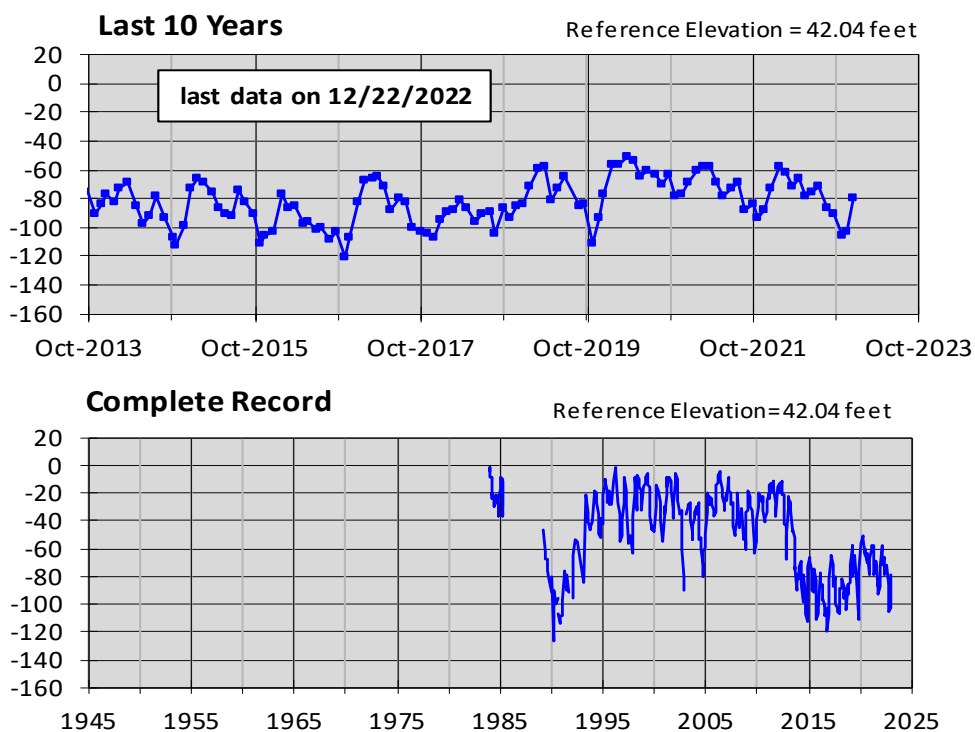


Groundwater Elevation Records – Oxnard Basin

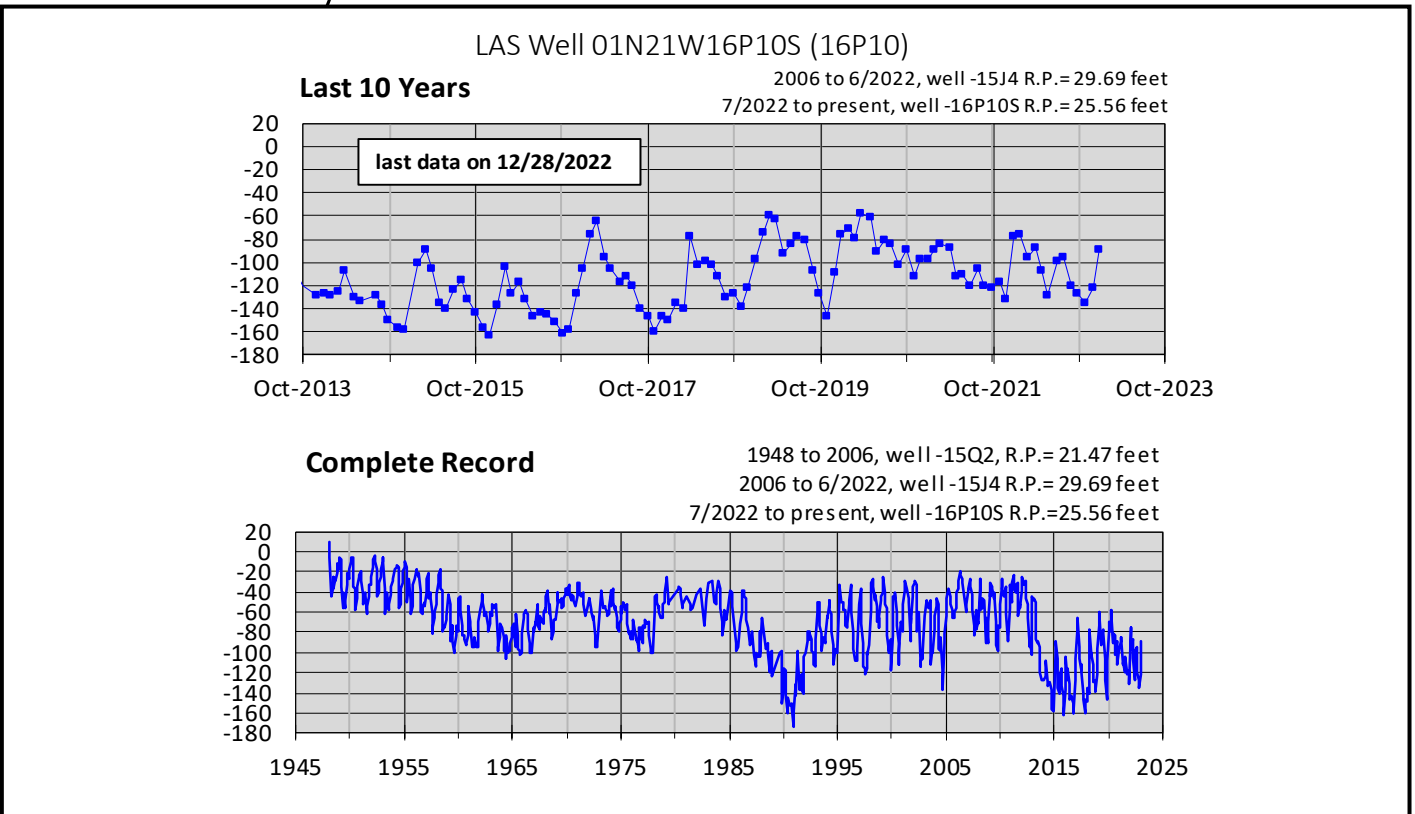
UAS Well 01N22W02A02S (2A2)



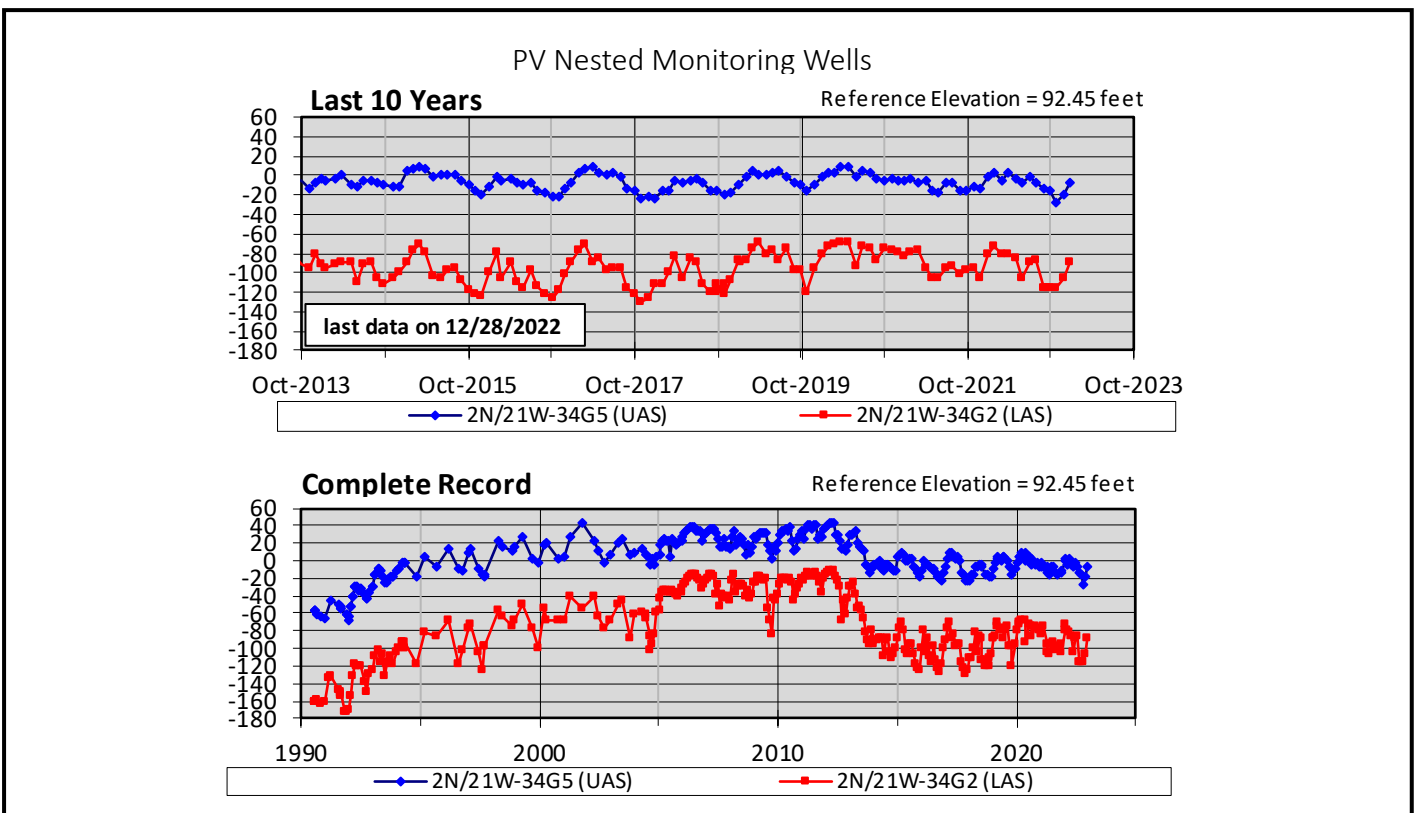
LAS well 01N22W13D03S (13D3)



Groundwater Elevation Records – eastern Oxnard/Pleasant Valley Basin Boundary Area

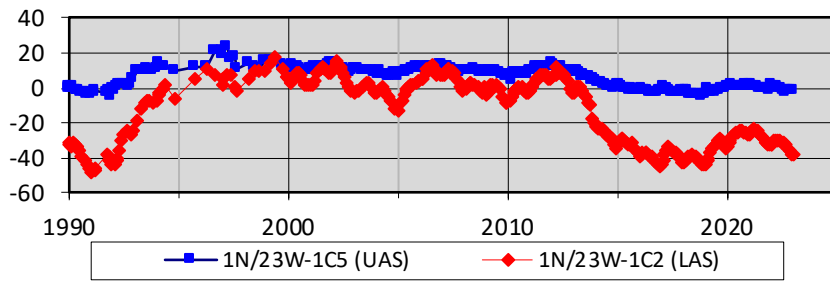


Groundwater Elevation Records – Pleasant Valley Basin

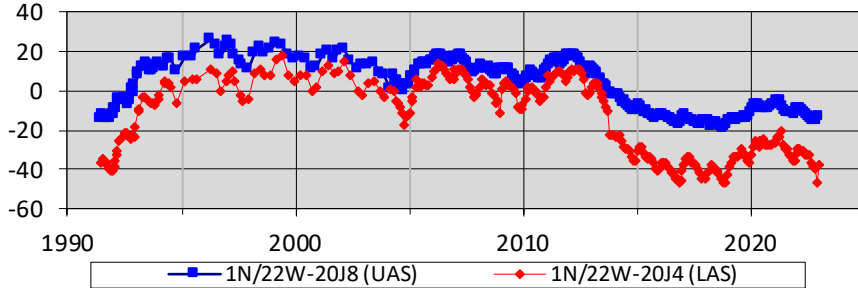


Groundwater Elevation Records – Coastal Nested Monitoring Wells

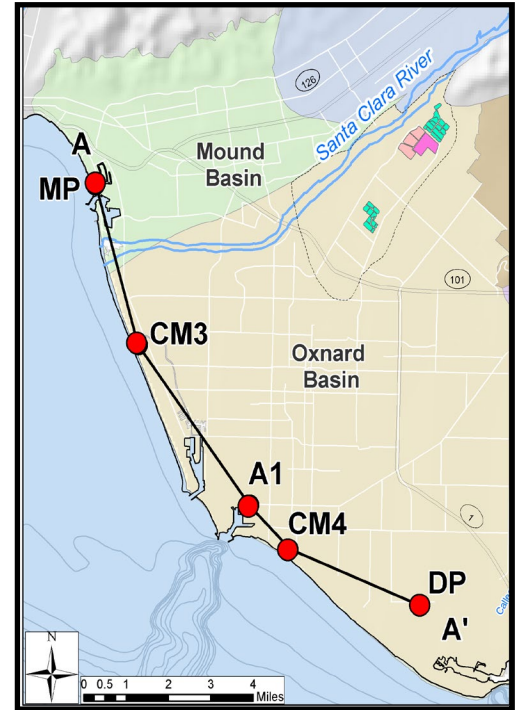
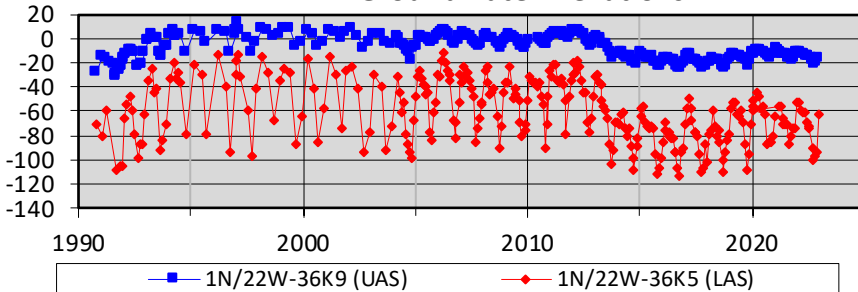
CM3 Groundwater Elevations



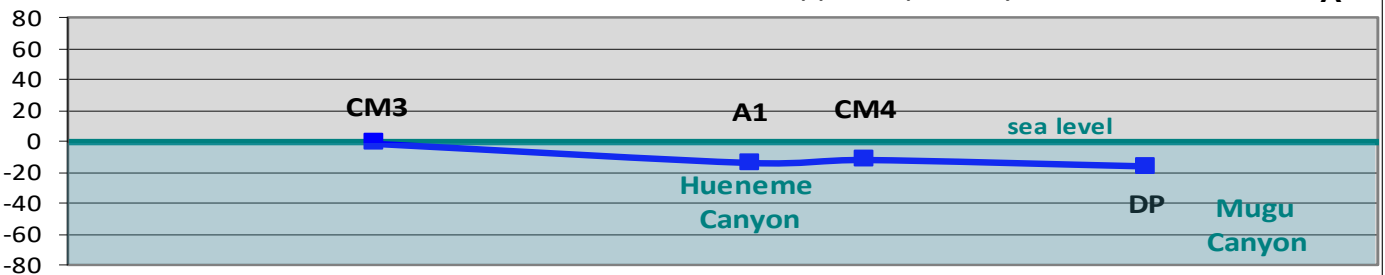
A1 Groundwater Elevations



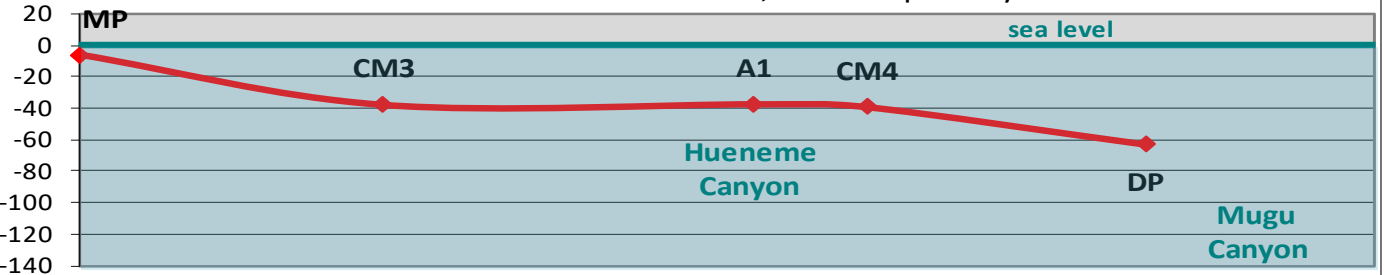
DP Groundwater Elevations



Coastal Groundwater Elevation Transect, Upper Aquifer System



Coastal Groundwater Elevation Transect, Lower Aquifer System



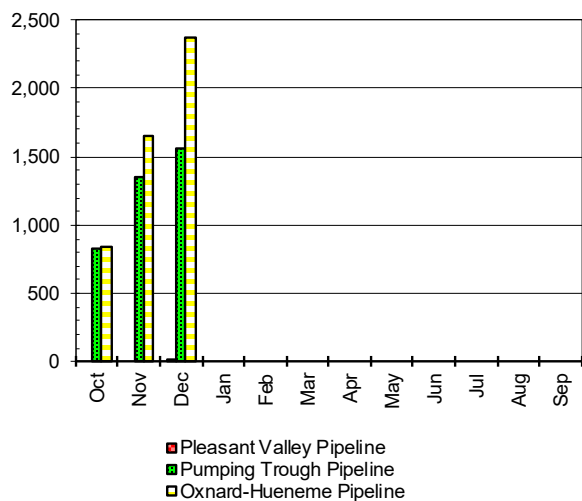
Monthly Water Deliveries, acre-feet (Water Year 2022/23)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
PV Pipeline (surface water)	0.0	0.0	7.9									
PV Pipeline (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
Total to Pleasant Valley Pipeline	0.0	0.0	7.9									
PTP (surface water)	0.0	0.0	64.5									
PTP (PTP 1-5)	706.9	500.4	145.6									
PTP (OH-12/13)	116.5	32.1	0.0									
PTP (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
Total PTP	823.4	532.5	210.1									
C-customers (surface water)	0	0	0									
Saticoy Well Field (groundwater)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
O-H Pipeline (groundwater)	835.8	818.2	713.2									
Total Surface Water Delivery (PTP, PV, c-cust)	0.0	0.0	72.4									
Total Groundwater Delivery (PTP, OH, Sat)	1,659.2	1,350.7	858.8									
Total Delivery (surface water, groundwater)	1,659.2	1,350.7	931.2									

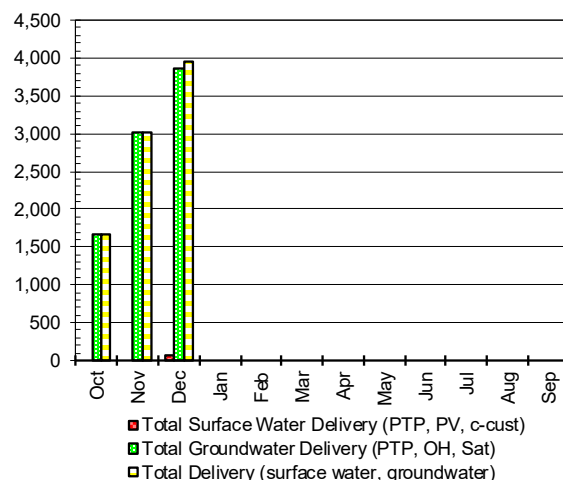
Cumulative Water Deliveries, acre-feet (Water Year 2022/23)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
PV Pipeline (surface water)	0.0	0.0	7.9									
PV Pipeline (saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
Total to Pleasant Valley Pipeline	0.0	0.0	7.9									
PTP (surface water)	0.0	0.0	64.5									
PTP (PTP 1-5)	706.9	1,207.3	1,352.9									
PTP (OH-12/13)	116.5	148.6	148.6									
PTP (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
Total PTP	823.4	1,355.9	1,566.0									
C-customers (surface water)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
Saticoy Well Field (groundwater)	0.0	0.0	0.0									
O-H Pipeline (groundwater)	835.8	1,654.0	2,367.2									
Total Surface Water Delivery (PTP, PV, c-cust)	0.0	0.0	72.4									
Total Groundwater Delivery (PTP, OH, Sat)	1,659.2	3,009.9	3,868.7									
Total Delivery (surface water, groundwater)	1,659.2	3,009.9	3,941.1									

Cumulative deliveries by system



Cumulative deliveries by source/type



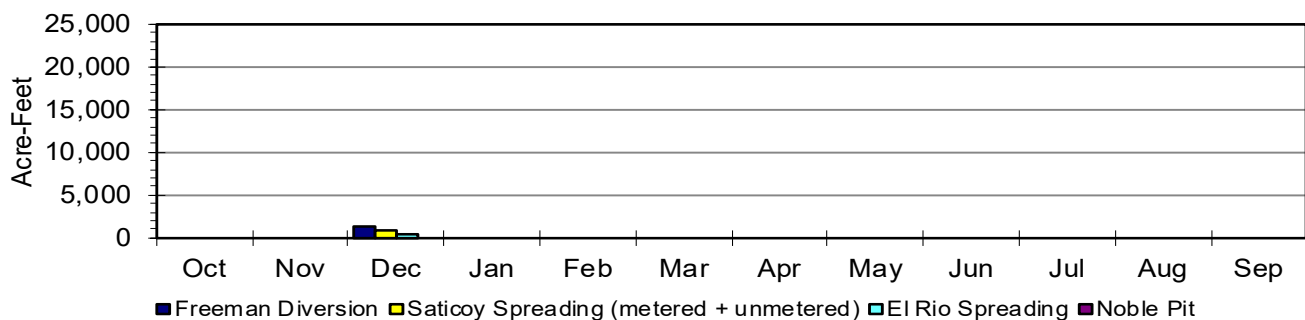
Monthly diversion and recharge totals by facility, 2022/23, in acre-feet

Month	Piru Spreading	Freeman Diversion	Saticoy Spreading (metered + unmetered)	El Rio Spreading	Noble Pit	LBMWC Water Use
Oct	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dec	0	1,360	901	387	0	NA
Jan						
Feb						
Mar						
Apr						
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						

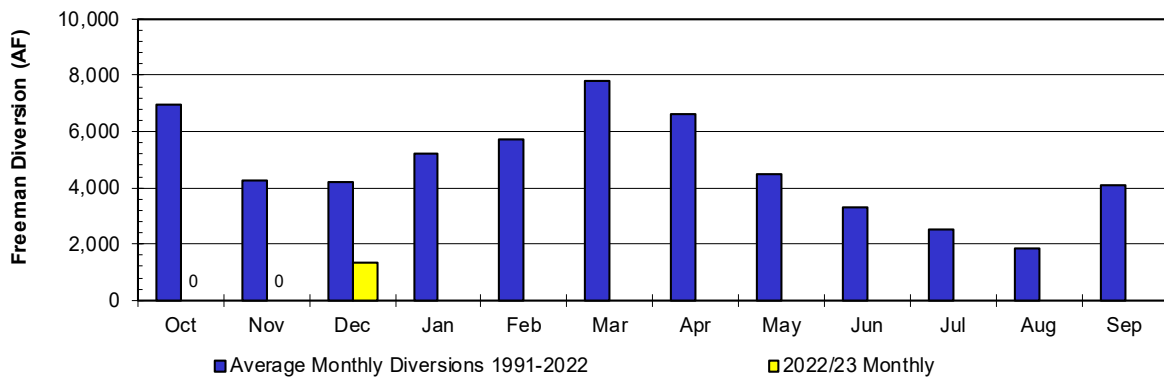
Cumulative diversion and recharge totals by facility, 2022/23, in acre-feet

Month	Piru Spreading	Freeman Diversion	Saticoy Spreading (metered + unmetered)	El Rio Spreading	Noble Pit	LBMWC Water Use
Oct	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dec	0	1,360	901	387	0	NA
Jan						
Feb						
Mar						
Apr						
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						

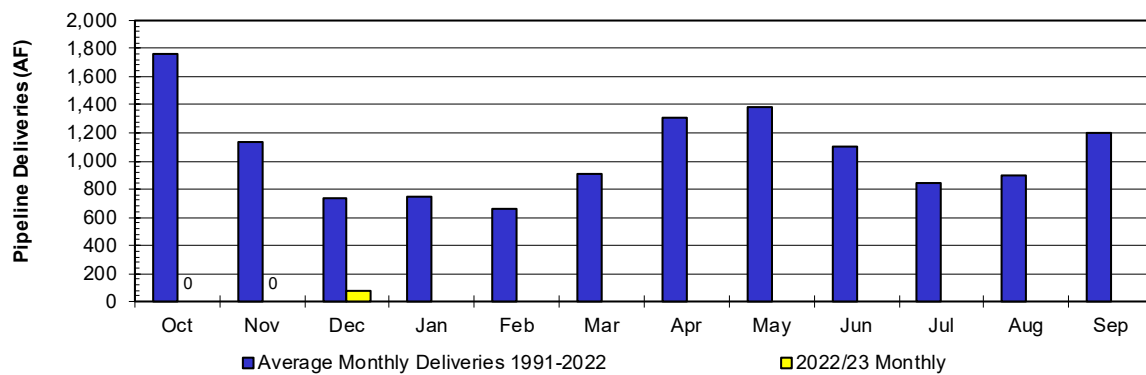
Cumulative diversion at Freeman, and distribution to recharge facilities



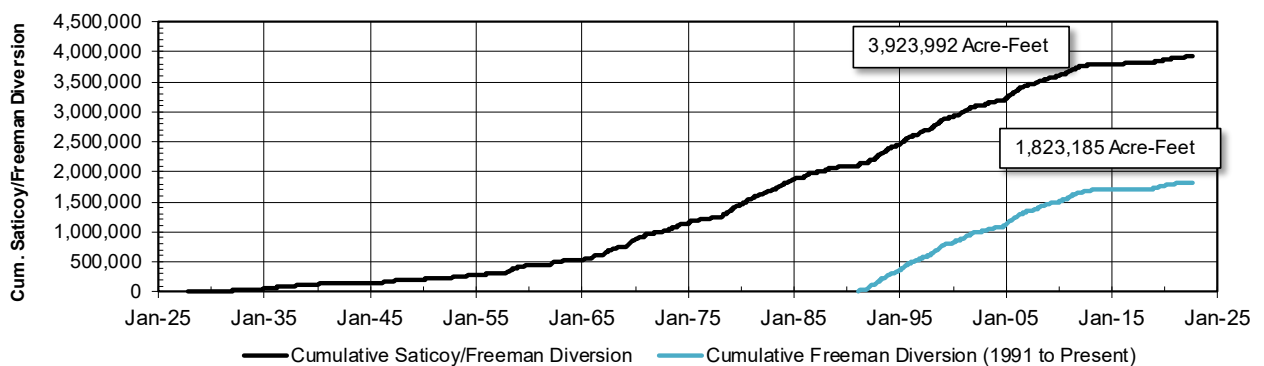
Monthly 2022/23 diversion at Freeman, compared to average monthly diversions (1991-2022)



Monthly 2022/23 pipeline deliveries (surface water deliveries), compared to average monthly pipeline deliveries (1991-2022)

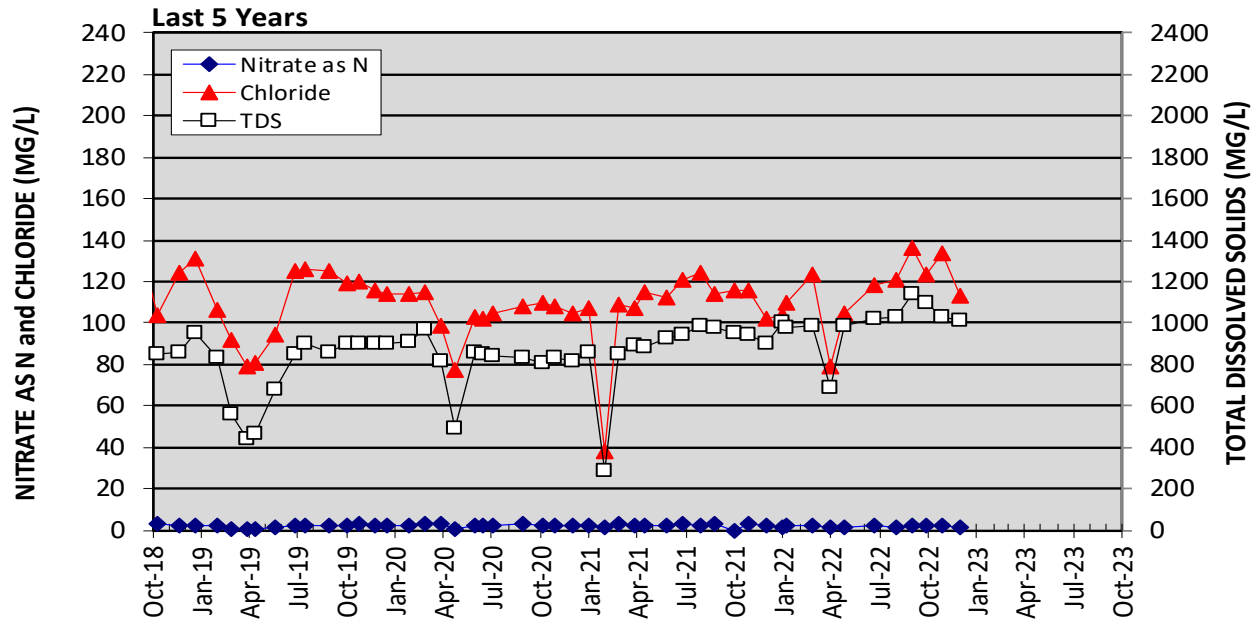


Cumulative diversion at Saticoy and Freeman Diversion, in acre-feet

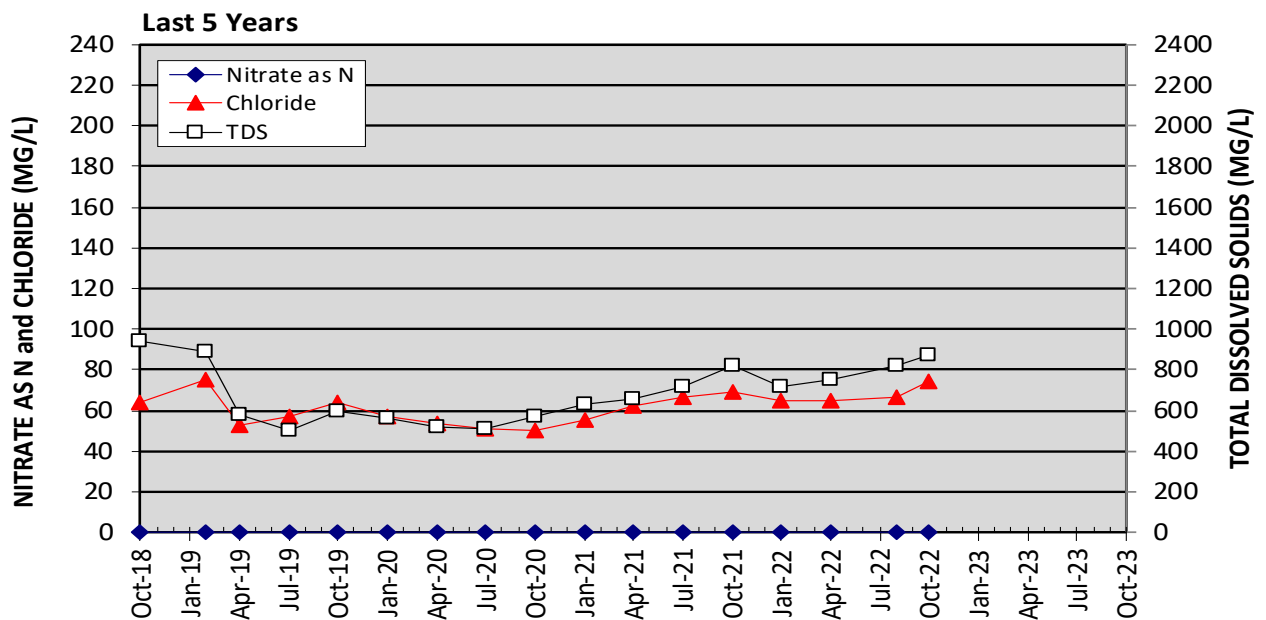


Water Quality

Santa Clara River water quality near Los Angeles/Ventura County line

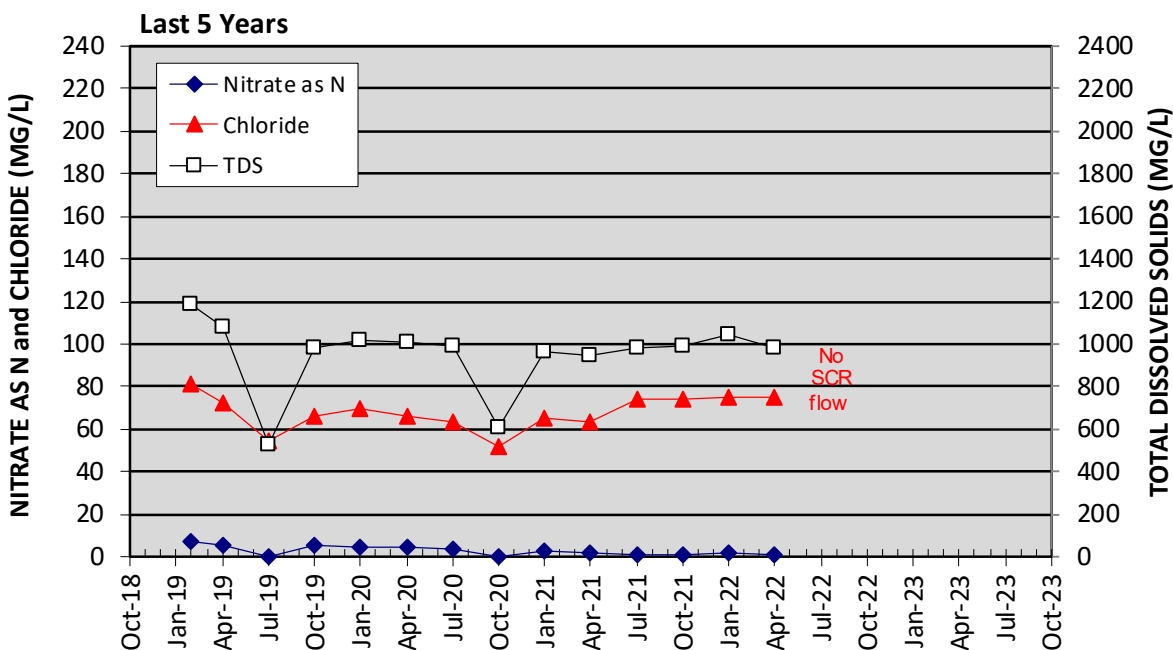


Piru Creek water quality below Santa Felicia Dam

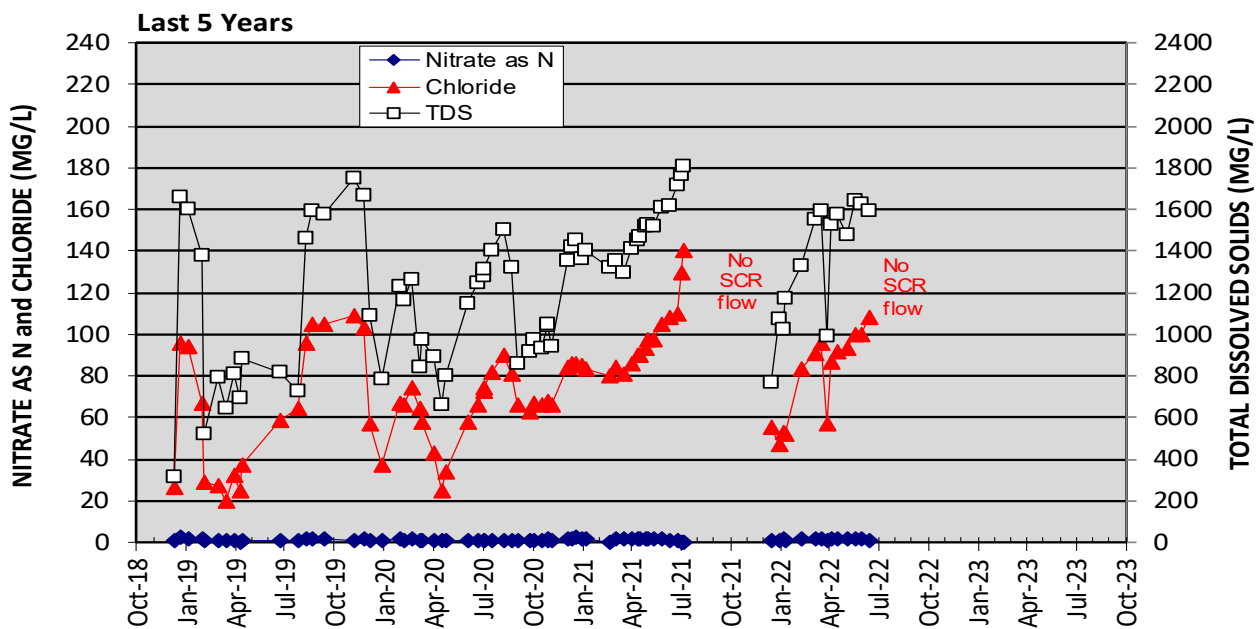


Water Quality

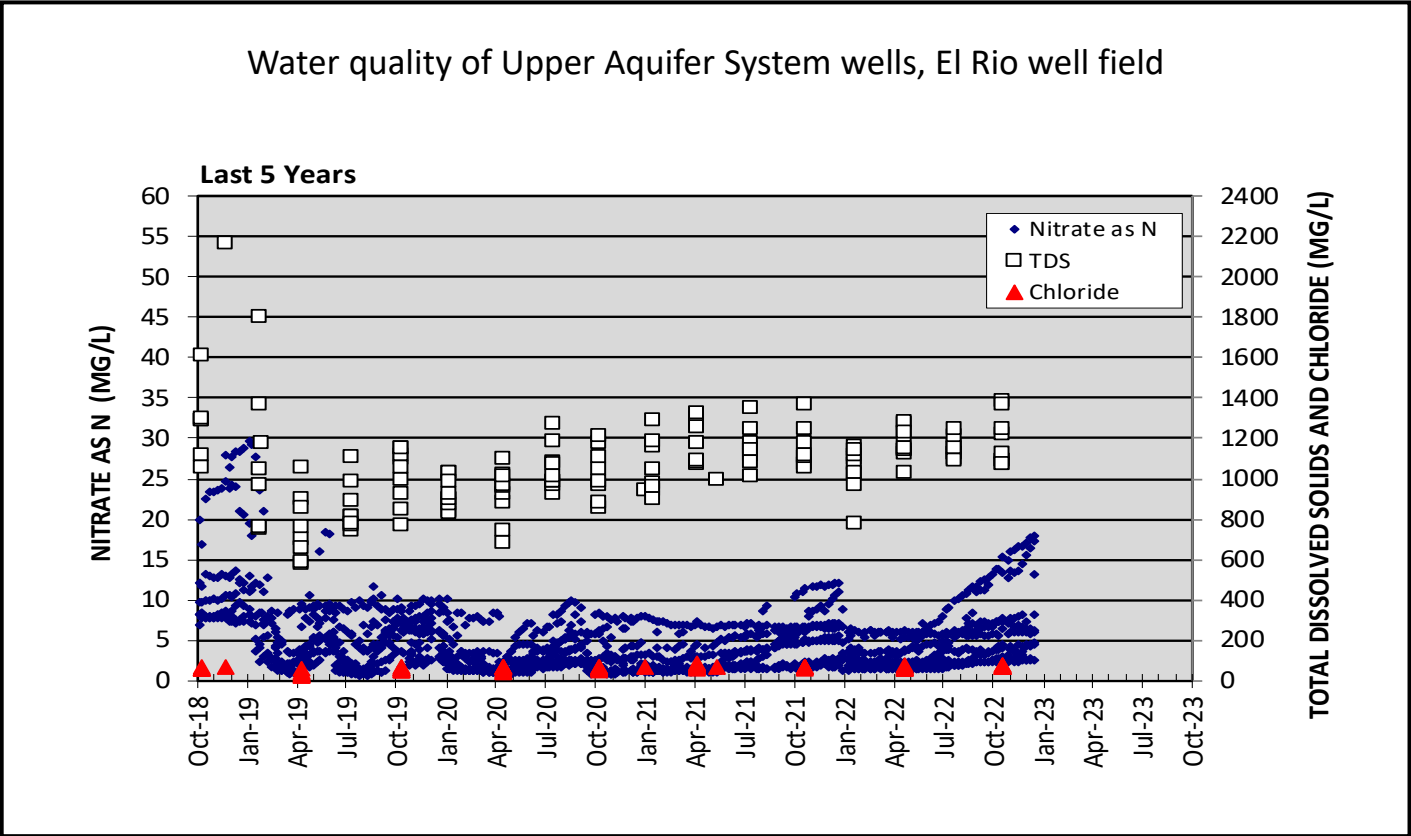
Santa Clara River water quality near Fillmore Fish Hatchery

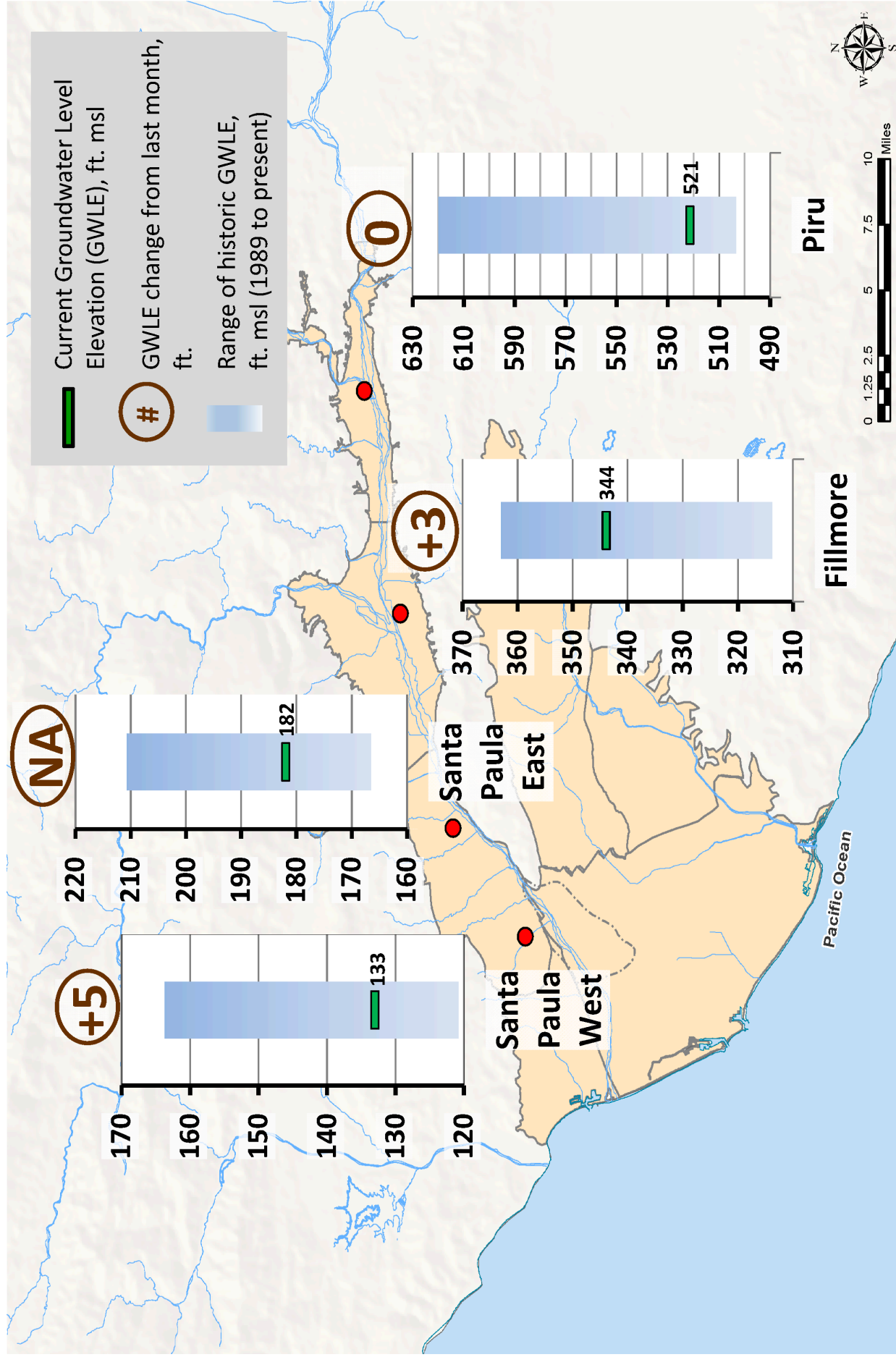


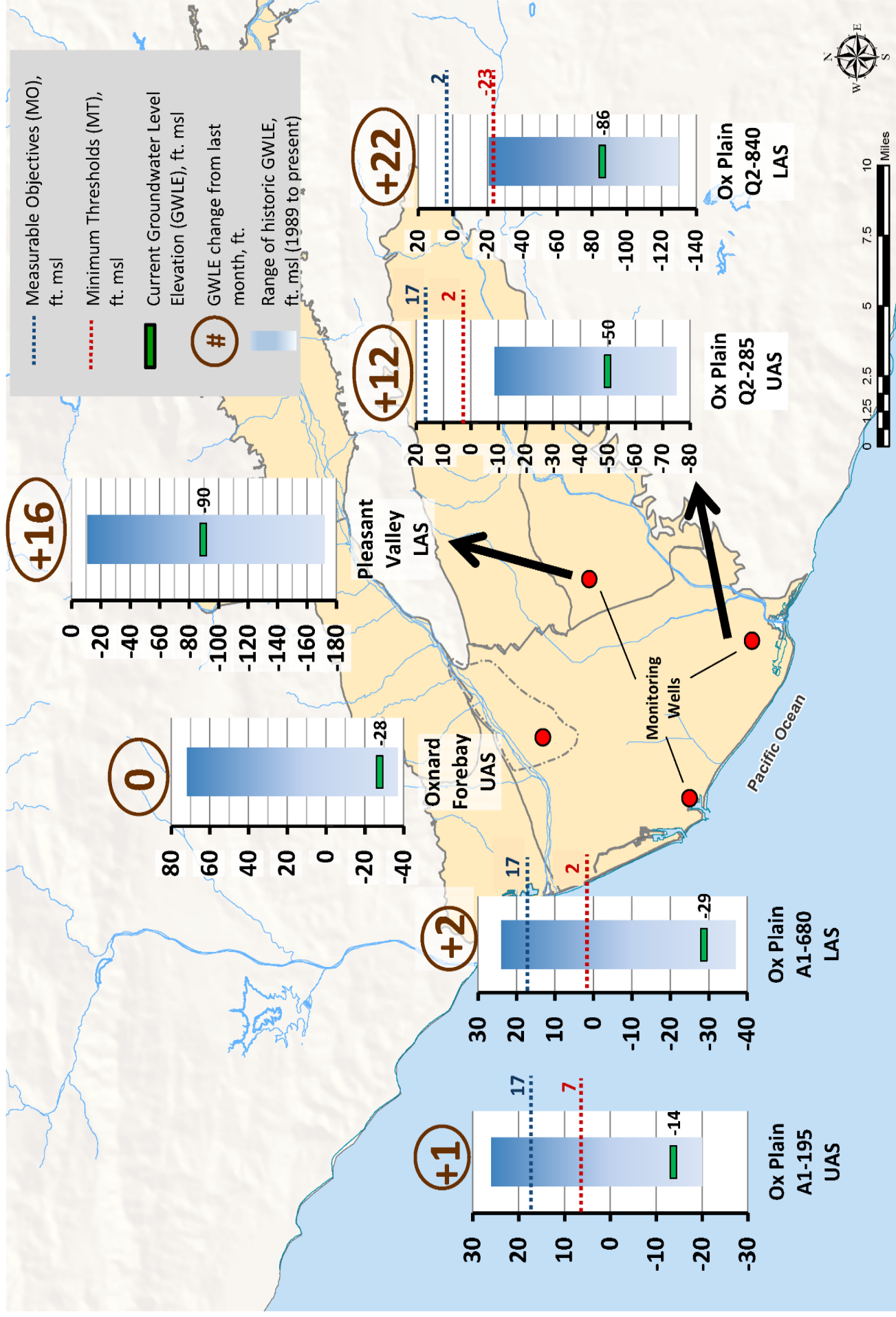
Santa Clara River water quality at Freeman Diversion



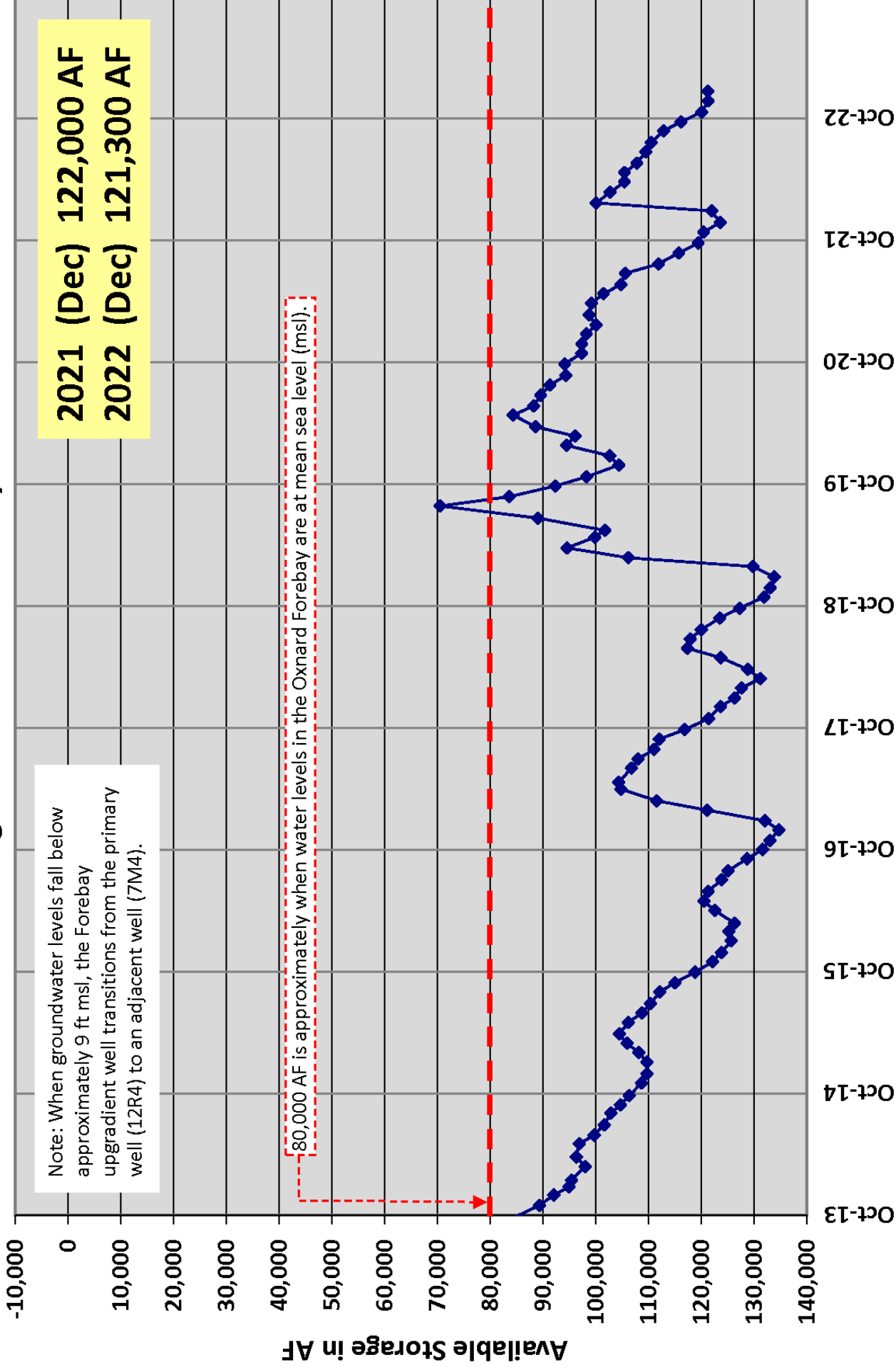
Water Quality

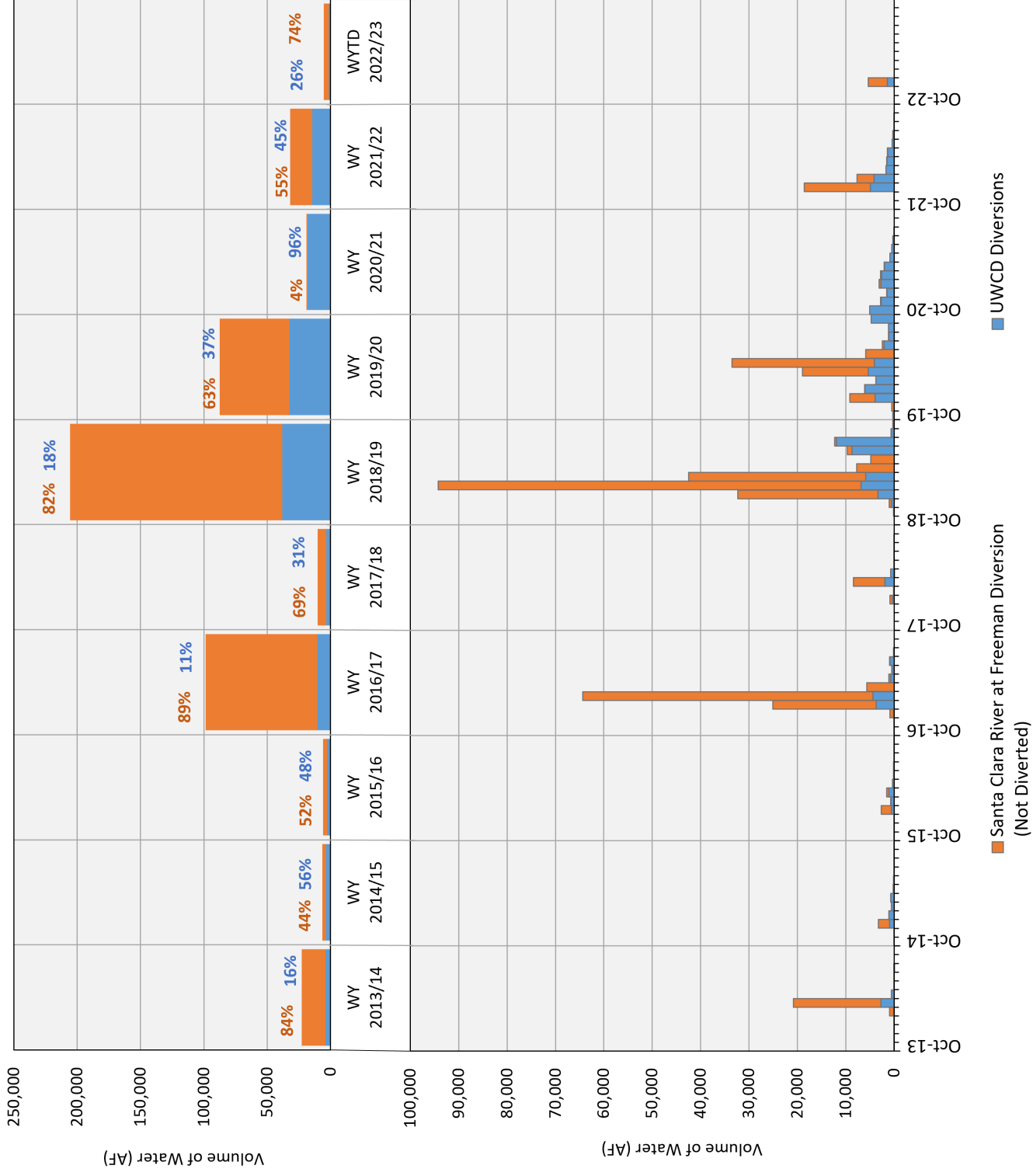






Available Storage in the Oxnard Forebay - Last 10 Years





Water Year (WY) = October 1 to September 30; WYTD = Water Year To Date



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager

From: Brian H. Zahn, Chief Financial Officer
Daryl Smith, Controller

Date: December 29, 2022 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 3C. Monthly Investment Report (November 30, 2022)
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and review the most current investment report for November 30, 2022, that is enclosed.

Discussion:

Informational purposes.

Fiscal Impact:

As shown.

Attachment:

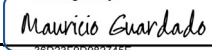
Combined Investment Report

United Water Conservation District
Monthly Investment Report
November 30, 2022

<u>Investment Recap</u>	<u>G/L Balance</u>	<u>Weighted Avg Days to Maturity</u>	<u>Diversification Percentage of Total</u>
Bank of the Sierra	3,300,022	1	7.66%
Citizens Business Bank	2,000,000	2	4.64%
US Bank - 2020 COP Bond Balance	10,176,201	1	23.63%
Petty Cash	4,400	1	0.01%
County Treasury	1,712	1	0.00%
LAIF Investments	27,587,193	1	64.04%
Total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Securities	43,069,528		100.00%
 Investment Portfolio w/o Trustee Held Funds	 43,069,528		
Trustee Held Funds	-		
Total Funds	43,069,528		


Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	Beginning Balance	Deposits (Disbursements)	Ending Balance
	31,587,193	(4,000,000)	27,587,193
	Interest	Interest	
	Earned YTD	Received YTD	Qtrly Yield
	111,891	169,272	1.35%

All District investments are shown above and conform to the District's Investment Policy. All investment transactions during this period are included in this report. Based on budgeted cash flows the District appears to have the ability to meet its expenditure requirements for the next six months.

DocuSigned by:

 36023F0D982745E...
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

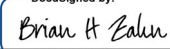
12/22/2022

Date Certified

DocuSigned by:

 70D98ECF0D8D46E...
Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager

12/22/2022

Date Certified

DocuSigned by:

 9B85D8362A874A3...
Brian H. Zahn, Chief Financial Officer

12/20/2022

Date Certified

<i>United Water Conservation District</i>			
<i>Cash Position</i>			
November 30, 2022			
Fund	Total	Composition	Restrictions/Designations
General/Water Conservation Fund:			Revenue collected for district operations
General/Water Conservation	13,471,914	(479,374)	Includes General, Rec & Ranger, Water Conservation
		4,962,000	Reserved for legal expenditures
		6,184,000	Designated for replacement, capital improvements, and environmental projects
		2,805,288	Supplemental Water Purchase Fund
General CIP Funds	7,637,604	7,637,604	Appropriated for capital projects
2020 COP Bond Funds	6,304,937	6,304,937	Reserved for CIP Projects
Special Revenue Funds:			Revenue collected for a special purpose
State Water Project Funds	5,625,234	5,625,234	Procurement of water/rights from state water project
Enterprise Funds:			Restricted to fund usage
Freeman Fund	961,859	961,859	Operations, Debt Service and Capital Projects
		-	Designated for replacement and capital improvements
		-	Reserved for legal expenditures
Freeman CIP Fund	1,514,917	1,514,917	Appropriated for capital projects
OH Pipeline Fund	2,752,803	2,752,803	Delivery of water to OH customers
OH CIP Fund	1,191,791	1,191,791	Appropriated for capital projects
OH Pipeline Well Replacement Fund	564,663	564,663	Well replacement fund
PV Pipeline Fund	524,247	524,247	Delivery of water to PV customers
PV CIP Fund	235,546	235,546	Appropriated for capital projects
PT Pipeline Fund	1,154,801	1,154,801	Delivery of water to PTP customers
PT CIP Fund	1,129,212	1,129,212	Appropriated for capital projects
Total District Cash & Investments	43,069,528	43,069,528	



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

Date: January 4, 2023 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 3.D **Resolution 2023-01** Subsequent Finding that the Governor of California issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020 relating to the COVID-19 virus and local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus and Authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of United Water Conservation District for the period of January 11, 2023 through February 9, 2023, pursuant to Brown Act provisions
Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will consider adopting Resolution 2023-01 continuing subsequent findings that the requisite conditions exist for remote teleconference meetings of the District's legislative bodies without compliance with Government Code section 54953(b)(3), as authorized by Government Code section 54953(e).

Background:

Starting in March 2020, amid rising concern surrounding the spread of COVID-19 throughout communities in the state, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued a series of Executive Orders aimed at containing the novel coronavirus. These Executive Orders (N-25-20, N-29-20, N-35-20) collectively modified certain requirements created by the Ralph M. Brown Act ("the Brown Act"), the state's local agency public meetings law.

On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21 which rescinds the aforementioned modifications made to the Brown Act, effective September 30, 2021. After that date, local agencies are required to observe all the usual Brown Act requirements status quo ante (as they existed prior to the issuance of the orders). Local agencies must once again ensure that the public is provided with access to a physical location from which they may observe a public meeting and offer public comment. Local agencies must also resume publication of the location of teleconferencing board members, post meeting notices and agendas in those locations, and make those locations available to the public in order to observe a meeting and provide public comment.

3.D Resolution 2023-01 Subsequent Finding that the Governor of California issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020 relating to the COVID-19 virus and local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus and Authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of United Water Conservation District for the period of January 11, 2023 through February 9, 2023, pursuant to Brown Act provisions
Motion

On September 16, the Governor signed AB 361 into law, effective immediately, which extends the flexibilities provided in the Governor’s prior executive order to local and state bodies to hold public meetings remotely beyond the executive order’s September 30, 2021 expiration date.

On September 20, the Governor signed an executive order (N-15-21) waiving the application of AB 361 until October 1, 2021, when the provisions of prior Executive Orders that established certain requirements for public agencies to meet remotely during the COVID-19 emergency will expire. The September 20 order makes clear that, until September 30, local agencies may conduct open and public remote meetings relying on the authority provided under prior Executive Orders (rather than AB 361). The revised Order also explicitly permits a local agency to meet pursuant to the procedures provided in AB 361 before October 1, so long as the meeting is conducted in accordance with the requirements of AB 361.

All local agencies are being asked to be aware that they may not conduct remote teleconference meetings pursuant to the authority in the Governor’s prior Executive Orders beyond September 30; after that date, all meetings subject to the Brown Act must comply with standard teleconference requirements (as they existed “pre-pandemic”) OR must comply with the newly enacted provisions of AB 361. The adoption of this Resolution provide the District with compliance as it relates to the newly enacted provisions of AB 361.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact related to the approval of this Resolution.

Attachment: Resolution 2023-01

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT REAFFIRMING THAT THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ISSUED ON MARCH 4, 2020 RELATING TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS REMAINS IN EFFECT AND LOCAL OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS AND RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 11, 2023 THROUGH FEBRUARY 9, 2023 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, United Water Conservation District (“District”) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of District’s legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code §54950 *et seq.*) (“Brown Act”), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District’s legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provision for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors previously adopted a Resolution Number 2022-45 on December 14, 2022, finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of the District to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of extending the use of the provisions found in section 54953(e), the Board of Directors must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists, and the Board of Directors has done so; and

WHEREAS, the State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor of California on March 4, 2020, due to the outbreak and spread of the COVID-19 virus remains in effect and active in order to be able to prepare, respond, and implement measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, local officials within the County of Ventura continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the proclaimed state of emergency pursuant to the COVID-19 virus which continues to remain in effect, and local officials continuing to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of the District shall continue to conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of

section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, the meetings of the District's legislative bodies continue to be open to the public, in accordance with the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Reaffirmation of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby finds that the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency pursuant to the COVID-19 virus, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020, continues to remain in effect.

Section 3. Reaffirmation of Local Officials Recommendation of Social Distancing Measures. The Board hereby finds that local officials within the County of Ventura continue to recommend social distancing measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The General Manager of the District and legislative bodies of the District are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, continuing to conduct open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) February 9, 2023, or such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the District may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District, this 11th day of January, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST: _____
Bruce E. Dandy, Board President

ATTEST: _____
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Board Secretary/Treasurer



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager

From: Josh Perez, Chief Human Resources Officer
Brian Zahn, Chief Financial Officer
Zachary Plummer, Technology Systems Manager
Tony Huynh, Risk and Safety Manager
Kris Sofley, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

Date: December 30, 2022 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.1 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive this staff report and attached presentation from the Administrative Services Department regarding its activities for the month December 2022.

Discussion:

Finance

- Completed FY 2021-22 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and delivered to Board of Directors at December meeting.
- Submitted application to the Government Financial Officers Association for Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting based on FY 2021-22 ACFR.
- Started working with Auditors to complete the Single Audit process for Federal Grants received in FY 2021-22.
- Working with Auditors to complete FY 2021-22 State Controller's Reports for UWCD and GSA's. Deadline for submission is January 31, 2023.
- FY 2023-24 Budget Development process ongoing. Budget Kickoff Meeting is scheduled January 25, 2023.

Administrative

- Provided administrative assistance for drafting, finalizing, and distributing/posting materials for the UWCD Engineering and Operations Committee (12/01); Finance and Audit Committee (12/05); and Executive Committee Meeting (12/07) as well as the regular UWCD Board meeting (12/14).
 - Provided administrative assistance for drafting, finalizing, and distributing/posting materials for the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Regular
-

Board meeting December 15 and preparation for the Mound Basin GSA Regular Board meeting in December, even though the meeting was canceled.

- Provided administrative assistance and support for the AWA VC Executive Committee meeting on December 1 utilizing UWCD's Boardroom and technical support.
- Organized set up, food and beverages and prizes for an All-Staff Christmas Party at District Headquarters on December 15. Event included a competition between departments that resulted in an abundant donation of toys for disadvantaged children through the Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce toy drive.
- Also organized GM's Holiday lunch with Managers on December 20, as a thank you to the District's leadership team.

Human Resources

- Working on salary survey comparison with other local agencies as we begin Labor Negotiations next month.
 - Started efforts on Labor Negotiations – Working on Union Request for Information sent to General Manager.
 - Finalized training with Lincoln Financial on new 457 plan related to Transfers and processed distribution requests for retired staff members.
 - Picked up annual service awards for tenured employees set for the January Board meeting date.
 - Finalized Promotion of Part Time Seasonal Park Assistant to Full Time Park Ranger Cadet.
 - Posted internal/external positions as follows:
 - Park Ranger Cadet (interviews held and now pending agility testing at in early January).
 - Reclassification of current Receptionist (Prado) to Lake Piru Reservations Coordinator position due to resignation.
 - Environmental Services Manager (extended the posting on Indeed and NeoGov).
 - Environmental Scientist – Regulatory Affairs (promotion awarded to Tessa Lenz).
 - HR staff submitted and processed 2023 flexible spending accounts for staff that will be effective January 1, 2023.
 - HR staff processed employee evaluations and step increases that were scheduled for December.
 - Continued efforts to work with Recreation Department to fill Volunteer Camp host positions that will set up another successful season in 2023.
 - HR staff processed employee payroll changes into Incode (address change, tax changes, changes in deductions, base pay, cash out requests).
 - HR staff updated 2023 health insurance rates into InCode to reflect 2023 rates for all health plans
 - HR staff processed end of year updates (SDI, SUI, misc. allowances, etc.) into InCode
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Safety and Risk Management

- Managed the overall process for completion of the SFD Vulnerability Security Risk Assessment as well as SFD Security Plan update in coordination with Engineering, O&M, and Tech Systems staff
 - This internal collaborative effort saved the District \$75,000
- Supported Engineering staff with completing Annual Security Compliance Certification to FERC
- Completed Update to District's Hearing Conservation Program and completed audit of the District's program in consultation with the Program's Professional Supervisor (Licensed Medical Provider)
- Taught hybrid CPR course and certified two District staff at HQ in Adult & Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
- Provided individual satellite phone refresher training to O&M staff who are part of the Dams Safety Program.
- Participated on Park Ranger Cadet Interview Panel with HR and Chief Park Ranger
- Collaborated with HR and Chief Park Ranger on finalizing annual updates/new laws to Rangers Policy Manual.

Technology Systems

- Tech Systems staff have been assisting the O&M Control Systems staff with Technology Network and Technology Security upgrades associated with the Genetec Security System enhancements rolled out to additional sites. The installation of a badge reading systems and replacement video feed station at the Saticoy facility was recently completed.
 - Tech Systems staff performed routine security checkups with executive and professional staff. Included setting authentication requirements to require multiple factor options for remote accessible systems.
 - Tech Systems staff worked with our established security vendors to implement and evaluate a potential replacement to enhance remote access capabilities. Applicable towards UWCD District Staff, SCADA Operators, and potentially contractors working on UWCD Technologies systems. Early results are extremely promising and a recommendation to proceed with a wider adoption is likely to occur.
 - Tech Systems staff members began discussions with an IT firm assisting United with preliminary network assessments of the SCADA systems which is a prerequisite to implementing the industrial network cyber security threat detection on a larger scale throughout the District. Slated to implement in FY22-23, the project timeline will likely be extended into the following fiscal year for required revisions and modifications needed leading to the desired monitoring solution.
 - The Tech Systems, Risk Management, and HR team staff continue to provide hardware updates across departments and to staff that have equipment that is currently designated for replacement since it has fallen out of date with United's equipment standards. There has been an increasing emphasis on mobile devices during this month, including laptops and/or FirstNet capable iPad Tablets which enhance capabilities of staff.
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Monthly Administrative Services Department Report

Information Item

State by Ticket Type						
	Open	In Progress	Awaiting Reply	Pending 3rd party	Waiting for approval	Total
IT Projects and Change Management	4	5	0	0	0	9
IT Purchase Request	3	0	1	0	1	5
IT Services and Support	9	14	12	0	3	38
New employee	1	0	0	0	0	1
SCADA Proj. and Change Management	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	18	19	13	0	4	54

Monthly ticket type overview - 2022														
Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
Alerts and Advisories	0	1	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Conference Room Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
E-Mail Phishing and Spam	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Employee Information Update	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	0	1	1	0	0	11	
IT Projects and Change Management	0	0	0	1	7	3	0	2	0	3	0	1	17	
IT Purchase Request	1	2	0	3	6	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	16	
IT Services and Support	10	4	12	41	39	37	21	32	23	22	16	9	266	
Network Port patching	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
New employee	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7	
Offboarding Disable Account	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
SCADA Proj. and Change Management	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Software Services and Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Total	11	9	20	49	56	47	26	35	27	26	17	10	333	

Monthly ticket priority overview - 2022														
Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
High	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	5	
Low	11	9	20	45	51	44	24	32	27	24	17	10	314	
Medium	0	0	0	4	3	2	1	3	0	1	0	0	14	
Total	11	9	20	49	56	47	26	35	27	26	17	10	333	



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado Jr., General Manager

From: Maryam A. Bral, Chief Engineer
Craig A. Morgan, Engineering Manager
Robert J. Richardson, Senior Engineer
Michel Kadah, Engineer
Adrian Quiroz, Associate Engineer
Erik Zvirbulis, GIS Analyst

Date: December 28, 2022 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report
Information item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this summary report from the Engineering Department regarding its activities for the month of December 2022.

Discussion:

1. Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Projects

- Spillway Improvement Project
 - Staff conducted bi-weekly progress meetings with GEI Consultants on December 6 and December 19 to review and discuss the current design status and concerns.
 - Outlet Works Improvement Project
 - The above updates reported for the Spillway Improvement Project are also applicable to the Outlet Works Improvement Project.
 - Staff attended internal meetings to discuss the project construction management services and constructability review. Staff are preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for construction management services for the Project. The RFP is tentatively scheduled to be released for bid in February 2023.
 - On December 9, Staff prepared and submitted the second installment payment for the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) application fee for the Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Improvement Project in amount of \$156,800 (40% of the total application fee). The first installment payment in the amount of \$78,400 (20% of the total application fee) was submitted to DSOD on November 1, 2021. DSOD has agreed to a total of
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4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report

Information Item

three installment payments. The remaining and last installment payment will be submitted to DSOD upon completion of the 90% design phase.

- FERC License Amendment Application, NEPA Documentation and Section 7 Consultation
 - On December 9, Engineering and Environmental Services Staff attended the bi-weekly meeting with Catalyst Environmental Solutions to discuss permitting update and progress.
 - On December 15, Environmental Services Staff e-filed a time extension request to FERC to submit the revised Biological Assessment (BA). The revised BA cannot be submitted until NMFS comments are received.
 - On December 22, the professional services agreement with Catalyst Environmental Solutions (Catalyst) that was executed on April 12, 2019 was amended (Amendment No. 2) to extend Catalyst's contract term to June 30, 2023 and increase the contract amount by \$137,520 for the purpose of additional consultation services related to the completion of NEPA documentation and Section 7 consultation.
- Loan and Grant Applications
 - 2021 FEMA HMGP
 - The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program applications are currently under review by CalOES. Selected applications by CalOES will be submitted to FEMA in early 2023 for further considerations and grant award.

Prepare CA Match – FEMA HMGP

- On November 29, CalOES consultant, Hagerty Consulting contacted Staff via email and asked if the District would pursue the HMGP funding for the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project – New Outlet Works Improvement project (Project) if the District's application for the local match coverage (35% of the total Project cost) through the Prepare CA Match funding program were not selected? Staff informed Hagerty Consultant that the District would still be pursuing the HMGP funding and moving forward with the Project. While it is unclear the reason for this inquiry, but our response may influence CalOES selection of the HGMP grant applications. Staff was informed that Cal OES will inform the District if the District's HMGP application is formally submitted to FEMA.

WIFIA Loan

- Staff worked with the Finance Department to respond to additional inquiries and questions by the WIFIA Administrative team. Staff provided an updated Project Cost Estimate considering an additional 30 to 35 percent market contingency per the recommendation of the WIFIA Administrative Team. The updated Project Cost along with other financial related information were submitted to the WIFIA Administrative Team on December 27.

4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- Santa Felicia Dam Safety
 - On December 16, Staff in collaboration with Operations Staff and the Risk and Safety Manager submitted the 2022 SFD Security Plan Update and the 2022 Vulnerability Security Risk Assessment for Santa Felicia Dam to FERC D2SI – Security Branch.
 - On December 19, Staff prepared and submitted the 2022 Annual Security Compliance Certification to FERC, D2SI Security Branch.
 - On December 21, 2022, Staff prepared and e-filed the 2022 Dam Safety Surveillance and Monitoring Report (DSSMR) to FERC.
 - On December 22, 2022, Staff finalized and e-filed the 2022 SFD EAP Status Report to FERC.
 - On December 22, 2022, a public outreach letter was issued to the Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VCSO), copying the EMAs of the impacted jurisdictions, offering assistance, as needed, to develop local evacuation plans, public communications, and outreach programs, and to share ideas for reducing response time.
 - On December 15, 2022, Staff submitted a 30-day request for extension of time letter to FERC to complete the Santa Felicia Dam Part 12D Inspection – Consultant's Safety Inspection Report. Staff will e-file the report to FERC no later than January 30, 2023.
 - The District is required to conduct an EAP Tabletop and an EAP Functional Exercise on a 5-year basis. The last tabletop exercise was conducted in 2018 while the last functional exercise was conducted in 2019. These exercises were due in 2023 and 2024 respectively, however, as an Interim Risk Reduction Measure (IRRM), the District committed to conducting these exercises one year earlier to enhance emergency preparedness. The District has retained GF to support the planning and facilitating of these exercises per an agreement with GF that was executed on August 9, 2022. The tabletop exercise was completed on October 20, 2022. An After-Action Report and Improvement Plan were e-filed with FERC on December 19, 2022.
 - Per the SFD Dam Safety Surveillance Monitoring Plan, the spillway underdrain system is to be inspected on a three-year basis. On November 15, 2022, Staff executed Task Order No.2 under the On-Call Services Agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc for services related to the 2022 SFD Spillway Underdrain Inspection. The video inspection was conducted on November 17 and 18, 2022 (See Figure 3). A final inspection report was e-filed with FERC on December 22, 2022. The report was also submitted to DSOD on December 22, 2022.
 - Per FERC guidelines, the Santa Felicia Dam Owner's Dam Safety Program is to receive an independent external audit on a 5-year basis. On May 09, 2022, staff executed a professional services agreement with Gannett Fleming (GF), Inc to conduct the audit. In September 2022, GF conducted interviews with dam safety personnel. On September 26, 2022, GF conducted an inspection of the SFD and Lombard Headquarters facilities. A final ODSP Audit Report was e-filed with FERC on December 20, 2022.

4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- Staff in collaboration with Operations Staff and the Risk and Safety Manager updated the 2022 SFD Security Plan Update and the 2022 Vulnerability Security Risk Assessment for Santa Felicia Dam.
2. Condor Point Improvement Project
- As part of the Condor Point Improvement Project, six (6) new ramada shaded picnic sites have been constructed at Condor Point, per a FERC order. A significant portion of the existing irrigation system here was demolished for ramada shade construction. The District executed a construction Agreement with Pacific Vista Landscaping, Inc (Pacific Vista) on October 26, 2022. Pacific Vista's scope includes the reconstruction of the irrigation system to conform to the new picnic sites, hydroseeding the entire lawn area to establish a uniform lawn, and the planting of three (3) new Western Sycamore trees per FERC order. The work is on track to be completed by December 31, 2022.
3. Freeman Diversion Expansion
- Staff, USBR, the University of Iowa, Stantec and NHC participate in rotating weekly calls with NMFS and CDFW to provide updates on physical modeling, CFD modeling and design alternations.
 - USBR and the University of Iowa with NMFS and CDFW continue to work in conjunction with NHC and Stantec on physical model stress and operational testing.
4. Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility
- Meetings:
 - Weekly coordination meetings between staff and the District's construction manager (HDR, Inc.)
 - Weekly construction progress meetings hosted by HDR and attended by GSE Construction, Taft Electric, Kennedy Jenks Consultants (KJ) and staff.
 - GSE Construction has submitted approximately 337 out of a total of 369 submittal packages anticipated for the project. HDR and design engineer (KJ) have provided responses on approximately 327 submittal packages including a requirement to comply with the Buy American Act (BAA).
 - GSE Construction has submitted approximately 124 Requests for Information (RFIs) to date. HDR, KJ and the District have been providing responses.
 - Twenty (20) Change Orders (COs) have been fully executed to date amounting to a net total of \$1,118,384.12. This represents 12% of the original contract amount (\$9,342,900.00). Four (4) of these COs amounting to \$662,910.19 or 7.1% of the original contract amount are directly related to be in compliance with the BAA which is a federal grant requirement (the project was not originally bid with this requirement in place). Therefore, only \$455,473.93 or 4.9% of COs have resulted in additions or modifications to the original scope of work.
 - Five (5) COs have been prepared and are under negotiation and execution which includes additions and credits in the sum total of \$11,082.
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4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- On December 21, 2022, Staff received comments on the final draft Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan (OMMP) from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW). A meeting with HDR will be held on January 4, 2023, to finalize the OMMP prior to plant start-up and testing operations.
- GSE Construction continued construction of the following (See Figures 5, 6 and 7):
 - 24" Raw Water Pipeline (RAW)
 - 24" Filtered Water (FW) Connection
 - 20" Backwash Supply Pipeline (BWS)
 - 18" connections to RAW
 - 12" RAW Flushing Pipelines
 - Backwash Supply Metering Vault
 - 8" Air Supply Pipeline
 - 8" Filter Drain (FD) Pipe
 - 8" Return Wash Water (RWW)
 - 8" Overflow (OF)
 - 4" Utility Water (UW)
 - 3" Chlorine Solution Lines, Double Contained
 - 2.5" Utility Water (UW)
 - Various underground sample lines
 - Various underground electrical conduits
 - Filter face piping
 - Filter vessel internals
 - Laboratory/Electrical/Blower Building
 - i. Framing for drywall
 - ii. HVAC
 - iii. Interior electrical
 - iv. Special inspections (fire dept., mechanical/electrical/plumbing)
- Staff prepared a recommendation to the full Board of Directors that it authorize a supplemental appropriation of \$1.5 million for the project (separate staff report and motion item).
- The tentative date for construction completion and implementation is January 26, 2023. A total of seven (8) inclement weather days have been counted. However, due to continued issues with the supply chain and significant delays in the delivery of parts, pipes and pumps, Staff anticipates that by June 2023 construction is substantially completed, including the plant startup and commissioning while the delivery of ancillary equipment such as two filter drain pumps could still be pending at that time.

5. PTP Metering Improvement Project

- Total number of Meters installed: 40 of 61 or 65.5% complete.
 - An additional four (4) Meter installations are planned by early 2023.
 - Easement acquisition completion: 24 of 41 obtained or 58.5% complete
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4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- On December 2, 2022, staff met with Hamner, Jewell & Associates (HJA) to discuss the progress of easement acquisition services.
 - On December 6, 2022, staff met internally to discuss the progress of the easement acquisition which HJA is performing for the District and the planned installation for turnouts that have received easements.
 - On December 6 and 21, 2022, staff held calls with the property owner at PTP Turnout No. 122 who has not used a significant amount of water since 2010. The property owner indicated their desire to terminate the service, but a follow up action will be taken after a formal request for service termination is received by the property owner.
6. PTP Recycled Water Connection – Laguna Road Pipeline Project
- Staff completed their final review of the Preliminary Design Report (PDR) and preliminary drawings. On December 15, final comments were submitted to Kennedy Jenks to be incorporated in the final PDR.
 - Next coordination meeting with Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD) is anticipated to be held in January 2023. Staff are planning to send a copy of the final PDR to PVCWD.
7. Rice Avenue Grade Separation Project and Impact on PTP
- On December 7, 2022, Staff provided a status update to the Executive Committee which was the same as the status update provided in the December 2022 Staff report and this report as follows:
 - On October 17, the District received a Notice of Intent (NOI) from CalTrans related to acquisition of the two easements. Through this NOI CalTrans notified the District that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) will be asked by CalTrans on December 7 and December 8, 2022, to adopt a Resolution of Necessity (Resolution). If adopted, the Resolution authorizes CalTrans to acquire the District property by eminent domain. Within six months of the adoption of the Resolution, CalTrans will decide whether to file a complaint in Superior Court commencing the eminent domain proceedings. The District is not planning to contest the NOI and this position is supported by the legal counsel.
 - On November 16, through a phone conversation with Staff, CalTrans expressed interest in reaching a mutual agreement with the District in lieu of a lawsuit. CalTrans encouraged the District to provide a counteroffer to CalTrans offer of a sum of \$6,300 for the two easements. CalTrans also informed Staff that the State is in the process of acquiring the land next to the PTP Well Site No. 4, but the process could take a long time. Staff restated the District's need for more space at the well site and a guarantee that the parcel adjacent to the well site once purchased will be transferred to the District at the completion of the Project.
 - On November 21, via an email correspondence to CalTrans, Staff restated the District's counteroffer which is the advanced approval of the County's Board of Supervisors for the
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4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

parcel transfer to the District pending the completion of the land purchase by the State and the Project. Staff is awaiting a response from CalTrans.

8. State Water Project (SWP) Interconnection Pipeline Project

- Staff received a copy of the draft 3-Party Interagency Agreement on December 1, 2022 for review and comments. This is a modified interagency agreement with three participating parties, including City of Ventura (City), United Water Conservation District (District) and Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD) for construction and operation of the Project.
- Based on the hydraulic analysis results previously reported, the interconnection pipeline will deliver a minimum of thirteen cubic feet per second by gravity, from the City to CMWD and the size and materials of the interconnection pipeline will be a 30-inch welded steel pipe for all segments except for the segment crossing the Santa Clara River (SCR). This segment will be 24-inch high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe with a dimension ratio of 7 (DR7). The City, however, intends to use an alternate bid to include a 28-inch DR7 or 7.3 pipe segment for the SCR crossing to prevent potential bottlenecks. The cost difference and all additional costs related to design and construction costs will be paid by the requesting party.
- Staff reviewed the draft agreement and provided comments to the City on December 28, 2022. Once finalized, the City is planning to present a copy of the final agreement at the Ventura Water Commission meeting on January 25, 2023.

9. Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project

- Meetings:
 - December 15, 2022
 - Joint Kick-off Meeting with ESA and K/J to discuss roles and responsibilities, project background, work plan and schedule moving forward into 2023.
 - Monthly Progress Meeting No. 26 with U.S. Navy to discuss recent contracts, joint kick-off meeting with consultants, upcoming site reconnaissance with consultants, future permitting charrette meeting, pending license agreements (Phase 1A and monitoring wells) and future Phase 1B out grant easement.
 - December 20 and 28, 2023 – Progress meetings with K/J
 - January 10, 2023 – Internal progress meeting with engineering, water resources and environmental services staff.
- Grants:
 - Phase 1 Extraction Barrier Project - Prop 1 Round 3 Ground Water Grant Program (GWGP) – State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) – Received notification from Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) that preliminary awards will not be issued until January or February of 2023.
 - Monitoring Wells - Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program – *no updates to report*

4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- CEQA/NEPA – Professional Services Agreement with ESA fully executed on December 20, 2022.
- Design – Professional Services Agreement with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants fully executed on December 19, 2022.

10. Asset Management/ CMMS System

- Staff continues to work on tables and graphs for the end of year reporting from the Santa Felicia Dam monthly inspection reporting Survey123 app data exports.
- Staff continues to implement the use of the Arrow GNSS unit into District projects providing high accuracy location and elevation data.

11. Main Supply Line Sodium Hypochlorite Injection Facility

- A proposal for design services is pending from Trussell Technologies who performed a site visit on November 30, 2022.

12. Lake Piru Recreation Area – 2022 Pavement Maintenance Program

- On December 5, the construction activity of the 2022 pavement repair program was started at Lake Piru Recreation Area.
- On December 8, Horizon Construction (the asphalt contractor) completed Phase 1 that includes the pavement repair of approximately 13,900 square feet of access road along Olive Grove Campground (see Green Area on Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4).
- On December 14, Horizon Construction completed Phase 2 that includes the pavement repair of approximately 20,700 square feet of access road along Olive Grove Campground (see Red Area on Figure 1).
- On December 21, Horizon completed Phase 3 that includes the pavement repair of approximately 18,500 square feet of the area between the park ranger's office and the Marina parking lot.
- Final stripping is scheduled to be completed on January 3, and the final job walk with the work completion checklist is tentatively scheduled to be conducted on January 4, 2023.

13. Other Topics, Meetings and Training

- December 12, 2022 – Staff attended a lunch-time presentation by Towill (surveying, mapping, and GIS vendor)
- December 16, 2022 – Robert Richardson and Craig Morgan attended a Central Valley, California Well & Pump Webinar hosted by the American Groundwater Water Trust entitled: "Focus on idle water-supply and irrigation wells that are out of action due to regulation and/or declines in groundwater levels."

4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

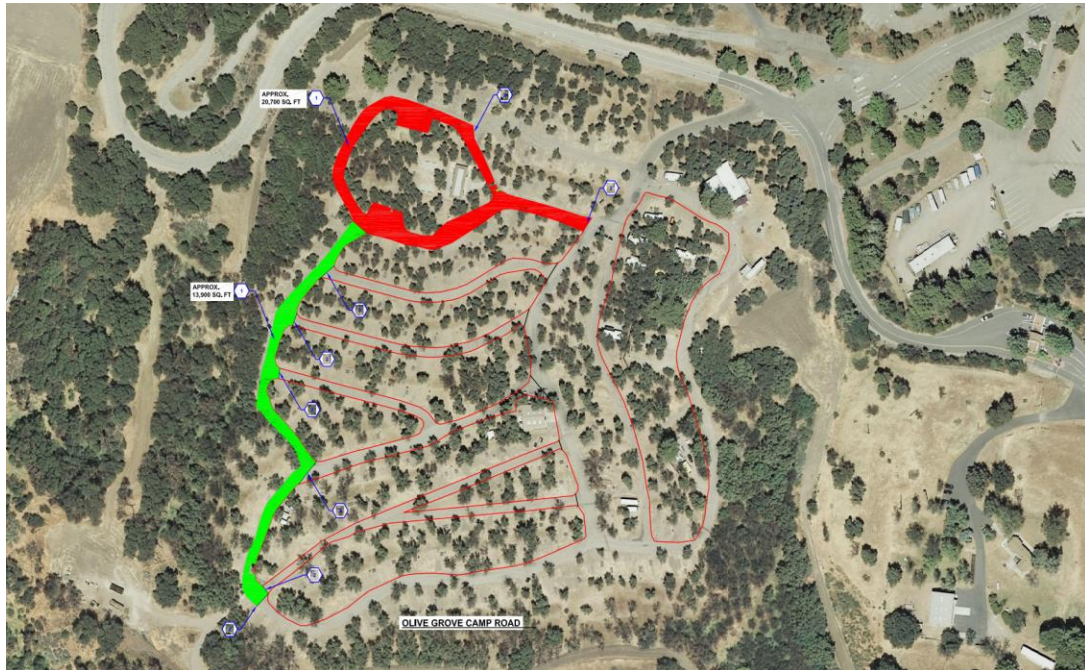


Figure 1 – 2022 Pavement Repair Program – Olive Grove Campground



Figure 2 – 2022 Pavement Repair Program – Olive Grove Campground



Figure 3 – 2022 Pavement Repair Program – Olive Grove Campground



Figure 4 – 2022 Pavement Repair Program – Olive Grove Campground

4.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item



Figure 5 – Installation of Elevated Platform at Filter Vessels



Figure 6 – Installation of 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ " SL Pipeline and Pump Station



Figure 7 – Installation of above-ground piping at FD and RWW Pump Stations



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager

cc: Dr. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

From: Linda Purpus, Environmental Services Manager

Date: December 28, 2022 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Environmental Services Department regarding its activities for the month of December 2022.

Discussion:

1. Santa Felicia Project Operations and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) License Support
 - Water Release Plan and Water Release and Ramping Rate Implementation Plan

Under the Water Release Plan and FERC license for the Santa Felicia Project, United Water Conservation District (United) is required to make certain water releases from the Santa Felicia Dam for steelhead habitat and migration, when specific triggers are met. Triggers for habitat water releases are based on cumulative rainfall within the water year. United evaluates whether the trigger is met on the first day of each month, between January and June. The table below presents trigger criteria for each month and minimum required releases if those triggers are met. Each month that the trigger is not met, the minimum required habitat water release is 7 cubic feet per second (cfs). The trigger for the enhanced habitat water releases was met January 1, 2023. The minimum required habitat water release for the month of January will increase to 15 cfs.

4.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report Information Item

Habitat water release trigger date	Trigger criteria (total cumulative precipitation on trigger date)	Minimum required water release if trigger is met	2023 Measured cumulative precipitation	Actual minimum required habitat water release for month
January 1	4.80 inches	15 cfs	7.03 inches	15 cfs
February 1	8.10 inches	20 cfs	TBD	TBD
March 1	12.00 inches	20 cfs	TBD	TBD
April 1	14.90 inches	20 cfs	TBD	TBD
May 1	16.30 inches	10 cfs	TBD	TBD
June 1	17.50 inches	9 cfs*	TBD	TBD

*If triggered, the minimum required water release will remain at 9 cfs through October 1, at which time, minimum required water release will be 7 cfs through January 1 of next calendar year.

- Lower Piru Creek Herpetological Monitoring Plan and Arroyo Toad Protection Plan

On December 30, 2022, Environmental Services staff submitted to FERC the combined 2022 Annual Report for the Revised Lower Piru Creek Herpetological Monitoring Plan and Arroyo Toad Protection Plan. The Annual Report documents activities conducted between January 1 and December 31, 2022. During the reporting period, United did not conduct any activities expected to result in adverse impacts to arroyo toads or their habitat on U.S. Forest Service property; therefore, no measures were triggered under the Arroyo Toad Protection Plan. Aquatic exotic species management activities prescribed under the Revised Lower Piru Creek Herpetological Monitoring Plan were conducted from March through September of 2022. Specifically, United conducted non-native species removal targeting non-native fish, crayfish, bullfrog and African clawed frog eggs and newly emerged tadpoles. Analysis of the 2019 through 2022 data trends have led staff to recommend modifications to exotic species management within the Santa Felicia Dam spillway ponds. In 2023, United plans to develop proposed modifications for consideration by the wildlife resource agencies and FERC.

- Santa Felicia Fish Passage Pre-Implementation Studies

During the month of December, the fyke fish trap and PIT antenna arrays were operated. In response to a rain event, the fyke fish trap in middle Piru Creek was operated from December 12 through 15, 2022. No *O. mykiss* were captured. United and Cramer Fish Sciences staff will operate equipment through May 2023, as flows in middle Piru Creek allow and in accordance with the Santa Felicia Fish Passage Pre-Implementation Study Plan.

4.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report Information Item

- Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project (SFDSIP)

On August 9, 2022, United submitted a second draft of the SFDSIP Biological Assessment (BA) to FERC for review and to facilitate federal consultation under the Endangered Species Act Section 7 with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). On August 15, 2022, FERC provided the draft BA to NMFS for review and comment. On October 14, 2022, United received comments on the draft BA from FERC with a request to complete revisions to the BA and accompanying documentation within 60-days. United's goal is to efficiently address both agencies' comments with submittal of a single revised document and to date, United is awaiting NMFS comments on the draft BA. On December 15, 2022, United requested an extension of time from FERC to receive and address both agencies' comments and submit a revised document.

2. Freeman Diversion Operations

- Freeman Diversion Sediment Management

On December 21, 2022, United submitted post-project reports to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board in accordance with project permits and authorizations.

- Freeman Diversion Fish Passage Facility

On December 13, 2022, United initiated fish ladder operations at the Freeman Diversion. Steelhead migration season begins January 1; however, the estuary had breached and flow in the Santa Clara River indicated that passage conditions were suitable for adult steelhead should they be present. In response, United experimentally released flows through the fish ladder and conducted surveillance monitoring. Due to receding flows in the river, the fish ladder was shut down on December 15, 2022. Environmental Services staff conducted stranding surveys of the fish passage facility during the fish ladder shutdown. In addition, staff conducted stranding surveys within the critical reach of the Santa Clara River downstream of the Freeman Diversion after fish ladder start-up and shutdown. No *O. mykiss* were observed during stranding surveys. Environmental Services staff issued notifications to NMFS, NMFS- Office of Law Enforcement (OLE), and CDFW staff of operations.

3. Extraction Barrier and Brackish (EBB) Water Treatment Project

On December 14, 2022, Environmental Science Associates (ESA) was awarded a contract with United to provide environmental consultant services including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation and regulatory permitting services for the EBB Water Treatment Project Demonstration Phase. A kick-off meeting was held on December 15, 2022, with United's project staff, US Navy staff, and the environmental and engineering design consulting firms.

4.3 **Monthly Environmental Services Department Report** **Information Item**

4. Annual Reporting

Environmental Services staff submitted annual reports in compliance with CDFW LSAA's permitting routine maintenance activities for Lake Piru Recreation Area on December 29, 2022, and the Freeman Diversion Facility on December 29, 2022.

5. Quagga Mussel Management

Staff continues to conduct routine monitoring under the Quagga Mussel Monitoring and Control Plan (QMMCP) including monthly water quality sampling, monthly veliger (microscopic planktonic larvae) sampling, monthly artificial substrate sampling in Lake Piru (plate sampling), and natural substrate sampling in lower Piru Creek (surface surveys).

6. Miscellaneous

- On December 6, 2022, Environmental Services and Water Resources staff led the annual interdepartmental coordination meeting for Freeman Diversion operations in preparation for the upcoming winter season. The meeting was attended by Environmental Services, Operations and Maintenance, and Water Resources staff.
- On December 6, 2022, Environmental Services staff attended the Santa Clara River Riparian Birds Meeting, hosted by USFWS. The meeting presented current least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) research and population assessments, cowbird trapping, and riparian habitat restoration efforts in the Santa Clara River.
- On December 7, 2022, Adam Lambert and Sean Carey, researchers with the University of California, Santa Barbara, provided Environmental Services staff a tour of the Cienega Springs Ecological Reserve and Wetland Riparian Restoration project site, just south of the Fillmore Fish Hatchery. The project is restoring 234 acres of the Santa Clara River channel and floodplain by removing giant reed (*Arundo donax*) and restoring native habitat diversity. This project is being conducted in partnership with CDFW and the Santa Clara River Conservancy.
- December 13, 2022, was part-time Environmental Services Field Technician Hanna Rueter's last day of work with the District. She has accepted a position as a lab analyst with Camrosa Water District.
- On December 14, 2022, Hannah Garcia-Wickstrum, Robbie Zambelli, Robyn Gorecki, and Sabrina Kennedy attended a river discharge measurement training led by United's Senior Hydrologist, Bram Sercu.
- On December 25, 2022, Tessa Lenz was promoted from the Associate Environmental Scientist position to the Environmental Scientist – Regulatory Specialist position.



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Brian Collins, Chief Operations Officer

From: John Carman, Programs Supervisor

Date: December 29, 2022 (January 11, 2023, Meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Operations and Maintenance department regarding its activities for the month of December.

1. Water Releases, Diversions

- Lake Piru rose .75 feet in December to 14,445 acre-feet (AF) of storage.
- 1360 AF of water was diverted by the Freeman Diversion facility in December.
- 901 AF of water was diverted to the Saticoy recharge basins in December (metered plus unmetered).
- 387 AF of surface water was delivered to the El Rio recharge basins in December.
- 64.5 AF of surface water was delivered to the PTP system in December.
- 0 AF of surface water was delivered C customers in December.
- 7.9 AF of surface water was delivered to Pleasant Valley County Water District in December.

2. Major Facilities Update

- **Santa Felicia Dam**
 - On January 1, 2023, the lake level was 78.1 feet below the spillway lip.
 - Habitat water releases from Santa Felicia Dam (SFD) were maintained at 7 cubic feet per second (cfs), for the month of December, as per the Water Release and Ramping Rate Implementation Plan for Lower Piru Creek.
 - Staff constructed a concrete pad and set a new Emergency Generator for the Lake Piru Water Treatment plant.
-

Agenda Item: 4.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report
Information Item

- **Freeman Diversion, Saticoy, and El Rio Recharge Facilities**

- Flows at the Freeman Diversion averaged 22 cfs for the month of December, with 0 cfs of surface water being diverted on January 1, 2023.
- District staff from all geographic locations completed the annual month long Desilt Basin Cleanout Project on December 6, 2022. Project totals = 2022 truckloads, 50,934 cubic yards.
- Static water levels (distance of water from the well pad to the water table):

	2022	2021	2020
Saticoy	142'	147'	121'
El Rio	142.4'	139.7'	119.5'
PTP	121' - 143'	115' - 147'	110' - 149'

- **Oxnard-Hueneme (OH) Delivery System**

- Staff maintained a collaborative presence with daily inspections for the City of Oxnard sewer line upgrades, contractor Toro Construction completed boring below United's 42 inch OH Pipeline on Rose Avenue in December.
- Staff re-piped OH Well #14 manifold with new check valve, new Endress Hauser magnetic flowmeter, and eliminated piping constrictions.

- **Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD)**

- PVCWD received surface water from the Conejo Creek Project and received some highly treated recycled water from the City of Oxnard's Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF).

- **Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP)**

- During the month of December, the PTP system demand was met with PTP wells and surface water.
- Staff removed and installed new 250 hp motor at PTP Reservoir Booster Pump facility.
- Contractor General Pump installed a new well pump at PTP #3 (tube/shaft, column pipe, bowl assembly, strainer).
- PTP #153 Endress Hauser turnout out mag meter batteries replaced.

- **Instrumentation**

- Instrumentation staff working with Allen Bradley troubleshooting VFD drive issues at PTP Wells #1& #2.
 - Staff coordinated with Edison at PTP Well #1 for High Voltage fuse replacement.
-

Agenda Item: 4.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report
Information Item

- Instrumentation staff replaced the PV reservoir level transducer.
- December 29, 2022, Instrumentation staff installed a satellite time sync radio antenna for SCADA control system.
- OH Well #4 level transducer replaced.

- **Lake Piru Water System**

- All chlorine residuals and turbidity readings for the drinking water system were within proper ranges for the month of December.
- Staff performed a quarterly inspection and added media to filter vessels.
- Monthly pH, turbidity and coliform samples were obtained for Lake Piru, as part of the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule compliance monitoring.

3. Operations and Maintenance Projects Update

- The Iron and Manganese grant funded project is progressing well at El Rio Booster Plant, projected completion date June 30, 2023.

4. Other Operations and Maintenance Activities

- The Santa Felicia Dam Emergency Action Plan sirens located in Piru were exercised on December 2, 2022.
- The monthly inspection of Santa Felicia Dam was performed.
- Monthly bacteria samples were obtained for the PTP system.
- Monthly meter readings were obtained for the OH, PTP, and PV Pipelines.
- Completed and electronically transmitted the monthly OH Pipeline report to the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water.
- Static water levels were obtained for all El Rio, Saticoy, and PTP wells.
- Weed abatement continued throughout the District.
- Action priority update biweekly meetings for operations staff were continued.

5. Safety and Training

- During the months of December, approximately 3100 hours of O & M department work were performed with no reportable accidents.
- The online Target Safety assignment for December was “Water Industry Water Industry Lock-Out / Tag-Out.” Approximately half of O&M staff who are part of the Dam Safety Program received Satellite Phone refresher training and was individually signed off by the Risk and Safety Manager while the rest will be signed off in January after the holidays. This training covered operational requirements, utilizing the DHS Government

Agenda Item: 4.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report
Information Item

Emergency Telecommunications Services (GETS), and successfully demonstrating the ability to utilize a Satellite Phone (e.g., dialing an unlisted number and sending SMS text messages).

- Tailgate safety meetings were conducted at all individual O&M field locations and the topics included refresher training on equipment used at the various O & M locations.

Attachment: Operations Log for December

OPERATIONS LOG v 10/7/21

DATE	SANTA FELICIA DAM								FREEMAN DIVERSION**					RECHARGE				IRRIGATION						O-H		
	SFD El.	Stor.	Surface	Evap.	Inflow Balance	Outflow USGS	Hydro	Rain 106E	River	Diverted	Fish*** Facility	Bypass Channel	Crest	El Rio	Saticoy Facility		Noble/ Rose	Piru	T.I.D.	P.T.P.	PVCWD		L.P.	Saticoy Wells	Total	Cl2
	Ft.	A/F	Acres	Inches	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Kw	Inches	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Misc CFSI	Weir CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	A/F	A/F	A/F	%	A/F	A/F	A/F	Lbs.
A/F*		14055			0	951		1.92	0	0	0	0		0	0		0	0.0	0	0	0		0.0	0	1,802	14,217
12/1/22	974.91	14046	472.50	0.028	4	7.84	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.2	194
12/2/22	974.94	14060	472.70	0.040	15	7.85	0	0.62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.6	151
12/3/22	974.96	14070	472.90	0.034	13	7.84	0	0.52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.3	191
12/4/22	974.94	14060	472.70	0.048	3	7.84	0	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5	171
12/5/22	974.93	14055	472.60	0.040	6	7.84	0	0.30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.1	183
12/6/22	974.90	14041	472.40	0.049	1	7.86	0	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.5	201
12/7/22	974.87	14027	472.10	0.066	1	7.87	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.9	200
12/8/22	974.84	14013	471.90	0.052	1	7.84	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.4	209
12/9/22	974.81	13999	471.70	0.077	2	7.82	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.9	194
12/10/22	974.78	13985	471.40	0.044	1	7.82	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.0	165
12/11/22	975.15	14160	474.20	0.030	97	7.83	0	2.53	1437	0	0	1198.1	239.1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.0	198
12/12/22	975.50	14326	476.60	0.074	92	7.84	0	0.14	397	26	7.6	352.3	11.3	0	26	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.4	198
12/13/22	975.51	14331	476.60	0.046	11	7.84	0	0.00	145	112	33.7	0	0	0	112	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.5	183
12/14/22	975.58	14364	477.10	0.060	25	7.84	0	0.00	78	48	29.7	0	0	26.66	13	5.2	0	0.0	6.6	2.0	4.6	0.05	0.0	0.0	23.4	206
12/15/22	975.65	14398	477.60	0.040	25	7.84	0	0.00	49	38	11.1	0	0	23.23	13	0	0	0.0	3.1	3.0	0.1	0.00	0.0	0.0	22.2	174
12/16/22	975.75	14445	478.30	0.055	32	7.84	0	0.00	37	37	0	0	0	20.45	12	0	0	0.0	9.4	9.6	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	22.3	180
12/17/22	975.74	14441	478.20	0.066	6	7.84	0	0.00	31	31	0	0	0	13.15	16	0	0	0.0	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	22.6	170
12/18/22	975.74	14441	478.20	0.082	9	7.84	0	0.00	26	26	0	0	0	13.87	10	0	0	0.0	4.5	4.7	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	22.9	176
12/19/22	975.72	14431	478.10	0.062	3	7.84	0	0.00	25	25	0	0	0	8.5	13	0	0	0.0	6.9	7.2	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	24.1	185
12/20/22	975.72	14431	478.10	0.059	8	7.84	0	0.00	23	23	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0.0	5.8	6.1	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	23.2	188
12/21/22	975.70	14421	477.90	0.065	3	7.83	0	0.00	24	24	0	0	0	3.1	17	0	0	0.0	7.2	7.1	0.1	0.00	0.0	0.0	25.7	194
12/22/22	975.69	14417	477.80	0.072	7	7.84	0	0.00	25	25	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0.0	4.9	3.6	1.3	0.03	0.0	0.0	23.4	202
12/23/22	975.68	14412	477.80	0.054	6	7.83	0	0.00	24	24	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0.0	1.6	3.7	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	27.1	208
12/24/22	975.68	14412	477.80	0.048	8	7.83	0	0.00	23	23	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	24.0	180
12/25/22	975.66	14402	477.60	0.078	4	7.83	0	0.00	23	23	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	20.4	155
12/26/22	975.64	14393	477.50	0.080	4	7.83	0	0.00	23	23	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0.0	1.3	4.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	21.8	147
12/27/22	975.62	14383	477.40	0.061	3	7.84	0	0.00	28	28	0	0	0	22.85	5	0	0	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	22.7	170
12/28/22	975.66	14402	477.60	0.041	18	7.83	0	0.49	35	35	0	0	0	21.51	14	0	0	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	21.1	163
12/29/22	975.65	14398	477.60	0.053	6	7.84	0	0.04	32	32	0	0	0	14.01	16	0	0	0.0	3.5	3.9	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	20.9	175
12/30/22	975.65	14398	477.60	0.020	8	7.92	0	0.12	31	31	0	0	0	12.36	16	0	0	0.0	4.1	4.3	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	23.7	194
12/31/22	975.67	14407	477.70	0.044	13	7.98	0	0.24	171	54	0	95.4	21.7	15.64	37	0	0	0.0	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	21.2	141
TOTAL CFS					438	243		5.11	2687	687	82	1646	272	195	454	5	0	0.0								
AVERAGE CFS					14	8			87	22	3	53	9	6	15	0	0	0.0								
TOTAL A/F					867	482			5320	1360	163	3259	539	387	898	10	0	0.0	65	65	6		0	0.0	713	5649
MONTHLY REVENUE TO DATE (approx.)							\$0	K																		
AVERAGE A/F					28	16			172	44	5	105	17	12	29	0	0	0.0	2	2	0	0%	0	0.0	23	182
WATER YEAR TOTALS A/F					867	1,433		7.03	5,320	1,360	163	3,259	539	387	908		0	0.0	65	65	6		0	0	2,515	19,866
* Input total A/F previous month																										
** Daily averages imported from Ranch Systems																										
*** Fish facility flows include Denil fishladder, aux pipe and smolt bypass pipe																										
I Includes Ponds A, C, E, and I overflows, temporary storage in the desilting basin and Pond B, JLB diversions, losses between meters. Negatives mean prior storage from pond B or desilting basin is discharging to other metered sources.																										



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Clayton W. Strahan, Chief Park Ranger

Date: December 24, 2022 (January 11, 2023, meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.5 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report
Information item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding its activities for the month of December 2022.

Discussion:

During the month of December, the Piru area received 4.22 inches of rainfall. After this rainfall staff worked to clear debris from surrounding roadways and perform general maintenance. The marina suffered moderate damage to the main structure and the severing of one of its anchor points after the significant storm event on December 10th. With the park being in the middle of the “off-season,” visitation numbers were seasonably low. The visitors that we did have enjoyed a relatively quiet park as well as the greenery brought by the rainfall. In the new year we hope to bring on additional park ranger cadets and complete training to ensure our staff is ready to respond to emergencies.

1. Staff Tasks and Activity Highlights

- **December 1-21:** Asphalt started and completed Marina parking lot.
 - **December 1:** Condor Point improvement project completed. This included landscaping and hydroseeding.
 - **December 3, 11:** Staff completed maintenance and repairs to the district work barge which is used to move anchors and buoys around the lake, as well as other repair work on the reservoir.
 - **December 4:** Staff performed that annual relocation of navigation buoys on the lake which are used to mark hazards and speed limits on the water.
 - **December 5-23:** Repaving in several areas in Olive Grove campground and the marina parking lot were completed as part of the facilities annual asphalt maintenance program. The cost of the proposed work was approximately \$200,000.00.
 - **December 6-27:** Staff interviewed potential candidates for park ranger cadet openings and facilitated the required physical testing for successful applicants.
-

- **December 11:** Following a significant storm event, the marina suffered damage including broken wood framing and severed anchor cables. Staff repaired the anchor cable and is working with a contractor to complete additional repairs.
- **December 12:** Staff transported the district patrol vessels for routine service to ensure readiness in the event of an emergency.
- **December 13, 15:** Rangers assisted environmental services with stranding surveys in the lower Santa Clara River to monitor and ensure staff safety. This effort is expected to continue throughout the winter as the number of transients in the riverbed continues to increase.
- **December 14, 31:** Operations and maintenance staff assisted recreation in clearing several small mud slides that were blocking the lower boat launch ramp after storm events.
- **December 17:** Staff participated in the Piru neighborhood Christmas parade to continue the public outreach efforts.
- **December 19, 20:** Employees repaired damage to the docks due to extreme wind.
- **December 24-30:** Rock and mudslide damage on Piru Canyon road was an ongoing theme in around the recreation area as result of the ongoing rains throughout the month. Staff spent significant time clearing these slides by hand and with equipment.

2. Staff Training/Meetings/Events

- **December 5:** The lake hosted the filming of a documentary series referred as Ample Productions.
- **December 8:** Recreation and Environmental Services staff met with representatives from HBO to discuss an extended filming contract beginning in 2023. The agreement for this shoot has been signed and is expected to begin in January 2023 and will generated approximately \$90,000.00 in new revenue.
- **December 16:** The lake hosted filming of the reality TV show Botched. To be aired on E! television.
- **December 19-20:** The lake hosted the filming of a KIA car commercial.

Revenue and Visitation Recap

2022 Day Use Revenue Recap and Comparison	
2022 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1 – Nov. 30)	\$363,327.39
2021 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1 – Nov. 30)	\$370,885.76
Total Revenue Increase from Prior Year	-\$7,558.37
Annual Increase in %	-2%
2022 Camping Revenue Recap and Comparison	
2022 Camping Revenue (Jan. 1 – Nov. 30)	\$495,331.70
2021 Camping Revenue (Jan. 1 – Nov. 30)	\$470,210.54
Total Revenue Increase/Decrease from Prior Year	\$25,121.16
Annual Increase in %	5.4%
Current and Previous Year Comparison (2021 vs. 2022)	

4.5 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report

Page 3

2022 Combined Revenue (Jan. 1 –Nov. 30)	\$858,659.09
2021 Combined Revenue (Jan. 1 –Nov. 30)	\$841,096.30
Annual Increase in %	2%

It should be noted that 2019 was one of the highest revenue years in the history of the park. 2022 is on pace to exceed the 2019 day-use and camping figures.

2022 Total Visitation Figures				
Month	# Nights/Sites	# People	# Vehicles	# Vessels
January	153	1,450	822	155
February	203	1,372	685	155
March	314	4,585	1,405	292
April	527	16,175	2,314	437
May	614	11,130	2,816	574
June	634	10,417	2,677	508
July	887	16,949	3,714	574
August	491	8,501	2,121	456
September	538	3,637	2,287	367
October	410	6,547	1,573	262
November	280	3,505	878	100
Total	5,051	84,268	21,292	3,880

3. Incidents/Arrests/Medicals

Rangers responded to one incident of note during the month of November.

- **December 4** – Rangers contacted a guest to check his well being after complaints about unusual behavior. After a brief evaluation it was determined that the guest was not a hazard and agreed to moderate his behavior in the future. No crime occurred.

4. Citations/Enforcement Summary

Throughout December, zero citations were issued for violations of Ordinance 15. It should be noted that numerous other enforcement contacts were made for violations of District ordinances. However, as it is the District's goal to use education as a means for compliance in most cases, Park Rangers used these incidents as an opportunity to educate the guests via a verbal warning. Citations are typically issued as a last resort when the violation is egregious or voluntary compliance cannot be obtained.

5. Grants

Nothing new to report at this time.



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer
Dan Detmer, Water Resources Manager

Date: December 28, 2022 (January 11, 2023, meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report and update on Activities of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive a summary report on various Water Resources Department activities for the month of December 2022, including a summary of the monthly activities of the three local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA, and Mound Basin GSA), for which District board members serve as member directors, and the Santa Paula basin (adjudicated) Technical Advisory Committee, for which District staff serve as members. Staff may also report on state-wide issues related to the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

Discussion:

Staff Activities

In addition to the Department's routine, ongoing groundwater monitoring and reporting programs and its support of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (summarized below), notable efforts and activities conducted by staff during the past month included the following:

- Groundwater Modeling:
 - Staff continue to develop a break-out Perched Aquifer Model (PAM) for groundwater flow in the unconfined Semi-perched aquifer in the EBB Water Treatment Project study area. The break-out model will allow higher resolution (both horizontally and vertically) forecasting of groundwater flow in the study area. The model will allow simulation of solute transport in the unconfined perched aquifer, including the inland extent of the natural seawater density wedge at the base of the aquifer near the coastline.
 - Staff are applying MODFLOW's "Subsidence package" to the District's existing groundwater flow model of the OPV basins to forecast potential occurrence and
-

Agenda Item: 4.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report and update on Activities of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

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- magnitude of land subsidence during the model calibration period (1985-2019) and under future assumed pumping scenarios and basin conditions.
- Staff have begun engaging with Larry Walker Associates, the consultant who is developing the updated salt and nutrient management plan (SNMP) for Pleasant Valley basin, in anticipation of conducting limited groundwater modeling in support of SNMP preparation.
 - Staff are assisting the Environmental Services and Engineering departments in evaluating fish passage design modifications under consideration for United's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), including assisting with planning of physical modeling efforts at the Bureau of Reclamation's facility in Denver and at the University of Iowa.
 - Staff are working with the Environmental Services and Engineering departments to kick off and schedule work and deliverables with the consultants selected to conduct the environmental permitting and engineering design efforts for Phase 1 of United's EBB Water Treatment Project.
 - Staff are assisting the Engineering Department in evaluating the feasibility and water resources impacts of releasing water from Lake Piru and operating at lower reservoir levels as an Interim Risk Reduction Measure prior to and during the construction of the new outlet works. During construction, unprecedented low reservoir levels in the range of elevations 940-945 are needed to be able to build the new multi-port slopping intake and a tunnel.
 - Staff continue to assist with planning and coordination for the purchase and release of Table A water and supplemental State Water Project (SWP) water acquired from other SWP contractors. Staff are also working to determine what modifications to United's water right permits and licenses might be required to increase the instantaneous diversion rate at Freeman Diversion.
 - Staff continue to collaborate with the Engineering Department to develop, design, and implement a portfolio of new or improved water-supply projects within the District's service area. The collaborative effort is currently focused on refining the conceptual design of water-supply projects and new conveyance systems so that they produce the best value in terms of sustainable yield for the groundwater basins in United's service area.
 - Staff continue to support selection of site locations and design specifications for extraction and monitoring wells to be included as Phase 1 of the EBB Water Project.
 - Staff submitted a proposal for a Prop 1, Round 3 implementation grant to CA Water Board Department of Financial Assistance (DFA) on July 15 for development of Phase 1B of the EBB Water Treatment Project. United proposed the design and construction of extraction wells and control systems, and discharge pipes and related design, permitting, sampling and reporting to build the initial phase of the EBB Water Treatment project before additional investments are made for water treatment and distribution. The Phase 1B project grant proposal cost is estimated at \$18.6 million and the requested funding is \$8.4 million or 46% of the estimated project cost. DFA has informed United staff that award selection has been postponed until January or February 2023.

Agenda Item: 4.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report and update on Activities of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

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- Staff are assisting the Finance Department in preparing reports required by the FCGMA for surface water (from the Santa Clara River) use by the PTP and by PVCWD, deliveries of groundwater to the OH pipeline for M&I use, and deliveries of groundwater and surface water to the PTP for agricultural use. These reports cover water years 2021 and 2022. These are new reports required under the FCGMA's OPV allocation ordinance.

Outreach and Educational Activities

- Hydrogeologist Kathleen Kuepper attended a December 19 presentation at the Las Virgenes MWD on Natural Ocean Well and their offshore desalination technology.
- Staff attended a presentation and tour of the City of Morro Bay's new Water Reclamation Facility and planned injection well field on December 8. The event was jointly hosted by the Groundwater Resources Association of California, the American Society of Engineers, and WaterReuse.
- Staff attended a Webinar on planning and maintenance for idle water-supply and irrigation wells, which may be placed into long-term inactivity due to regulatory restrictions or declining groundwater levels.
- Staff attended a lunch-time presentation by Towill a surveying, mapping, and GIS vendor.

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA)

Staff continue to monitor and, where appropriate, participate in the FCGMA's groundwater sustainability planning and implementation efforts in the Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and Las Posas Valley basins. United staff continue to meet periodically with FCGMA staff and other stakeholders to develop analyses of benefits and impacts of water-supply projects and different variations of those projects in support of developing a sustainable, resilient water-supply portfolio for the service areas of both agencies. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to, FCGMA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings – The FCGMA Board held a special meeting on December 9. Notable topics included:

- The Board received a presentation from Agency staff and Dudek on an evaluation of the potential effects on coastal groundwater flux and seawater intrusion that could result from transfer of pumping between various management areas in the Oxnard basin. Such transfers could result from the continued use "CombCodes" or from renewed activity in the FCGMA's water market in the OPV basins.
- The Board approved a new contract with Dudek for a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,417,410 to prepare 5-year updates for the Las Posas Valley basin, Oxnard subbasin, and Pleasant Valley basin Groundwater Sustainability Plans, and for other technical consulting services and stakeholder engagement, including the GSP annual reports through June 30, 2025.
- The Board received an update by staff on the Operations Committee's development of criteria and process for ranking and prioritizing water supply and infrastructure projects to be considered for funding and implementation. This was a brief update regarding the

Agenda Item: 4.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report and update on Activities of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

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process and timeline for this effort. Staff plans to present the Committee's recommendations for prioritization of projects at the FCGMA's January Board meeting.

- The Board received an update on the status of applications for variances to initial allocations set by the Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins (OPV Allocation Ordinance). This was another brief update preceding the January Board meeting, where staff plans to present further information on the topic, including recommendations for simplifying and streamlining the process.
- The Board agreed to vote for Raul Avila (Director for Calleguas MWD) for Regular Member seat and Mohammed Hasan (Director for United) for the Alternate Member seat to the Ventura LAFCO to represent Ventura County Special Districts.
- The next regular FCGMA Board meeting is scheduled for January 25, at 1:30 p.m.

Operations Committee meetings – None were held last month.

Executive Committee meetings – An Executive Committee meeting was held on December 14. Notable topics included:

- The Committee developed a potential revised mission statement for the FCGMA, which they will recommend at a future Board meeting.
- The Committee conducted a “visioning session” to consider potential long-term sources of funding for the FCGMA. Committee members solicited and received extensive public comment from attendees. Chair West indicated that there would be more Executive Committee meetings on this topic in the future, followed by additional “visioning sessions” on FCGMA governance, personnel, and management.

Fiscal Committee meetings – None were held last month.

OPV Variance Review Committee meeting – None were held last month.

Ad Hoc OPV Projects Committee meetings – None were held last month.

Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA)

Staff continue to participate in FPBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP preparation for the Fillmore and Piru basins, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings – The FPBGSA held a regular board meeting on December 8. Notable topics included:

- The Board received a presentation from Daniel B. Stephens and Associates and staff on the updated scope, schedule and budget for its SGM Implementation Round 2 Grant application. The FPBGSA is requesting approximately \$3.8 million dollars in grant funding for both the Piru and Fillmore basins. The preponderance of funds are allocated towards drought mitigation programs and updates to the basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans.

Agenda Item: 4.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report and update on Activities of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

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- The Board received a presentation from United's Associate Hydrogeologist Eric Elliott on the recently completed installation of the new monitoring wells in the Fillmore basin.

The next FPBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for January 19, at 5:00 p.m.

GSP implementation – Staff is assisting with preparation of the grant application for SGM implementation Round 2 funding.

Data Resources - A web-based data management and mapping system that includes well construction information and available water level and water quality records for wells within the Piru and Fillmore basins remains available on the agency website, as are numerous technical references relating to the basins and development of the GSPs. Staff recently shared fall water level records with agency consultant DBS&A for formatting and upload to the agency website and to DWR.

Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MBGSA)

Staff continue to participate in MBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP implementation for the Mound basin, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings – The regular MBGSA Board meeting scheduled on December 15 was canceled. The next MBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for January 23, at 3:00 p.m.

GSP implementation – Staff provide the MBGSA's Executive Director and consultants various groundwater level and quality data periodically, as requested. Staff are also monitoring pressure transducers to monitor groundwater levels at selected wells in support of data collection efforts being conducted in support of the Mound Basin GSP.

Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Staff continue to participate in the Santa Paula basin TAC in support of the Santa Paula Basin Judgment and in conformance with SGMA reporting requirements for adjudicated basins, as follows:

The TAC held a regular meeting on December 12. The primary topics presented and discussed at this meeting included:

- An overview of the TAC's role and responsibilities and annual schedule of recurring activities, for the benefit of new TAC members (specifically, Harold Edwards and Bryan Bondy, both representing the Santa Paula Basin Pumpers Association).
- A summary of the draft 2021 Santa Paula basin Annual Report and discussion of comments received to date.
- A summary of United's regional groundwater flow model and discussion of how it could be used to model potential future water-supply projects developed for the Santa Paula basin.



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Maryam A. Bral, Chief Engineer
Craig Morgan, Engineering Manager
Robert J. Richardson, Senior Engineer

Date: December 16, 2022 (January 11, 2023 Meeting)

Agenda Item: **5.1 Authorization of a Supplemental Appropriation of Funds for the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project (8007)**
Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board of Directors will consider approving a supplemental appropriation of \$1.5 million for the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project (CIP 8007) at its regular January 11, 2023, meeting.

Background:

In June 2018, the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project ("Project") was selected by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) for \$300,000 in grant funding under the WaterSMART Drought Response Program. In September 2020, the Project was selected by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for \$2.5 million in grant funding as one of five projects that received funding submitted by the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County under Prop 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Program. Altogether, \$2.8 million in grant funding was secured before soliciting the project for construction bids.

On July 12, 2021, the District submitted a pre-application for \$4,371,450 in federal assistance under the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) issued by the Department of Defense's (DOD) Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC). On September 21, 2021, the District received notice through Congresswoman Julia Brownley's Office that the OLDCC approved a federal grant in the amount of \$4,230,133 to the District under the DCIP and the grant agreement was fully executed on September 23, 2021. Under financial assistance law and authorizing legislation, utilization of multiple Federal funding sources to cover the same scope of work is not allowed. Therefore, the District submitted a letter to the USBR on October 3, 2022 requesting cancellation of the \$300,000 grant assistance agreement for the Project in order to receive the DIP grant.

The DCIP grant agreement includes special terms and conditions (i.e., DOD's National Policy Requirements) which requires compliance with the Buy American Act (BAA) (Title 41, Chapter 83 of the United States Code) for all construction projects. The BAA which relates to Federal

5.1 Recommend the Authorization of a Supplemental Appropriation of Funds for the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project (8007)
Motion

procurements or Federal financial assistance requires that goods, products, and materials be produced in the United States, including iron, steel, and manufactured goods; with some waivers and exemptions noted.

In January 2021, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants (K/J) completed the final stamped and signed plans, specifications, and estimate for the Project. On May 14, 2021, the District solicited the Project and received four (4) construction bids. On July 14, 2021, the District's Board of Director's awarded three contracts: (1) Construction Management and Inspection Services contract to HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) in the amount of \$701,956; (2) Design Services During Construction Contract to K/J in the amount of \$537,448; and (3) Construction Contract to GSE Construction Company, Inc. (GSE) in the amount of \$9,342,900. An Administrative Notice to Proceed was issued to GSE on September 20, 2021. A Construction Notice to Proceed was issued to GSE on November 9, 2021, with a construction commencement date of November 29, 2021, and construction completion date of January 3, 2023.

The Contract Documents for which contractors placed their construction bids was prepared before the OLDCC's federal funding opportunity and did not include the BAA requirement. On August 30, 2021, the District issued Work Directive Change (WDC) No. 1 that notified GSE of the invitation to apply for a DCIP grant and that the special conditions included compliance with the BAA. On December 28, 2021, the District's Board of Directors authorized the General Manager to approve change orders proposed by GSE in response to the BAA requirement up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000). To date, there have been (4) Change Orders (COs) approved in the total amount of \$662,910.19 that are related to compliance with the BAA requirement. No further COs related to BAA are anticipated for the Project.

HDR as the Construction Manager has assumed the role of document control and budgeted approximately 930 hours or \$212,534 for this task. K/J as the Engineer of Record has assumed the role of technical review and budgeted for 100 Contractor's Requests for Information (RFI) in the amount of \$82,150 and 200 Contractor submittal packages in the amount of \$170,500. As of December 2022, construction is over eighty percent (80%) complete and GSE has submitted 122 RFIs and 333 submittal packages for administrative review by HDR and technical review by K/J. On December 6, 2022, K/J submitted a letter proposal requesting an amendment in the amount of \$198,106 that will cover an additional 50 RFIs and 200 submittal packages. HDR has not submitted a similar letter proposal and has not indicated the need for additional budget to complete the project.

Discussion:

The approved Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 budget included funding sources for the Project by grants in the amount of \$7,030,914 and local sources in the amount of \$5,540,375. During the course of the Project, total funding by grant sources decreased by \$300,000 while total expenditures increased by approximately \$1.161 million over the original budgeted expenditures. The primary reasons for the increased cost expenditures are: (1) requirement to meet the BAA per the OLDCC DCIP grant agreement; (2) unforeseen utility conflicts during construction and subsequent changes

5.1 Recommend the Authorization of a Supplemental Appropriation of Funds for the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project (8007)
Motion

to the design; (3) underbudgeted amount for construction management and inspection services; (4) additional budget needed to address Contractor's RFIs and submittal packages during construction. A breakdown of the cost impacts is provided in the table below.

	<u>Original Budgeted Amount¹</u>	<u>Original Contract Amount</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Cost Impact</u>
1. Construction Contract (GSE)	\$9,786,700	\$9,342,900	Change Orders (various): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$662,910.19 (BAA²)• \$466,556.07 (other³)	\$685,666.26
2. Construction Management and Inspection Services (HDR)	\$444,850	\$701,956	No Amendments Requested	\$257,106
3. Design Services During Construction (K/J)	\$518,790	\$537,488	Amendment requested up to \$200,000 (under negotiation)	\$218,698

Total Cost Impacts: \$1,161,470.26

Staff is recommending a supplemental appropriation of \$1.5 million to complete the Project that will cover the current increase in expenditures, loss of a \$300,000 grant and include contingency for any unforeseen expenditures.

Fiscal Impact

Approval of this item would result in a supplemental appropriation of \$1.5 million which includes a 6.2 percent contingency of design/construction costs. This proposed appropriation was not budgeted for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget and will require a supplemental appropriation from the Bond Refinance (\$1 million) and Reserve funds from the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Fund (\$500 thousand).

¹ The original budget was prepared in February 2021 based on estimated costs and not actual contract amounts.

² Buy American Act – required by the OLDCC DCIP grant

³ Change orders as a result of unforeseen utility conflicts and subsequent changes to the design; and other minor design changes



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer
Linda Purpus, Environmental Services Manager

From: Tessa Lenz, Associate Environmental Scientist

Date: December 27, 2022 (January 11, 2023, Meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.2 **Resolution 2023-02** Approving Adoption of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption and the Approval of the Categorical and Statutory Exemption for the Proposed Multi-Year State Water Project Transfer from Casitas Municipal Water District to United Water Conservation District
Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will consider approving Resolution 2023-02, adopting the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Existing Facilities and Ongoing Project for the Proposed Multi-Year State Water Project Transfer from Casitas Municipal Water District to United Water Conservation District (Project), approving the Project, and directing staff to file the NOE in accordance with CEQA.

Discussion:

The District is the lead agency for the Project under CEQA. The proposed Project consists of a contractual agreement with Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD) to purchase State Water Project (SWP) Table A contract water for Ventura County until December 31, 2027. The volume of water purchased would be dependent on the annual allocation established by the California Department of Water Resources but would not exceed 5,000 acre-feet each year. The Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to the Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21083, CEQA Guideline Section 1530 Existing Facilities Class 1 and statutorily exempt pursuant to PRC Section 21083, CEQA Guideline Section 15261(a) Ongoing Project. The District has reviewed and determined that none of the conditions prohibiting exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15261(a) apply, and none of the exceptions to categorical exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply.

Fiscal Impact:

The County Clerk and Recorder's Office filing fee for the CEQA NOE is \$50.00 which is included in the Adopted Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget under project account 050-300-54260-1030-310.

**Agenda Item 5.2 Resolution 2023-02 Approving Adoption of the California
Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption and the
Approval of the Categorical and Statutory Exemption for the Proposed
Multi-Year State Water Project Transfer from Casitas Municipal
Water District to United Water Conservation District
Motion**

Attachments:

Attachment A – Resolution 2023-02

Attachment B – Notice of Exemption

RESOLUTION 2023-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT DETERMINING THAT AN AGREEMENT FOR THE MULTI-YEAR WATER TRANSFER PROGRAM BETWEEN UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT IS EXEMPT FROM CEQA

WHEREAS, Ventura County Watershed Protection District (“VCWPD”) is the named contractor with the State of California under the State Water Project (“SWP”) contract (“SWP Water Supply Contract”) for 20,000 acre feet of SWP Table A water per year; and

WHEREAS, Casitas Municipal Water District (“Casitas”) is the administrator of VCWPD’s SWP Water Supply Contract and has retained access to 5,000 acre feet of the total 20,000 acre feet of SWP Table A water; and

WHEREAS, Casitas is presently unable to directly deliver SWP supplies into its service area; and

WHEREAS, without local conveyance facilities in place to currently utilize SWP water, Casitas believes it could benefit from a water transfer that delivers its SWP Table A Water to others to provide an offset of costs related to imported water supplies; and

WHEREAS, United Water Conservation District (“United”) is willing to purchase Casitas’ allocated SWP Table A Water supply and take delivery of the additional water in its service area; and

WHEREAS, United and Casitas now wish to enter into a multi-year agreement for the transfer of Casitas’ allocated SWP Table A Water supply (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project consists of United being able to purchase up to 5,000 acre feet of Casitas SWP Table A Water allocation per year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will result in a multi-year transfer of SWP water between parties authorized to receive and transfer of such water under the SWP; and

WHEREAS, through the proposed Project United will take delivery of purchased water through Reach 29 of the California Aqueduct at Pyramid Lake through United’s facilities at Lake Piru or through Reach 30 at Castaic Lake; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will use existing facilities and involves no construction or changes in land use and negligible expansion of use; and

WHEREAS, United has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that it is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) (“CEQA”) pursuant to the ongoing project statutory exemption under Public Resources Code section 21169 and State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et

seq.) section 15261(a) because the proposed Project is merely an incidental part of an original, ongoing pre-CEQA project – the SWP Water Supply Contract; and

WHEREAS, United has reviewed the proposed Project and has also determined that it is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to the Class 1, Existing Facilities, categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines section 15301 because the proposed Project involves the operation of existing facilities with negligible expansion of use; and

WHEREAS, United has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that none of the conditions prohibiting exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) apply; and

WHEREAS, United has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that none of the exceptions to categorical exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the proposed Project are described in the “Agreement for the Multi-Year Water Transfer Program between United Water Conservation District and Casitas Municipal Water District” (“Agreement”), attached hereto as Exhibit “A.”

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District does hereby **RESOLVE, DETERMINE, and ORDER** as follows:

Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

Section 2. The Board of Directors hereby finds that the proposed Project is not subject to environmental review under CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, on grounds that the proposed Project is statutorily and categorically exempt. Specifically, the Board of Directors finds that the proposed Project is statutorily exempt pursuant to the ongoing project statutory exemption under Public Resources Code section 21169 and State CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) because the proposed Project is merely an incidental part of an original, ongoing pre-CEQA project – the SWP Water Supply Contract. The proposed Project is also categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines section 15301 because the proposed Project involves the operation of existing facilities with negligible expansion of use. The Board of Directors further hereby finds that none of the conditions prohibiting exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) apply and that none of the exceptions to categorical exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JANUARY 2023.

ATTEST: _____ ATTEST: _____
Board President Bruce E. Dandy Board Secretary Lynn E. Maulhardt

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:

Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:

United Water Conservation District
1701 North Lombard Street, Suite 200
Oxnard, CA 93030

Ventura County Clerk
800 South Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA 93009

Project Title: Multi-Year State Water Project Transfer from Casitas Municipal Water District to United Water Conservation District (Project)

Project Location: State Water Project water transferred between Ventura County Agencies will be used for beneficial purposes in Ventura County. Water will be delivered through Reach 29 or Reach 30 of the California Aqueduct System and transported to United Water Conservation District's existing facilities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project (Lead Agency): United Water Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: United Water Conservation District

Project Description: United Water Conservation District (United) proposes to enter into a contractual agreement with Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD) to purchase State Water Project (SWP) Table A contract water for Ventura County until December 31, 2027. The volume of water purchased would be dependent on the annual allocation established by the California Department of Water Resources but would not exceed 5,000 acre-feet each year, which is CMWD's total SWP Table A contract amount. United will take delivery of purchased water through Reach 29 of the California Aqueduct at Pyramid Lake through United's facilities at Lake Piru or through Reach 30 at Castaic Lake. The project will utilize existing facilities and does not involve construction, changes in land use, or negligible expansion of use.

Exempt Status:

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)

☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))

☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

☒ Categorical Exemption: Guidelines § 15301 – Existing Facilities

☒ Statutory Exemptions: Pub. Res. Code § 21169; Guidelines § 15261(a) – Ongoing Project

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The Project is categorically exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301 – *Existing Facilities* (Class 1). Section 15301, *Existing Facilities* includes the operation of existing public or private structures or topographical features that does not involve expansion of use. The Project will not result in a negligible or expansion of use, therefore, the *Existing Facilities* exemption is applicable.

The Project is statutorily exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083, CEQA Guideline Section 15261(a) – *Ongoing Project*. Section 15261(a) *Ongoing Project* involves a project which is an incidental part of an original, ongoing pre-CEQA project. The Project is part of the State Water Project contract.

None of the conditions prohibiting exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15261(a) apply, and none of the exceptions to categorical exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Linda Purpus, Environmental Services Manager
Telephone: 805-525-4431
Email: lindap@unitedwater.org

Linda Purpus
Environmental Services Manager
United Water Conservation District

Date

Date OPR received for filing: _____



To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Brian Collins, Chief Operations Officer

Date: December 28, 2022 (January 11, 2023 meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.3 Resolution 2023-03 Authorization of the Purchase of Table A Water from Casitas Municipal Water District
Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will consider adopting Resolution 2023-03, approving the authorization of the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract for the purchase of Table A water from Casitas Municipal Water District for a five-year term.

Background:

The following information is provided in regard to the State of California, Department of Water Resources (DWR) agreements related to State Water Project (SWP) water within Ventura County:

- DWR entitled Ventura County Flood Control District (VCFCD) now known as Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) to receive up to 20,000 acre-feet of SWP water in an agreement entered into on December 2, 1963 (referred to as Table A water supply).
- VCFCD assigned its entire right of 20,000 acre-feet SWP water to Ventura River Municipal Water District, which entity later became Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas), in an agreement entered into on June 23, 1970.
- United Water Conservation District (United) purchased an annual entitlement of 5,000 acre-feet in an agreement entered into on July 1, 1970.
- Ventura purchased an annual entitlement of 10,000 acre-feet in an agreement entered into on July 7, 1971.
- Casitas retained an annual entitlement of 5,000 acre-feet.
- United subleased 1,850 acre-feet to the Port Hueneme Water Agency on June 12, 1996.

**5.3 Resolution 2023-03 Authorization of the Purchase of Table A Water from Casitas
Municipal Water District
Motion**

The proposed agreement authorizes a five-year transfer of SWP water between parties authorized to receive and transfer such water under a SWP contract approved in 1963. The action taken pursuant to the SWP contract is exempt from the CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21169 and CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) (statutory exemption for ongoing project). The transfer would use existing facilities and involves no construction or changes in land use.

The offer is consistent with United's Strategic Plan, specifically, with its strategic objective A.2 (Maximize and expand State Water Project import opportunities) of Goal A, Water Supply-Ensure Long-Term Water Supply for all users.

A copy of the definitive agreement is contained in Attachment A. The transfer would not require approval by DWR because water would not leave the State Contractor's service area (i.e., Ventura County).

Fiscal Impact:

The cost of delivery of the Table A allocation annually will be dependent upon the SWP allocation determined by DWR. The range of cost for any given year of the five-year term ranges from an estimated \$250,000 for a 5% allocation to \$2,875,000 for a 100% allocation. United has established a separate fund for water purchases which would be used to fund this purchase.

Attachments:

- A. Definitive Agreement
- B. Resolution 2023-03

**AGREEMENT FOR THE MULTI-YEAR WATER TRANSFER PROGRAM
BETWEEN UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND
CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

This Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and entered into by and between the United Water Conservation District, an independent special district and public agency formed and operating pursuant to the California Water Code Conservation Law of 1931 set forth in California Water Code Section 74000 *et seq.* (“United”) and Casitas Municipal Water District, a special district of the State of California that provides domestic and agricultural services to western Ventura County (“Casitas”), as of the later of the date upon which it is approved by the governing boards of United and Casitas or the date upon which it is fully executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties (the “Effective Date”). United and Casitas are collectively referred to as “the Parties.”

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Casitas and United each have water supply contracts, indirectly, with the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) for water from the State Water Project (“SWP”); and

WHEREAS, Ventura County Watershed Protection District (“VCWPD”) is the named contractor with the State of California for 20,000 acre feet of SWP Table A water; and

WHEREAS, Casitas is the administrator of VCWPD’s SWP Water Supply Contract and has retained access to 5,000 acre feet of the total 20,000 acre feet of SWP Table A Water; and

WHEREAS, Casitas is presently unable to directly deliver SWP supplies into its service area; and

WHEREAS, without local conveyance facilities in place to currently utilize SWP water, Casitas believes it could benefit from a water transfer that delivers its SWP Table A Water to others to provide an offset of costs related to imported water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Casitas is considering options to obtain its SWP Table A water in the future through exchange or physical connection, however, an interconnection will require between three and five years to implement; and

WHEREAS, United is willing to purchase Casitas’ allocated SWP Table A Water supply and take delivery of the additional water in its service area; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree all requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act have been met; and

WHEREAS, Casitas and United desire to initiate a multi-year SWP Table A Water Transfer Program for the Parties mutual benefit and better water management of their SWP water and other supplies.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Transfer of Casitas SWP Table A Water Allocation to United

a. Commencing the Effective Date and throughout the term of this Agreement, United shall be entitled to purchase up to 5,000 acre feet of Casitas' allocated SWP Table A Water directly from Casitas. The quantity of water available to United is reflected in Column 2 of Exhibit "A" which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, and will vary from year to year depending on the percentage allocated by the DWR as specified in Column 1 of Exhibit "A." This is exclusive of any Health and Safety allocations made pursuant to Article 18 of the VCWPD contract with DWR.

b. It is understood by the Parties that SWP Table A allocation refers to Casitas' SWP Table A Water allocation and Article 21 water supplies. Pursuant to this Agreement, United shall be permitted to convey/store Casitas' SWP Table A and Article 21 supplies under Casitas' rights within the SWP, with no rights reserved for Casitas. All water transferred must be delivered to United during the term of this Agreement. Any transferred water remaining in Casitas' allocated capacity of the storage and conveyance system upon termination of this Agreement will be subject to limitations within United's allocated capacity of the storage and conveyance system.

2. Pricing of Transferred SWP Table A Water. United shall pay Casitas the per acre foot as specified in Column 3 of Exhibit "A," corresponding to the final allocation percentage (Column 1 of Exhibit "A") for the year as determined by the DWR. United shall pay all SWP variable charges associated with the Casitas SWP Table A or Article 21 water delivered to its service area or to storage during the term of this Agreement. Casitas shall send an invoice to United no later than April 30 of each calendar year during the term of this Agreement in which United receives Casitas' final SWP Table A Water allocation amount. The invoice will be comprised of the following:

- A. Purchase Cost: The purchase cost will be based on Exhibit "A" and the final allocation from DWR typically known by April 1. If the allocation changes after the invoice is delivered to United (due to United on April 30), Casitas shall submit a subsequent invoice based on the adjusted allocation amount.
- B. Variable Costs: The projected variable costs for delivery of the final allocation amount will be estimated based on available information from DWR. Any differences between projected and actual variable costs will be reconciled in the invoice for the following year.

United shall pay Casitas no later than July 1 of each calendar year during the term of this Agreement in which it receives Casitas' final SWP Table A Water allocation. If Casitas does not receive payment of the purchase cost by July 1, Casitas reserves the right to sell the water to another willing buyer.

4. Notice. Any notice, request, information or other document to be given hereunder to any of the parties by any other parties shall be in writing and shall be deemed given and served upon delivery, if delivered personally, or three (3) days after mailing by United States mail as follows:

If to Casitas: Casitas Municipal Water District
1055 Ventura Avenue
Oak View, CA 93022
Attn: Michael Flood, General Manager

5. Resale of Transferred Casitas SWP Table A or Article 21 Water. United agrees that it will not sell or transfer water supplies outside of United's boundaries that are transferred by Casitas pursuant to this agreement.

7. Attorneys' Fees. If any legal action is necessary to enforce any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement, each party shall bear their own attorneys' fees, except as set forth above.

8. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, superseding all negotiations, prior discussions and preliminary agreements made prior to the date hereof. This Agreement may not be changed except in writing executed by both parties.

9. Ambiguities not to be Construed against Drafting Party. The doctrine that any ambiguity contained in a contract shall be construed against the party whose counsel has drafted the contract is expressly waived by each of the parties hereto with respect to this Agreement.

10. Severability. If any provision in this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

11 Scanned/Electronic Signatures. This Agreement may be executed and transmitted to any other Party by PDF, which PDF shall be deemed to be, and utilized in all respects as, an original, wet-inked document.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have entered into this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

United:

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By: _____

Its: _____

Casitas:

CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

By: _____

Its: _____

Exhibit “A”

Casitas-United Water Purchase Pricing Schedule			
Annual Allocation Percentage	Annual Allocation Volume in Acre-feet	Unit Purchase Price per Acre-foot	Total Purchase Price
100%	5000	\$275	\$1,375,000
95%	4750	\$275	\$1,306,250
90%	4500	\$275	\$1,237,500
85%	4250	\$275	\$1,168,750
80%	4000	\$300	\$1,200,000
75%	3750	\$325	\$1,218,750
70%	3500	\$350	\$1,225,000
65%	3250	\$375	\$1,218,750
60%	3000	\$400	\$1,200,000
55%	2750	\$425	\$1,168,750
50%	2500	\$450	\$1,125,000
45%	2250	\$475	\$1,068,750
40%	2000	\$500	\$1,000,000
35%	1750	\$525	\$918,750
30%	1500	\$550	\$825,000
25%	1250	\$575	\$718,750
20%	1000	\$600	\$600,000
15%	750	\$700	\$525,000
10%	500	\$700	\$350,000
5%	250	\$700	\$175,000

RESOLUTION 2023-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE MULTI-YEAR WATER TRANSFER PROGRAM BETWEEN UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Ventura County Watershed Protection District (“VCWPD”) is the named contractor with the State of California under the State Water Project (“SWP”) contract (“SWP Water Supply Contract”) for 20,000 acre feet of SWP Table A water per year; and

WHEREAS, Casitas Municipal Water District (“Casitas”) is the administrator of VCWPD’s SWP Water Supply Contract and has retained access to 5,000 acre feet of the total 20,000 acre feet of SWP Table A water; and

WHEREAS, Casitas is presently unable to directly deliver SWP supplies into its service area; and

WHEREAS, without local conveyance facilities in place to currently utilize SWP water, Casitas believes it could benefit from a water transfer that delivers its SWP Table A Water to others to provide an offset of costs related to imported water supplies; and

WHEREAS, United Water Conservation District (“United”) is willing to purchase Casitas’ allocated SWP Table A Water supply and take delivery of the additional water in its service area; and

WHEREAS, United and Casitas now wish to enter into a multi-year agreement for the transfer of Casitas’ allocated SWP Table A Water supply (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project consists of United being able to purchase up to 5,000 acre feet of Casitas SWP Table A Water allocation per year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will result in a multi-year transfer of SWP water between parties authorized to receive and transfer of such water under the SWP; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will use existing facilities and involves no construction or changes in land use and negligible expansion of use; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2023, United’s Board of Directors determined that the proposed Project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act and said determination is set forth in Resolution 2023-02; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of the proposed Project are described in the “Definitive Agreement- 12.7.22 Proposed Water Transfer Agreement between UWCD and CMWD_V3” (“Agreement”), attached hereto as Exhibit “A.”

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District does hereby **RESOLVE, DETERMINE, and ORDER** as follows:

Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

Section 2. The Board of Directors hereby approves the Project and its implementation when deemed appropriate by the General Manager, including, but not limited to, the execution of the Agreement.

Section 3. The Board of Directors hereby directs Staff to execute and file a Notice of Exemption for the Project as permitted by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF JANUARY 2023.

ATTEST:_____

Board President Bruce E. Dandy

ATTEST:_____

Board Secretary Lynn E. Maulhardt

Something entirely new: Using dams to save salmon

In the Yakima Basin, irrigators and the Yakama Nation are investigating how reservoirs can be used to create artificial currents that mimic natural ones



Keeping current: Changes are happening around the Yakima River Basin. Phil Rigdon of the Department of Natural Resources for the Yakama Nation pays attention to them all. *Photo: Steven Gnam*

By Nathan Gilles. December 15, 2022. There's no question. She's going for it. She's just biding her time.

Swimming in a pool of slow-moving water surrounded by swift currents, a roughly two-foot-long coho salmon appears to be assessing her next move.

Ahead of her is a low spot where the pebbly rocks lining the stream bed peak to the surface as the water rises before disappearing again as the water drops with the current.

The difference in water depth is subtle—no more than a couple of inches—but this expert at swimming upstream seems to notice. She waits for the right moment to cross the shallows obstructing her journey.

It's November in central Washington state's Yakima River Basin on the eastern edge of the Cascade mountains.

Much of the lower basin falls well within the mountain range's rain shadow and is dominated by grasses, sagebrush and irrigated agriculture.

But here in the higher elevations of the upper basin I'm surrounded by forests of green firs, cedars and pines.

The cool fall weather has yellowed the leaves of the maples, aspens and cottonwoods. And the needles of the larches, the region's native deciduous conifers, are showing the rich ocher of their autumn color.

The stream in front of me, the one with the patient coho, is flowing fast. But it shouldn't be. The annual fall rains haven't arrived yet.

This small stream, aptly named Little Creek, should be bone dry.

But this oddity is exactly why I'm here. Little Creek could hold a glimpse into a hopeful future, one in which salmon can weather decades if not centuries of climate change.

This future will require a combination of human ingenuity and cooperation. It's a future that blurs the line between natural and artificial.

I'm skeptical, but I'm willing to be surprised.

Unlikely coalition

Urban Eberhart is my first surprise.

He's passionate about protecting the Yakima Basin's salmon. What's more, the organization he runs has performed some of the basin's most important salmon conservation work.

But he's not a professional environmentalist. He runs an irrigation district.



Team player: Urban Eberhart is helping pull together a surprising alliance of leaders around the Yakima River. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

Urban Eberhart is the water manager for the [Kittitas Reclamation District](#) (KRD) and my guide for the day. He's dressed in a black bowler hat, black boots, a long black coat, a white button-down shirt and a bolo tie, in the center of which sits a polished Ellensburg blue agate—a stone found only northwest of nearby Ellensburg, Washington.

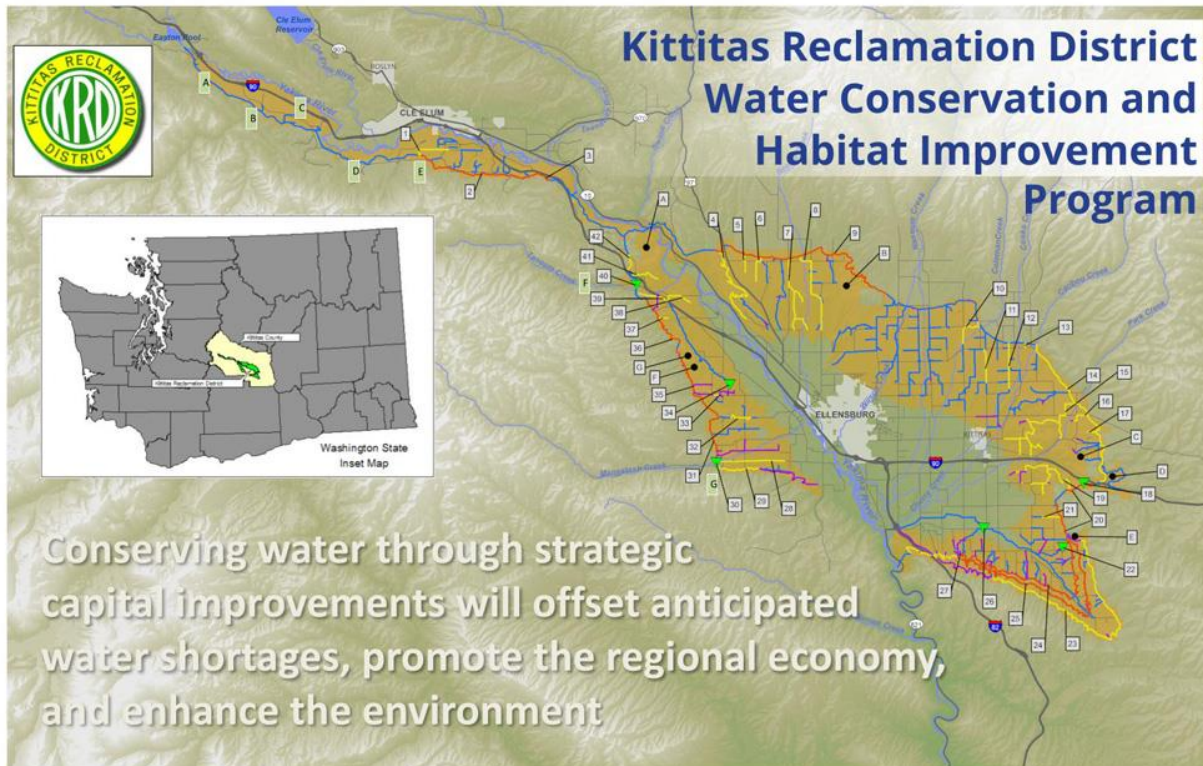
Eberhart's primary job is making sure farmers and other water users in his district get the water they're entitled to by law.

Today, he's giving me a tour of the work he and his colleagues have been doing to use dams to *help* struggling and endangered salmon in the basin.

You read that right. Eberhart and his team at the irrigation district are using the very thing that helped decimate Pacific salmon numbers to help bring them back.

In recent years, Eberhart has been at the vanguard of something entirely new.

He and others in the basin—including other irrigation district leaders, nonprofit environmentalists, and even the basin's original inhabitants, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation—have been experimenting with selectively releasing water from the basin's dams and reservoirs to help both adult salmon reach their spawning grounds and juvenile salmon reach the ocean.



Infographic: Kittitas Reclamation District

Not only is the coalition Eberhart belongs to about as unlikely as they get—it's made up of long-time adversaries who have battled over the basin's water for decades—this improbable group is using dams to help rather than hinder salmon.

The idea flouts conventional environmental wisdom, which sees dams and salmon—like oil and water—as two things that simply don't mix.

And not without reason.

Creating artificial currents

The Pacific Northwest's salmon populations are a fraction of their historic numbers, and dams are a leading cause.

Salmon are anadromous, meaning that although the fish spend most of their lives in the ocean, they start and end their lives in freshwater streams, rivers and lakes.

Dams on these waterways block adult salmon from returning to their freshwater spawning grounds.

They also block juveniles traveling from their freshwater nurseries out to their new life at sea.

In addition, the turbines of hydroelectric dams increase fish mortality.

Dams also slow water flows, creating artificial “slack water.” While this has its benefits, like making the Columbia River significantly easier to navigate by barge, this slack water has been linked to water temperatures that are unhealthy or even lethal for salmon.

Slack water also increases predation. And it makes reaching the ocean more difficult for juvenile salmon that used to ride swift river currents out to sea.



New seasons: Lake Easton Dam on the Yakima River was constructed in the 1920s. A fish passage was added in the 1980s. Now its reservoir may come in handy for managed flows. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

Nonetheless, attitudes about dams are changing.

Scientists are now investigating how dams, specifically storage dams and their reservoirs, can be used to create artificial stream and river flows that mimic natural ones.

This ability could be essential in the future, scientists argue, because climate change is expected to significantly alter natural hydrology the world over.

Independent of this scientific work, in places like the Yakima Basin others are already experimenting with creating artificial flows.

“Storage is a key piece to all this,” Eberhart says, “because if we didn’t have storage, we wouldn’t have the opportunity to keep these streams hydrated during years like this when the fall rains just did not come.”

Looking back at the coho in the stream, his point hits home.

The water flowing in front of us is being directed into the stream via a large pipe from a nearby irrigation canal. What’s more, the water in the canal is being intentionally released from two nearby reservoirs.

All of this is for fish.



Ditching ditches: Water-saving pipes are replacing irrigation trenches, which are prone to water loss through evaporation. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

As the water in the stream rises, our patient coho goes for it. She leaps out of her pool and skips along the stream’s surface, splashing water and contorting her body back and forth in an effort to get over that low spot.

She’s a fish out of water, to be sure, but she’s graceful, like a dancer falling. Her temporary flight reveals her body is gray and pink in color. She has a barely noticeable hook to her jaw and no hump to her back, all signs she is female.

Eberhart lets out a whoop of excitement.

Past the stream's low spot, our coho moves under a nearby bridge and into deeper water, where she meets another coho.

The two swim side-by-side, their bodies appearing to touch on and off. Is this a potential mate?

It's hard to tell given the water's depth, but it still feels like a private moment. I look away.

Yakama Nation and salmon recovery

The Yakima River Basin has five major reservoirs with dams attached to them.

There are also a series of smaller dams throughout the basin. Some of these have reservoirs. Some divert water directly from the Yakima and other basin rivers. Some produce hydropower.

The majority of the basin's dams were built without working fish passages—engineering structures, such as fish ladders, that allow salmon to migrate past.

As a member of the Yakama Nation, Phil Rigdon knows this all too well.

“The reservoirs, yes, they have always had a negative context to certain species, like sockeye,” says Rigdon, interim tribal administrative director and superintendent for the Department of Natural Resources for the Yakama Nation. “Some of the best habitat for salmon is above these reservoirs that have been blocked for a hundred years.”

A case in point, says Rigdon, is Bumping Lake, a lake turned reservoir east of Mount Rainier.

When the reservoir and the dam holding back its waters were completed in the early 20th century, the Yakima Basin's last sockeye were blocked, according to Rigdon and others. After that, sockeye no longer appeared in the basin.

This is called “local extinction” or “extirpation.”

And sockeye aren't alone. Coho and summer chinook were also fully extirpated from the basin, likely due in large part to dams.

Fall and spring chinook were never fully extirpated but are still struggling.

Mid-Columbia steelhead are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as is the non-salmon species bull trout.

Pacific lamprey, which are anadromous, have also been impacted by dams.

Of course, says Rigdon, Yakima Basin dams aren't the only reason the basin's salmon numbers are low.

The full list of likely culprits includes habitat loss, deforestation and roads, all of which have changed the basin's hydrology.

Activities outside the basin, including overfishing and Columbia River dams also played their part.



Artificial beauty: The 1146 Operational Spillway in the Kittitas Reclamation District sits on a crest above the Yakima River and leads to a 340-foot drop into the river below. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

Extirpated species don't get ESA listings or the support this brings, so the Yakama Nation has decided to reintroduce the fish themselves.

To date, the Nation's fishery has reintroduced all three fully extirpated salmon species, and they have fishery programs in place for the basin's other fish as well.

"We have always been the ones who have advocated on behalf of the fish, and that's always been where our priorities have led us," says Rigdon.

And right now, he says, this has led the Yakama Nation to reconsider the basin's dams and reservoirs as a tool to help salmon instead of as a hindrance. This includes expanding reservoir storage for fish.

The first reservoir to have this done is Cle Elum Lake, another lake turned reservoir.

Cle Elum Lake

After watching the coho, Eberhart and I drive along winding roads surrounded by forest until we reach Cle Elum Dam and Lake.

Whereas the drive to the reservoir felt closed in, the view as we come upon the reservoir is strikingly different: wide open and breathtaking.

About eight miles long and at least a mile wide, Cle Elum Lake is the largest of the Yakima Basin's five major reservoirs, holding roughly 436,900 acre-feet of water. And it's only getting bigger.

As we walk up to the reservoir, Eberhart and I see that Cle Elum Dam is under construction. They're raising the height of the dam by three feet.

This will create a "pool raise" that will add an additional 14,600-acre feet of water, all of which—remarkably—has been earmarked for fish using Yakama Nation water rights tied to their treaty with the federal government.

Right now, this water is notable for its absence.



Uplifting experience: Increasing the height of its dam will raise water levels in Cle Elum Lake. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

In front of us is what looks like a beach at high tide. The space set to be filled with salmon-sustaining water has been cleared bare around the reservoir.

Cle Elum is also having fish passages put in, step-like structures near the dam's intake that are designed to accommodate the out migration of juvenile salmon when the reservoir is at different levels. (Returning adults will still need to be trapped and hauled in, which is currently being done.)

Fish passages are also planned for all four other major reservoirs in the basin.

But while Rigdon and the Yakama Nation want Cle Elum expanded, they also want some dams removed.

And they're having success. In 2021, [Nelson Dam](#) on the Naches River north of the city of Yakima was removed to aid fish migration.

More water promises than water

Cle Elum Lake might be the basin's largest artificial reservoir, but it's not the basin's largest reservoir, not by a long shot.

The basin's largest reservoir is a natural reservoir: mountain snow, or snowpack.

As the climate warms, the Pacific Northwest is predicted to receive less and less snowpack, which will likely lead to water shortages for both fish and farms.

For this reason, Eberhart, Rigdon and the coalition they belong to are pushing for *more* reservoirs in their basin. They want to capture the water that was once stored as snow and release it when it's needed for both salmon and irrigation.

They're not the only ones.

"The system was designed in the last century," says Thomas Tebb, director of the Office of the Columbia River for the State of Washington's Department of Ecology. "And it was designed largely on having snowpack. Snowpack has provided, essentially, our sixth reservoir."

"There's a growing realization that maintaining natural flow regimes in river systems is becoming more difficult." —Julien Olden, University of Washington

Like much of the American West, the Yakima Basin has built its water infrastructure—its reservoirs, canals and even its water rights—based on having

reliable snowpack that accumulates during the cool months and melts during the warm ones.

In this way, mountain snow has acted like a natural reservoir.

“I believe we have about a million acre-feet of surface water storage, but about 2.3 million acre-feet of water contracts that need to be served,” says Tebb.

In other words, there’s more water locked up in snow than there is in all five human-made reservoirs.

When water rights were created—when it was decided how much water could be divvied out to how many rights holders—that total pool of water included water from snow.

The problem is that snow hasn’t always shown up.

Learning to cooperate

Low snowpack years have produced water shortages and led to conflict, kicking off drawn out court battles over water.

In November 2021, the Yakima Basin completed a decades-long adjudication process over water rights.

But the big court battles ended well before then.

The change occurred, according to Rigdon, when he started working with a local irrigation district manager to oppose the construction of a large new dam and reservoir called Black Rock (briefly highlighted in a recent [*New York Times*](#) story).

While Black Rock was never built, something else was: cooperation. The basin’s former adversaries started working together to solve their common water needs.

“In the Yakima Basin, I think we are very fortunate that we moved away from the old battle lines conversation,” says Rigdon. “You’re seeing the type of work and discussion and science being built to really take on the challenges that we face and that’s exciting.”

More dams?

Common opposition to Black Rock also helped launch the [Yakima Basin Integrated Plan](#)—“YIP” for short. Tebb oversees YIP for Ecology, working closely with the Bureau of Reclamation, which ultimately oversees the management of existing dams and reservoirs as well as the construction of new ones.

Nearly everything related to water in the Yakima Basin falls under the umbrella of YIP—including the Cle Elum pool raise and the Nelson Dam removal.

However, YIP is more than a government-run entity.

Involving face-to-face negotiations and compromises, YIP has reportedly been a highly collaborative effort representing the will of its participants. According to everyone interviewed for this story, including Tebb, YIP has been driven largely by its stakeholder working group.

“They [working group participants] have really led the charge in terms of conservation, storage, fish passage,” says Tebb.

The working group includes Rigdon and Eberhart as well as representatives from local municipalities, state and federal fisheries and multiple irrigation districts. Nonprofit environmental organizations have also been involved.

These diverse participants now support more storage, the construction of more dams and reservoirs, and see it as important for a future with less snowpack.



Infographic: Washington State Department of Ecology

Tebb says YIP hopes to solve the challenge of less snowpack in large part by building more reservoir storage.

“So, we do agree that storage clearly is going to be an integral part of our ability to adjust flows [in a future with less snowpack],” says Tebb, “and not just for agricultural and municipal purposes but really for that opportunity to use some of this storage for fishery purposes. And we’re excited that the Cle Elum pool raise is really that first down payment on water for fish.”

Beyond the Cle Elum pool raise, YIP includes plans to expand Bumping Lake.

There are also plans to build a new reservoir, called Wymer, near the Lmuma Creek Recreation site south of Ellensburg, Wash.

However, the Wymer project appears to be on hold for now and the expansion of Bumping could be years into the future.

Eberhart is also putting together plans to build another new reservoir in his district at the current site of Springwood Ranch.

There's even talk about building reservoirs in the mid to lower basin. The water from these projects will be set aside for both fish and farmers.

“Designer flows,” climate change

On my tour, I would see stream after stream that used to run, but no longer do.

While the scientific literature around this type of work, referred to as “designer” or “managed” flows, is dense, the idea behind it is pretty straightforward: through the selective release of water from dams and reservoirs, artificial or “designer” flows can be created that mimic natural flows.

Under future climate change, being able to recreate something like a natural flow could be a game-changer. That's because as snowpack disappears, it's not just the amount of water that's lost that's important, it's also the timing of the runoff.



Growing issue: As snow pack dwindles, getting crops the water they need becomes more politically tricky. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

In the future, peak flows—when water levels are at their highest—are predicted to come earlier in the year.

For instance, by the end of this century, peak flows on the mainstem of the Yakima River near Kiona, Wash., could come as early as February, according to research from the University of California, Merced.

Historically, peak flows for that site have come in May. This system out of sync could spell disaster for growing crops and migrating fish.

“Dams, although historically viewed as being bad in terms of their negative ecological implications, might actually provide us an important tool to adapt to these changing flow conditions,” says Julian Olden, a professor of fisheries sciences at the University of Washington, who studies designer flows.

While Olden isn’t involved in YIP and chose not to comment on any work being done in the Yakima Basin, he says designer flows are being investigated for their ability to restore ecosystem functions, including fish migrations as the climate changes.

“There’s been this growing realization that looking to the future, maintaining or restoring natural flow regimes in river systems is becoming increasingly more difficult,” says Olden.

But scientists investigating designer flows have also examined ways to balance natural ecosystem processes with human needs.

In some cases, says Olden, research suggests that returning to a completely natural hydrology might not deliver the most benefits for either humans or ecosystems.

This has made designer flows controversial, putting them “under intense scrutiny,” according to Olden.

However, though counterintuitive, the idea that natural could no longer be best is finding some unexpected adherents.

Environmentalists get on board

The hydrology of the Yakima Basin is far from natural.

Although the streams Eberhart showed me most likely would have been dry this year due to a late start to the fall rains, many of them were dry in years past because water was diverted away from them.

But being in an unnatural system, one that's under human control, might actually be an advantage in the future.



Power of compromise: Scott Revell of central Washington's Roza Irrigation District says irrigators' "street cred" with the Yakama Nation and other fish advocates "went through the roof" when they agreed to divert upper Yakima Basin water for fish management during the drought of 2015. *Photo: Nathan Gilles*

"In a heavily developed and altered system like the Yakima Basin is—where returning to a pre-engineered natural system is not going to happen—it makes sense to take advantage of dams' ability to change flows to try to get back to something like a natural flow," says Michael Garrity, Energy, Water and Major Projects division manager for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

An environmental lawyer by training, Garrity previously worked for American Rivers, an environmental nonprofit. Working for American Rivers, Garrity became involved with YIP.

In the beginning, Garrity says, he was skeptical that dams and reservoirs could be used to help fish.

He was also torn because expanding Bumping Lake reservoir would mean flooding forests to save salmon. Ultimately, he says, he was won over by arguments about lost snowpack, promises to build fish passages and YIP's collaborative process.

“It was really something for American Rivers to be seriously entertaining the possibility of new surface storage,” says Garrity. “I was convinced, and I convinced the American Rivers folks in Washington D.C. that it made sense to be at the table and ultimately that the package that was negotiated [through YIP] made sense.”

MORE: [Should dams be used as giant batteries?](#)

Lisa Pelly, director of the Washington Water Project for the fishing and environmental advocacy group Trout Unlimited, has also been heavily involved in YIP. She and Trout Unlimited came to support more reservoir storage as a way to help the basin’s salmon, though she too was initially skeptical.

“We [Trout Unlimited] didn’t exactly walk into the process saying, ‘let’s build two big dams [Wymer and Bumping],’” says Pelly.

Pelly says snowpack predictions and talking with YIP participants, including irrigators, led her and her organization to determine that building more storage in the Yakima Basin made sense.

However, she stresses, what works for the Yakima Basin might not work somewhere else.

“Depending on the scenario, [Trout Unlimited] would support new storage where appropriate and, where appropriate, let’s get these dams out of there and allow these rivers to run like they should,” she says.

Mixed forecast

As Eberhart and I leave Cle Elum Lake and drive back to the KRD offices in Ellensburg, I’m feeling both impressed and somewhat hopeful for the future.

I’m impressed by the human relationships and cooperation I’ve seen. I’m impressed that such a diverse group could learn to work together. And I’m impressed by the size and complexity of the human engineering, as well as the clever tweaks that are upgrading 20th-century infrastructure for the 21st.

And yet, I can’t help but think they’re missing something.



Ripple in still water: Cle Elum Lake looks placid. Big plans are afoot. *Photo: Kirsten Strough/BOR*

Large reservoirs can absorb a lot of heat.

But fish need cool waters not just flowing ones. This will have to be dealt with in a warmer world.

What's more, YIP seems largely based around losing mid-elevation snowpack in the future.

But what if the predictions are wrong? What if the basin also loses its high-elevation snowpack? And what if greenhouse gas emissions aren't cut back enough?

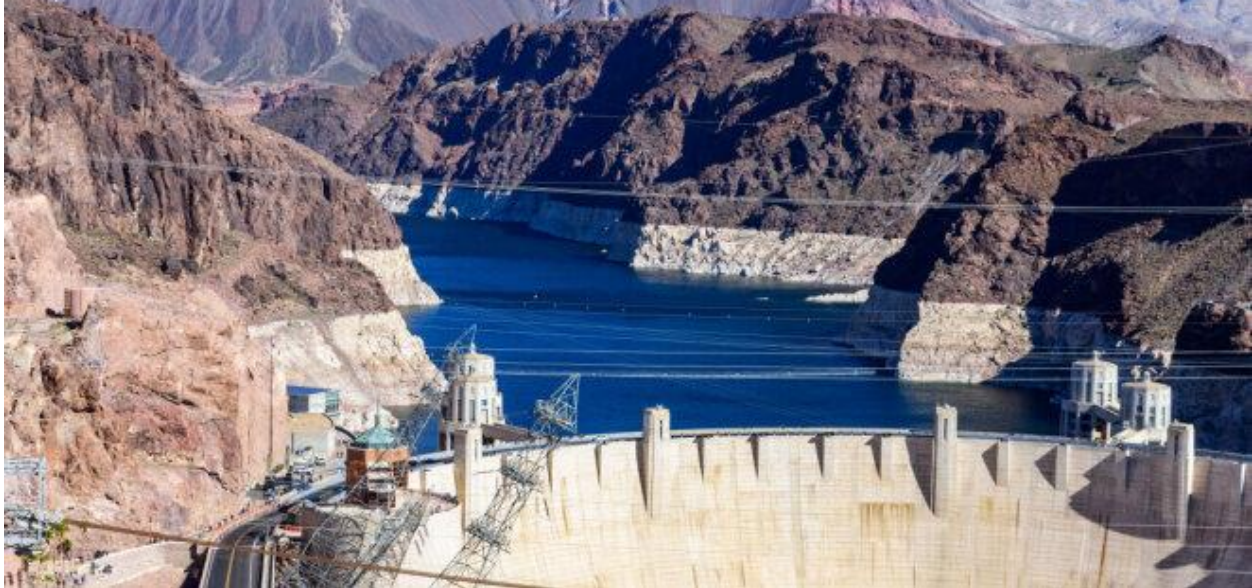
The basin's salmon might be able to live with short-term climate change, but living through thousands of years of climate change, as some predictions suggest could happen, seems highly unlikely.

I bring up my concerns with Eberhart.

He responds with a somewhat defensive answer that includes multiple engineering solutions that might help and the importance of "working together" and "not fighting all the time." Then he stops, laughs and reconsiders what to say.

"Failure is not an option," says Eberhart.

Nathan Gilles is a freelance science writer based in Vancouver, Washington.



So Cal water supplier declares regional drought emergency

California Water News Daily December 21, 2022

Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors declared a Regional Drought Emergency for all of Southern California last week and called upon water agencies to immediately reduce their use of all imported supplies.

In adopting the resolution on Tuesday (Dec. 13), Metropolitan's board warned the water-saving call could become mandatory if drought conditions persist in the coming months. By April, Metropolitan will consider allocating supplies to all its 26 member agencies, requiring them to cut their use of imported water or face steep additional fees on water purchased from Metropolitan.

"Since this drought began, we have been steadily increasing our call for conservation. If we don't have an extremely wet winter, we will need to elevate to our highest level – a water supply allocation for all of Southern California. Substantial and immediate conservation now and in the coming months will help lessen the potential severity of such an allocation," Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil said.

Both voluntary and mandatory conservation measures will be implemented by Metropolitan's member agencies at the local level, based on their particular water-supply circumstances. Agencies with available local supplies may be able to rely on that water to replace necessary reductions in imported water use.

Metropolitan on average imports about half of the water used in Southern California from the Colorado River and from the northern Sierra, via the State Water Project. Use varies by community, with some relying almost entirely on imported water, and others using very little. In recent years, these imported supplies have been extraordinarily stressed by prolonged drought, exacerbated by climate change.

The past three water years were the driest in California history, resulting in record-low SWP deliveries to Southern California. The limited availability of these water supplies has been particularly felt by communities that depend on them and cannot receive Colorado River water, because of infrastructure constraints.

While the rest of Southern California has largely been able to turn to Colorado River supplies and stored water to survive the state drought, Hagekhalil acknowledged the availability of those supplies is dropping.

The long-term drought in the Colorado River Basin has left lakes Mead and Powell dangerously close to levels that would no longer allow water to be released for use by cities and farms. In response, the federal government has called on Colorado River water users to curtail their use in 2023 and 2024 by as much as 4 million acre-feet a year – the total amount used by California in a year. And if voluntary cuts cannot be achieved, federal officials have initiated a process to mandate sizeable reductions.

Metropolitan is preparing for additional reductions to its Colorado River supplies as soon as next year and beyond. These reductions would be in addition to water Metropolitan will likely have to contribute to keep levels in Lake Mead higher in 2024-26, as previously agreed under the 2021 Drought Contingency Plan.

“Conditions on the Colorado River are growing increasingly dire. We simply cannot continue turning to that source to make up the difference in our limited state supplies. In addition, three years of California drought are drawing down our local storage,” board Chairwoman Gloria D. Gray said.

While taking steps to reduce demands in the immediate-term, Metropolitan is also making big investments in sustainable, climate change-resilient local supplies for the entire region. The agency is developing what could be one of the largest recycled water facilities in the world – Pure Water Southern California. Still, until these projects are complete, conservation is critical during dry periods like now.

“Some Southern Californians may have felt somewhat protected from these extreme conditions over the past few years,” Gray said. “They shouldn’t anymore. We are all affected.”



New state program will pay to keep groundwater in the ground

DECEMBER 16, 2022

• by Jesse Vad, SJV Water



A tractor discs land near a wildlife area. SOURCE: Department of Water Resources

The state will likely soon be offering up more cash to farmers who take their crops out of production. The state Department of Water Resources' (DWR) new LandFlex program will pay out \$25 million to local agencies and ultimately, as an incentive to farmers.

This is different from the Multibenefit Land Repurposing program overseen by the state's Conservation Department.

The [LandFlex](#) program's main goal is to relieve at-risk domestic wells from surrounding groundwater pumping.

Farmers in the San Joaquin Valley have relied more heavily on groundwater as surface water supplies from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta have dwindled for environmental needs and after multiple years of prolonged drought. As a result, aquifer levels plummeted causing shallow domestic and community wells to go dry throughout the San Joaquin Valley. This year alone more than 1,000 wells went dry in the valley.

DWR has multiple drought programs and funding opportunities. But there was still a "gap," said Kristopher Tjernell, deputy director of Integrated Watershed Management at DWR.

"And that gap was really looking at how can we address the demand conflicts between basically groundwater dependent agriculture that's near these vulnerable wells, and the wells themselves," said Tjernell. "That's the breach we're jumping into with this program."

Grants from LandFlex will go to groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA,) local agencies in charge of bringing groundwater to sustainable levels by 2040, in accordance with the state's groundwater law.

To qualify, agencies must be in a critically overdrafted subbasin, have already instituted limits on groundwater pumping for growers and must have a high density of at-risk domestic wells.

Tjernell anticipates that the \$25 million will be spread between two or three GSAs, meaning each agency will likely receive \$7-\$10 million. Tjernell estimated the program will help protect about 100 domestic wells.

The program will pay \$450 for every acre foot of water kept in the ground through water year 2023. Most subbasins that have pumping limits in place are ramping those limits down over time. That means farmers are still overdrafting a certain amount. For those overdrafted amounts, the program will pay \$750 per acre foot permanently eliminated.

The program will also pay an acreage fee to help transition fallowed land to less water intensive uses. Amounts vary based on crop:

- \$250 per acre for row crops
- \$2,000 per acre for dairy feed crops
- \$2,800 per acre for orchards and vineyards

Water savings will be calculated using satellite evapotranspiration technology which can measure water usage by seeing how much water is output by plants.

“We’re definitely interested in the program,” said Stephanie Anagnoson, director of water and natural resources for Madera County. “It’s exciting that there’s money for people who have done the hard work of developing (pumping) allocations with penalties.”

The Madera County GSA, which Anagnoson oversees, covers land in that subbasin that is outside of water district boundaries. Growers in those areas rely almost exclusively on groundwater.

She said her staff will have to take a closer look at the LandFlex rules and that a few things will need to be hammered out first.

For one thing, a Dec. 6 [temporary injunction](#) has halted collection of a County GSA groundwater fee. Until that issue is resolved, the GSA does not have funding for any projects. Because the LandFlex program is reimbursement based, the injunction means the CountyGSA probably wouldn’t be able to participate yet.

Still, Anagnoson was happy about the program. Others echoed her enthusiasm.

“We’re pretty excited about this LandFlex opportunity,” said Mark Larsen, general manager of the Greater Kaweah GSA in Kings and Tulare counties. “We definitely are applying.”

The state’s other land fallowing program, the Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program, has proved very popular, receiving far more applications than its \$90 million in funding could

sustain. So far, that program has doled out \$10 million grants to several agencies, including Madera County and Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District.

That will “help move the needle,” said Larsen. But it will only go so far, he added. This new program adds another layer of much needed funding, which will hopefully help to get significant fallowing underway, said Larsen.

The LandFlex program is currently in the public comment period which closes on December 29. There is a workshop for eligible applicants on January 19 and awards will be announced in late February.

Ventura water lawsuit mediation continues; trial set for March 30

- Perry Van Houten
- December 9, 2022

Major parties in the Ventura River Watershed Adjudication lawsuit say they plan to meet again next week with a mediator in the 8-year-old case.

In a joint report filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court on Nov. 29, parties said mediator David Ceppos of California State University Sacramento “has continued to conduct a structured mediation in this case ... to work toward a comprehensive settlement.”

On Nov. 15-16, Ceppos held a two-day mediation session, the first day consisting of a full-day session attended by the initial mediation parties — representatives and elected officials from the city of Ventura, the city of Ojai, Casitas Municipal Water District and the East End Group.

A full mediation was also conducted the second day, with representatives from the initial mediation parties, plus representatives and elected officials from the Ventura River Water District, Meiners Oaks Water District, the Wood-Claeysens Foundation, Rancho Matilija Mutual Water Company and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, the report stated.

In addition to the two days of mediation, Ceppos held meetings or corresponded with the parties to get them ready for the mediation sessions, the report added.

Another mediation session is planned the week of Dec. 12, the report stated, and parties will meet regularly after that session according to a schedule set up by Ceppos, who may include other parties in the discussions.

Meanwhile, the next case management hearing in the lawsuit has been continued to January.

The hearing, called a “status conference,” had been set for Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 10:30 a.m., but due to a joint request by the major parties and a trial underway in Spring Street Courtroom 10, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge William F. Highberger announced on Nov. 30 that he was continuing the hearing.

A new date for the further status conference has been set for Monday, Jan. 30, at 10:30 a.m.

On March 29, Highberger granted a six-month stay in the case so that structured settlement talks with Ceppos could continue.

The judge granted a further six-month stay during a Sept. 28 status conference, at which Jeremy Jungreis, an attorney representing CMWD, said that Ceppos was “keeping things on track.”

The extended stay sets the first day of a potential trial for Thursday, March 30.