

Issues & Insights

Ventura County's
supply of water news



Maximizing Supply: Imported Water at UWCD

UWCD imports an annual allocation from the State Water Project (SWP), also called Table A water. This water enhances the recharge of local groundwater basins beyond what is naturally available within the Santa Clara River watershed.

The District works closely with regional partners to optimize and strategically exchange supplies for the benefit of all of Ventura County. UWCD maximizes Article 21 water, a surplus supply, when available.



AT A GLANCE



Imported **44,385 acre-feet** of
SWP water since 2016



Up to **10,000 acre-feet
per year** of water to be
moved through the State
Water Interconnection
Pipeline



Up to **30,000 acre-feet per
year** delivered to Freeman
Diversion



ARTICLE 21 WATER

Sometimes called "wet weather water," Article 21 water can

increase UWCD's ability to replenish local aquifers. The District obtains the water when available at an acceptable cost, recharging the basins along the Santa Clara River or diverting it to Saticoy and El Rio recharge facilities. Diverted SWP water can be delivered to the Pumping Trough Pipeline and Pleasant Valley Pipeline for irrigation purposes, instead of groundwater extraction from the overdrafted Oxnard and Pleasant Valley basins.



STATE WATER INTERCONNECTION PIPELINE: The Power of Regional Collaboration

In 1971, the City of Ventura received a 10,000-acre-foot entitlement to SWP water. However, it has yet to be able to use this water as it lacks conveyance facilities. UWCD is partnering with the City and Calleguas Municipal Water District (MWD) to build an interconnection pipeline that will bring SWP allocations to western Ventura County.

The \$50 million project is anticipated to be supported by \$2.5 million from the Department of Water Resources Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Proposition 1 Round 2 grant program and \$2.84 million from an EPA Community Grant. Additional funding includes a water transfer partnership between the City of Ventura and San Geronimo Pass Water Agency.

The State Water Interconnection Pipeline will move up to 20,000 acre-feet of water per year through the Calleguas MWD system. The project will include two turnouts for UWCD, which will use the additional supply to enhance the groundwater basins within its boundaries. The project zone spans the cities of Camarillo, Oxnard and Ventura. A connection to the Saticoy Water Conditioning Facility will enable recycled water blending, strengthening the region's water resiliency. The project is expected to be completed in 2026.

State Water Interconnection Pipeline Benefits



- Enables imports of surplus SWP Water and turn back water
- Emergency supply for Calleguas MWD customers for long-term outages
- Provides an emergency connection
- Option for direct deliveries to enhance groundwater recharge

New Video Spotlights Water Resilience Efforts at Freeman Diversion



UWCD highlights the groundbreaking expansion of the Freeman Diversion and all the work the District is doing to advance regional sustainability in our latest video, available at <https://www.unitedwater.org/freeman-diversion/>

The Freeman Diversion collects Santa Clara River flows and uses them to enhance groundwater resources throughout Ventura County. It collects an average of 60,000 acre-feet of water annually, but last year it collected a record 148,000 acre-feet — enough to supply nearly 300,000 homes.

The expansion will increase groundwater recharge and water deliveries by up to 10,000 acre-feet per year, improve local groundwater quality, and improve the existing fish ladder design.

Thank You to Our Water Agreement Partners:

Strong regional collaboration ensures water resilience throughout Ventura County.



PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT
A CENTURY OF SERVICE



SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

UWCD welcomes opportunities to connect with the



community and discuss water supply, groundwater resources and current threats to our system. If you would like to book a presentation from one of our staff, please contact:

**Murray McEachron Email: murraym@unitedwater.org
Principal Hydrologist Phone: (805) 695-3716**



GLOSSARY

Article 21 Water – Surplus SWP water that is offered when available. Sometimes called “wet weather water,” Article 21 water requires ample water in the system, more precipitation in the forecast, and pumping capacity. This water does not impact Table A allocations.

Pumping Trough Pipeline – An agricultural irrigation pipeline. The joint project by UWCD, the County of Ventura and the Fox County Groundwater Management Agency reduces pumping in the over-drafted upper aquifer system. Currently, UWCD is working to distribute recycled water through the pipeline.

Recycled Water – Water recycling reclaims water from various sources and treats it for agriculture and irrigation, potable water supplies, groundwater replenishment, industrial processes, and environmental restoration. This enhances water security.

State Water Project – California’s primary water distribution system. The SWP delivers water to 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of agricultural land to sustain the fifth-largest economy in the world.

Table A Water – The maximum water allocation each SWP contractor can receive yearly, excluding ‘interruptible’ deliveries such as Article 21 water.

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