

AGENDA AMENDED
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.
UWCD Headquarters, First Floor, Board Room
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

ROLL CALL

1. Public Comment
Information Item

The public may comment on any matter not on the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Committee. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit.

2. Approval of Minutes
Motion

Approve the minutes from the May 6, 2025, Water Resources Committee meeting.

3. Update on United's Proposed Revisions to the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) Allocation Ordinance and Stakeholder Comments Received (Chris Coppinger)
Information Item

Staff will present a summary of the key aspects of United's proposed draft revisions to the OPV Allocation Ordinance. Staff will provide a summary update on comments received from stakeholders to date, highlighting common themes in the comments.

4. Update on Water Supply Trends within United Water Conservation District
(Dr. Bram Sercu)
Information Item

Staff will present a summary of recent water supply projects and forecasts for water supply within the District's service area.

5. Water Resources Department and GSA Activities Update (John Lindquist)
Information Item

Staff will be available to respond to comments on the most recent Water Resources Department staff report.

6. Future Agenda Items

The Committee will suggest topics or issues for discussion at future meetings.

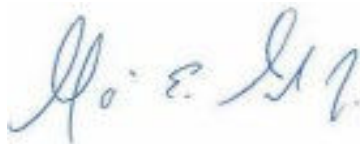
ADJOURNMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participating 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 material in an alternative format, please contact the District's offices at (805) 525-4431. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.

Water Resources Committee Agenda **AMENDED**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

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Approved: _____

Mauricio Guardado, General Manager



Dr. Maryam Bral, Assistant General Manager

This AMENDED agenda was posted Friday, May 30, 2025, at 9:50 a.m. at the United Water Conservation District Headquarters, Oxnard, CA and www.unitedwater.org.



Vanessa Vasquez, Clerk of the Committee

**MINUTES
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.
UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Boardroom, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030**

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Committee Members Roll Call

Present: Directors Hasan, Huber, and Kimball (Chair)

Absent: None.

1. **Public Comments:** None.

2. **Approval of Minutes
Motion**

Action: M/S/C (Hasan, Huber) to approve the March 4, 2025, minutes.

Vote: Ayes: Huber, Kimball and Hasan; Noes: None; Absent: None.

3. **Update on Pumping Trends in Groundwater Basins within United Water Conservation District
Information Item**

Water Resources Supervisor John Lindquist presented a summary of long-term trends of groundwater extractions in the groundwater basins within the District's service area, considering the effects of alternating wet and dry periods, through calendar year 2023 (presentation attached).

4. **Summary of United's Proposed Revisions to the OPV Allocation Ordinance
Information Item**

Water Resources Supervisor John Lindquist presented a summary of the key aspects of United's proposed draft revisions to the OPV Allocation Ordinance, highlighting notable differences from, and similarities to, the FCGMA's existing ordinance (presentation attached).

Public comments were received from: Sam Collie, Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Coalition (OPV); Greg Lewis, Duda Farm Fresh Foods; Jared Bouchard, Pleasant Valley County Water District; Jurgen Gramckow, Southland Sod Farms; Alden Broome, Broome Management.



General Manager Mauricio Guardado requested that stakeholders forward their remarks to him to be brought forward as a future agenda item.

The Committee members agreed that United Water Conservation District should take the lead in discussions regarding the OPV Allocation Ordinance specifically regarding in lieu supplies and District project completion as potential water supply alternatives.

5. Water Resources Department and GSA Activities Update

Information Item

Water Resources Supervisor John Lindquist discussed Water Resources Department activities and responded to comments on the most recent Water Resources Department staff report; no presentation given.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


Chair Kimball asked staff and management to further discuss the OPV Allocation Ordinance and provide an update at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.


I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Water Resources Committee Meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

ATTEST: _____
Gordon Kimball, Chair

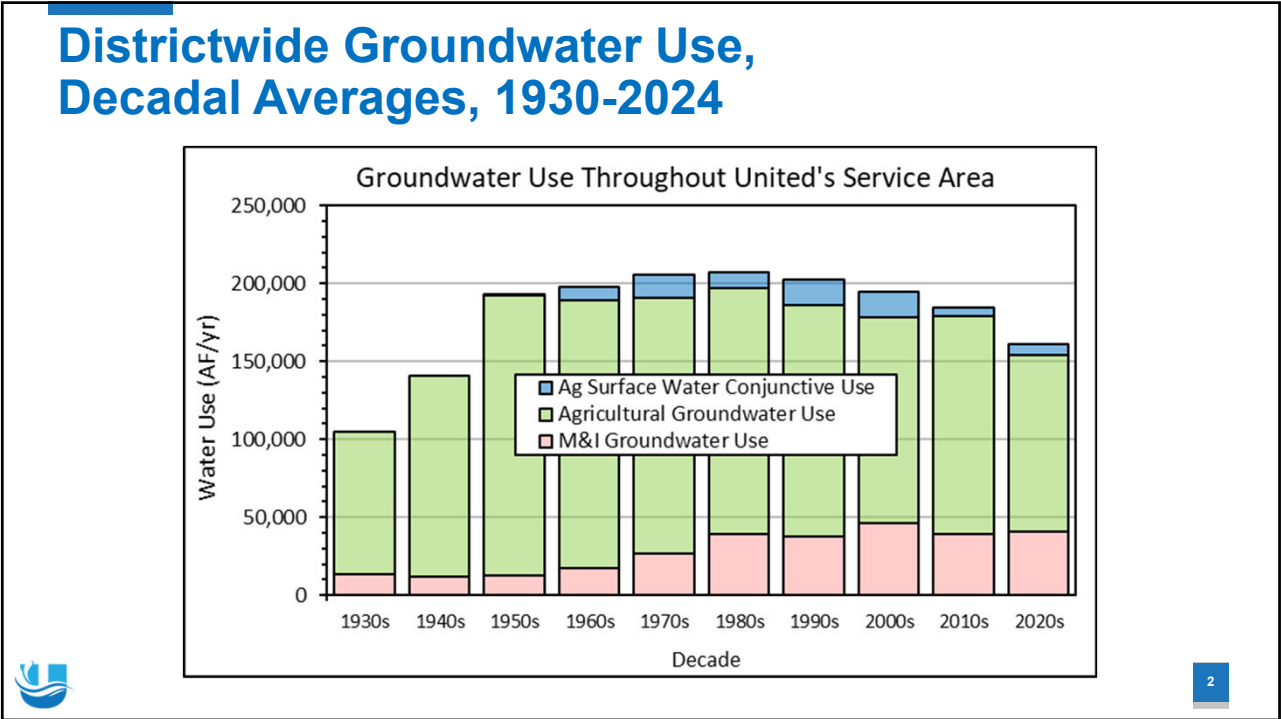


3. UPDATE ON PUMPING TRENDS IN GROUNDWATER BASINS WITHIN UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Presented by: John Lindquist, Water Resources Supervisor
Water Resources Committee Meeting
May 6, 2025

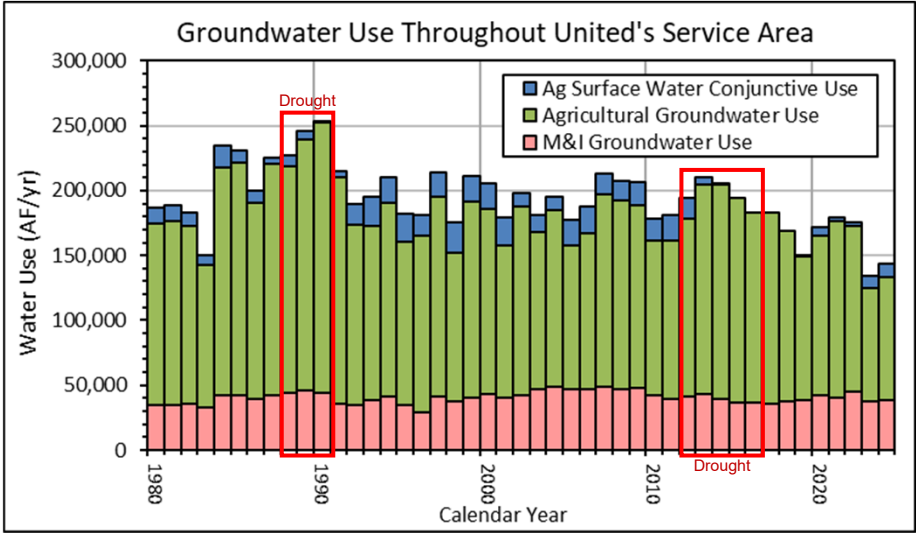


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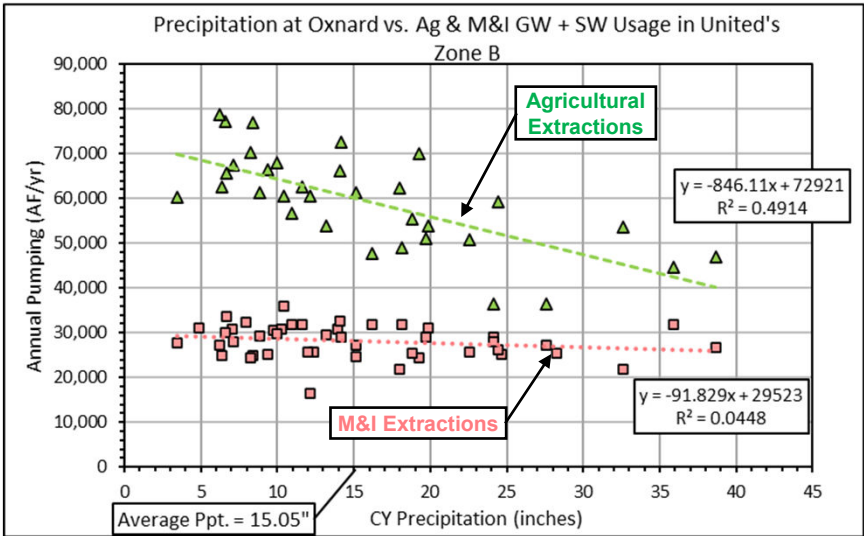


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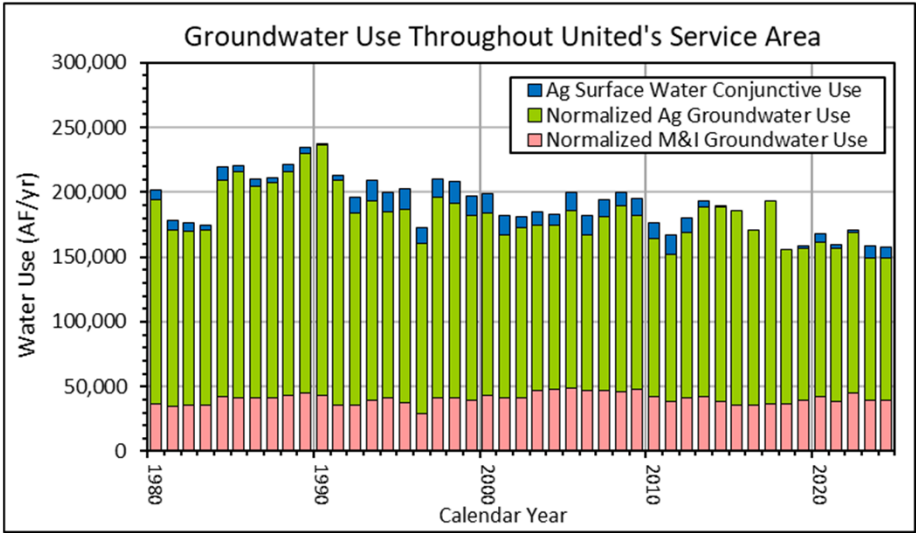
Districtwide Groundwater Use, Calendar Years 1980-2024



Effect of Rainfall on Groundwater Extractions in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins

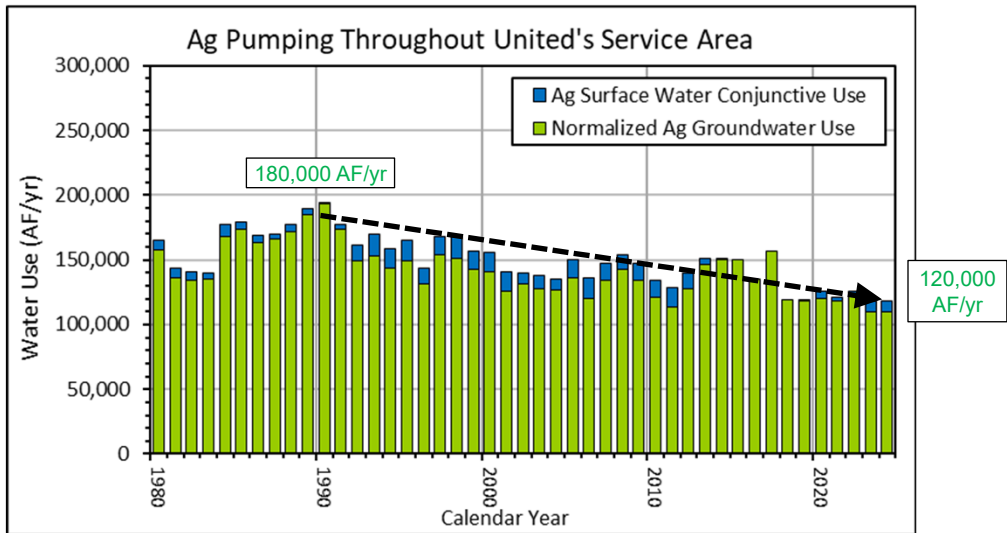


Districtwide Groundwater Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



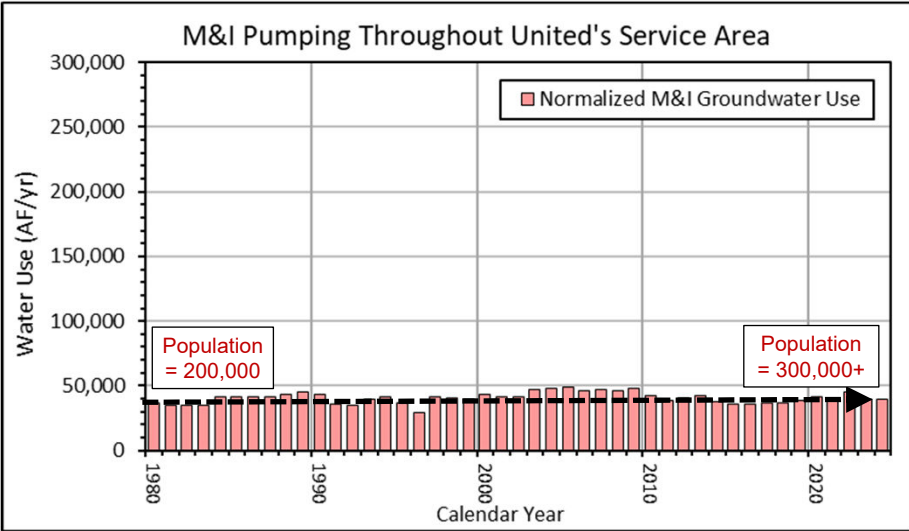
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Agricultural Pumping and Conjunctive Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



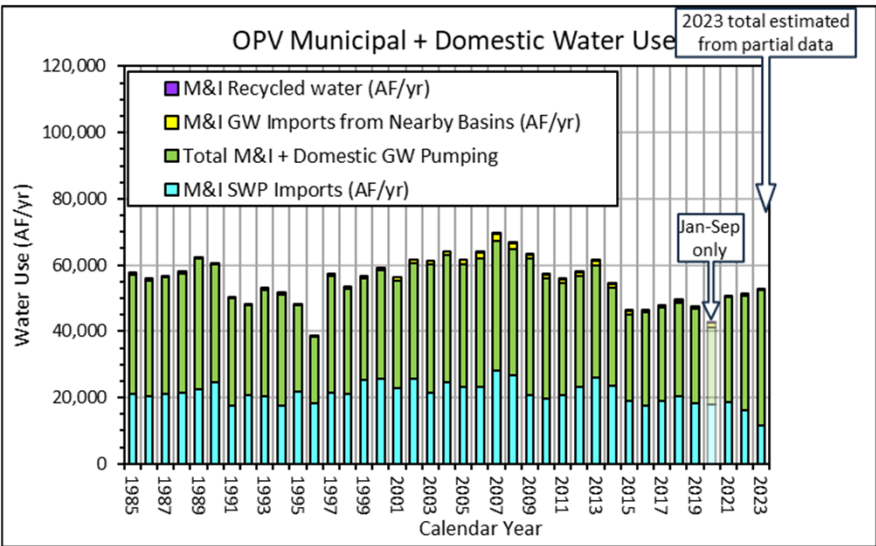
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Municipal and Industrial Pumping, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



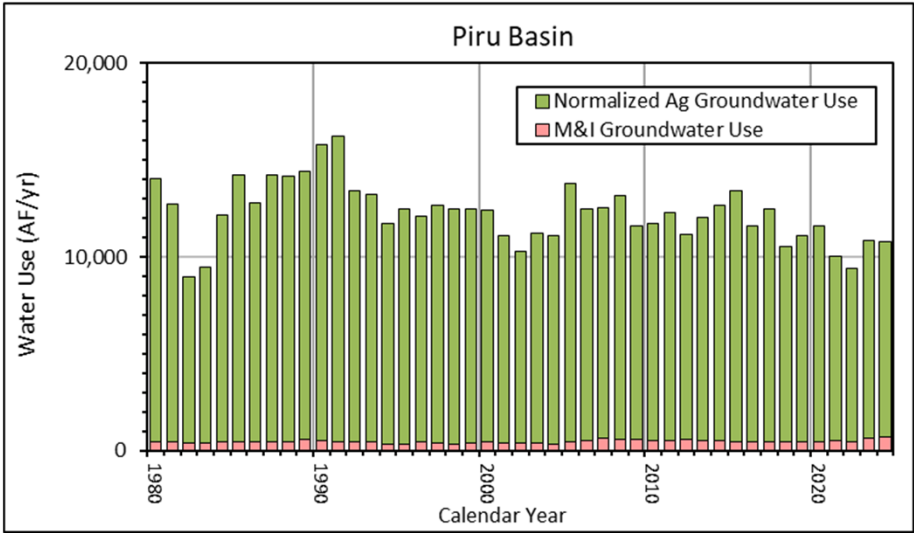
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Total M&I Water Use in OPV Basins, 1985-2023

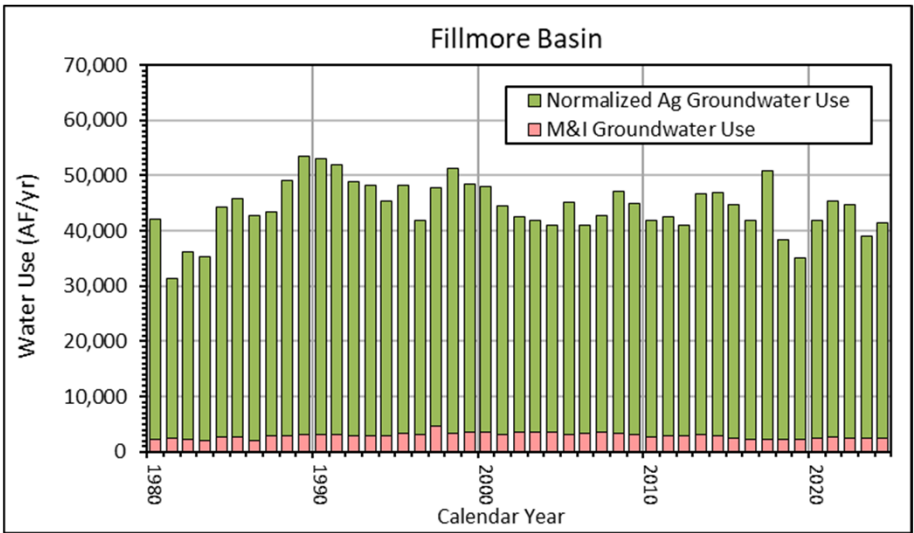


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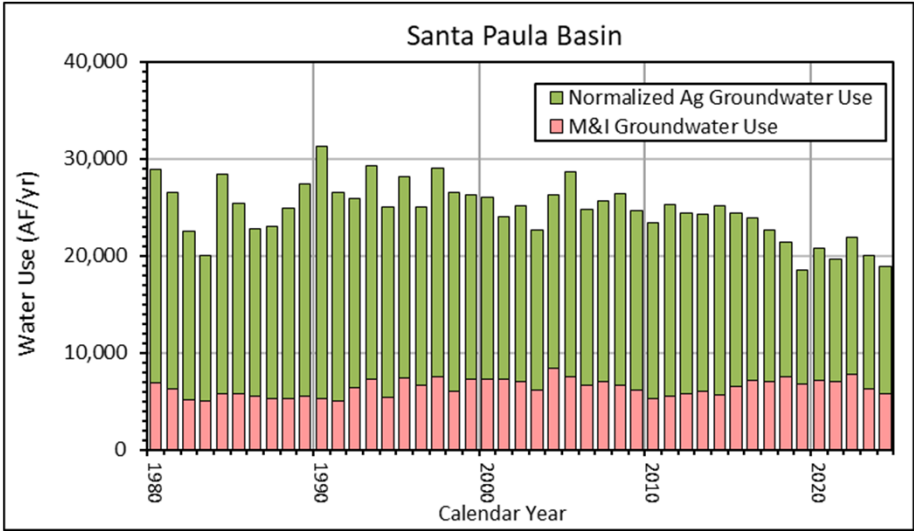
Piru Basin Groundwater Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



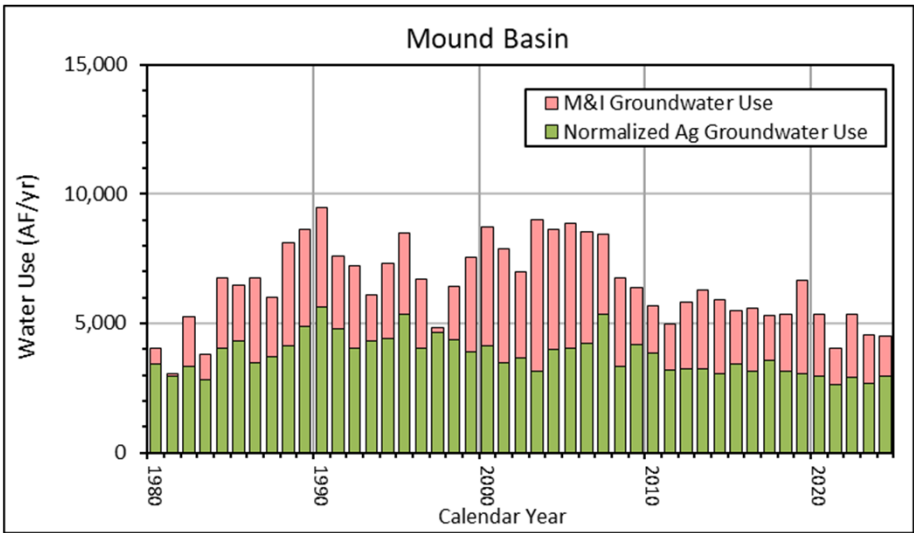
Fillmore Basin Groundwater Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



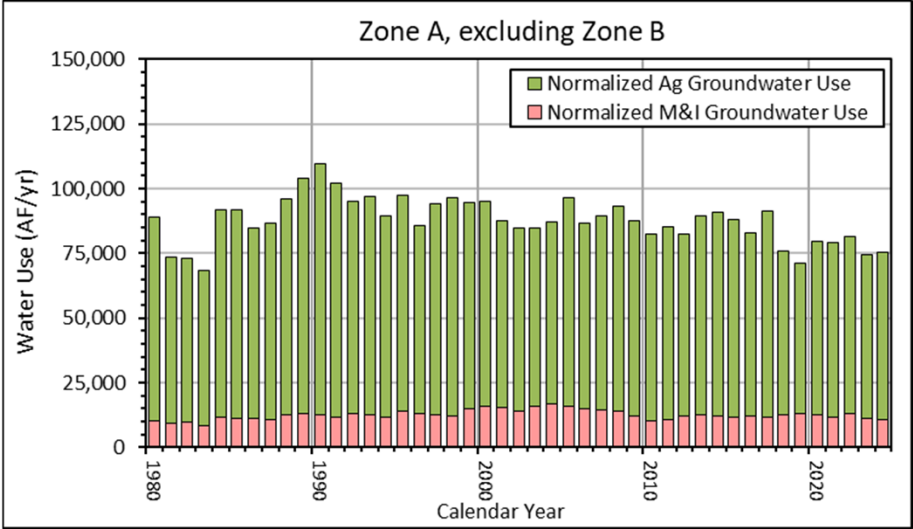
Santa Paula Basin Groundwater Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



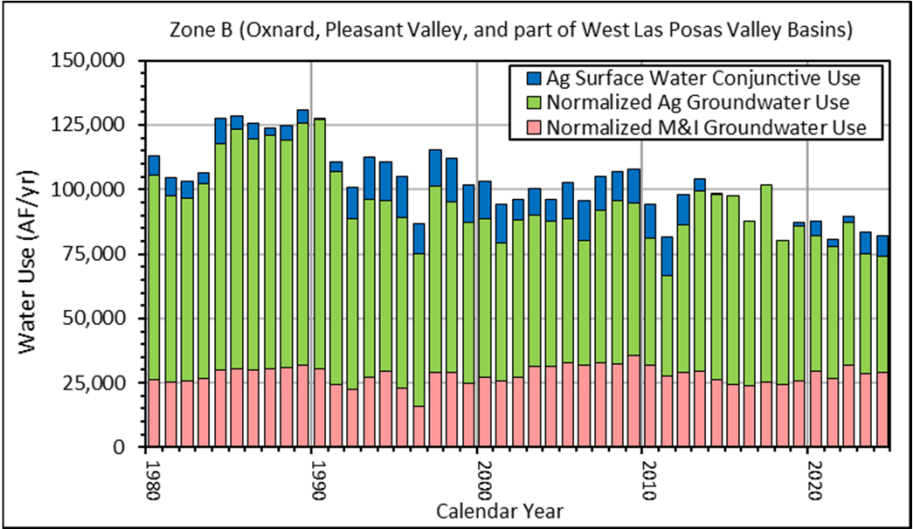
Mound Basin Groundwater Use Reported to United, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



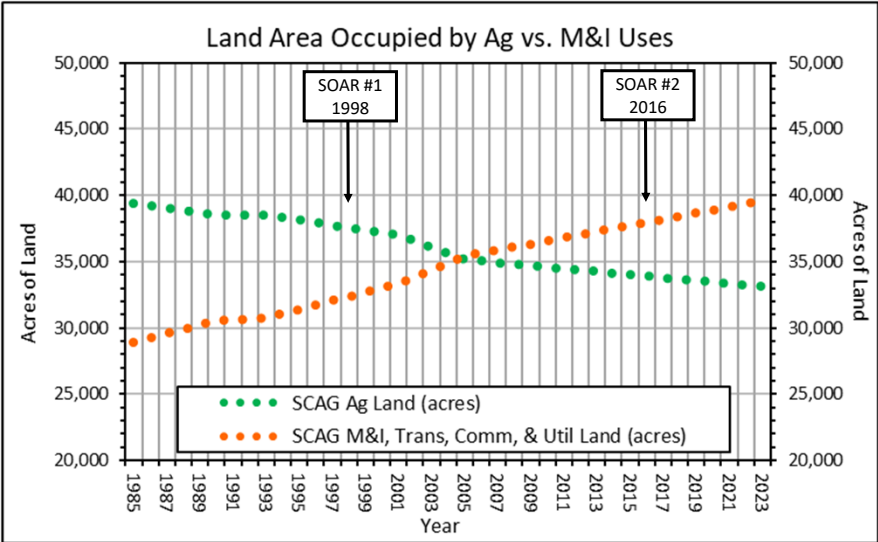
Zone A, excluding Zone B, Groundwater Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



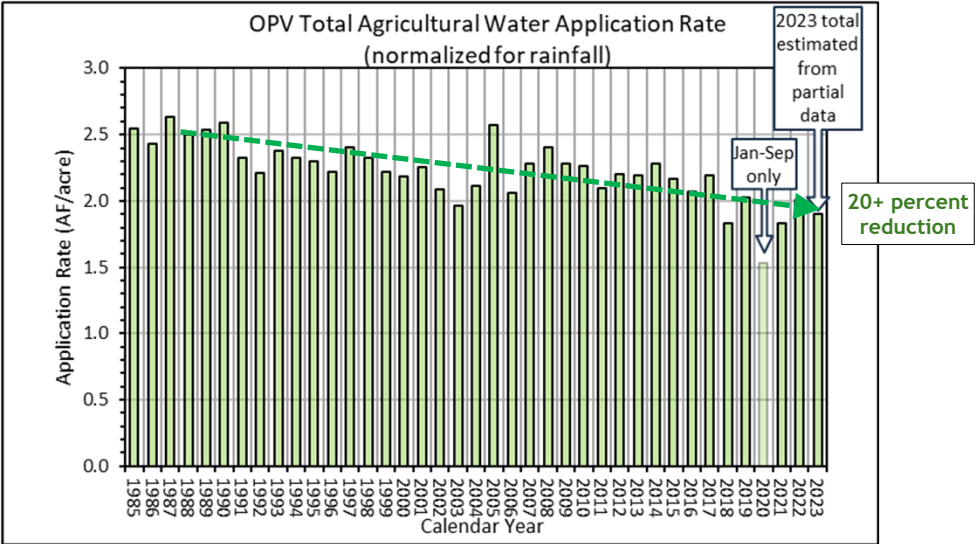
Zone B Groundwater Use, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



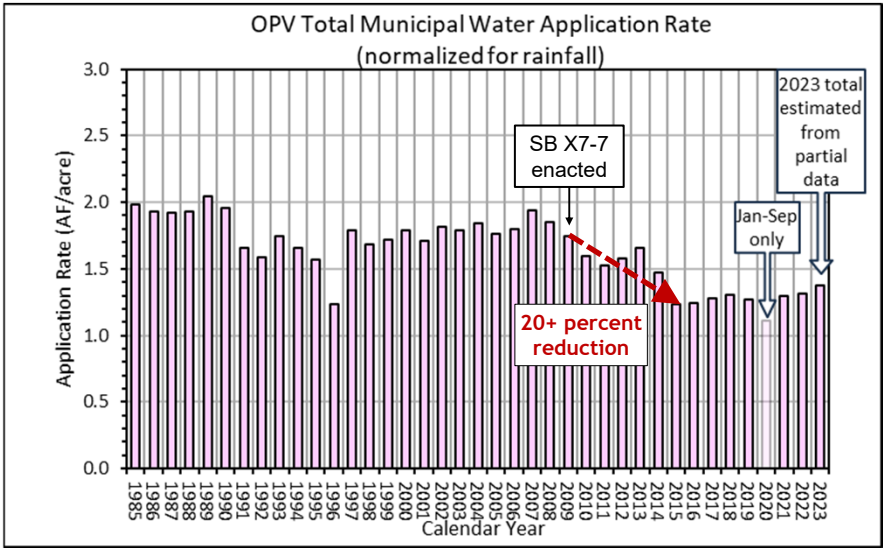
Change in Land Use in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins, 1985-2023



Change in Agricultural Application Rate in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins, 1985-2023



Change in M&I Application Rate in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins, 1985-2023

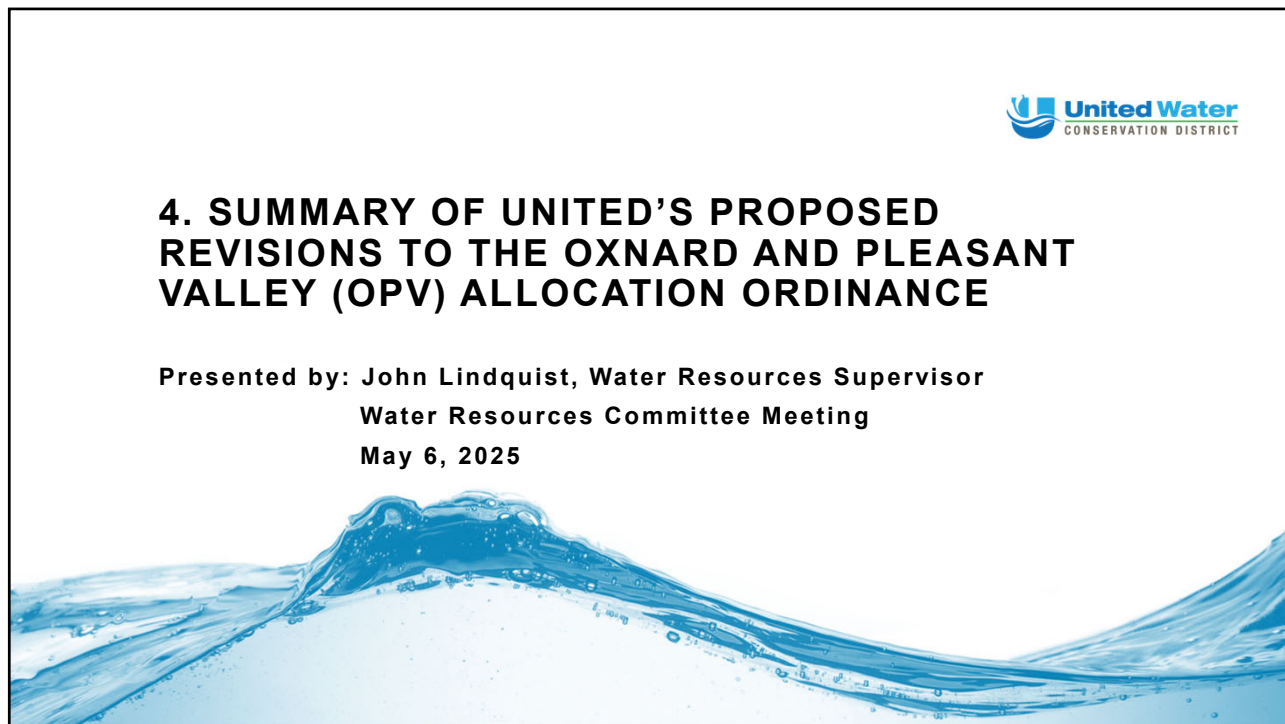


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Questions?



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Major Points of Contention in the Original OPV Allocation Ordinance

1. Rampdowns—timing, method, minimum allocations
2. Conjunctive use:
 - a. No “flex allocation” equivalent for M&I SWP imports
 - b. Farmers that relied on PTP and PVCWD felt they could be left without an allocation someday
3. Desire for more flexibility in allocations from wet to dry years and for water-supply emergencies

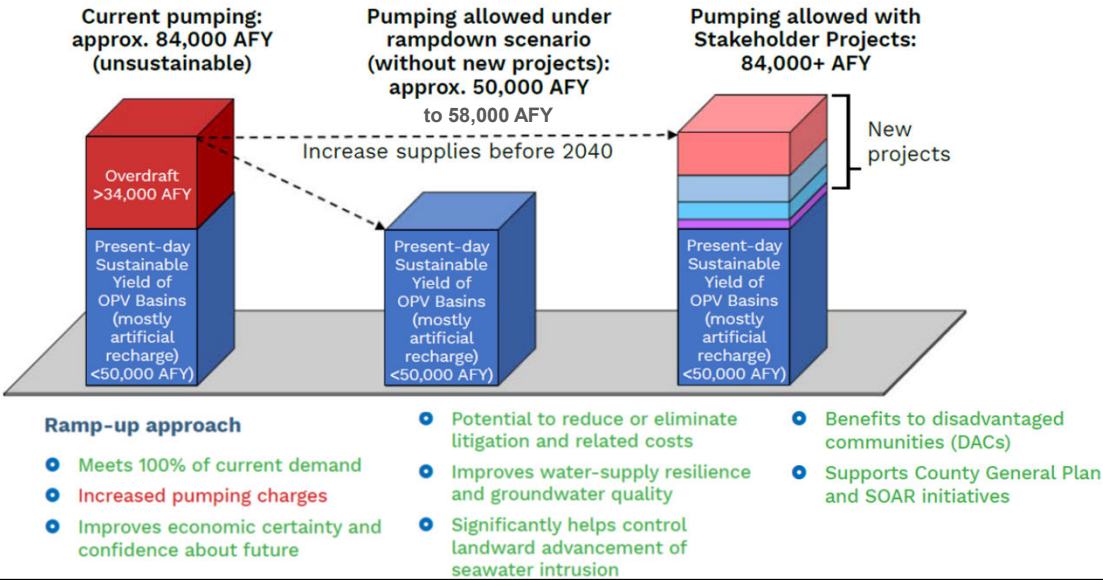
Plus: Concerns about sudden recent increases in CombCode use and potential effects of shifting pumping closer to the coast



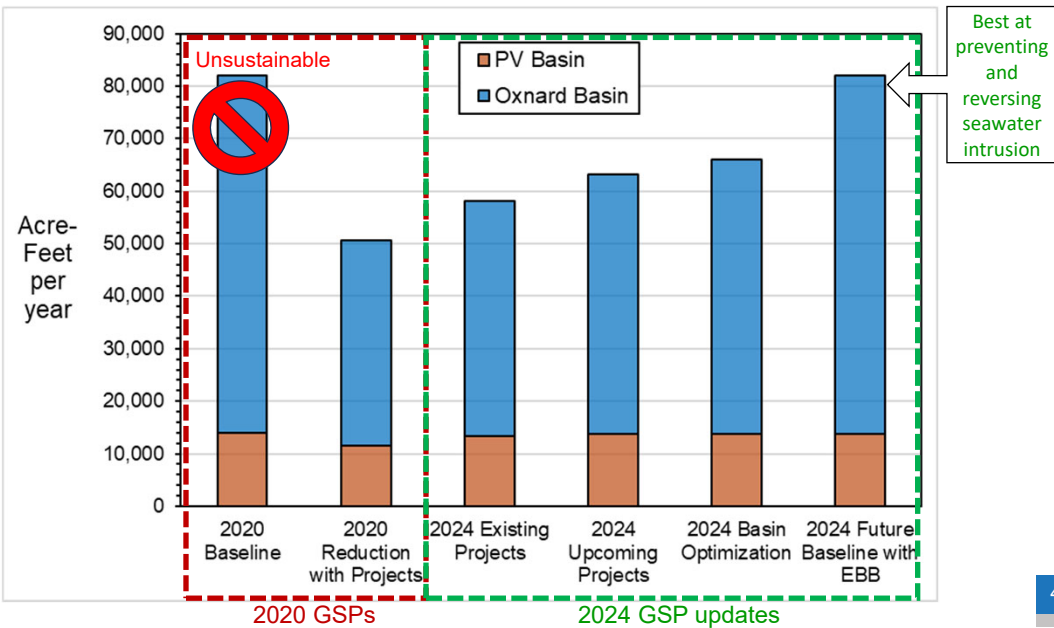
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1. The Benefits of “Ramping Up” vs. Ramping Down



Sustainable Yield in OPV Basins Under Modeled Scenarios



FCGMA's Conclusions for OPV Basins

- Conditions are significantly better today than in 2020
 - Wet years, projects already implemented, demand reduction
- Making progress toward sustainability
 - Uncertainty remains about timing and feasibility of new projects
- EBB project now seen as having significant positive potential
 - Will require new sustainability criteria; waiting for Phase 1 data
- *“...it is unclear what legal effect the adjudication action will have on FCGMA's continued ability to implement the GSP and sustainably manage...” the OPV Basins.*



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2. A Simpler, Universal Replacement for “Flex Allocations”

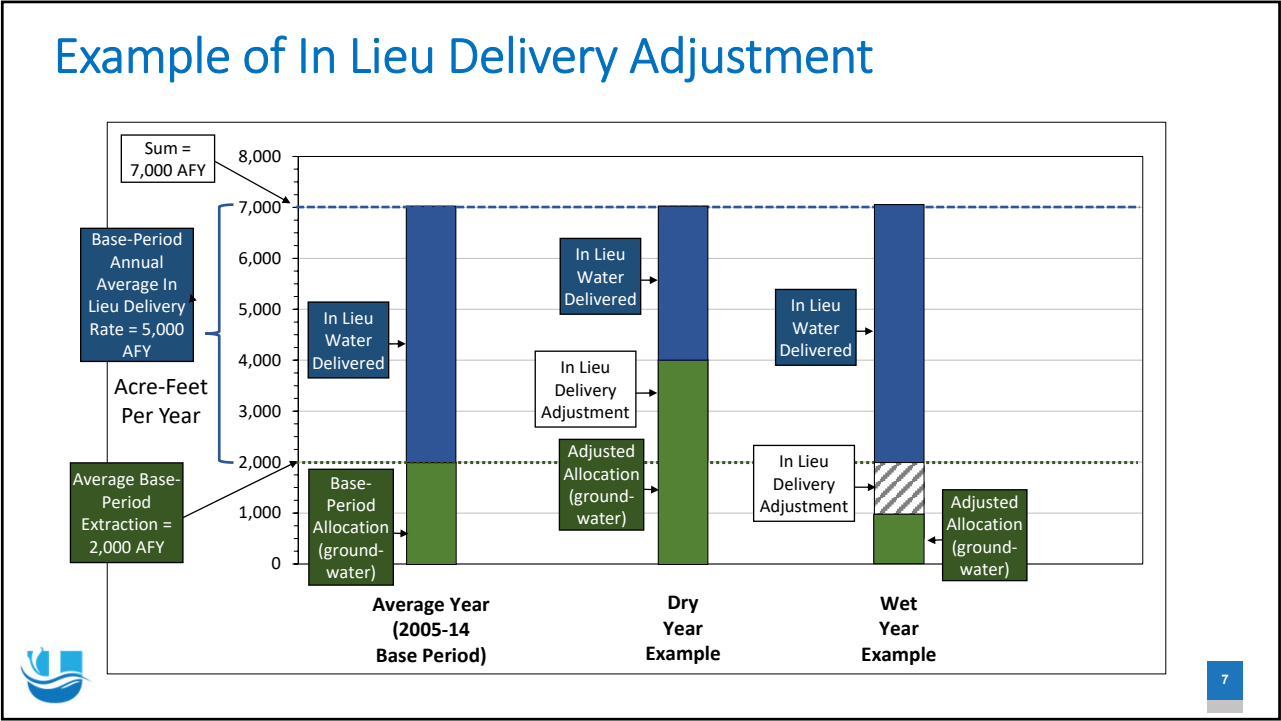
“One of the most effective management strategies in reducing overdraft is to supply water directly to overdrafted areas.

This in-lieu strategy has been very effective in the Upper Aquifer System, where Santa Clara River water delivered through the Pumping Trough Pipeline has helped to alleviate the pumping trough that has been present for several decades beneath the south Oxnard Plain.”

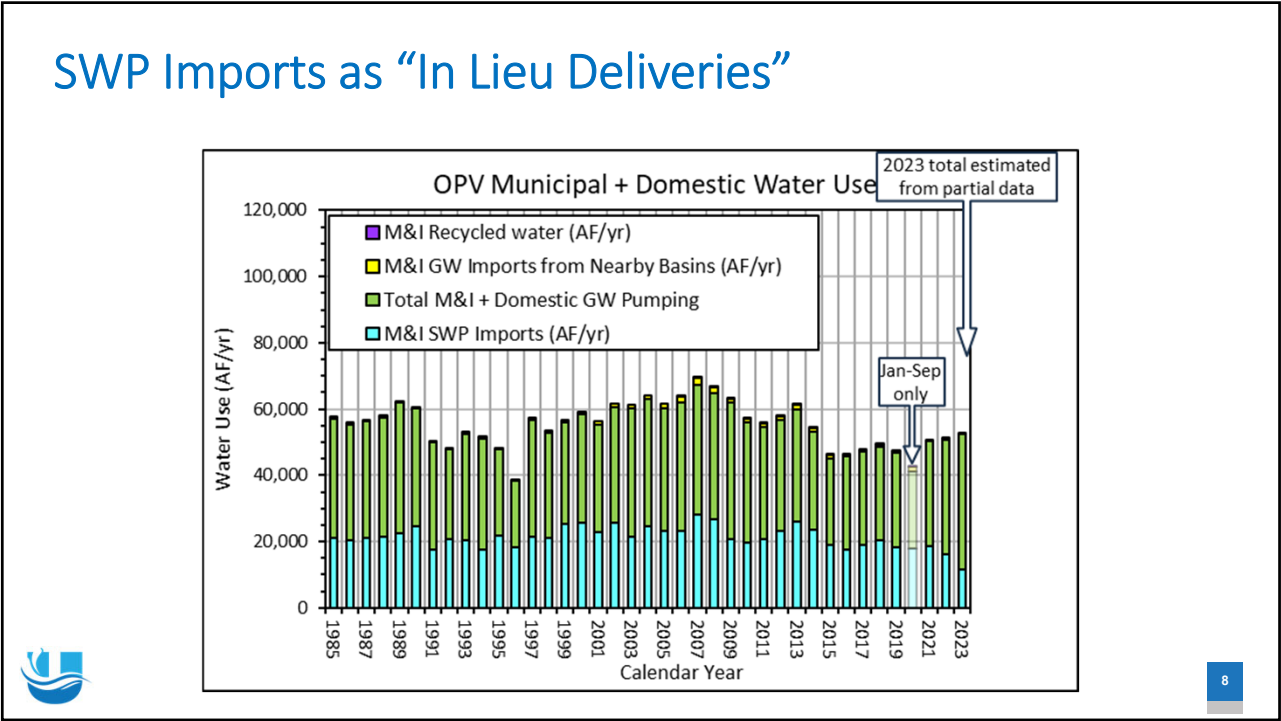
--FCGMA's 2007 Groundwater Management Plan Update



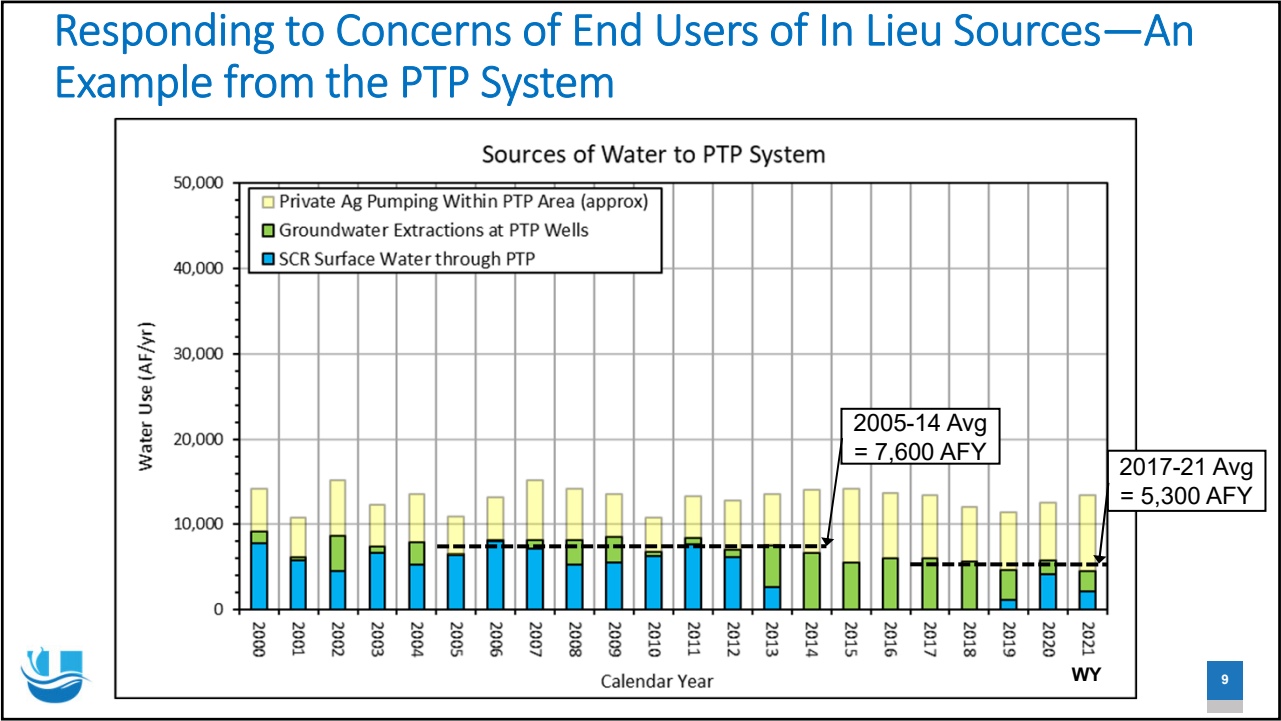
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- ### Proposed Solution:
- Simplified transfers from United and PVCWD to end users
 - FCGMA approval not required, just notification after the fact

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3. More Flexibility Needed to Get Through Dry Years and Other In Lieu Water-Supply Disruptions

- Opportunity for operators to “repay” exceedances of their extraction allocations rather than pay \$2,000 per AF surcharges
 - Limited to 25% over base-period allocations
 - Must be “repaid” with reduced use or water-market purchases within 2 years
 - Can’t be used again while still “repaying” for a previous exceedance
- Diminishment of in lieu supplies for reasons such as natural disasters, contamination, etc., can be replaced with groundwater
 - Such replacement does not count against extraction allocation
 - *Redundant for operators that adopt the in lieu delivery adjustment*



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Plus: Concerns about Recent Increase in CombCode Use and Potential Effects of Shifting Pumping Closer to the Coast

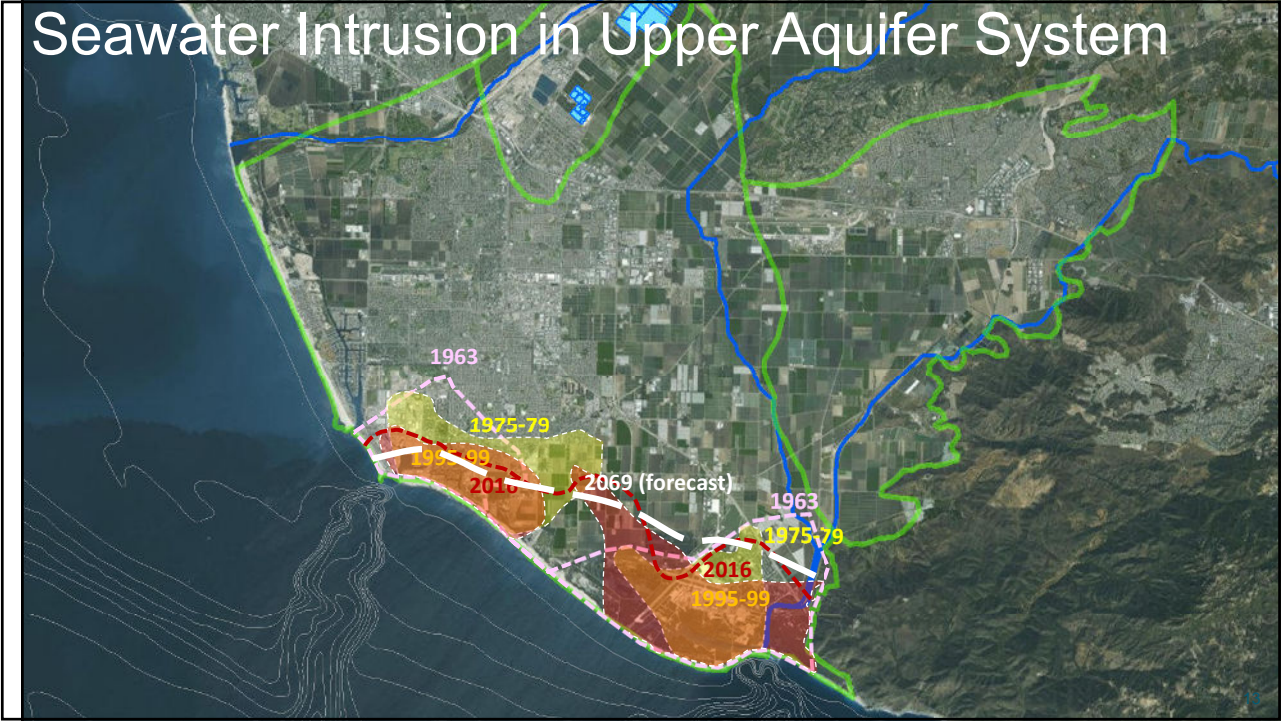
Solutions:

- Simplified transfers of all or a portion of an operator’s allocation for an extraction facility they operate to another separate (unconnected) extraction facility they operate.
 - Within the same groundwater basin
 - Without prior approval from the FCGMA
- Seawater intrusion is less imminent of a threat today:
 - Recent projects have improved conditions
 - EBB project will actively remove intruded seawater

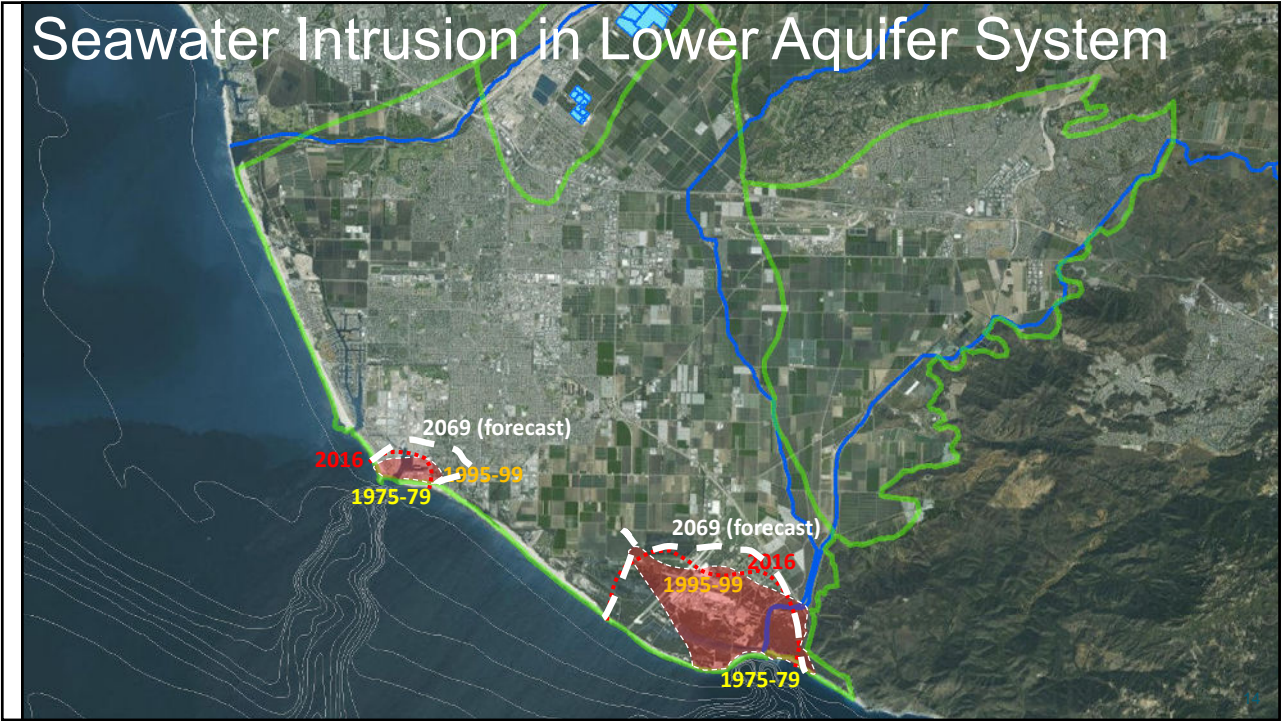


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Questions?



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STAFF REPORT

To: **UWCD Water Resources Committee**

Through: Mauricio Guardado, General Manager
Dr. Maryam Bral, Assistant General Manager

From: Dr. Jason Sun, Supervisory Water Resources Engineer
Murray McEachron, Hydrologist Supervisor
John Lindquist, Water Resources Supervisor

Date: **May 29, 2025 (June 3, 2025, meeting)**

Agenda Item: 5.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

Receive a report on Water Resources Department activities for the month of May 2025, including a summary of the activities of the Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee and three local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency [FCGMA], Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency [FPBGSA], and Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency [MBGSA]).

Discussion:

Staff Activities

Notable activities conducted by staff during the month included the following:

- Groundwater modeling:
 - Staff collected and prepared the dataset from 2020 to 2023 for input to the FPGSA groundwater model.
 - Staff continued work on updating the groundwater model for the FPGSA.
 - A model review panel, consisting of three distinguished modeling experts, has been invited back to review the groundwater model development for the FPGSA.
 - Staff provided support for the OPV adjudication.
 - MBGSA has received United's fee estimate for modeling support for the Mound Basin GSP update. Modeling work will begin upon budget approval by the MBGSA Board.

Agenda Item: 5.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

- Hydrology:
 - Staff are monitoring and coordinating with the Operations and Maintenance Department to initiate diversions after smolt migration releases are no longer provided.
 - Staff continued to assist in evaluating fish passage and diversion operations for the initiation of the 30% engineering design.
 - Staff continue to prepare a new model to evaluate proposed bypass flows on an hourly basis to help inform the HCP process.
 - Staff is evaluating the conservation release from SFD for 2025.
 - Staff is evaluating and planning supplemental SWP purchases.
 - Staff continued to provide information and review for the FPBGSA.
 - Staff continued collecting surface water data throughout the District's service area, following up with quality control, analysis, and reporting activities required or requested to support water resources management and other entities within our service area.
 - Staff updated the Saticoy well storage program annual report.
 - Staff prepared presentations and participated in the OH and PTP users annual meetings
 - Prepared staff report for Castaic flex allocation transfer to SCV Water.
 - Staff attended the Board of Consultants meeting held to review the final design of the SFD new outlet works and 90 percent design of the SFD spillway improvement project.
 - Staff prepared outreach materials on United's facilities and operations.
 - Staff evaluated and met on Ferro Basin Water Rights change of petition.
- Hydrogeology:
 - Staff met with representatives from the City of Oxnard and Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas MWD) to review their proposed revisions to FCGMA policy to optimize aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) projects in the region.
 - Staff reviewed the descriptions of United's projects as provided in Calleguas MWD's Phase 1 report for their Water Resources Implementation Strategy and provided comments.
 - Staff continued to participate in the planning and execution of Phase 1 of the EBB Water Project at Navy Base Ventura County (NBVC) Point Mugu, including the following activities:

Agenda Item: 5.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
Information Item

- Processing lithologic, aquifer-testing, and water-quality data from the new EBB monitoring wells.
 - Planning for installation of instrumentation in the EBB monitoring wells.
 - Continued coordinating formation of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for upcoming EBB design.
 - Staff continued supporting the first 5-Year GSP Update effort in the Fillmore and Piru Basins by supporting budget development for the FPBGSA, preparing data for updated model input, and developing a work plan for interconnected surface-water data gaps.
 - Staff held teleconferences with FCGMA on United's report of Forebay groundwater conditions during WY 2024, to support the GREAT water allocation adjustment by the City of Oxnard and United's storage credits for its Saticoy well field. Some revisions will be necessary to meet FCGMA requirements, and FCGMA staff were supportive of modifying related ordinances and resolutions to streamline the reporting process in the future.
 - Staff continued organizing data and planning for the preparation of a 5-year update to United's Santa Clara River Watershed Sanitary Survey, as required by the State Division of Drinking Water (DDW).
 - Staff continued developing plans to update United's Database Management System across departments. Specifically:
 - Staff met internally to review proposal and program charter
 - Staff met with other departments and Aqaix to refine the consultant's scope
 - Staff conducted routine collection of groundwater elevation and quality data throughout the District's service area, following up with quality control, analysis, and reporting activities required to support water resources management by United and other entities within our service area.
 - Staff began preparing the Santa Paula Basin (adjudicated) annual report for CY and WY 2024.
 - Water Resources Supervisor John Lindquist is preparing for his upcoming retirement at the end of June. The District is finalizing the selection process for John's successor.
- Outreach and Education
 - Staff reached out to representatives from the City of Oxnard, Calleguas MWD, and FCGMA seeking their input on United's proposed revisions to FCGMA's Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) allocation ordinance.

Agenda Item: 5.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
Information Item

- Staff led tours of the Freeman Diversion and El Rio facility for local government elected officials on May 2 and 7.
- Staff (along with members of engineering and ESD) participated in a GRAC webinar on improving presentations and technical writing on May 14.
- Staff attended the California Government Military Defense meeting on May 22.
- Staff presented to the Fillmore Piru GSA board of directors meeting
- Staff also attended the Association of Water Agencies-Ventura County “Waterwise Breakfast” meeting on the Bay-Delta Conveyance project on May 22.
- Staff participated in a panel discussion titled “Water Quality Challenges and Solutions in Coastal Agricultural Regions” at the GRAC’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Summit on May 27.
- Staff submitted an abstract for a potential presentation at the GRAC’s Annual Groundwater Congress (to be held in October 2025) on aquifer parameter analysis and extraction well design along the Ventura County coast.

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA)

Staff continue to participate in the FCGMA’s groundwater sustainability planning and implementation efforts in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins. United staff continue to meet periodically with FCGMA staff and other stakeholders to evaluate groundwater conditions and discuss water-supply projects that support a sustainable, resilient water-supply portfolio for the region. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to FCGMA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings –The FCGMA held special Board meetings on May 9 and 23, which focused on closed-session agenda items, including ongoing legal issues and hiring a new Executive Officer.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for May 28.

Committee meetings – The FCGMA held a special Executive Committee meeting on May 22, which focused primarily on the selection of a new Executive Officer. United’s Assistant General Manager was invited to be on the selection panel.

Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA)

Staff continue to participate in FPBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP implementation for the Fillmore and Piru basins. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to FPBGSA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Agenda Item: 5.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

Board of Directors meetings – The FPBGSA held a regular Board meeting on May 15, which included the following notable agenda topics:

- The Board received a presentation from United’s Principal Hydrologist, Dr. Bram Sercu, on the groundwater and surface water conditions in the Santa Clara River watershed.
- The Board received a presentation from staff on the major Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Work Plan items and associated estimated costs.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for June 19.

Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MBGSA)

Staff continue to participate in MBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP implementation for the Mound basin. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to MBGSA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings – The MBGSA held a regular Board meeting on May 22, which included the following notable agenda topics:

- The Board received an overview of the scope, schedule, and budget for completion of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Periodic Evaluation required under the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, due in November 2026.
- The Board approved the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget and Updated Multi-year Budget Projection, and scheduled a public hearing to adopt groundwater extraction fees for the new fiscal year.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for June 23.

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:

- Staff continued preparation of the WY and CY 2024 Santa Paula Basin annual report.