

**MINUTES** WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING Board of Directors Lynn E. Maulhardt, President Catherine P. Keeling, Vice President Gordon Kimball, Secretary/Treasurer Keith Ford Mohammed A. Hasan Steve Huber Rachel Jones

General Manager Mauricio Guardado

Legal Counsel David D. Boyer

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**

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

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.

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

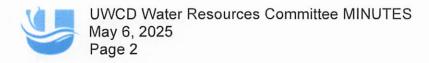
### Information Item

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.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** 6.

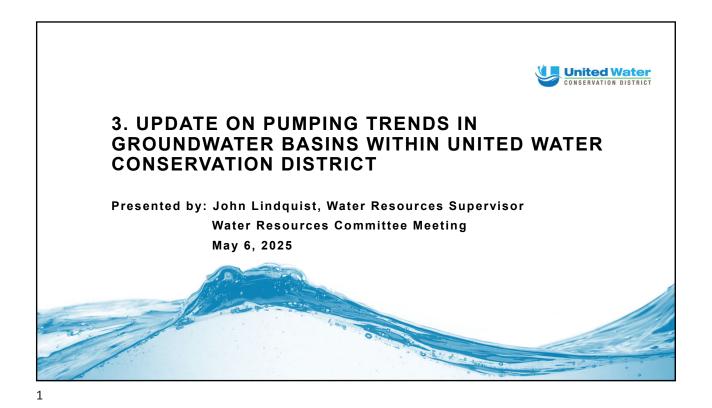
Chair Kimball asked staff and management to further discuss the OPV Allocation Ordinance and provide an update at a future meeting.

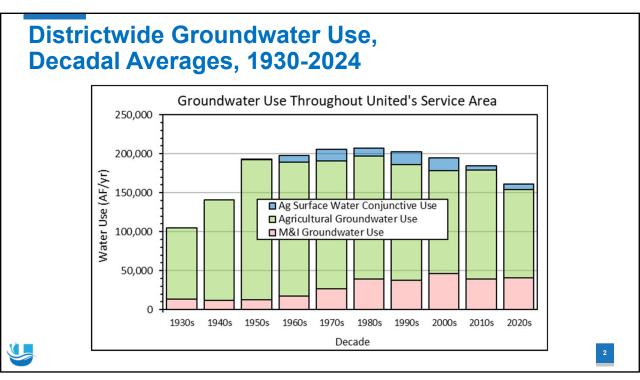
### ADJOURNMENT

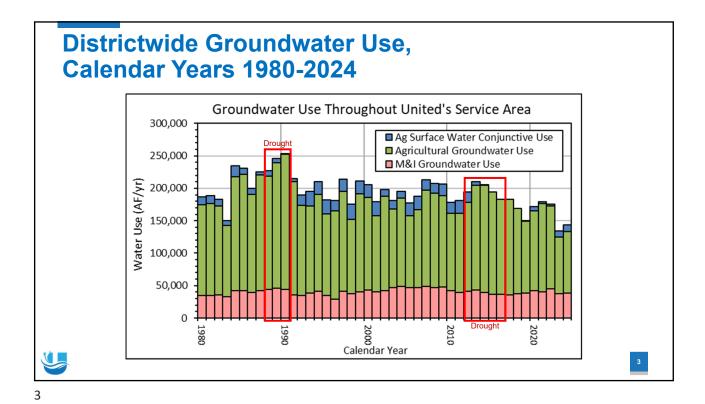
The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

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.

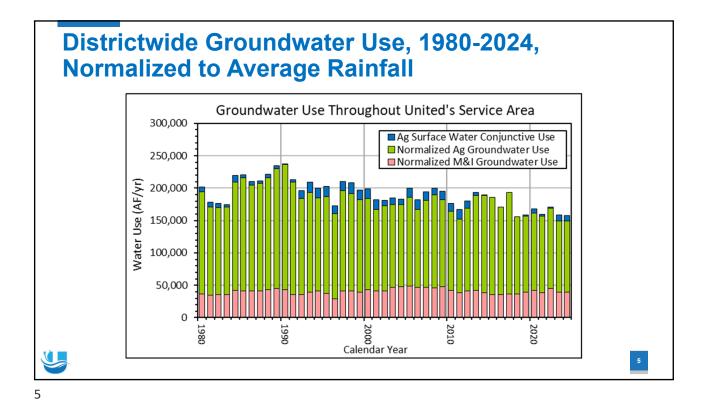
ATTEST: Jordan E. Kurball
Gordon Kimball, Chair



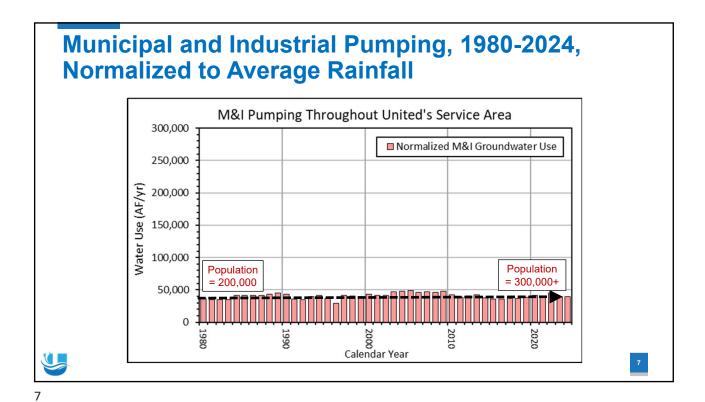




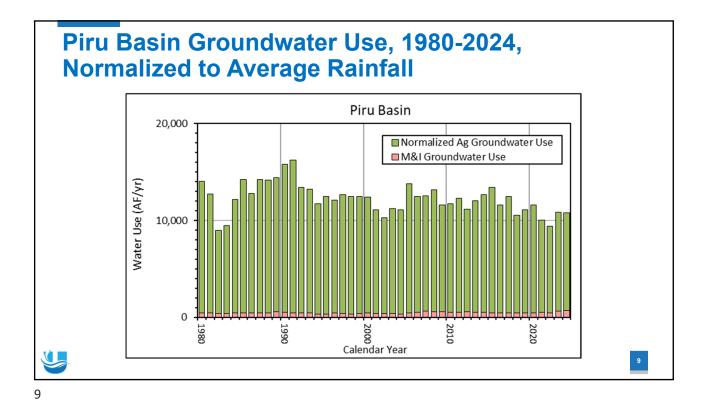
**Effect of Rainfall on Groundwater Extractions** in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins Precipitation at Oxnard vs. Ag & M&I GW + SW Usage in United's Zone B 90,000 **Agricultural** 80,000 **Extractions** 70,000 Annual Pumping (AF/yr.) y = -846.11x + 72921 60,000  $R^2 = 0.4914$ 50,000 40,000 30,000 20,000 y = -91.829x + 29523 $R^2 = 0.0448$ 10,000 20 10 25 35 40 CY Precipitation (inches) Average Ppt. = 15.05



**Agricultural Pumping and Conjunctive Use,** 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall Ag Pumping Throughout United's Service Area 300,000 ■ Ag Surface Water Conjunctive Use 250,000 ■ Normalized Ag Groundwater Use 180,000 AF/yr Water Use (AF/yr) 200,000 150,000 120.000 AF/yr 100,000 50,000 6 Calendar Year 1990



Total M&I Water Use in OPV Basins, 1985-2023 2023 total estimated OPV Municipal + Domestic Water Use from partial data 120,000 ■ M&I Recycled water (AF/yr) ■ M&I GW Imports from Nearby Basins (AF/yr) 100,000 ■Total M&I + Domestic GW Pumping ■ M&I SWP Imports (AF/yr) Water Use (AF/yr) 80,000 60,000 40,000 20,000 2003 2007



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

Fillmore Basin

Fillmore Basin

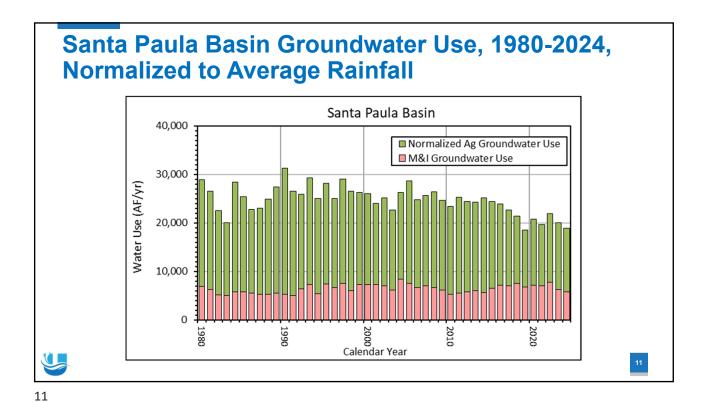
Fillmore Basin

Fillmore Basin

Normalized Ag Groundwater Use

M&I Groundwater Use

Calendar Year



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

Mound Basin

Mound Basin

Mound Basin

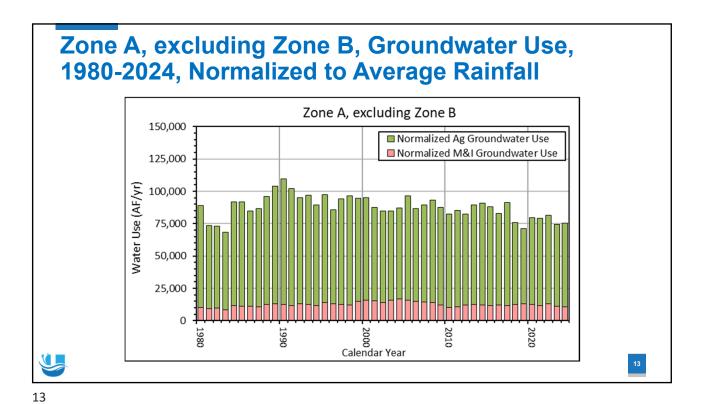
Mound Basin

Mound Basin

Normalized Ag Groundwater Use

Normalized Ag Groundwater Use

Reported to United, 1980-2024, Normalized to Average Rainfall



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

Zone B (Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and part of West Las Posas Valley Basins)

150,000

125,000

100,000

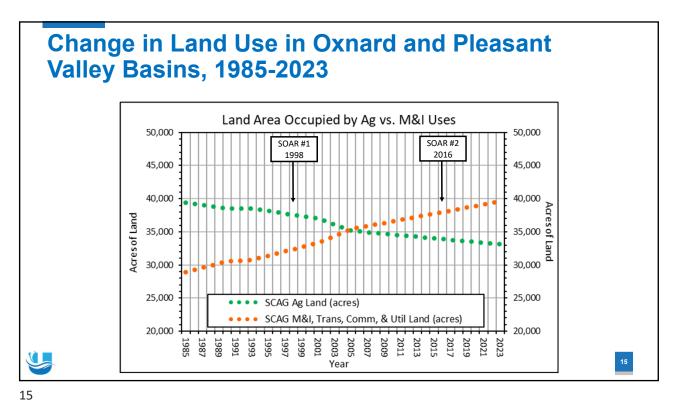
25,000

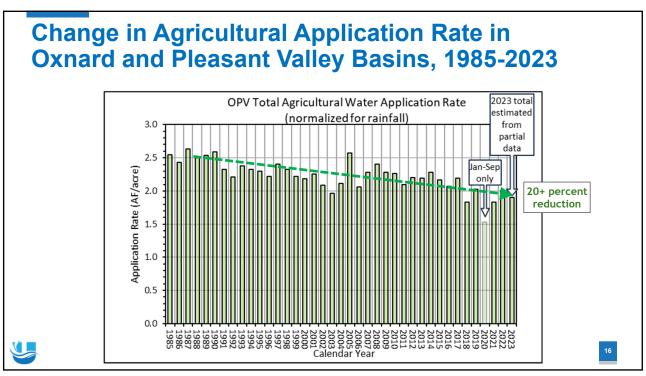
25,000

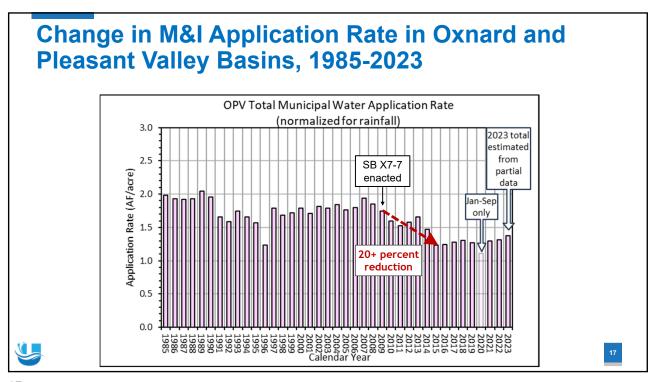
25,000

25,000

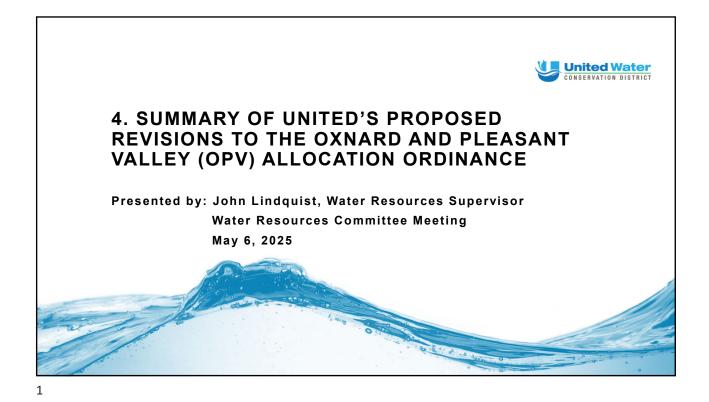
Calendar Year









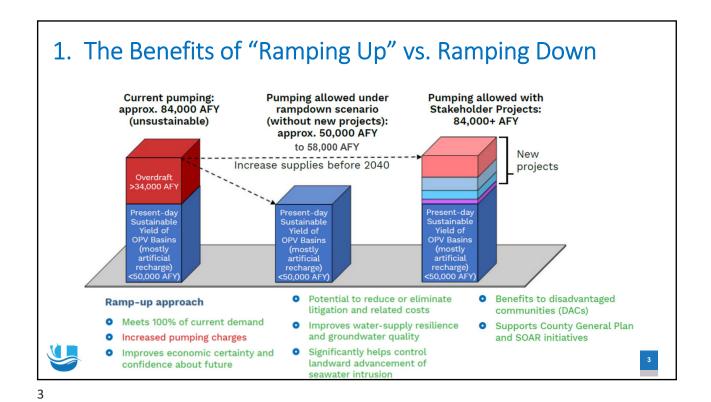


# Major Points of Contention in the Original OPV Allocation Ordinance

- 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





Sustainable Yield in OPV Basins Under Modeled Scenarios Best at preventing Unsustainable ■PV Basin and 80,000 Oxnard Basin reversing seawater 70,000 intrusion 60,000 Acre-50,000 Feet per 40,000 year 30,000 20,000 10,000 0 2024 Existing 2020 2020 2024 2024 Basin 2024 Future Baseline Reduction **Projects** Upcoming Optimization Baseline with with Projects Projects **EBB** 2020 GSPs 2024 GSP updates

## 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"

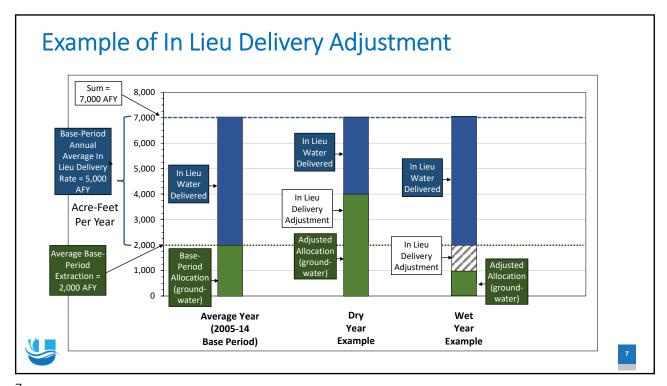
"One of the most effective management strategies in reducing overdraft is to supply water directly to overdrafted areas.

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."

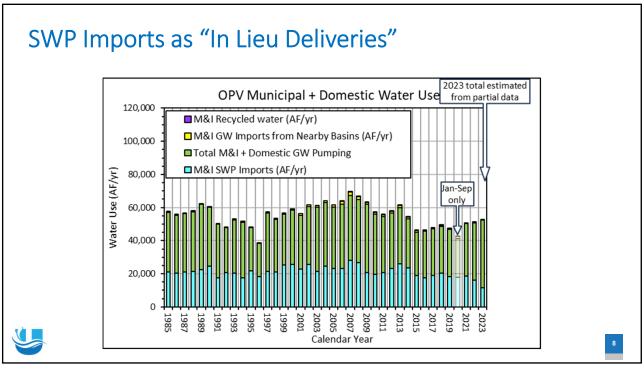
--FCGMA's 2007 Groundwater Management Plan Update

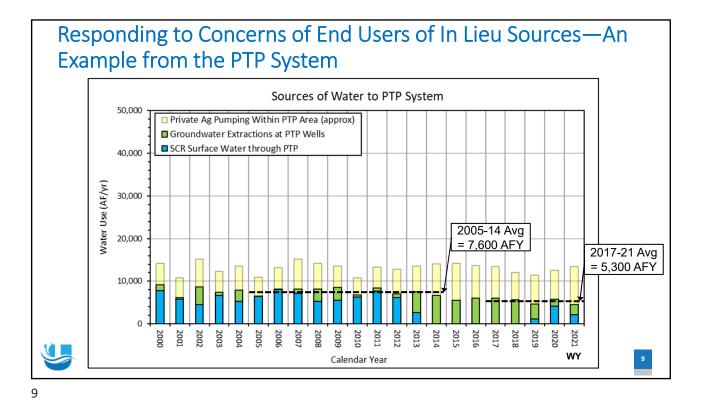






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# **Proposed Solution:**

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



# 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









