

For Immediate Release

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United Water Conservation District Sets the Pace for Groundwater Recharge in California *Oxnard Basin Ranked #1 in Statewide Recharge for Second Year in a Row*

Oxnard, CA (July 3, 2025) – United Water Conservation District’s (UWCD) has once again solidified its status as California’s premier groundwater recharge agency. For the second consecutive year, UWCD’s Oxnard Basin ranked first in the State for groundwater recharge, according to the California Department of Water Resources’ (DWR) 2025 Semi-Annual Groundwater Conditions Update.

During Water Year 2024, UWCD successfully replenished 80,533 acre-feet of groundwater, or more than 26 billion gallons, across 57,888 acres, resulting in a recharge rate of 1.39 acre-feet per acre, or nearly half a million gallons per acre, the highest in California. UWCD’s recharge operations in the Forebay area played a central role in achieving this top ranking, demonstrating the continued effectiveness of local infrastructure and proactive water management strategies.

This achievement is the direct result of UWCD’s aggressive, science-driven water management strategy that blends cutting-edge infrastructure, bold action, and long-term vision,” said Lynn Maulhardt, UWCD Board President. “Our team remains committed to managing this precious resource with a deep sense of responsibility to the communities we serve.”

While Water Year 2023 was historically wet, 2024 presented less predictable conditions, making the capture and storage of available flows even more critical. UWCD’s ability to efficiently harness stormwater, surface water and imported water; and direct it into managed aquifer recharge underscores the UWCD’s role in strengthening regional and statewide water security.

“Every gallon we recharge strengthens California’s water future,” said Mauricio Guardado, UWCD General Manager. “Our continued success reflects years of strategic investment and planning, along with the dedication of our staff and partners. We will keep leading with innovation and stewardship as our region adapts to an evolving climate.”

Beyond the Oxnard Basin, UWCD manages six additional groundwater basins throughout the Santa Clara River Valley. Its efforts support water reliability for agriculture, industry, and more than 400,000 residents in Ventura County and beyond.

As climate extremes become more frequent, groundwater recharge remains a vital tool in building a more drought-resilient future. With groundwater providing up to 60% of the state’s water supply during dry years, the work being done by UWCD is nothing short of essential.

For more information on UWCD’s groundwater management programs, visit www.unitedwater.org.

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About United Water Conservation District

Since 1927, United Water Conservation District (District) has served as a leader among water agencies by managing, protecting, enhancing and securing the water resources of the Santa Clara River and Oxnard Coastal Plain. The District works to protect the environment's natural attributes and conserves runoff from all major tributaries of the Santa Clara River, including Piru, Hopper, Sespe, and Santa Paula Creeks. Committed to managing the area's water supplies through groundwater replenishment and the construction and operation of efficient water supply and delivery systems, the District serves as the conservator of groundwater resources that are utilized by the cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ventura, Santa Paula, and Fillmore, as well as Naval Base Ventura County and several mutual water districts, farms, and individual pumpers. The District also provides surface water for agricultural irrigation and treated drinking water to the cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme. www.unitedwater.org