

NOTICE AND AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1

will be held at **3:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 19, 2021**

at 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, CA.; Conference Room

or via Teleconference Phone Number: 1-669-900-9128

Meeting ID: 929 0039 9487#

Participant ID No.: 180175#

Meeting Passcode: 180175#

Important Notice Regarding Public Participation in This Meeting: For those who may not attend the meeting in person but wish to provide public comment on an Agenda Item, please submit any and all comments and written materials to the District via electronic mail at general@syrwd.org. All submittals should indicate "October 19, 2021 Board Meeting" in the subject line. To the extent practicable, public comments and materials received by the District will be read into the public record during the meeting. Public comments and materials not read into the record will become part of the post-meeting Board packet materials available to the public and posted on the District's website. In the interest of clear reception and efficient administration of the meeting, all persons participating via teleconference are respectfully requested to mute their voices after dialing-in and at all times unless speaking.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **REPORT BY THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF THE NOTICE AND AGENDA**
4. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 808 - A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings Under the Ralph M. Brown Act in Accordance with AB 361**
5. **ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA**
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - Any member of the public may address the Board relating to any non-agenda matter within the District's jurisdiction. The total time for all public participation shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed three (3) minutes. The District is not responsible for the content or accuracy of statements made by members of the public. No action will be taken by the Board on any public comment item.
7. **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE**
 - A. General Manager's Report
8. **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**
9. **CONSENT AGENDA** - All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be approved or rejected in a single motion without separate discussion. Any item placed on the Consent Agenda can be removed and placed on the Regular Agenda for discussion and possible action upon the request of any Trustee.
 - CA-1. Water Supply and Production Report
 - CA-2. Central Coast Water Authority Update
10. **MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**
 - A. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**
 1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters
 - a) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements – Revenues and Expenses
 - b) Approval of Accounts Payable

2. Purchase of Fleet Vehicle
 - a) Fleet Vehicle Bid Rejection and Award

11. REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. UPDATE REGARDING STATEWIDE DROUGHT CONDITIONS

B. CACHUMA PROJECT – ANNUAL ALLOCATION REQUEST

1. Update Regarding Cachuma Member Units Allocation Request for Water Year 2021-2022

C. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

1. Eastern Management Area Update

12. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, OBSERVATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

13. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS

14. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA: Any member of the Board of Trustees may place an item on the meeting Agenda for the next regular meeting. Any member of the public may submit a written request to the General Manager of the District to place an item on a future meeting Agenda, provided that the General Manager and the Board of Trustees retain sole discretion to determine which items to include on meeting Agendas.

15. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for **November 16, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**

16. CLOSED SESSION:

To accommodate the teleconferencing component of this meeting, the public access line will be closed for up to ninety (90) minutes while the Board of Trustees convenes into closed session. Upon the conclusion of the closed session, the public participation teleconference access will be reopened for the remaining Agenda Items. The Board will hold a closed session to discuss the following items:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

[Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code]

1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests
2. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 21CV02432

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

[Subdivision (d)(2) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Significant Exposure to Litigation – One Matter]

C. CONFERENCE INVOLVING A JOINT POWERS AGENCY

[Government Code section 54956.96]

Name of Agency: Central Coast Water Authority

Discussion will Concern: State Water Supply Contract Price and Term

Name of Local Agency Representative on Joint Powers Agency Board: Jeff Clay, Trustee

Public teleconference access to the meeting (Dial-In Number and Passcode above) will be reopened when the Board of Trustees concludes closed session.

17. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

[Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

18. ADJOURNMENT

This Agenda was posted at 3622 Sagunto Street, Santa Ynez, California, and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54950, specifically Section 54956. This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. The Board reserves the right to change the order in which items are heard. Copies of the staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business on the Agenda are on file with the District and available for public inspection during normal business hours. A person who has a question concerning any of the Agenda items may call the District's General Manager at (805) 688-6015. Written materials relating to an item on this Agenda that are distributed to the Board of Trustees within 72 hours (for Regular meetings) or 24 hours (for Special meetings) before it is to consider the item at its regularly or special scheduled meeting(s) will be made available for public inspection at 3622 Sagunto Street, during normal business hours. Such written materials will also be made available on the District's website, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the regularly scheduled meeting. If you challenge any of the Board's decisions related to the Agenda items above in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence to the Board prior to the public hearing. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review Agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the District Secretary at (805) 688-6015. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 808

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1
AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER THE RALPH M.
BROWN ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AB 361**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 (District) is committed to promoting and preserving complete public access and participation in meetings of the District's Board of Trustees, as required and set forth by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54950 et seq.) (Brown Act); and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act contains special provisions for remote teleconference participation in meetings when the Governor of the State of California has declared a state of emergency pursuant to Government Code section 8625 and either state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or where in-person meetings would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic, which state of emergency has not been rescinded; the County Health Officer for the County of Santa Barbara has issued numerous Health Orders regarding health and safety requirements and protocols since the beginning of and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, including recent Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.5, dated October 5, 2021, which requires the use of face covering at all times in all indoor public settings, except for certain enumerated circumstances, and identifies that the Centers for Disease Control and California Department of Public Health find that the use of face coverings lessen the risk of COVID-19 transmission and reinforce physical distancing of at least six feet; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2021 the County Health Officer and County Public Health Director issued a Health Official AB 361 Social Distance Recommendation which states, among other things, that utilizing teleconferencing options for public meetings is an effective and recommended social distancing measure to facilitate participation in public affairs and encourage participants to protect themselves and others from COVID-19, and that such recommendation is further intended to satisfy the requirements of the Brown Act which allows local legislative bodies in the County of Santa Barbara to use certain available teleconferencing options set forth in the Brown Act, where such recommendation is also based in part on the increased case rate of the highly transmissible Delta variant of COVID-19 within the nation and the County; and

WHEREAS, the District finds that the current circumstances relating to COVID-19, and particularly the Delta variant, is causing, and will continue to cause, risks to the health and safety of persons within the County, and therefore the District may conduct its meetings to allow remote teleconference participation in the manner authorized by AB 361, specifically including Government Code section 54953(e); and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the exemption set forth under Section 15061(b)(3) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines) because remote teleconference meetings during a declared state of emergency do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, as follows:

1. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.
2. The District may conduct its meeting to allow remote teleconference participation in the manner authorized by AB 361, specifically including Government Code Section 54953(e).
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall remain in effect for up to thirty (30) days as provided in Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, being the duly qualified President and Secretary, respectively, of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Board of Trustees of said District at a Regular meeting held on October 19, 2021 by the following roll call vote:

AYES, Trustees:

Jeff Clay, President

ATTEST:

Mary Martone - Secretary to the Board of Trustees

**HEALTH OFFICER ORDER NO. 2021-10.5
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

**FOR THE CONTROL OF COVID-19
FACE COVERINGS
WITHIN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.5 Supersedes and Replaces Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.4

Effective Date: October 5, 2021, 5:00pm PT

(Changes are underlined.)

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order may constitute a misdemeanor punishable by fine of up to \$1,000, imprisonment, or both, or result in administrative fines. (Health and Safety Code §§ 101029, 120295 et seq.; County Ord. No. 5120.) Violators are also subject to civil enforcement actions including fines or civil penalties per violation per day, injunctive relief, and attorneys' fees and costs.

This Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.5 supersedes and replaces Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.4 that was effective September 5, 2021. Nothing in this Health Officer Order supersedes State Executive Orders or State Health Officer Orders or guidance provided by the California Department of Public Health available at:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Guidance.aspx#>

Summary: Since June 15, 2021 when most restrictions from the State of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy were lifted, the average daily incident case rate of COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County has increased to reach the "High Transmission" level based on the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Indicators for Levels of Community Transmission. The significantly more transmissible SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant of COVID-19 has become the predominant strain in the US and in Santa Barbara County. To control the spread of COVID-19, this Health Officer Order orders all individuals in the County of Santa Barbara – whether vaccinated or unvaccinated -- to wear a Face Covering at all times in all Indoor Public Settings, and while inside any Business, with limited exemptions, and recommends that Businesses make face coverings available to individuals entering the Business.

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency for conditions caused by a novel coronavirus, COVID-19, and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, and on March 12, 2020, the County of Santa Barbara declared a local emergency and a local health emergency in relation COVID-19 in the community; and

WHEREAS, in the County of Santa Barbara ("County") as well as throughout California and the nation, there are insufficient quantities of critical healthcare infrastructure, including hospital beds, ventilators and workers, capable of adequately treating mass numbers of patients at a single time – should the virus spread unchecked; and

WHEREAS, in direct response to the lack of healthcare infrastructure, governments across the nation are taking actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 in order to “flatten the curve” of infection and reduce the numbers of individuals infected at any one time by minimizing situations where the virus can spread; and

WHEREAS, the CDC categorizes COVID-19 community transmission in four categories: Low, Moderate, Substantial, and High; and

WHEREAS, per the CDC “for people infected with the Delta variant, similar amounts of viral genetic material have been found among both unvaccinated and fully vaccinated people”; and

WHEREAS, since April 2021, the Delta variant has been circulating in the County. This variant is highly transmissible in indoor settings and requires multicomponent prevention strategies to reduce spread. Despite high vaccination rates, the County is experiencing substantial levels of community transmission due to the Delta variant. While the risk for COVID-19 infection is highest among unvaccinated persons, the incidence of infection among fully vaccinated persons is increasing. Hospitalizations have also increased, primarily among unvaccinated persons. The County of Santa Barbara is also seeing a concerning increase in cases among staff and residents in long-term care facilities and in other congregate living settings; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States are highly safe and effective. These vaccines provide protection to individuals and communities, particularly against severe COVID-19 disease, hospitalization, and death, and are recommended by the CDC for all populations authorized to receive them by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The Health Officer strongly recommends that all eligible persons in the County be vaccinated. Vaccines are available for all persons over 12 years of age. Information on obtaining a COVID19 vaccine in the County of Santa Barbara is available here: <https://publichealthsb.org/vaccine>; and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2021, the Health Officer recommended that fully vaccinated persons wear masks in public indoor settings, considering the apparent increased transmissibility of the Delta variant; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) updated its mandate requiring face coverings in specific indoor public settings regardless of vaccination status, and for those that are not fully vaccinated. The CDPH also recommends universal masking indoors statewide, as “an extra precautionary measure for all to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, especially in communities currently seeing the highest transmission rates” (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>); and

WHEREAS, as of August 2, 2021, according to the CDC, COVID-19 community transmission is Significant in California and High in Santa Barbara County. The County has a current case rate of 12.6 per 100,000 and a test positivity of 3.6%; and

WHEREAS, as of August 13, 2021, the CDC recommends those not fully vaccinated and aged 2 or older should (1) wear a face covering in indoor public places; and (2) in areas with high numbers of COVID-19 cases, consider wearing a mask in crowded outdoor settings

and for activities with close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>); and

WHEREAS, as of September 1, 2021, the CDC recommends fully vaccinated individuals wear a face covering in public indoor settings in areas with Substantial or High community transmission rates (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>); and

WHEREAS, the CDC and the CDPH find the use of face coverings may reduce asymptomatic transmission of COVID-19 and reinforce physical distancing, and that wearing a face covering combined with physical distancing of at least six feet, and frequent hand washing, will lessen the risk of COVID-19 transmission by limiting the spread of respiratory droplets; and

WHEREAS, universal indoor use of face coverings, also known as masking, is the least disruptive and most immediately impactful additional measure to take to limit the spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant. This Order is part of a strategy to support the continued operations of Businesses, activities, and schools; and

WHEREAS, the County Health Officer finds (1) a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 are asymptomatic and can transmit the virus to others; (2) those who may develop symptoms can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms; (3) the incidence of infection among fully vaccinated persons is increasing; (4) scientific evidence shows COVID-19 is easily spread and public activities can result in transmission of the virus; (5) face coverings are necessary because COVID-19 is highly contagious and is spread through respiratory droplets that are produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets may land on other people or be inhaled into their lungs, may land on and attach to surfaces where they remain for days, and may remain viable in the air for up to three hours, even after the infected person is no longer present; (6) when worn properly, face coverings have the potential to slow the spread of the virus by limiting the spread of respiratory droplets; and (7) distinctions made in this Order are to minimize the spread of COVID-19 that could occur through proximity and duration of contact between individuals; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this Order is to temporarily require the use of Face Coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County to the maximum extent possible. All provisions of this Order should be interpreted to effectuate this intent.

ACCORDINGLY, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, TITLE 17 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS SECTION 2501, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA ORDERS:

1. This Order 2021-10.5 is effective 5:00 p.m. (PT) October 5, 2021 and continuing until 5:00 p.m. (PT), on November 4, 2021 or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the County of Santa Barbara Health Officer ("Health Officer"). This Order applies in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County ("County").
2. This Order orders that in the County Face Coverings must be worn over the mouth and

nose – regardless of vaccination status – in all Indoor Public Settings, and while inside any Business, as defined below, including but not limited to: offices, retail stores, restaurants and bars, theaters, family entertainment centers, conference and event centers, and State and local government offices serving the public.

3. Individuals, Businesses, venue operators, hosts, and others responsible for the operation of Indoor Public Settings must:
 - a. Require all individuals to wear Face Coverings regardless of vaccination status while indoors; and
 - b. Post clearly visible and easy-to-read signage at all entry points to communicate the Face Covering requirements.
4. Exemptions. Individuals are not required to wear Face Coverings in the following circumstances:
 - a. While working alone in a closed office or room;
 - b. While actively eating and/or drinking;
 - c. While swimming or showering;
 - d. While obtaining a medical or cosmetic service involving the head or face for which temporary removal of the Face Covering is necessary to perform the service;
 - e. Performers at indoor live events such as theater, opera, symphony, religious choirs, and professional sports may remove Face Coverings while actively performing or practicing, though such individuals should maximize physical distancing as much as practicable;
 - f. Individuals in indoor religious or cultural gatherings may remove Face Coverings when necessary to participate in religious or cultural rituals;
 - g. Individuals actively engaged in water-based sports (e.g., swimming, swim lessons, diving, water polo) and other sports where masks create imminent risk to health (e.g., wrestling, judo). All other indoor recreational sports, gyms, and yoga studios shall comply with this Order;
 - h. Persons younger than two years old must not wear a Face Covering because of the risk of suffocation;
 - i. Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a Face Covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a Face Covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a Face Covering without assistance;
 - j. Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
 - k. Persons for whom wearing a Face Covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

5. Persons exempted from wearing a Face Covering due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge.
6. Workplaces subject to the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) and/or the Cal/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Standards should consult the applicable regulations for additional requirements. The ETS allows local health jurisdictions to mandate more protective measures. (8 CCR § 3205(a)(2).) This Order, which requires Face Coverings for all individuals in Indoor Public Settings, and while inside any Business, regardless of vaccination status, takes precedence over the more permissive ETS regarding employee face coverings.
7. "Business" or "Businesses" for the purpose of this Health Officer Order is defined to mean any institution, establishment, public or private agency, for-profit, non-profit, or educational entity, whether an organization, corporate entity, partnership, or sole proprietorship. Business does not include a place when used exclusively by one or more individuals for a private gathering or other personal purpose.
8. "Face Covering" means a covering made of a variety of materials such as cloth, fabric, cotton, silk, linen, or other permeable materials, that fully covers the tip of a person's nose and mouth, without holes, including cloth face masks, surgical masks, towels, scarves, and/or bandanas. This Order does not require the public to wear medical-grade masks, including masks rated N95, KN95, and their equivalent or better.

A face covering with a one-way valve (typically a raised plastic cylinder about the size of a quarter on the front or side of the mask) that provides a preferential path of escape for exhaled breath shall not be used as a face covering under this Order because the valve permits respiratory droplets to easily escape which places others at risk.
9. "Indoor Public Setting" or "Indoor Public Settings" for the purpose of this Health Officer Order is defined to mean an enclosed area whether privately or publicly owned, to which the public have access by right or by invitation, expressed or implied, whether by payment of money or not, but not a place when used exclusively by one or more individuals for a private gathering or other personal purpose.
10. Except as otherwise set forth herein, the June 28, 2021 Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings issued by the CDPH (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>) as may be amended from time to time, continues to apply throughout the County of Santa Barbara
11. The Health Officer strongly encourages that individuals, Businesses, venue operators, hosts, and others responsible for the operation of Indoor Public Settings to provide Face Coverings at no cost to individuals required to wear them.
12. If you cannot afford a face covering one will be provided to you free-of-charge at the following locations:
 - a. Santa Barbara County Administration building lobby, 105 E Anapamu St, Santa

Barbara

- b. Santa Barbara Health Care Center, 345 Camino del Remedio, Santa Barbara
- c. Santa Maria Health Care Center, 2115 Centerpointe Parkway, Santa Maria
- d. The Health Officer requests cities within the County of Santa Barbara provide face coverings free-of-charge to those cannot afford them.

This Order is issued as a result of the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 which has infected at least 235,850,589 individuals worldwide, in 221 countries and territories, including 42,408 cases, and 504 deaths in the County, and is implicated in over 4,818,386 worldwide deaths.

This Order is issued based on evidence of increasing transmission of COVID-19 both within the County and worldwide, scientific evidence regarding the most effective approach to slow transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect the public from the risk of spread of or exposure to COVID-19.

This Order is issued because of the propensity of the virus to spread person to person and also because the virus physically is causing property loss or damage due to its proclivity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time.

This Order is intended to reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, thereby slowing the spread of COVID-19 in communities worldwide. As the presence of individuals increases, the difficulty and magnitude of tracing individuals who may have been exposed to a case rises exponentially.

This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference: the March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Local Health Emergency and Proclamation of Emergency based on an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of novel COVID-19 in the County; the March 17, 2020 Resolution of the Board of Supervisors ratifying the County Declaration of Local Health Emergency and Proclamation of Emergency regarding COVID-19; the March 13, 2020 Presidential Declaration of a National Emergency due to the national impacts of COVID-19; the March 22, 2020, Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster in California beginning on January 20, 2020 under Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Incident DR-4482-CA;; CDPH / Cal-OSHA Interim Guidance for Ventilation, Filtration, and Air Quality in Indoor Environments issued February 26, 2021; the State Public Health Order issued June 11, 2021; Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-07-21 of June 11, 2021; Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-08-21 of June 11, 2021; the State Public Health Order issued July 26, 2021; the July 28, 2021 California Department of Public Health Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings; the August 13, 2021 guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention titled Your Guide to Masks; and the September 1, 2021 guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention titled Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People.

This Order is made in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to: Health and Safety Code sections 101040 and 120175; Health and Safety Code

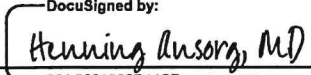
sections 101030 et seq., 120100 et seq.; and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations section 2501.

If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes a threat to public health. Pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code sections 101029 and 120295, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all chiefs of police in the County ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. Per Health and Safety Code section 101029, "the sheriff of each county, or city and county, may enforce within the county, or the city and county, all orders of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease. Every peace officer of every political subdivision of the county, or city and county, may enforce within the area subject to his or her jurisdiction all orders of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease. This section is not a limitation on the authority of peace officers or public officers to enforce orders of the local health officer. When deciding whether to request this assistance in enforcement of its orders, the local health officer may consider whether it would be necessary to advise the enforcement agency of any measures that should be taken to prevent infection of the enforcement officers."

Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the County Public Health Department; (2) posted on the County Public Health Department's website (publichealthsb.org); and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

DocuSigned by:

33AC028896D14C7
Henning Anisorg, M.D.
Health Officer
Santa Barbara County Public Health Department

Santa Barbara County



Public Health Administration

300 North San Antonio Road ♦ Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1316
805/681-5100 ♦ FAX 805/681-5191

Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD *Director*
Suzanne Jacobson, CPA *Chief Financial Officer*
Paige Babson, MA, PHN, RN *Deputy Director*
Darrin Eisenbarth *Deputy Director*
Dana Gamble, LCSW *Interim Deputy Director*
Polly Baldwin, MD, MPH *Medical Director*
Henning Ansorg, MD *Health Officer*

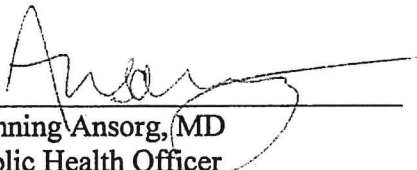
HEALTH OFFICIALS AB 361 SOCIAL DISTANCE RECOMMENDATION

Issued: September 28, 2021


COVID-19 disease prevention measures, endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, include vaccinations, facial coverings, increased indoor ventilation, handwashing, and physical distancing (particularly indoors).

Since March 2020, local legislative bodies-such as commissions, committees, boards, and councils- have successfully held public meetings with teleconferencing as authorized by Executive Orders issued by the Governor. Using technology to allow for virtual participation in public meetings is a social distancing measure that may help control transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Public meetings bring together many individuals (both vaccinated and potentially unvaccinated), from multiple households, in a single indoor space for an extended time. For those at increased risk for infection, or subject to an isolation or quarantine order, teleconferencing allows for full participation in public meetings, while protecting themselves and others from the COVID-19 virus.

Utilizing teleconferencing options for public meetings is an effective and recommended social distancing measure to facilitate participation in public affairs and encourage participants to protect themselves and others from the COVID-19 disease. This recommendation is further intended to satisfy the requirement of the Brown Act (specifically Gov't Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A)), which allows local legislative bodies in the County of Santa Barbara to use certain available teleconferencing options set forth in the Brown Act.



Henning Ansorg, MD
Public Health Officer
County of Santa Barbara



Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Public Health Director
County of Santa Barbara

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 via video/teleconference.

Trustees Present: Jeff Clay Jeff Holzer
 Brad Joos Lori Parker
 Michael Burchardi

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Paeter Garcia Mary Martone
 Gary Kvistad Eric Tambini
 Bob Drews Karen King
 Austin McCollum

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

President Clay called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m., he stated this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Martone conducted roll call and reported that all members of the Board were present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Clay let the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF THE NOTICE AND AGENDA:

Ms. Martone presented the affidavit of posting of the Agenda, along with a true copy of the Agenda for this meeting. She reported that the Agenda was posted in accordance with the California Government Code commencing at Section 54950 and pursuant to District Resolution No. 340. The affidavit was filed as evidence of the posting of the Agenda items contained therein.

Ms. Martone added that as a result of the COVID-19 emergency and Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, the Board meeting would occur via teleconference as authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20 and applicable amendments to the California Brown Act as set forth in those Executive Orders.

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Garcia stated there were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Clay welcomed any members of the public participating telephonically and offered time for members of the public to speak and address the Board on matters not on the Agenda. There was no public comment.

Mr. Garcia stated that the Notice and Agenda for this Regular Meeting requested members of the public that are not attending the meeting in person or who are participating telephonically and wish to provide public comment on an Agenda item to submit written comments to the District via electronic mail. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting.

1 6. CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE:

2 A. General Manager's Report

3 Mr. Garcia reported on the current information related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the
4 District's actions. He announced that the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department
5 issued Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.4 which went into effect at 5:00 p.m. on September
6 5, 2021. Mr. Garcia explained the Health Order extends the requirement for the use of face
7 coverings indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He
8 stated that the Health Order would remain in effect through 5:00 p.m. on October 5th or until
9 it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended. He reported that all employees, Trustees,
10 and customers are following the masking requirement as set forth by current Health Orders.

11
12 7. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 17, 2021

13 The Regular Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2021 were presented for consideration.

14
15 President Clay asked if there were any changes or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of
16 August 17, 2021. No changes or additions were requested.

17
18 It was MOVED by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Parker, and carried by a 5-0-0 roll call vote,
19 to approve the August 17, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

20
21 8. CONSENT AGENDA:

22 The Consent Agenda Report was provided in the Board packet.

23
24 Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of September.

25
26 It was MOVED by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Joos, and carried by a 5-0-0 roll call
27 vote to approve the Consent Agenda.

28
29 9. MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING
30 SUBJECTS:

31 A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

32 1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters

33 a) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements - Revenues and Expenses

34 The monthly financial statements were included in the handout materials and emailed
35 to the Board members attending the meeting via phone conference. Ms. Martone
36 announced that the reports were posted on the District's website in the Board packet
37 materials for any members of the public wishing to follow along or receive a copy.

38
39 Ms. Martone reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of
40 August. She highlighted various line-items related to revenue and expense
41 transactions that occurred during the month. Ms. Martone reported that the District
42 revenues exceeded the expenses by \$358,031.86 and the year-to-date net income was
43 \$689,964.85, which will be earmarked and utilized for the District's annual State Water
44 Project and COMB Series 2004A Bond payments which are due in June 2022.

45
46 b) Approval of Accounts Payable

47 Ms. Martone reported that the Board was provided the Warrant List for August 18,
48 2021 through September 21, 2021 in the handout materials and emailed to the Board
49 members attending the meeting via phone conference.

50
51 The Board reviewed the Warrant List which covered warrants 24016 through 24075 in
52 the amount of \$625,396.17.
53

1 It was MOVED by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 5-0-
2 0 roll call vote, to approve the Warrant List for August 18, 2021 through September 21,
3 2021.
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2. Purchase of Fleet Vehicle

a) Consideration and Award of Bid

The Board packet included bid results for the purchase of one new fleet vehicle.

Ms. Martone explained that a request for bids was opened for the purchase of one 2022 Ford F250 Regular Cab, 4wd Truck equipped with a service body and lift gate. She indicated that funds for this purchase were included in the adopted Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget. Ms. Martone reported that bid requests were sent to nine potential vendors and five bid responses were received by the deadline date.

Ms. Martone stated that after thoroughly comparing all bid submittals, the bid results reflect that Perry Ford was the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$44,800.30. Mr. Garcia reminded the Board that according to the District's Purchasing Policy, the District is required to award the bid to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Mr. Garcia indicated that this purchase will complete the District's fleet by replacing a vehicle that has been in service for 17 years. Mr. Garcia recommended acceptance of the bid from Perry Ford and authorization to purchase the fleet vehicle.

Trustee Joos requested delaying action on this item until after the Board has reviewed the next agenda item regarding the electrical panel upgrades and additional funding needed for that project. The Board agreed with this suggestion.

After a discussion on Agenda Item 9.B.1.a, it was MOVED by Trustee Holzer, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 roll call vote, to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid of \$44,800.30 from Perry Ford of San Luis Obispo for the purchase of a 2022 Ford F250 Regular Cab 4wd Truck with service body and lift gate.

B. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

1. Motor Control Center Upgrades - Electrical Panels

a) Bid Results Summary

The Board was provided a September 21, 2021 staff report and bid summary for the Motor Control Center and Service Upgrades.

Mr. Garcia reviewed the Staff Report that was included in the Board packet. He explained that the Request for Bids (RFB) was issued on August 15, 2021, four contractors attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting on September 1, 2021, and a total of four bids were received by the September 15, 2021 deadline. Mr. Garcia reviewed the bid summary results, an evaluation of the bids resulted in and indicated that the lowest responsive and responsible bidder meets all the RFB requirements. He stated that the low bid is \$375,837, which is approximately 37% higher than the FY 2021/2022 budgeted amount for the project. He stated that the difference between the budgeted amount and the range in bid prices received by the District is due to a number of factors including, but not limited to: the initial quotes utilized for the project budget are now more than a year old; since that time material costs have increased substantially; the scope of work outlined in the initial quotes provided less detail than the Engineer's Specifications for each of the project sites; and the current construction

1 market is extremely busy which commonly results in elevated quotes from
2 contractors.
3

4 Mr. Garcia stated that based on the factors discussed and the information contained
5 in the bid summary, staff believes the District has received a competitive bid for the
6 proposed project.
7

8 Mr. Garcia indicated that staff's recommendation is to increase the estimated project
9 budget by \$102,662 using the projected revenue surplus in FY 2021/2022 of \$341,874
10 (resulting in \$239,212 of projected revenue surplus for reserves) and authorize the
11 award of the Project to Electricraft, Inc. as the lowest responsive and responsible
12 bidder, and authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Electricraft, Inc.
13 in the amount of \$375,837 to complete the project.
14

15 Discussion and comments ensued among the Board on whether to increase the project
16 budget by not purchasing the new fleet vehicle, using funds from the projected
17 revenue surplus, or by reallocating funds from the FY 2021/2022 budget item for
18 potential Chromium 6 expenditures.
19

20 Following discussion, the Board revisited Agenda Item 9.A.2.a, and as reflected above,
21 it was MOVED by Trustee Holzer, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a
22 unanimous 5-0-0 roll call vote, to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid of
23 \$44,800.30 from Perry Ford of San Luis Obispo for the purchase of a 2022 Ford F250
24 Regular Cab 4wd Truck with service body and lift gate.
25

- 26 b) Award of Contract and Authorization to Execute Contract Documents for the Motor
27 Control Center and Electrical Service Upgrades.
28

29 Mr. Garcia summarized the options discussed by the Board for increasing the budget
30 for the Motor Control and Electrical Service Upgrade project by \$102,662. After
31 discussion, it was MOVED by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried
32 by a 5-0-0 roll call vote, to authorize the award of the Motor Control Center and
33 Electrical Service Upgrade project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder,
34 Electrocraft Inc.; to authorize the General Manager to execute an agreement with
35 Electrocraft Inc. in the amount of \$375,837; and to direct staff to perform a budget
36 transfer from CIP Account 100333 Cr6 Treatment Station/Facilities in the amount of
37 \$102,662 to cover the cost of the Motor Control Center and Electrical Service Upgrade
38 project.
39

40 2. Zone 1 and Zone 2 Improvements

- 41 a) Reservoir Cleaning and Mixer Installations

42 The Board packet included a PowerPoint presentation on the Zone 1 and 2 Reservoir
43 Improvements.
44

45 Mr. Garcia stated that Mr. Eric Tambini, Water Resources Manager, and Mr. Austin
46 McCollum, Water Resources Technician, prepared a PowerPoint presentation on the
47 reservoir cleaning, electrical upgrades, and mixer installations work that was recently
48 completed at the Zone 1 and Zone 2 reservoirs.
49

50 Mr. Tambini provided an overview of the PowerPoint presentation. Upon completion
51 of the presentation, the Board was provided time for questions and comments. The
52 Board expressed their appreciation to the field staff, Mr. Tambini, and Mr. McCollum

1 for a job well done on the presentation and the improvement work done on the
2 reservoirs.

3
4 b) Notice of Completion – Zone 1 Electrical Upgrade

5 The Board packet included a Notice of Completion for the Zone 1 Electrical Upgrade
6 project.

7
8 Mr. Garcia reported that the Zone 1 Electrical Upgrade Project work is complete and
9 recommended approval of the Notice of Completion and requested authorization to
10 file the notice of completion.

11
12 It was MOVED by Trustee Clay, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 5-0-
13 0 roll call vote, to approve and authorize the General Manager to sign and file the
14 Notice of Completion for the Zone 1 Electrical Upgrade Project.

15
16 **10. REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**

17
18 **A. UPDATE REGARDING STATEWIDE DROUGHT CONDITIONS:**

19 The Board packet included various information related to the ongoing state-wide drought
20 conditions.

21
22 Mr. Garcia reported on the Board packet materials. He discussed the major reservoir
23 conditions within California and noted that several areas are at all time historic low levels
24 due to the current drought. He reviewed the Santa Barbara County Water Agency information
25 included in the Board packet indicating the water supply conservation status of each provider
26 in Santa Barbara County. Mr. Garcia stated that the District currently remains in a Water
27 Supply Alert condition, which requests customers to voluntarily reduce water usage by 10%
28 and establishes various prohibitions on specific types of water use. He reported that the
29 District will continue to encourage customers to conserve and to be prudent with their water
30 use and avoid water waste. He stated that the District's water conservation stage may need
31 to be revised by the Board in the Spring of 2022 depending on rainfall conditions in the
32 upcoming winter months. Mr. Garcia briefly discussed the receipt of a letter from WE Watch
33 requesting the District to join their efforts in raising awareness of the current drought
34 conditions facing the state of California. Mr. Garcia stated that the District will continue
35 providing water conservation information to the Board and District customers via monthly
36 billing notes and bill stuffers, as well as on the District's website.

37
38 **B. CACHUMA PROJECT – ANNUAL ALLOCATION REQUEST:**

39 **1. Update Regarding Cachuma Member Units Allocation Request for Water Year 2021-2022**

40
41 Mr. Garcia reported there has been no official announcement from the US Bureau of
42 Reclamation (USBR) regarding the Cachuma Member Units allocation for Water Year
43 2021-2022 which begins on October 1, 2021.

44
45 Mr. Garcia reported that a teleconference meeting was held on September 21st with
46 representatives from USBR, the Cachuma Member Units, COMB, and the Santa Barbara
47 County Water Agency regarding the Cachuma Project allocation and assumptions and
48 factors to be used in making the allocation decision. Mr. Garcia anticipates that there
49 will be a decision made by USBR on the Water Year 2021-2022 allocation before October
50 1, 2021.

1 C. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT:

2 1. Eastern Management Area Update

3 The Board packet included an Agenda for the August 26, 2021 Regular Meeting of the
4 Eastern Management Area (EMA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) in the Santa
5 Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, a Draft GSP Overview presentation, and SGMA
6 Newsletter No. 5.
7

8 Mr. Garcia reported that he and Trustee Joos attended the August 26, 2021 teleconference
9 meeting of the EMA GSA. He reviewed the August meeting Board agenda items and
10 reported that the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan has been completed, made
11 available to the public, and is open for public comment. Mr. Garcia stated that the draft
12 GSP is a comprehensive document and encouraged everyone to review the electronic
13 draft that is posted on the SGMA website. Mr. Garcia stated the Board will have an
14 opportunity to review the draft GSP in October/November prior to submittal to the
15 Department of Water Resources. Mr. Garcia stated the next meeting of the EMA GSA will
16 be held in October.
17

18 11. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS,
19 ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, OBSERVATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR
20 COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION:
21

22 Trustee Burchardi reported that the City of Solvang's Public Works Director Matt van der Linden
23 announced that he will be retiring on December 31, 2021.
24

25 The Board packet included a Public Meeting Notice for the Los Olivos Community Services
26 District Board of Directors meeting of September 15, 2021, and the Family Farm Alliance Monthly
27 Briefing for the month of September 2021.
28

29 Mr. Gary Kvistad, District Legal Counsel, reported on AB 361 which was passed on September
30 16, 2021 to amend provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act that will apply to the District beginning
31 on October 1, 2021.
32

33 12. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS:

34 The Correspondence list was received by the Board.
35

36 13. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

37 There were no requests from the Board.
38

39 14. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

40 President Clay stated the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for October
41 19, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.
42

43 15. CLOSED SESSION:

44 The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:05 p.m.
45

46 A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION:

47 [Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code]

- 48 1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources
49 Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of
50 Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests
51

1 2. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood
2 Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court
3 Case No. 21CV02432
4

5 **B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION:**

6 [Subdivision (d)(2) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Significant Exposure to
7 Litigation – Two Matters]
8

9 **16. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:**

10 [Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]
11

12 The public participation phone line was re-opened, and the Board reconvened to Open Session at
13 7:39 p.m.
14

15 Mr. Garcia announced that the Board met in Closed Session concerning Agenda Items 15.A.1,
16 15.A.2, and 15.B. He stated that there was no reportable action from Closed Session.
17

18
19
20
21 **17. ADJOURNMENT:**

22 Being no further business, it was MOVED by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Joos, and
23 carried by a 5-0-0 voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.
24

25 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

26 **DRAFT**
27

28 _____
29 Mary Martone, Secretary to the Board
30

31 **ATTEST:**

32 _____
33 Jeff Clay, President
34

35 **MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

36 **DRAFT**
37 _____
38 Karen King, Board Administrative Assistant
39
40
41

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1
October 19, 2021**

Consent Agenda Report

CA-1. Water Supply and Production Report. Total water production in **September (414 AF)** was lower than water production in August (512 AF), about 60 AF lower than the recent 3-year running average (2018-2020) for the month of **September (474 AF)**, and noticeably lower than the previous 10-year running average (2010-2020) for the month of **September (581 AF)**. As previously reported, these numbers reflect the fact that in recent years the District's overall demands have been trending substantially below historic levels for domestic, rural residential, and agricultural water deliveries due to water conservation, changing water use patterns, private well installations, and weather conditions.

For the month of **September**, approximately **127.5 AF** was produced from the Santa Ynez Upland wells, and **<1 AF** was produced from the 6.0 cfs and 4.0 cfs Santa Ynez River well fields (minimum production for flushing only). As reflected in the Monthly Water Deliveries Report from the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA), the District received approximately **286 AF** in SWP supplies for the month, all of which was accounted for as Exchange deliveries. Direct diversions to the County Park and USBR were **1.70 AF**.

The USBR Daily Operations Report for Lake Cachuma in **September** (ending September 30, 2021) recorded the end of month lake elevation at **713.48'** with the end of month storage of **95,720 AF**. USBR recorded total precipitation at the lake of **0.00 inches in September**. For the month, reservoir storage was supplemented with **568 AF** of SWP deliveries for South Coast entities. Reservoir evaporation in **September** was **962.8 AF**.

Based on the maximum storage of 193,305 AF, Cachuma reservoir currently (as of **October 11, 2021**) is at approximately **48.9%** of capacity, with current storage of **94,575 AF** (Santa Barbara County Flood Control District, Rainfall and Reservoir Summary). At a point when reservoir storage exceeds 100,000 AF, the Cachuma Member Units typically have received a full allocation, which is the case for this federal WY 2020-2021. Conversely, a 20% pro-rata reduction from the full allocation is scheduled to occur in Water Years beginning at less than 100,000 AF, where incremental reductions may occur (and previously have occurred) at other lower storage levels. **For the federal WY 2020-2021** (October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021), the Cachuma Member Units requested a 100% allocation of the Project's annual operational yield of 25,714 AF. By letter dated October 19, 2020, USBR issued a 100% allocation decision. ID No.1's share is 10.31% or 2,651 AF. In addition to its 2020-21 allocation, ID No.1 currently holds approximately 1,167 AF of previous years carryover water in the reservoir, subject to evaporation. **By letter dated July 1, 2021**, the Cachuma Member Units submitted a joint request for a Cachuma Project allocation for federal WY 2021-2022 in the amount of 21,317 AF (an approximate 83% allocation). **By letter dated September 24, 2021**, USBR issued a **70% allocation decision, which equates to 18,000 AF**. ID No.1's **10.31% share of the 70% allocation amounts to 1,855 AF**.

Water releases for the protection of fish and aquatic habitat are made from Cachuma reservoir to the lower Santa Ynez River pursuant to the 2000 Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the 2019 Water Rights Order (WR 2019-0148) issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). These releases are made to Hilton Creek and to the stilling basin from the outlet works at the base of Bradbury Dam. The water releases required under the NMFS 2000 Biological Opinion to avoid jeopardy to steelhead and adverse impacts to its critical habitat are summarized as follows:

NMFS 2000 Biological Opinion

- *When Reservoir Spills and the Spill Amount Exceeds 20,000 AF:*
 - 10 cfs at Hwy 154 Bridge during spill year(s) exceeding 20,000 AF
 - 1.5 cfs at Alisal Bridge when spill amount exceeds 20,000 AF and if steelhead are present at Alisal Reach
 - 1.5 cfs at Alisal Bridge in the year immediately following a spill that exceeded 20,000 AF and if steelhead are present at Alisal Reach
- *When Reservoir Does Not Spill or When Reservoir Spills Less Than 20,000 AF:*
 - 5 cfs at Hwy 154 when Reservoir does not spill and Reservoir storage is above 120,000 AF, or when Reservoir spill is less than 20,000 AF
 - 2.5 cfs at Hwy 154 in all years when Reservoir storage is below 120,000 AF but greater than 30,000 AF
 - 1.5 cfs at Alisal Bridge if the Reservoir spilled in the preceding year and the spill amount exceeded 20,000 AF and if steelhead are present at Alisal Reach
 - 30 AF per month to “refresh the stilling basin and long pool” when Reservoir storage is less than 30,000 AF

The water releases required under the SWRCB Water Rights Order 2019-0148 for the protection of fish and other public trust resources in the lower Santa Ynez River and to prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water are summarized as follows:

SWRCB Order WR 2019-0148

- *During Below Normal, Dry, and Critical Dry water years (October 1 – September 30), releases shall be made in accordance with the requirements of the NMFS 2000 Biological Opinion as set forth above.*
- *During Above Normal and Wet water years, the following minimum flow requirements must be maintained at Hwy 154 and Alisal Bridges:*
 - 48 cfs from February 15 to April 14 for spawning
 - 20 cfs from February 15 to June 1 for incubation and rearing
 - 25 cfs from June 2 to June 9 for emigration, with ramping to 10 cfs by June 30
 - 10 cfs from June 30 to October 1 for rearing and maintenance of resident fish
 - 5 cfs from October 1 to February 15 for resident fish
- *For purposes of SWRCB Order WR 2019-0148, water year classifications are as follows:*
 - Wet is when Cachuma Reservoir inflow is greater than 117,842 AF;
 - Above Normal is when Reservoir inflow is less than or equal to 117,842 AF or greater than 33,707 AF;
 - Below Normal is when Reservoir inflow is less than or equal to 33,707 AF or greater than 15,366 AF;
 - Dry is when Reservoir inflow is less than or equal to 15,366 AF or greater than 4,550 AF
 - Critical Dry is when Reservoir inflow is less than or equal to 4,550 AF

For the month of September, water releases for fish were approximately 25 AF to Hilton Creek and approximately 25 AF to the outlet works for a total of 50 AF. Notably, the current water rights releases are used conjunctively to satisfy most of the BiOp and State Board Order requirements for fishery protection. As of the end of September 2021, a total of approximately 43,667 AF of Cachuma Project water has been released under regulatory requirements for the protection of fish and fish habitat below Bradbury Dam since the year after the last spill in 2011.

CA-2. State Water Project (SWP) and Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) Updates.

As previously reported, the Final 2021 State Water Project (SWP) Table A allocation is only 5%, which matches the lowest allocation in the history of the SWP (5% final allocation in 2014). This allocation translates to 35 AF for ID No.1's share of Table A supplies through CCWA. In addition to its 5% allocation, ID No.1 holds 146 AF of SWP carryover supply in San Luis Reservoir.

As previously reported and as reflected in the enclosed meeting agendas for the CCWA Board of Directors (September 23, 2021) and CCWA Operating Committee (October 14, 2021), CCWA remains actively engaged in a variety of matters related to the SWP and SWP supplies, including but not limited to: ongoing drought conditions, SWP operations, and SWP forecasts; the 2021 Supplemental Water Purchase Program; Warren Act Contract renewal; water supply management strategies; legislative updates; and pending litigation against the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION-CACHUMA PROJECT-CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 2021

LAKE CACHUMA DAILY OPERATIONS

RUN DATE: October 1, 2021

DAY	ELEV	STORAGE		COMPUTED* INFLOW AF.	CCWA INFLOW AF.	PRECIP ON RES. SURF. AF.	RELEASE - AF.				EVAP AF.	PRECIP INCH	PRECIP INCHES	
		IN LAKE	CHANGE				TUNNEL	HILTON CREEK	OUTLET	SPILLWAY				
	715.37	99,387												
1	715.32	99,289	-98	22.3	22.9	.0	66.2	3.2	39.0	.0	34.8	.280	.00	
2	715.25	99,152	-137	-12.9	22.9	.0	70.4	3.1	40.0	.0	33.5	.270	.00	
3	715.19	99,015	-137	-12.0	22.9	.0	74.8	3.1	39.0	.0	31.0	.250	.00	
4	715.13	98,917	-98	32.6	25.3	.0	79.1	3.1	39.0	.0	34.7	.280	.00	
5	715.06	98,780	-137	0.0	22.8	.0	79.8	3.1	41.0	.0	35.9	.290	.00	
6	715.00	98,663	-117	12.3	22.9	.0	79.1	3.2	39.0	.0	30.9	.250	.00	
7	714.94	98,545	-118	15.6	25.2	.0	80.9	3.1	39.0	.0	35.8	.290	.00	
8	714.89	98,448	-97	30.7	25.3	.0	80.0	3.1	39.0	.0	30.9	.250	.00	
9	714.84	98,350	-98	38.6	25.2	.0	79.2	3.1	40.0	.0	39.5	.320	.00	
10	714.78	98,232	-118	9.2	25.2	.0	79.5	3.1	39.0	.0	30.8	.250	.00	
11	714.71	98,095	-137	-3.7	25.2	.0	79.4	3.1	39.0	.0	37.0	.300	.00	
12	714.65	97,978	-117	29.7	22.8	.0	80.9	3.1	40.0	.0	45.5	.370	.00	
13	714.59	97,861	-117	17.5	22.8	.0	78.6	3.0	40.0	.0	35.7	.290	.00	
14	714.52	97,726	-135	-4.5	25.2	.0	79.2	3.1	39.0	.0	34.4	.280	.00	
15	714.45	97,591	-135	8.6	24.0	.0	88.7	3.1	39.0	.0	36.8	.300	.00	
16	714.39	97,475	-116	18.3	22.8	.0	85.5	3.1	39.0	.0	29.5	.240	.00	
17	714.31	97,320	-155	-18.2	22.7	.0	90.7	3.1	40.0	.0	25.7	.210	.00	
18	714.25	97,204	-116	26.2	12.5	.0	87.0	3.0	39.0	.0	25.7	.210	.00	
19	714.18	97,069	-135	12.3	12.5	.0	88.5	3.1	40.0	.0	28.2	.230	.00	
20	714.12	96,953	-116	6.8	12.5	.0	67.6	3.0	39.0	.0	25.7	.210	.00	
21	714.06	96,837	-116	5.5	12.5	.0	62.6	3.1	39.0	.0	29.3	.240	.00	
22	714.00	96,721	-116	11.7	12.5	.0	64.0	3.0	39.0	.0	34.2	.280	.00	
23	713.94	96,605	-116	24.1	12.5	.0	75.1	3.1	39.0	.0	35.4	.290	.00	
24	713.88	96,489	-116	39.4	12.5	.0	74.9	3.0	40.0	.0	50.0	.410	.00	
25	713.81	96,354	-135	8.7	12.5	.0	87.4	3.0	39.0	.0	26.8	.220	.00	
26	713.74	96,219	-135	15.0	12.5	.0	87.3	3.1	38.0	.0	34.1	.280	.00	
27	713.68	96,103	-116	17.0	12.5	.0	89.5	3.0	36.0	.0	17.0	.140	.00	
28	713.62	95,987	-116	15.0	12.5	.0	86.3	3.0	36.0	.0	18.2	.150	.00	
29	713.55	95,853	-134		12.3	.0	80.8	3.0	36.0	.0	25.5	.210	.00	
30	713.48	95,720	-133	16.0	12.1	.0	91.7	3.1	36.0	.0	30.3	.250	.00	
TOTAL (AF)			-3,667	381.8	568.0	.0	2,394.7	92.3	1,166.0	.0	962.8	7.840	.00	
(AVG)		97,518												

COMMENTS:

* COMPUTED INFLOW IS THE SUM OF CHANGE IN STORAGE, RELEASES, AND EVAPORATION MINUS PRECIP ON THE RESERVOIR SURFACE AND CCWA INFLOW.

DATA BASED ON 24-HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800.

INDICATED OUTLETS RELEASE INCLUDE ANY LEAKAGE AROUND GATES.



Santa Barbara County - Flood Control District

130 East Victoria Street, Santa Barbara CA 93101 - 805.568.3440 - www.countyofsb.org/pwd

Rainfall and Reservoir Summary

Updated 8am: 10/11/2021

Water Year: 2022

Storm Number: NA

Notes: Daily rainfall amounts are recorded as of 8am for the previous 24 hours. Rainfall units are expressed in inches. All data on this page are from automated sensors, are preliminary, and subject to verification.

*Each Water Year (WY) runs from Sept 1 through Aug 31 and is designated by the calendar year in which it ends
County Real-Time Rainfall and Reservoir Website link: > <http://www.countyofsb.org/hydrology>

Rainfall	ID	24 hrs	Storm 0day(s)	Month	Year*	% to Date	% of Year*	AI
Buellton (Fire Stn)	233	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.10	32%	1%	
Cachuma Dam (USBR)	332	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.09	27%	0%	
Carpinteria (Fire Stn)	208	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.22	59%	1%	
Cuyama (Fire Stn)	436	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0%	
Figueroa Mtn (USFS Stn)	421	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.11	22%	1%	12.0
Gibraltar Dam (City Facility)	230	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.12	38%	0%	12.1
Goleta (Fire Stn-Los Carneros)	440	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.26	74%	1%	
Lompoc (City Hall)	439	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	7%	0%	12.1
Los Alamos (Fire Stn)	204	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	10%	0%	
San Marcos Pass (USFS Stn)	212	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.80	136%	2%	
Santa Barbara (County Bldg)	234	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.30	74%	2%	
Santa Maria (City Pub. Works)	380	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	3%	0%	
Santa Ynez (Fire Stn /Airport)	218	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.08	29%	1%	
Sisquoc (Fire Stn)	256	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	3%	0%	

County-wide percentage of "Normal-to-Date" rainfall : **37%**

County-wide percentage of "Normal Water-Year" rainfall : **1%**

County-wide percentage of "Normal Water-Year" rainfall calculated assuming no more rain through Aug. 31, 2022 (End of WY2022).

AI (Antecedent Index / Soil Wetness)

6.0 and below = Wet (min. = 2.5)
6.1 - 9.0 = Moderate
9.1 and above = Dry (max. = 12.5)

Reservoirs

Reservoir Elevations referenced to NGVD-29.
**Cachuma is full and subject to spilling at elevation 750 ft.
However, the lake is surcharged to 753 ft. for fish release water.
(Cachuma water storage is based on Dec 2013 capacity revision)

Click on Site for Real-Time Readings	Spillway	Current	Max.	Current	Current	Storage	Storage
	Elev. (ft)	Elev. (ft)	Storage (ac-ft)	Storage (ac-ft)	Capacity (%)	Change Mo.(ac-ft)	Change Year*(ac-ft)
<u>Gibraltar Reservoir</u>	1,400.00	1,371.91	4,559	203	4.5%	-10	-71
<u>Cachuma Reservoir</u>	753.**	712.88	193,305	94,575	48.9%	-591	-4,695
<u>Jameson Reservoir</u>	2,224.00	2,206.42	4,848	2,914	60.1%	-27	-171
<u>Twitchell Reservoir</u>	651.50	NA	194,971	NA		NA	NA

California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS)

CIMIS Daily Report

Rendered in ENGLISH Units.

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 - Thursday, September 30, 2021

Printed on Friday, October 1, 2021

Santa Ynez - Central Coast Valleys - Station 64

Date	ETo (in)	Precip (in)	Sol Rad (Ly/day)	Avg Vap Pres (mBars)	Max Air Temp (°F)	Min Air Temp (°F)	Avg Air Temp (°F)	Max Rel Hum (%)	Min Rel Hum (%)	Avg Rel Hum (%)	Dew Point (°F)	Avg Wind Speed (mph)	Wind Run (miles)	Avg Soil Temp (°F)
9/1/2021	0.18	0.00	527	16.2	83.5	51.7	67.1	94	45	72	57.6	3.0 Y	70.9 Y	-- S
9/2/2021	0.19	0.00	582	14.1	84.3	48.8	62.9	99	41	72	53.6	2.9 Y	69.2 Y	-- S
9/3/2021	0.20	0.00	584	13.6	89.7	48.2	63.9	99	32	67	52.7	2.9 Y	70.1 Y	-- S
9/4/2021	0.20	0.00	579	13.9	91.3	50.4	64.8	100	30	66	53.4	3.1	74.1	-- S
9/5/2021	0.20	0.00	566	13.8	102.9 Y	49.0	67.4	100	13	60	53.1	2.8 Y	66.3 Y	-- S
9/6/2021	0.21	0.00	570	15.8	97.7	55.1	73.0	100	25	57	56.8	3.0	71.0	-- S
9/7/2021	0.20	0.00	551	17.5	93.9	55.7	71.8	100	36	66	59.7	2.8 Y	66.4 Y	-- S
9/8/2021	0.20	0.00	547	17.5	93.3	58.1	72.2	100	35	65	59.7	2.9	70.7	-- S
9/9/2021	0.14	0.00	379	17.2	97.8	58.0	72.1	100	31	64	59.3	2.8 Y	67.2 Y	-- S
9/10/2021	0.20	0.00	551	17.0	91.6	59.0	70.6	96	34	66	58.9	3.5	83.3	-- S
9/11/2021	0.18	0.00	548	16.1	88.3	54.8	66.5	100	36	72	57.3	3.3	79.0	-- S
9/12/2021	0.17	0.00	534	15.4	87.2	54.7	65.5	100	36	72	56.1	3.2	75.8	-- S
9/13/2021	0.20	0.00	553	15.2	93.8	54.7	68.5	100	28	64	55.9	3.2	75.8	-- S
9/14/2021	0.17	0.00	509	15.2	88.1	53.9	65.8	100	32	70	55.8	2.9	70.2	-- S
9/15/2021	0.17	0.00	527	14.2	84.9	51.9	63.2	100	35	72	53.9	3.0	72.7	-- S
9/16/2021	0.15	0.00	489	13.7	78.3	48.7	60.2	100	46	77	53.0	2.9	69.0	-- S
9/17/2021	0.15	0.00	496	12.9	78.9	46.7	59.6	100	43	74	51.3	2.6	62.1	-- S
9/18/2021	0.15	0.00	478	13.6	80.4	49.6	61.9	92	43	72	52.7	2.7	65.9	-- S
9/19/2021	0.17	0.00	502	14.2	92.7	48.1	63.8	95	29	70	53.8	3.3	78.1	-- S
9/20/2021	0.18	0.00	510	13.9	93.0	54.0	69.1	99	25	57	53.4	2.5	59.4	-- S
9/21/2021	0.20	0.00	530	13.2	99.4	49.2	70.0	93	13	53	51.9	2.8	67.8	78.0
9/22/2021	0.18	0.00	511	14.6	89.5	52.8	67.3	95	35	64	54.7	3.1	73.8	78.3
9/23/2021	0.15	0.00	453	14.9	88.5	54.4	65.0	99	33	71	55.3	2.9	69.3	78.5
9/24/2021	0.07	0.00	264	14.6	81.1	51.7	61.3	100	43	79	54.7	2.0 Y	47.8 Y	78.3
9/25/2021	0.15	0.00	443	13.6	83.6	49.2	63.3	100	29	68	52.7	2.6	63.4	77.4
9/26/2021	0.09	0.00	318	14.1	72.5	49.3	58.5	100	59	84	53.8	2.4	57.2	77.1
9/27/2021	0.08	0.00	289	15.0	73.9	55.6	60.7	94	57	83	55.5	2.5	59.1	76.4
9/28/2021	0.14	0.00	452	13.6	78.6	49.9	62.2	91	44	72	52.8	3.3	78.5	76.0
9/29/2021	0.16	0.00	500	10.4	79.7	43.7	59.9	93	34	59	45.5	2.8	66.5	76.0
9/30/2021	0.18	0.00	508	7.6	94.3	37.1	63.1	96	8	39	37.5	2.4	57.7	75.6
Tots/Avg	5.01	0.00	495	14.4	87.8	51.5	65.4	98	34	68	54.1	2.9	68.6	77.2

Flag Legend		
A - Historical Average	I - Ignore	R - Far out of normal range
C or N - Not Collected	M - Missing Data	S - Not in service
H - Hourly Missing or Flagged Data	Q - Related Sensor Missing	Y - Moderately out of range
Conversion Factors		
Ly/day/2.065=W/sq.m	inches * 25.4 = mm	(F-32) * 5/9 = c
mph * 0.447 = m/s	mBars * 0.1 = kPa	miles * 1.60934 = km



CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY
MEMORANDUM

TO: Ray Stokes, Executive Director
Dessi Mladenova, Controller

FROM: Julie Baker *JB*

SUBJECT: Monthly Water Deliveries

October 7, 2021

According to the CCWA revenue meters at each turnout, the following deliveries were made during the month of September, 2021:

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Chorro.....	170.62
López.....	268.66
Shandon	0.00
Guadalupe	0.96
Santa Maria	276.75
Golden State Water Co	0.42
Vandenberg	274.90
Buellton.....	27.83
Solvang.....	46.75
Santa Ynez ID#1	283.51
Bradbury	<u>554.76</u>
TOTAL.....	1905.16

In order to reconcile these deliveries with the DWR revenue meter, which read 1918 acre-feet, the following delivery amounts should be used for billing purposes:

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Chorro	172
López	271
Shandon	0
Guadalupe	1
Santa Maria	267*
Golden State Water Co	13*
Vandenberg	278
Buellton	28
Solvang.....	47
Santa Ynez ID#1	286
Bradbury	<u>555</u>
TOTAL.....	1918

*Golden State Water Company delivered 12 acre-feet into its system through the Santa Maria turnout. This delivery is recorded by providing a credit of 12 acre-feet to the City of Santa Maria and a charge in the same amount, to the Golden State Water Company.

Notes: Santa Ynez ID#1 water usage is divided into 0 acre-feet of Table A water and 286 acre-feet of exchange water.

The exchange water is allocated as follows: LaCumbre included due to Montecito's supply being exhausted.

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Exchange Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Goleta	107
Santa Barbara	71
Montecito	37
Carpinteria	47
LaCumbre	<u>24</u>
TOTAL	286

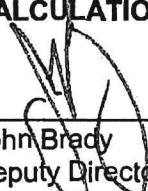
Bradbury Deliveries into Lake Cachuma are allocated as follows:

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Carpinteria	389
Goleta	159
La Cumbre	0
Montecito	0
Morehart	7
Santa Barbara	0
Raytheon	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	555

JAB

cc: Tom Bunosky, GWD
James Luongo, Golden State WC
Rebecca Bjork, City of Santa Barbara
Janet Gingras, COMB
Craig Kesler, San Luis Obispo County
Paeter Garcia, Santa Ynez RWCD ID#1
Shad Springer, City of Santa Maria
Shannon Sweeney, City of Guadalupe
Robert MacDonald, Carpinteria Valley WD
Mike Alvarado, La Cumbre Mutual WC
Pernell Rush, Vandenberg AFB
Nick Turner, Montecito WD
Matt van der Linden, City of Solvang
Rose Hess, City of Buellton

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF
DELIVERY RECORDS AND ASSOCIATED
CALCULATIONS**



John Brady
Deputy Director, Operations and Engineering
Central Coast Water Authority

A Meeting of the
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY**

will be held at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, September 23, 2021
via URL: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1445423926>
or via telephone by dialing 1(623) 404-9000 and entering code 144 542 3926 #



CCWA's Board meetings are conducted pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953 and Governor Newsom's Executive Orders (N-25-20, N-29-20 and N-35-20), temporarily suspending portions of the Brown Act in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the Board will participate in this meeting by video call or telephone.

Eric Friedman
Chairman

Ed Andrisek
Vice Chairman

Ray A. Stokes
Executive Director

Brownstein Hyatt
Farber Schreck
General Counsel

Member Agencies

City of Buellton

Carpinteria Valley
Water District

City of Guadalupe

City of Santa Barbara

City of Santa Maria

Goleta Water District

Montecito Water District

Santa Ynez River Water
Conservation District,
Improvement District #1

Associate Member

La Cumbre Mutual
Water Company

Public Comment on agenda items may occur via video call or telephonically, or by submission to the Board Secretary via email at lfw@ccwa.com no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. In your email, please specify (1) the meeting date and agenda item (number and title) on which you are providing a comment and (2) that you would like your comment read into the record during the meeting. If you would like your comment read into the record during the meeting (as either general public comment or on a specific agenda item), please limit your comments to no more than 250 words.

Every effort will be made to read comments into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Please also note that if you submit a written comment and do not specify that you would like this comment read into the record during the meeting, your comment will be forwarded to Board members for their consideration.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available on the CCWA internet web site, accessible at <https://www.ccwa.com>.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

II. Public Comment – (Any member of the public may address the Board relating to any matter within the Board's jurisdiction. Individual Speakers may be limited to three minutes; all speakers to a total of fifteen minutes.)

III. Consent Calendar – For Approval

- * A. Minutes of the July 22, 2021 Regular Meeting
- * B. Bills
- * C. Controller's Report
- * D. Operations Report

IV. Executive Director's Report

- A. CCWA Employee Recognition – *For Information Only*
- B. CCWA 30 Year Anniversary – *For Information Only*
- C. Water Supply Situation Report – *For Information Only*
- * D. 2021 Supplemental Water Purchase Program Update – *For Information Only*
- * E. Montecito Water District Request for CCWA to Facilitate Supplemental Water Purchase – *For Approval*
- * F. Request for Approval of Carryover of Project Funds for FY 20/21 to FY 21/22 - \$761,415.66 – *For Approval*
- * G. Request for Approval of Water Treatment Plant Programmable Logic Controller Upgrade Project (C-20PLCUPG and C-21PLCUPG) - Procurement of Engineering Services in the Amount of \$393,500 – *For Approval*

255 Industrial Way
Buellton, CA 93427
(805) 688-2292
Fax (805) 686-4700
www.ccwa.com

Continued

* Indicates attachment of document to original agenda packet.

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- IV. Executive Director's Report - *Continued***
- * H. DWR Statement of Charges: Overview of Protests Made – *For Information Only*
 - I. State Water Contractors Update – *For Information Only*
 - * J. Legislative Report – *For Information Only*
 - * K. Legal Update: Amendments to Brown Act re. Teleconferencing – *Action Item*
- V. CLOSED SESSION**
- A. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Government Code section 54956.8
Property: *State Water Supply Contract*
Agency negotiator: *Ray Stokes and Legal Counsel*
Negotiating parties: *Department of Water Resources and State Water Contractors*
Under negotiation: *Price and Terms*
 - B. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)
Name of case: *CCWA et al. v. SBCFCWCD et al.* [Case No. 21CV02432]
- VI. Return to Open Session**
- VII. Reports from Board Members for Information Only**
- VIII. Items for Next Regular Meeting Agenda**
- IX. Date of Next Regular Meeting: October 28, 2021**
- X. Adjournment**

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OPERATING COMMITTEE
of the
CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY**

will be held at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, October 14, 2021
via URL: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1469597795>
or via telephone by dialing 1(623) 404-9000 and entering code 146 959 7795#



CCWA's Committee meetings are conducted pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953 and Governor Newsom's Executive Orders (N-25-20, N-29-20 and N-35-20), temporarily suspending portions of the Brown Act in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the Committee will participate in this meeting by video call or telephone.

Public Comment on agenda items may occur via video call or telephonically, or by submission to the CCWA Board Secretary via email at lfw@ccwa.com no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. In your email, please specify (1) the meeting date and agenda item (number and title) on which you are providing a comment and (2) that you would like your comment read into the record during the meeting. If you would like your comment read into the record during the meeting (as either general public comment or on a specific agenda item), please limit your comments to no more than 250 words.

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Vice Chairman

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Member Agencies

City of Buellton

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Water District

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City of Santa Barbara

City of Santa Maria

Goleta Water District

Montecito Water District

Santa Ynez River Water
Conservation District,
Improvement District #1

Associate Member

La Cumbre Mutual
Water Company

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

II. * Consideration of a Resolution No. 21-01 to Authorize the Operating Committee to Meet via Remote Teleconference Pursuant to the Brown Act as Amended by Assembly Bill 361 – For Approval

III. Public Comment – (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any matter within the Committee's jurisdiction. Individual Speakers may be limited to five minutes; all speakers to a total of fifteen minutes.)

IV. * Consent Calendar

A. Minutes of the July 8, 2021 Operating Committee Meeting – *For Approval*

V. Executive Director's Report

- A. Operations Update – *For Information Only*
- * B. Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project - *For Information Only*
- C. Water Supply Situation Report and Supplemental Water Purchase Program Update - *For Information Only*
- * D. CCWA/San Luis Obispo County State Water Transfer Proposal - *For Discussion*
- * E. Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie Project - *For Information Only*
- * F. DWR Capital Cost Compression and Possible Financing JPA - *For Information Only*

VI. CLOSED SESSION

A. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of case: *CCWA et al. v. SBCFCWCD et al.* [Case No. 21CV02432]

VII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

VIII. Reports from Committee Members for Information Only

IX. Date of Next Regular Meeting: January 13, 2022

X. Adjournment

255 Industrial Way
Buellton, CA 93427
(805) 688-2292
Fax (805) 686-4700
www.ccwa.com

* Indicates attachment of document to agenda packet

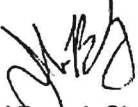
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MRS", is written over the bottom right portion of the page.



CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

September 27, 2021

TO: CCWA Project Participants
FROM: John Brady, Deputy Director 
SUBJECT: 2021 DWR Scheduled Coastal Branch Shutdown

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has finalized its schedule for the annual maintenance shutdown for the Coastal Branch of the State Water Project. This shutdown will require approximately 2 to 2 ½ weeks, depending on the location of your Turnout. Both DWR and CCWA will complete required maintenance work. To accommodate this work, CCWA staff will shut down participant Turnouts as follows:

- All Turnouts will be shut down **between 7:00 AM and 12:00 noon on Monday November 1, 2021.**

Once the shutdown maintenance work is complete, CCWA will activate Turnouts and resume water deliveries as follows:

- Water deliveries for the Golden State Water Company, City of Santa Maria, City of Guadalupe, Lopez, Chorro Valley and Shandon Turnouts will initiated between **8:00 AM and 12:00 noon on Monday, November 15, 2021.**
- Water deliveries for Vandenberg Air Force Base, City of Buellton, City of Solvang and Santa Ynez RWCD ID#1 Turnouts will be targeted for **Tuesday, November 16, 2021.**

Please be advised that to prepare the pipeline for the duration of the shutdown, the chlorine residual will be raised to the 3.5 mg/l range in water delivered during the week prior to the shutdown. This will ensure that water within the pipeline will remain potable throughout the outage. CCWA will also purge a portion of the pipeline by resuming lake delivery operations prior to activating Turnouts on the pipeline.

During the outage, CCWA will have the Treatment Plant Clearwell, Tank 2, Tank 5 and Tank 7 available as a limited source of emergency supply. Weekly bacteriologic water quality samples will be collected and analyzed throughout the shutdown period. If your system requires an emergency source of supply during the shutdown, please contact us to coordinate.

If there are any changes to the above schedule, we will inform you as soon as practical. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call me at my office (805) 688-2292 ext 228 or on my cell phone (805) 680-2116 at any time.

Also, please find attached CCWA daily delivery request protocol. As a reminder, flow changes are conducted once per day for normal operations. However, for emergency situations, flow changes will be accommodated. Please forward the flow change protocol to your operations staff.



CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

September 27, 2021

TO: Project Participants
FROM: John Brady, Deputy Director
SUBJECT: Flow Request Procedures

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Brady', is written over the 'FROM' line of the memorandum.

Since original construction, CCWA has an established water ordering procedure, which is presented below. CCWA is required to notify DWR twenty-four hours in advance of any flow requests by 9:30 a.m. This advance notification allows DWR to schedule the number of pumps and power required for the next day's operations. Also, this advanced notice gives CCWA staff the opportunity to make adjustments in pipeline water treatment systems for nitrification control if needed.

Flow Request Procedures

Routine Changes:

- All normal flow requests must be made **24 hours in advance** through the CCWA main office in Buellton at **(805) 688-2292 x236** (O&M Control Rm), between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. The requested flows are totaled, and then forwarded to Polonio Pass Water Treatment Plant staff. The Plant's Operator-in-Charge, in turn, notifies DWR by 9:30 a.m. of the requested deliveries for the following day.
- If the order needs to be placed prior to 7:00 a.m., CCWA has a voice-mail box strictly for O&M messages at **(805) 688-2292 x236**, it is checked regularly, including weekends/holidays and after-hours. If you have problems getting to this extension, you can call our Treatment Plant at **(805) 463-2212 x314** and the WTP Operator on-duty will notify Distribution staff of your request.
- Normal flow change requests for Mondays should be made on the preceding Friday.

For Emergencies and Weekend Flow changes:

- Emergency flow changes can be made (in most situations) immediately. Please note that CCWA staff will adjust pipeline water treatment following all flow changes, if needed.
- To request emergency flow changes, call the Distribution Operator On-Call at **(805)-245-7054**. If the Distribution Operator On-Call cannot be reached, please leave a message and then call the Water Treatment Plant Operator-in-Charge (OIC) at **(805) 463-2122 x314**. If the OIC cannot be reached, leave a message and then call the Plant Cellular Phone at **(805) 680-3715**. Messages are checked regularly on a 24-hour basis. The Plant's OIC will notify the Distribution Operator On-Call to coordinate the requested flow change. Distribution staff will contact the requesting participant immediately after the call is received from the Plant's OIC and confirm that the change has been made.

Our goal is to continue effective communication and facilitate the needs of each project participant. Please feel free to call myself at 805-688-2292 x228 or Tom Petersen, Distribution Supervisor at (805) 688-2292 x237, if you have any questions or concerns.

Paeter Garcia

From: Lisa F. Watkins <lfw@ccwa.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Lisa F. Watkins
Cc: Ray Stokes; John L. Brady; Thomas Petersen
Subject: 2021 DWR Scheduled Coastal Branch Shutdown and CCWA Flow Request Procedures
Attachments: 2021WinterShutdownNotice.pdf; CCWAFlowRequestProcedures.pdf

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

CCWA project Participant Water Operations (via bcc)

Attached please find two memoranda from John Brady, CCWA Deputy Director of Operations and Engineering, related to (1) 2021 Winter Shutdown and (2) Procedures for Requesting Flow Changes.

If you have any questions related to these memos, please contact John Brady at JLB@ccwa.com.



Lisa Watkins
Office Manager
Office: 805-697-5219
Email: lfw@ccwa.com
www.ccwa.com

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1

BID NO: 2021-001 RESULTS

One (1) 2022 FORD F250 Regular Cab 4wd Truck with Service Body and Lift-Gate

Perry Ford San Luis Obispo	Jim Vreeland Ford Buellton	Ford of Ventura	Mullahey Ford Arroyo Grande	Santa Maria Ford	Paso Robles Ford	Jim Burke Ford Bakersfield	Simi Valley Ford	Vista Ford of Oxnard
\$44,800.30	\$46,121.83	\$46,500.03	\$46,667.56	\$54,663.22	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

Total Bid Amount for One Vehicle
(includes taxes, license & delivery)

Note:

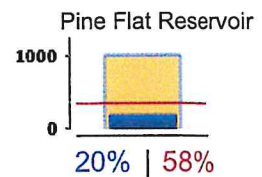
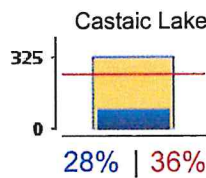
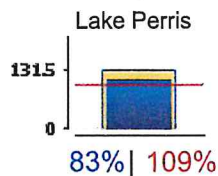
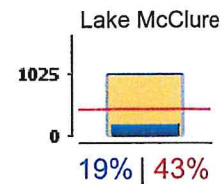
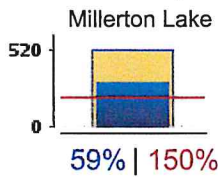
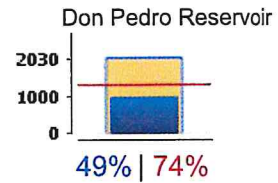
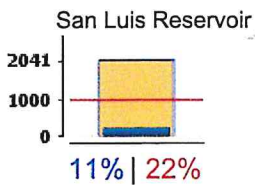
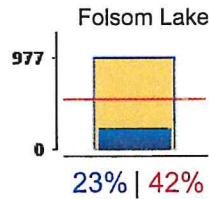
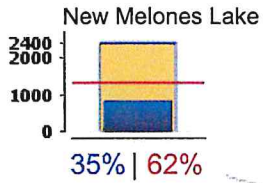
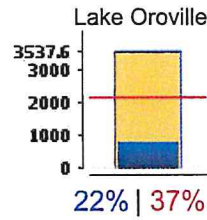
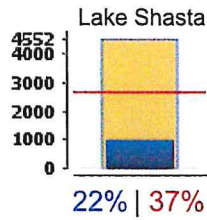
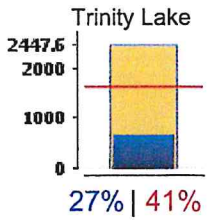
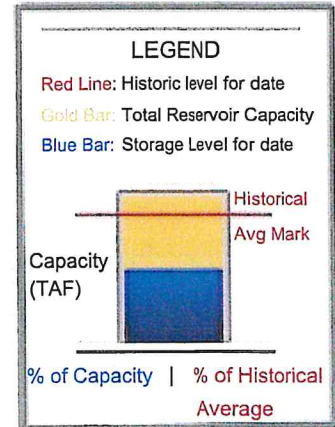
1. Request for Bids were opened August 11th and closed at 5:00 p.m. on August 23rd
2. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board-approved Budget included \$47,000 for purchase of one new fleet vehicle
3. The new fleet vehicle will replace a 2004 Ford F250 truck



CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

SELECTED WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight: October 12, 2021



Paeter Garcia

From: lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 4:04 PM
To: Paeter Garcia
Subject: Agenda for October 19, 202: State Water Board Meeting: Drought items
Attachments: 10_19_2021_agenda_links.pdf

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



This is a message from the State Water Resources Control Board.

Attached is the agenda for the October 19, 2021 Board Meeting. It can also be accessed at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/agendas/2021/oct/10_19_2021_agenda_links.pdf

There will be three informational items related to drought and water conservation

Items:

4. Drought Update
5. Update on Current Hydrologic Conditions
6. Updates on Monthly Water Production and Conservation Data Reported by Urban Retail Water Suppliers



You are currently subscribed to water_conservation_regs as: pgarcia@syrwd.org.

To unsubscribe click here: leave-8273242-5497854.5a9b9f4fb76366f41fdf4d362816abe8@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov

State water regulators prepare for another dry winter

By ADAM BEAM | Published September 30 | Drought | Associated Press

Troubling new images show how severe the drought is in the South Bay

On Wednesday, Santa Clara Valley Water District released troubling new images of how severe the drought is. Water officials said its 10 reservoirs are at historic lows. On average, they're now at 12.5% of capacity.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - California's reservoirs are so low from a historic drought that regulators warned Thursday it's possible the state's water agencies could get nothing from them next year, a frightening possibility that could force mandatory restrictions for residents.

California has a system of giant lakes called reservoirs that store water during the state's rainy and snowy winter months. Most of the water comes from snow that melts in the Sierra Nevada mountains and fills rivers and streams in the spring.

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See Why People with Diabetes Are Using This New App

Dexcom

Regulators then release the water during the dry summer months for drinking, farming and environmental purposes — including keeping streams cold enough for endangered species of salmon to spawn.

San Francisco and other water districts sue California over drought restrictions

In a battle over water rights, San Francisco and several Central Valley irrigation districts with water rights dating back more than a century are suing the state for forcing water restrictions, as California deals with a worsening drought.

This year, unusually hot, dry conditions caused nearly 80% of that water to either evaporate or be absorbed into the parched soil. It caught state officials by surprise as California now enters the rainy season with reservoirs at their lowest level ever.

"Nothing in our historic record suggested the possibility of essentially that snow disappearing into the soils and up into the atmosphere at the level that it did," California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot said. "These climate changes are coming fast and furious."

Last year's winter was the 10th driest since 1950. Still, California's reservoirs were at 93% capacity at the beginning of the 2020 rainy season. California won't have that cushion heading into this winter. It's impossible to predict with accuracy how much rain and snow California will get this winter. But if it's anything like the last two winters, there will be even bigger problems.

Nicasio Reservoir in Marin County at below-average levels amid sustained drought

Nicasio Reservoir is located in the Nicasio Valley region of Marin County. As of Wednesday, September 8, 2021, the Marin Municipal Water District says their five reservoirs are currently have 28,982 acre-feet of water in them. Compared to the average for this date, 2021 levels are at 49.90 percent of normal. The district has a total capacity of 58,088 acre-feet.

"We are collecting information from the agencies we provide water to about what their human health and safety needs are in the event that they get no allocation from the State Water Project," Department of Water Resources Director Karla Nemeth said.

A spokesman for the State Association of Water Agencies said they could not comment on Thursday because their executive director was traveling and unavailable.

Despite the severity of the drought, Gov. Gavin Newsom has not declared a statewide emergency. Instead, he has declared emergencies in 50 of the state's 58 counties, an approach his administration says is driven by lessons learned from the most recent drought when the state imposed restrictions statewide.

Santa Clara declared drought emergency

The city of Santa Clara declared drought emergency and put restrictions on water use.

"(Water agencies) have explained to us that one size fits all mandates from Sacramento sometimes have unintended consequences," Crowfoot said.

Still, California's water supplies are in poor condition heading into the rainy season. In July, Newsom asked everyone to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15%. But in the first three weeks after that request, Californians reduced their water usage by just 1.8%, state officials said.

In a call with reporters on Thursday, Crowfoot said mandatory water restrictions "need to be on the table." But he indicated those restrictions likely wouldn't come until state officials have a better idea of how much water the state will get this winter.

Amid a worsening drought, the Bay Area's water supplies are in good shape

The Hetch Hetchy Valley and Reservoir in Yosemite National Park, a system that is operated by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, is nearly at capacity. That's great news for much of the Bay Area, as residents are unlikely

to face water usage restrictions this year. KTVU Meteorologist Mark Tomayo reports.

"This winter will be determinative in terms of what additional actions we need to take on conservation," Crowfoot said. "We'll be watching."

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California Drivers With No DUI's Getting A Pay Day This September(Check If You Qualify)

Sponsored | Comparisons.org

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Santa Barbara County Public Works Department

Flood Control • Water Agency • Project Clean Water
130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 200, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
PH (805) 568-3440 FAX (805) 568-3434
<http://cosb.countyofsb.org/pwd/water>

SCOTT D. MCGOLPIN
Director

THOMAS D. FAYRAM
Deputy Director

September 13, 2021

Mr. Michael Jackson, P.E., Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office
United States Bureau of Reclamation
1243 "N" Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813

RE: Cachuma Project Water Year 2022 Allocation

Dear Mr. Jackson,

On July 1, 2021, the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Water Agency) sent a letter requesting the Water Year 2022 allocation pursuant to Article 3 of Cachuma Water Service Contract I75r-1802R, as amended by Amendatory Contract No. I75r-1802RA. In this letter, the Water Agency forwarded a request for 21,317 acre-feet (AF) from the Cachuma Member Units.

The Member Unit request was developed based on the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) model which was discussed in a joint meeting on June 30, 2021. The model projects water reserved for fish releases, water stored for downstream releases, evaporation, and Member Unit stored water. Using March 2023 as an endpoint for future projections, and assuming no significant inflows to the reservoir, the model identifies 21,317 AF of remaining project water. The Member Units used this as the basis for their request.

However, ending the model period in March 2023 results in an incomplete analysis. The April-September period left out of the model is the time of year with the highest rate of use, evaporation, and fish releases. Allocating project water based on ending the analysis in March, rather than September 2023, would result in a high likelihood of over-allocation, with water unavailable for other critical project uses.

The Water Agency recommends developing the 2022 allocation based on the following:

- Assume no inflow to the reservoir.
- Model analysis through the end of Water Year 2023.
- Reserve at least 2,000 AF of project water remaining in storage at the end of Water Year 2023

We think this approach strikes the right balance of providing critical water supplies to the Member Units, while protecting the reservoir's other uses.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maureen Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maureen Spencer
Acting Deputy Public Works Director
County of Santa Barbara Public Works



4699 HOLLISTER AVENUE
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93110-1999
TELEPHONE 805/964-6761
FAX 805/964-7002

September 20, 2021

Mr. Michael Jackson, P.E., Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office
United States Bureau of Reclamation
1243 "N" Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813

RE: Cachuma Project Water Year 2022 Allocation

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The Goleta Water District (District) is in receipt of the September 13, 2021 letter sent to you from the Interim Deputy Director of the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department (County), which directly contradicts the Cachuma Member Units' (Goleta Water District, City of Santa Barbara, Montecito Water District, Carpinteria Valley Water District, and the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1) water allocation request for Water Year 2021-22. The District strongly urges the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to wholly reject the County's unsubstantiated suggestion to withhold water to which the Cachuma Member units are legally entitled to receive. The Cachuma Member Units have fully accounted for the water in Lake Cachuma and have worked collaboratively with USBR to ensure that an appropriate allocation was requested and can subsequently be granted. Conversely, the County's suggestions are inconsistent with the terms of the Master Contract, defy historical precedent, and would arbitrarily and capriciously deny available water upon which the District is relying to serve its customers.

Prior to submitting our joint allocation request, the Cachuma Member Units, along with the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board and the County met with USBR representatives twice to discuss and review water availability. Through that collaborative effort, the Cachuma Members Units, COMB, and USBR concluded that there is enough unallocated water in the facility to provide for an 83% allocation after all other commitments (i.e., fish releases, downstream groundwater basin replenishment, evaporation and stored water) are fulfilled through March of 2023, which is a timeframe that extends past the upcoming Water Year and allows for two rainy seasons of potential inflow.

As you know, the Cachuma Project Master Contract (extended through September of 2023) defines the "Available Supply" the Member Units may request in any given year as "the maximum quantity of Project Water the Contracting Officer is authorized by Federal law, State law, and the Project Water Rights to make available to the Cachuma Member Units during each Water Year pursuant to this contract." (Sec. 1(a), emphasis added.) In deciding on the Cachuma Member Units' request for allocation of Available Supply, USBR has the discretion to approve the request or make a determination that the request "...proposes a Supply to be Delivered in excess of the quantity the Contracting Officer is authorized by law to deliver or a Delivery schedule that exceeds the physical limitations of the Project..." Recognizing USBR's broad discretion to determine what it is authorized by law to deliver and the physical limitations of the Project, the Cachuma Member Units submitted their good faith request for an 80-83% allocation, which is the maximum quantity of water available based on USBR's goal of accounting for the next 18 months of Lake Cachuma operations.

Mr. Michael Jackson, P.E.
September 20, 2021
Page 2

The County's suggestion to arbitrarily withhold a significant amount of water to fulfill future needs beyond USBR's 18-month timeline is entirely inconsistent with the Master Contract and historical practice and would deprive the Cachuma Member Units of the benefits of a critical facility for which they have paid for and maintained since the 1950's. Further, the implications of the County's proposed action set an unsettling precedent that has the potential to cost District customers millions of dollars and force the pre-mature and unnecessary declaration of a local water shortage emergency. Accordingly, the District implores USBR to maintain the collaborative and informed approach to water allocation that it currently has with the Cachuma Member Units and wholly reject the County's unsubstantiated and unwarranted suggestions.

Sincerely,



John McInnes
General Manager

Cc: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, Santa Barbara County
Jeff Frapwell, Assistant County Executive Officer, Santa Barbara County



City of Santa Barbara

Public Works Department

SantaBarbaraCA.gov

September 20, 2021

Main Office

630 Garden Street
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA
93102-1990

Tel: (805) 564-5377

Fax: (805) 897-2613

Engineering

Tel: (805) 564-5363
Fax: (805) 564-5467

Facilities

Tel: (805) 564-5583
Fax: (805) 897-2577

Streets Operations & Infrastructure Management

Tel: (805) 564-5413
Fax: (805) 897-1991

Transportation Planning & Parking

Tel: (805) 564-5385
Fax: (805) 564-5467

Water Resources

Tel: (805) 564-5387
Fax: (805) 897-1991

Mr. Michael Jackson, P.E.
Area Manager South-Central California Area Office United States Bureau of Reclamation
1243 "N" Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813

Subject: Cachuma Project Water Year 2022 Allocation

Mr. Jackson,

The City of Santa Barbara, a Cachuma Member Unit (CMU), disagrees with the recommendations in the County of Santa Barbara (SBCWA) letter to U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Re: Cachuma Project Water Year 2022 Allocation, dated September 13, 2021. The City stands by the recommendation of the July 1, 2021 SBCWA letter for a 21,317 acre-feet allocation from Cachuma Reservoir to CMUs.

The City's objections to the SBCWA letter of September 13, 2021 include:

- USBR and Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board (COMB), with participation from SBCWA, collaboratively evaluated and modeled Cachuma water resources, projecting eighteen months, using conservative assumptions. Amongst all participants, there was no recorded objection to the 83% allocation for WY2022. A SBCWA and CMU meeting was held as recent as September 1, 2021; in which no objections or concerns regarding the July 1, 2021 recommendation were recorded.
- The SBCWA letter was not coordinated, nor shared, with CMUs prior to sending to USBR. The City received a copy of the letter, by email, the afternoon of September 16, 2021; two business days before the September 21, 2021, 11:00 AM, scheduled USBR Cachuma Allocation WY22 decision meeting.
- The SBCWA letter does not provide modeling that counters the extensive, collaborative modeling, used to develop the July 1, 2021 request, nor does it refute the earlier modeling.

The City of Santa Barbara is committed to working collaboratively and transparently with USBR, COMB, SBCWA and the CMUs to ensure enduring water security for the Californians served by the Cachuma reservoir. I believe we have cleared this bar and request that USBR reject the eleventh hour, uncoordinated, request of SBCWA, which is counter to the coordinated request that was proffered on July 1, 2021.

I am available to discuss this matter further, at your convenience, 805-564-5378,
cmaurer@santabarbaraca.gov.

Sincerely,

Clifford M. Maurer, P.E.
Public Works Director

cc: Rebecca Bjork, Interim City Administrator;
Dan Hentschke, Assistant City Attorney;
Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager;
Duane Stoup, Deputy Area Manager, USBR;
Scott McGolpin, Public Works Director, Santa Barbara County;
Tom Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, Santa Barbara County;
Janet Gingras, General Manager, COMB



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
South-Central California Area Office
1243 N Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813



IN REPLY REFER TO:

SCC-102
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC AND U.S. MAIL

Mr. Thomas D. Fayram
Deputy Public Works Director
Santa Barbara County Water Agency
130 East Victoria Street, Suite 200
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
tfayram@cosbpw.net

Subject: Cachuma Project Allocation for the 2022 Water Year (October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022) – Contract No. I75r-1802RA (Contract) – Your Letters Dated July 1, 2021 and September 13, 2021 – California

Dear Mr. Fayram:

Reclamation received the letter from Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Water Agency) regarding “Cachuma Project Water Year 2022 Allocation Request,” dated July 1, 2021 that also enclosed the Cachuma Member Units request for an allocation of approximately 83% or 21,317 acre-feet for Water Year (WY) 2022. Their request was based on Reclamation’s approach of forecasting the available supply for 18 months from the start of the water year, or October 2021 through March 2023. However, Reclamation had a follow-up discussion with the Water Agency whereby the Water Agency recommended that Reclamation’s analysis for the 2022 allocation would be more complete if a 24-month period were considered. By letter dated September 13, 2021 (enclosed), the Water Agency followed up with their recommendations regarding development of the 2022 allocation including among other things that it should be based on a model analysis through the end of the water year 2023, or September 30, 2023. Reclamation has considered and concurs in the Water Agency’s recommendations. Reclamation’s consideration was shared with both the Water Agency and Member Units via a “Teams” meeting conference call on September 21, 2021.

Pursuant to Article 3(b) of the Contract, this letter serves as notice of the WY 2022 allocation for the Cachuma Project, which based on current conditions and forecast model analysis is **70%** of the maximum contract total, which equals **18,000 acre-feet**.

In addition, and as noted in our water year 2021 allocation letter signed October 19, 2020 (enclosed), Reclamation remains concerned with the levels of water being carried over for delivery in subsequent water years, as carryover from multiple annual allocations is *not* a benefit that is provided for in the Contract. Reclamation intends to send a separate letter regarding carryover and other issues that were discussed during the September 21, 2021 Teams meeting.

INTERIOR REGION 10 • CALIFORNIA-GREAT BASIN

CALIFORNIA*, NEVADA*, OREGON*

* PARTIAL

Subject: Cachuma Project Allocation for the 2022 Water Year (October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022) – Contract No. I75r-1802RA (Contract) – Your Letters Dated July 1, 2021 and September 13, 2021 – California

If you have questions, please contact Erma Leal, Repayment Specialist, at (559) 262-0350, via electronic mail at eleal@usbr.gov or for the hearing impaired at TDD (800) 877-8339.

Sincerely,
MICHAEL JACKSON
 Digitally signed by
 MICHAEL JACKSON
 Date: 2021.09.24
 14:57:45 -07'00'
 Michael P. Jackson, P.E.
 Area Manager

Enclosures – 3

Bureau of Reclamation Letter Dated October 19, 2020

Santa Barbara County Public Works Department Letter Dated July 1, 2021

Santa Barbara County Public Works Department Letter Dated September 13, 2021

cc: Mr. Matt Young

Manager

Santa Barbara County Water Agency

130 East Victoria Street, Suite 200

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

mcyoung@cosbpw.net

Ms. Maureen Spencer

Operations and Environmental Manager

Santa Barbara County Water Agency

130 East Victoria Street, Suite 200

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

mospenc@cosbpw.net

Ms. Janet Gingras

Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board

3301 Laurel Canyon Road

Santa Barbara, CA 93105

jgingras@cachuma-board.org

Mr. Nicholas Turner

Montecito Water District

583 Ysidro Road

Montecito, CA 93150

nturner@montecitowater.com

Mr. Robert McDonald

Carpinteria Valley Water District

1301 Santa Ynez Avenue

Carpinteria, CA 93013

bob@cvwd.net

Mr. Joshua Haggmark

City of Santa Barbara

630 Garden Street

Santa Barbara, CA 93102

JHaggmark@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Mr. John McInnes

Goleta Water District

4699 Hollister Avenue

Goleta, CA 93110

jmcinnes@goletawater.com

(all w/enclosures)

Mr. Paeter Garcia

Santa Ynez River Water Conversation

District Improvement District No. 1

P.O. Box 157

Santa Ynez, CA 93460

pgarcia@syrwd.org

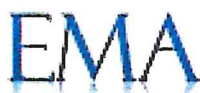


PUBLIC DRAFT

Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

**Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater
Basin – Eastern Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

September 8, 2021.



Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Eastern Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Prepared by.



GSI Water Solutions, Inc.
418 Chapala Street, Suite H, Santa Barbara, CA 93101



PUBLIC DRAFT EMA GSP

Public Draft of the Eastern Management Area (EMA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) is available for public review and comment (September 9, 2021 - October 24, 2021 (11:59 pm PST)).

READ MORE »

(/public-draft-ema-gsp)

EMA COMMENT FORM

Submit general comments or comments on documents open for public review or upload a comment letter.

READ MORE »

(<http://portal.santaynezwater.org/comment/new?gsaKey=EMA>)

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3669 SAGUNTO ST, SUITE 101, SANTA YNEZ CA 93460
TELEPHONE (805) 693-1156

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Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

(<https://www.santaynezwater.org/>)

[Contact Us \(/contact-us\)](/contact-us)

THIS ITEM APPEARS ON

[EASTERN GSA \(/EASTERN-GSA\)](/eastern-gsa)

[HOMEPAGE \(/\)](#)

Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Groundwater: California's Vital Resource (What is groundwater?)

Groundwater: California's Vital Resource



The Summary:

General Overview of the Public Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

📄 Download the Summary of the Public Draft EMA GSP (pdf)

(/files/e43e3b3c2/August+26+2021+EMA+GSP+Overview.pdf)

- This slide deck provides a great general overview of the Public Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) including the process involved to create this Draft GSP and the next steps to follow.

The Document:

Public Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

📄 Download the Public Draft EMA GSP document (dated Sept. 8, 2021)

(/files/4352737ed/EMA+GSP+Public+Draft+2021-09-08+with+hyperlinks.pdf)

- Table of Contents is formatted with links to document pages. You can click on an item in the Table of Contents to be taken directly to that page of the document.
- This document is a comprehensive science and data driven plan. (939 pages)
- Public Draft EMAS GSP is open for **public review and comment from September 9, 2021 through October 24, 2021** (45 days).

The Public Comment Form:

- [COMMENT FORM \(https://portal.santaynezwater.org/comment/new?gsaKey=EMA\)](https://portal.santaynezwater.org/comment/new?gsaKey=EMA)
- **Deadline for public comments: October 24, 2021 at 11:59 pm PST**
- Public comments are submitted, stored, reviewed and replied to via the online communications portal. You can post individual comments and/or upload a letter to this portal.
- If you are unable to access the online communications portal, please contact Bill Buelow (bbuelow@syrwcd.com).

The Next Steps:

- Public comments on the Public Draft GSP, received during this public comment period, will be reviewed and considered for possible incorporation into the Final GSP.
- The EMA GSA Committee will adopt the Final GSP then will submit it to the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by January 31, 2022.

- The Final GSP will then be posted to the DWR website for a 75-day public review and comment period. (Public comments go directly to DWR.)

EMA OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC DRAFT GSP

A general overview of the Public Draft GSP for the EMA. The EMA GSA highly recommends you review these slides prior to reviewing the Public Draft GSP document.

READ MORE »

[\(/ema-overview-of-public-draft-gsp\)](/ema-overview-of-public-draft-gsp)

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF SPECIAL MEETING

CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP
FOR THE EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA GSA
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE HELD
AT 01:00 P.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2021

TELECONFERENCE MEETING ONLY – NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION

Public participants can view presentation materials and live video on their device.

Meeting and public participation platform: ZOOM

You do NOT need to create a ZOOM account or login with email for meeting participation.

ZOOM.us “Join a Meeting”

Meeting ID: 835 1086 2922 Meeting Passcode: 034840

DIRECT LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83510862922?pwd=NE5mN242NWNQcWtNKzB1YnBPUGxPZz09>

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1-669-900-9128

PHONE MEETING ID: 835 1086 2922 #

If your device does not have a microphone or speakers, you can call in for audio with the phone number and Meeting ID listed above to listen and participate while viewing the live presentation online.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call and Introductions
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Workshop and Q&A on Public Draft EMA GSP
- V. Workshop and Q&A on Future Governance
- VI. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 24 hours prior to the scheduled special meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and <https://www.santaynezwater.org> in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

Paeter Garcia

From: Santa Ynez Groundwater Communication Portal (GCP) <santaynezgcp-no-reply@geiconsultants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 2:57 PM
To: Paeter Garcia
Subject: EMA CAG Meeting Notice & Agenda for Monday, October 11 at 1:00 pm (via ZOOM)

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The EMA Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) will hold a Video/Teleconference Meeting on **Monday, October 11, 2021 starting at 1:00 pm** (remote event). This meeting of the EMA CAG will include a Workshop and Question/Answer session to discuss the Public Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the EMA and Future Governance. The meeting is open to the public . Please come ready to discuss.

[Here is the link for document and presentations.](#)

1. Join the meeting through ZOOM:

- Direct Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83510862922?pwd=NE5mN242NWNQcWtNKzB1YnBPUGxPZz09>
- or join through ZOOM app or **ZOOM.us: "Join a Meeting";**
- **Meeting ID: 835 1086 2922**
- **Meeting Passcode: 034840**
- You can use your computer's microphone and speakers, however, a headset is recommended.

2. Or, call in using your phone:

- 1-669-900-9128
- Meeting ID: 835 1086 2922 #

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call and Introductions

III. Public Comment

IV. Workshop and Q&A on Public Draft EMA GSP

V. Workshop and Q&A on Future Governance

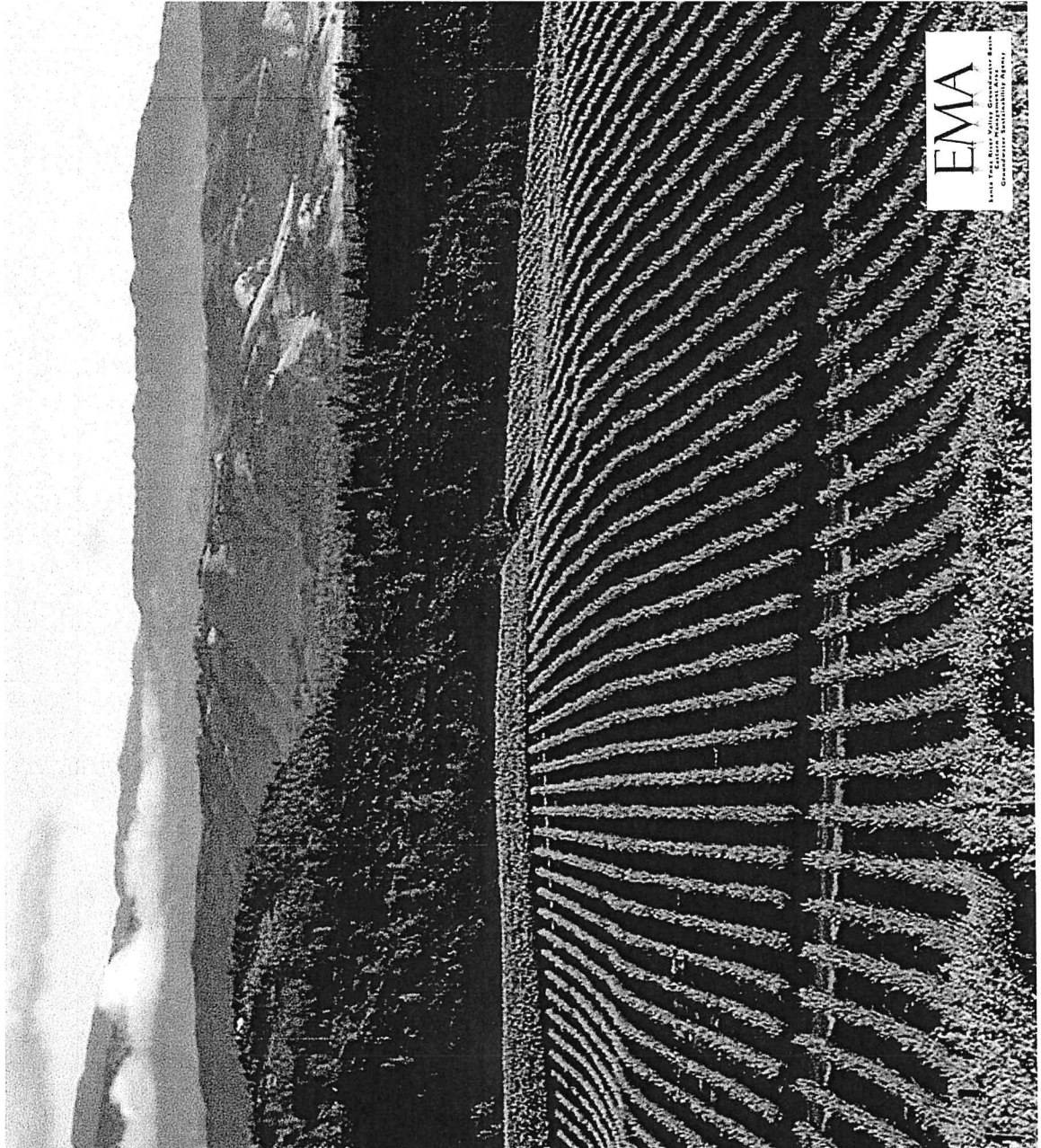
VI. Adjournment

Draft GSP Overview

Santa Ynez Basin - EMA

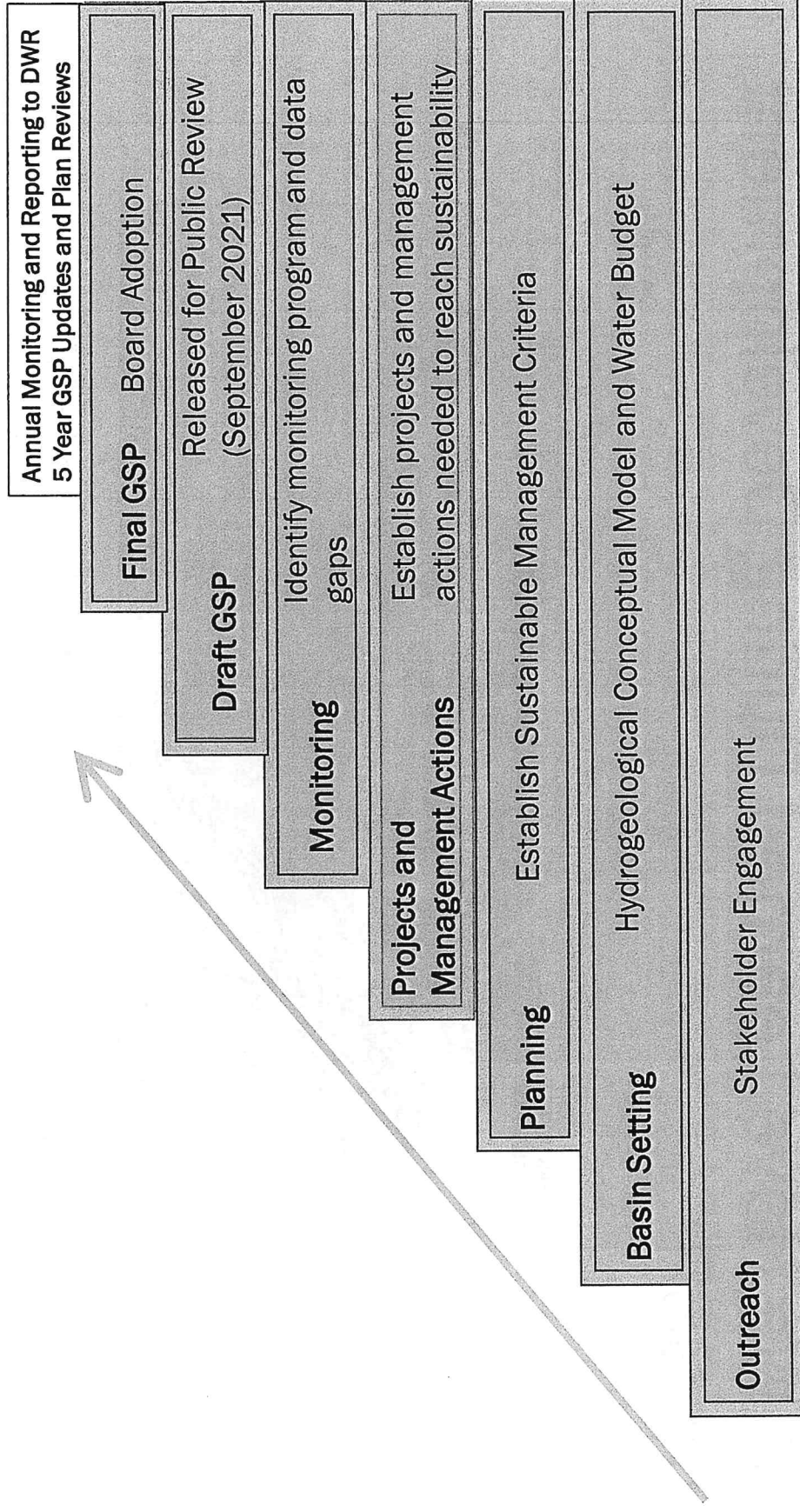
Presented by: Jeff Barry/GSI

August 26, 2021

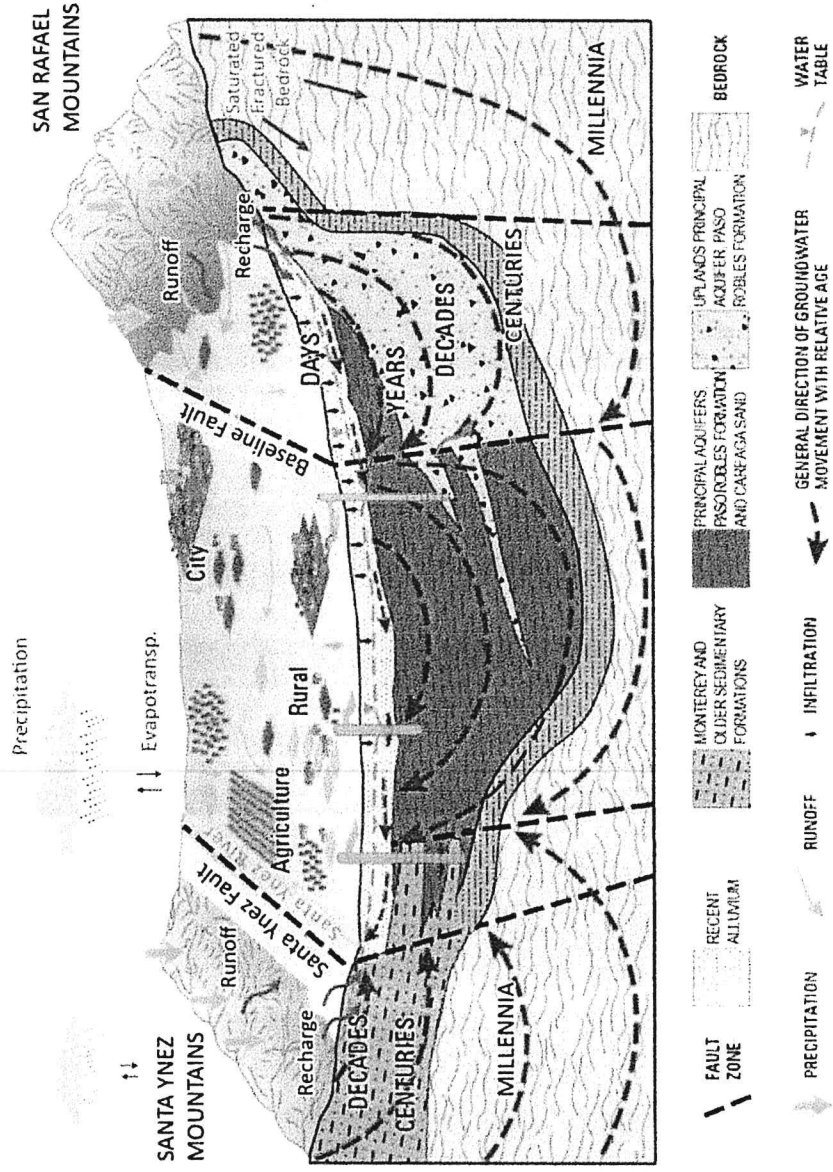


Where Are We Now in the Process?

Activities Leading to an Accepted GSP



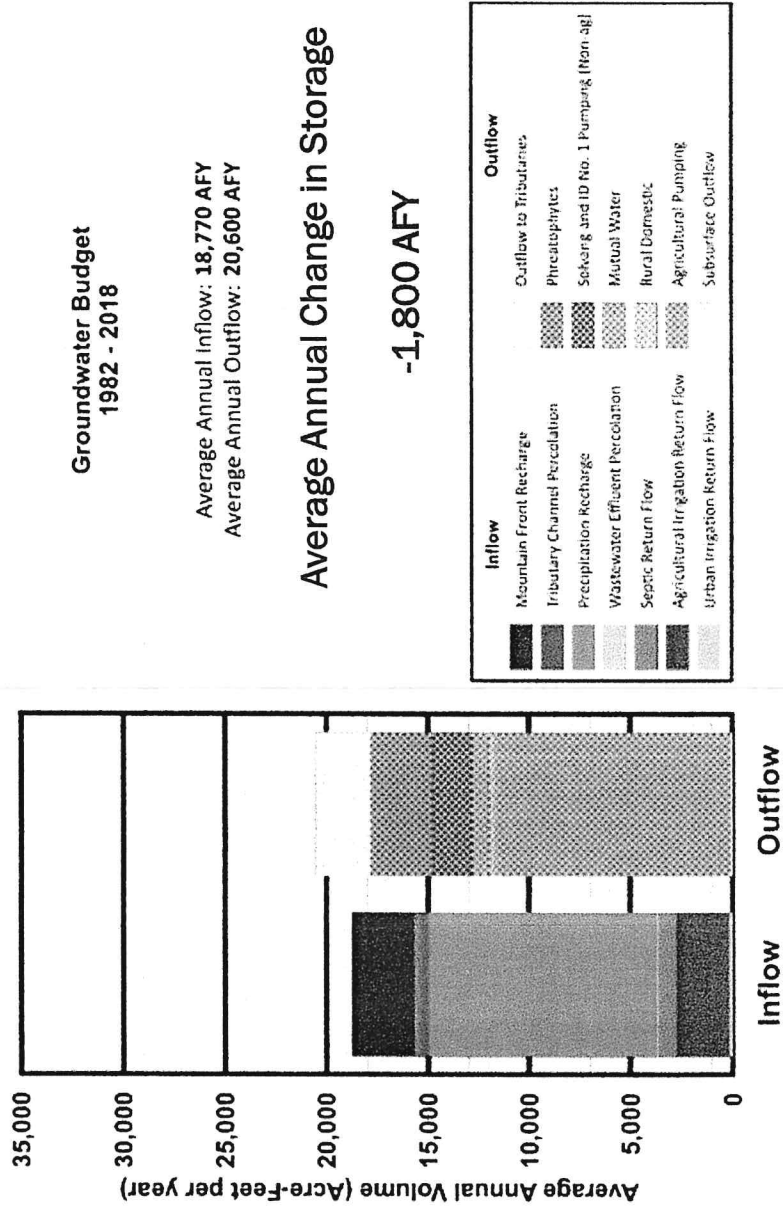
What We Have Learned During Development of the GSP



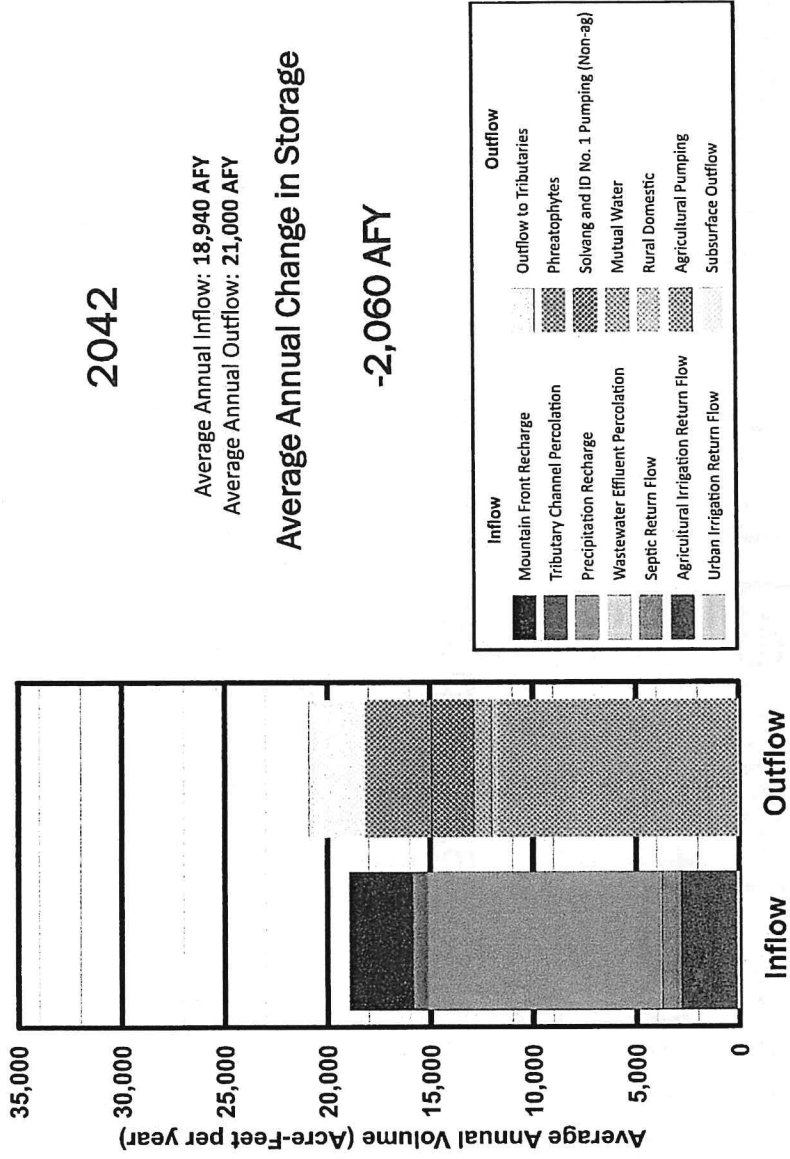
What We Have Learned During Development of the GSP

- Significant and unreasonable effects caused by groundwater pumping have not been observed.
 - Groundwater levels have fluctuated in response to wet and dry periods.
 - Drought is causing water levels to decline in many areas of the EMA.
 - The well impact analysis indicates that a number of wells have water levels below the top of screen.
 - Historical and projected future water budgets show that some depletion of groundwater in storage has occurred and may continue with limited expansion in irrigated agriculture and urban growth into the future. This will be addressed in GSP implementation.

Historical Water Budget



Future Water Budget with Climate Change



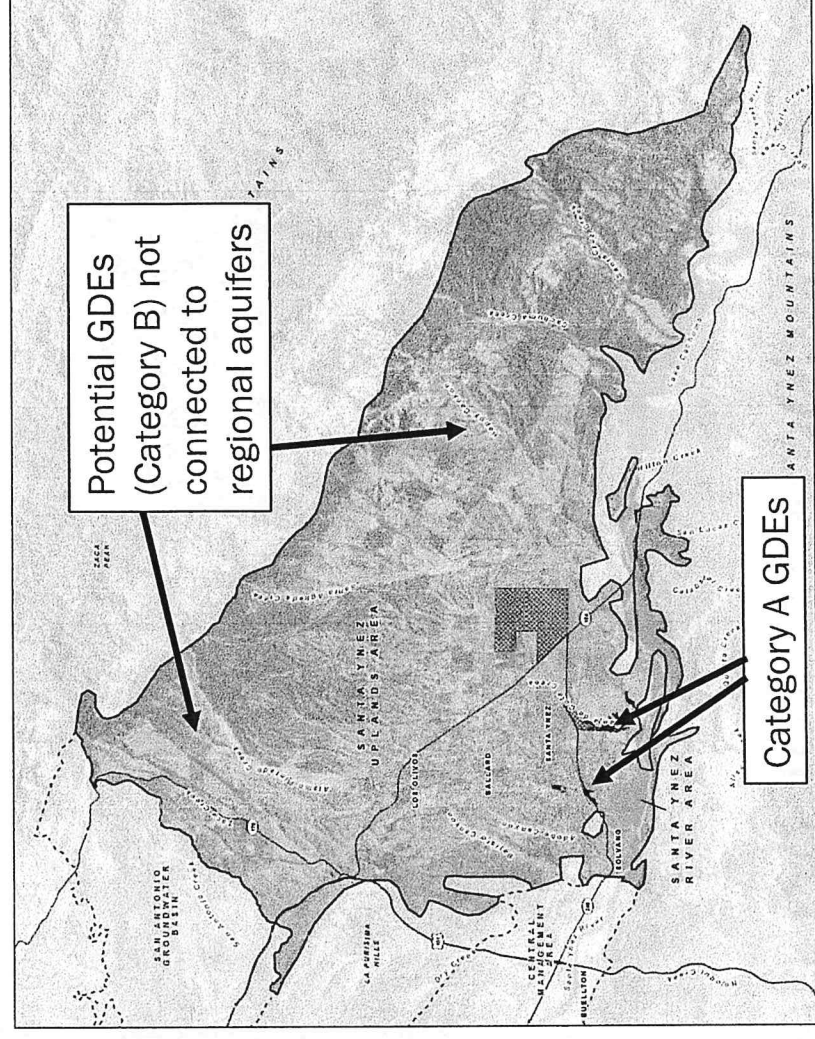
What We Have Learned During Development of the GSP (Cont.)

- Groundwater quality is acceptable for all beneficial uses.
- Land surface elevation changes are occurring (up and down) for a number of reasons including tectonics. No evidence that groundwater pumping is causing subsidence. No damage to infrastructure or land uses has been reported.
- Significant or unreasonable depletion of interconnected surface water has not occurred and is not expected in the future.

What We Have Learned During Development of the GSP (Cont.)

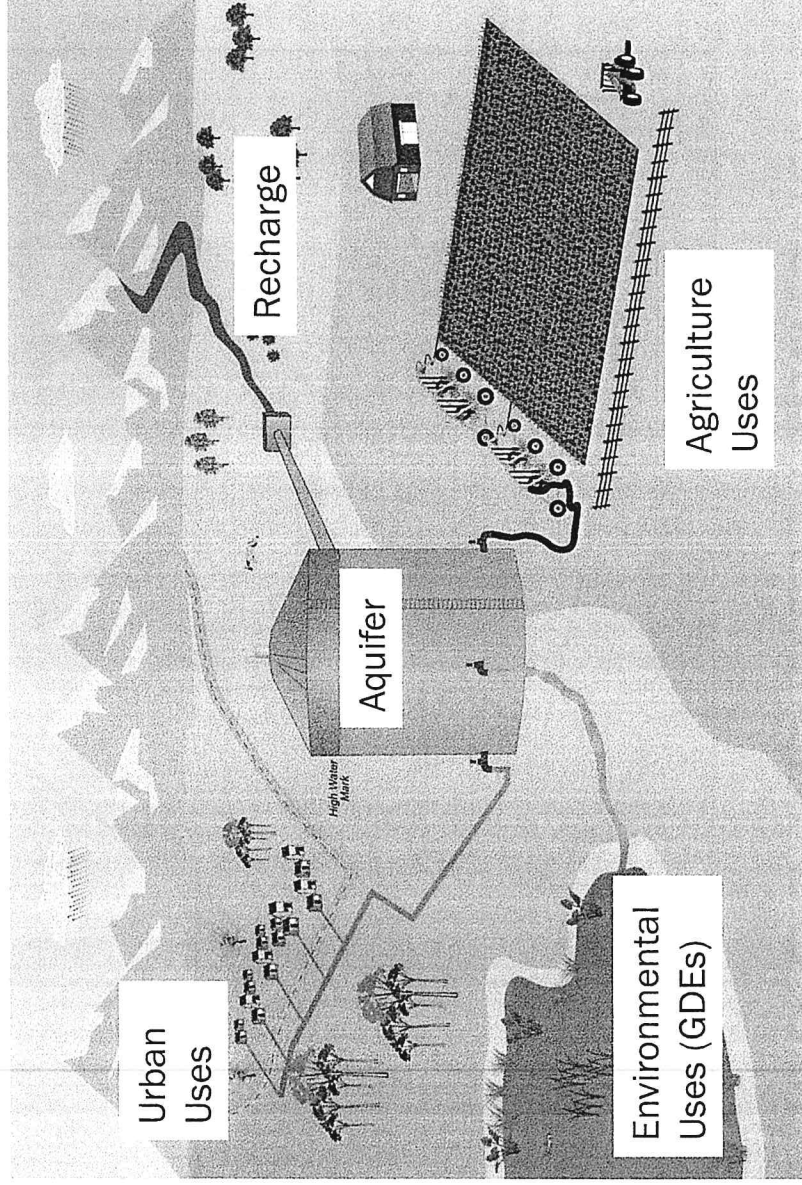
Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems

- Identified potential GDEs using online datasets from DWR
- Further defined GDEs based on depth to groundwater < 30 feet
- GDEs (Category A) identified on the lower end of Alamo Pintado and Zanja de Cota Creeks where groundwater discharges to surface water



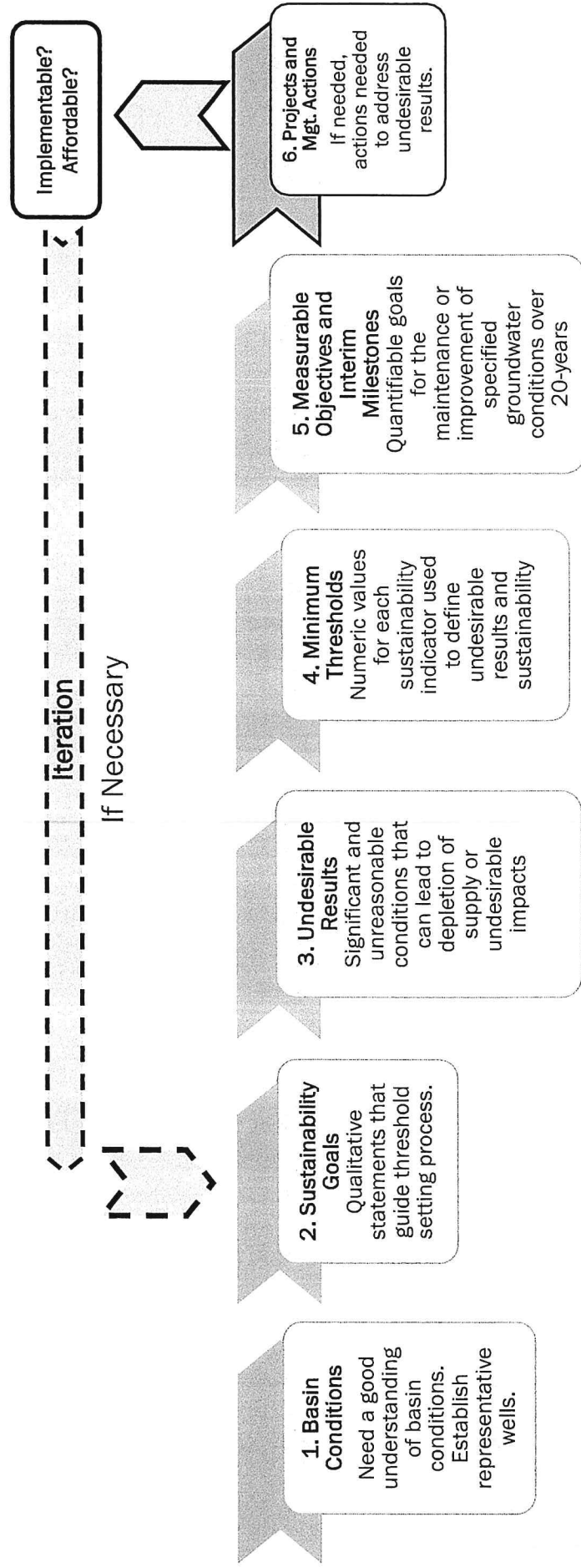
What We Have Learned During Development of the GSP (cont.)

- Sustainable yield is approximately 12,870 AFY



How are we Going to Measure Sustainability in the Future?

Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) Development Process



Sustainable Management Criteria

- Groundwater levels and storage
 - Minimum Thresholds*
 - Paso Robles Formation: 15 feet below Spring 2018 water levels
 - Careaga Sand: 12 feet below Spring 2018 water levels
 - Measurable Objective
 - Average groundwater levels in representative wells prior to the drought beginning in WY 2012

* Measured at 50 percent of representative monitoring wells in two consecutive years of average or above average rainfall measured at the Los Alamos Fire Station weather station (20-year moving average)

Robust Monitoring is Essential to Sustainability

- The water level monitoring network consists of 37 wells.
- 24 are representative wells (15 Paso Formation, 9 Careaga Sand) – monitored for water levels twice per year.
- Water levels in GDE areas monitored in 2 shallow monitoring wells installed in Alamo Pintado and Zanja de Cota Creek area – monitored monthly during dry season.
- Groundwater quality monitoring conducted by ID-1, City of Solvang, and mutual water companies at supply wells (SWRCB required frequency). Sampling of selected (35 at this time) domestic wells and agricultural wells will be done as part of the irrigated lands reporting program.
- Monitoring for subsidence consists of satellite data (inSAR) reviewed annually.

Draft Management Actions and Projects

- Group 1 – Management actions initiated upon adoption of GSP
- Group 2 – Management actions if desired or needed based on progress toward sustainability
- Group 3 – Projects if desired or needed that could be implemented at any time

Group 1 - Initiate w/in 1-Year of GSP Submittal

GROUP 1 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	GROUP LEVEL	REQUIRED PERMITS	PUMPING REDUCTION OUTCOME RELIABILITY	ESTIMATED COST	BENEFIT : COST RATIO
Address Data Gaps					
Expand Monitoring Well Network in the EMA to Increase Spatial Coverage and Well Density	1	Santa Barbara County (if a new well)	N/A	\$20,000 to \$200,000	Moderate - High
Perform Video Surveys in Representative Wells That Currently Do Not Have Adequate Construction Records to Confirm Well Construction	1	None	N/A	\$25,000 to \$75,000	High
Install Shallow Piezometers in Alamo Pintado Creek and Zanja de Cota Creek GDE Areas	1	Santa Barbara County, CDFW	N/A	\$75,000 to \$125,000	High
Review/Update Water Usage Factors and Crop Acreages and Update Water Budget	1	None	N/A	\$20,000 to \$30,000	High
Survey and Investigate Potential GDEs in the EMA	1	None	N/A	\$20,000 to \$40,000	High
Groundwater Pumping Fee Program	1	Proposition 26 / 218 or Local Ballot Initiative	Moderately Reliable	\$100,000 to \$200,000	Moderate - High
Well Registration and Well Meter Installation Programs	1	None	Moderately Reliable	\$75,000 to \$150,000	Moderate - High
Water Use Efficiency Programs	1	None	Moderately Reliable	\$50,000 to \$125,000	Moderate - High

DRAFT

Group 2 - Management Actions if Desired or Needed

GROUP 2 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	GROUP LEVEL	REQUIRED PERMITS	PUMPING REDUCTION OUTCOME RELIABILITY	ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COST	BENEFIT : COST RATIO
Groundwater BPA Program	2	None	Highly Reliable	\$75,000 to \$150,000	Moderate - High
Groundwater Extraction Credit (GEC) Marketing and Trading Program	2	None	Highly Reliable	\$150,000 to \$200,000	Moderate - High
Agricultural Crop Following Programs	2	None	Highly Reliable	\$75,000 to \$150,000	Moderate - High

DRAFT

Group 3 – Projects if Desired or Needed

GROUP 3 PROJECTS	GROUP LEVEL	REQUIRED PERMITS	PUMPING		
			REDUCTION OUTCOME RELIABILITY	ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COST	BENEFIT : COST RATIO
DSW-MAR Basins (In-Channel and Off-Stream Basins)	3	Santa Barbara County, USACE, DWR, CDFW, CEQA	Highly Variable	>\$1,000,000	Low - Moderate
WWTF Recycled Water & Reuse In-Lieu of Groundwater Pumping or Indirect Potable Reuse (City of Solvang, LOCSD, SYCSD, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians)	3	Santa Barbara County, RWQCB, DWR, CEQA	Moderately Reliable	>\$5,000,000	Low
EMA GSA to Become Funding Partner to Santa Barbara County Precipitation Enhancement Program	3	Santa Barbara County, CEQA	Highly Variable	>\$200,000	Moderate
Conjunctive Use - MAR Projects Using Imported (SWP and SYR) Water	3	Santa Barbara County, RWQCB, DWR, CDFW, CEQA	Moderately Reliable	>\$1,000,000	Low - Moderate
In-Lieu Recharge Projects to Deliver Unused and Surplus Imported Water to Offset Groundwater Extractions	3	Santa Barbara County, RWQCB, DWR, CEQA	Moderately Reliable	>\$1,000,000	Low - Moderate
Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects	3	Santa Barbara County, RWQCB, DWR, CEQA	Moderately Reliable	>\$1,000,000	Low - Moderate

Next Steps

- Public Draft GSP Released for Review - September 2021
- CAG Meeting – during public review period
- GSA Committee Meeting to Discuss GSP – October 7, 2021
- Final Draft GSP Released - November 2021
- Board Adoption - December 2021 or January 2022
- Due to DWR January 31, 2022

•Questions/Discussion

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

The three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin have prepared **Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs)** as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of January 2015. Final Drafts of the three GSPs are available for public review and comment online at SantaYnezWater.org. The Final GSPs must be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by January 31, 2022. Upon submittal, DWR will host a public comment period on the Final GSPs via its website.

**COMMENT
NOW**

***SGMA is implemented
at the local level***

Public Review and Comment on the Groundwater Sustainability Plans

**All three Draft GSPs are available on-line
SantaYnezWater.org**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS:

See website for exact dates or sign-up for email notifications.

Draft GSP: 45 days in September - October, 2021

Final GSP: 75 days in February-March 2022

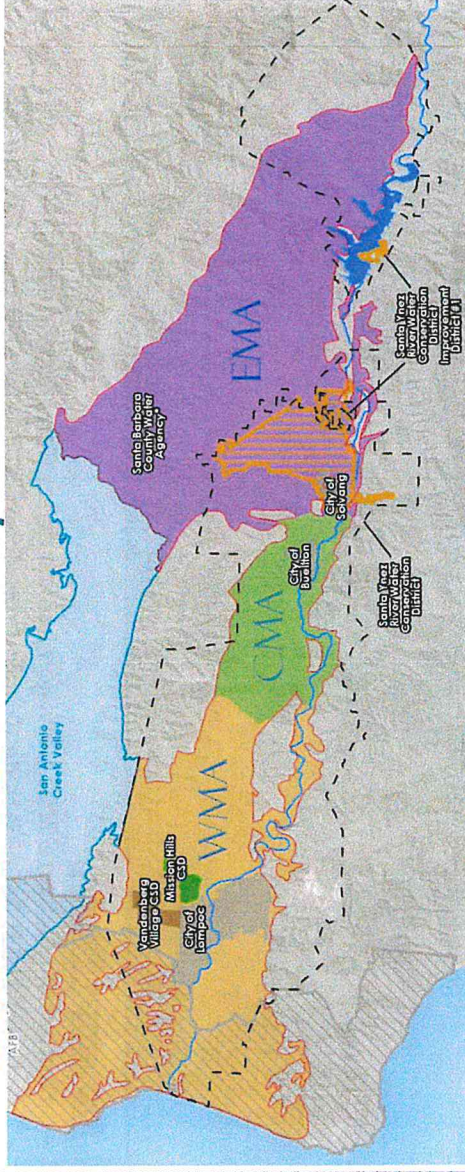
Final GSPs will also be available online.

**Western Management Area GSP
Central Management Area GSP
Eastern Management Area GSP**

A printed copy will be available for review at the following public libraries: Solvang, Buellton, Lompoc, and Vandenberg Village.

**Schedule of Public
Meetings, Workshops, and
Comment Periods located at
SantaYnezWater.org**

Three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin



Next Steps:

- **September/October 2021:** Public Review of Draft GSPs
- **October 2021:** Citizen Advisory Groups Meetings to discuss Draft GSPs
- **October 2021:** GSA Committee Meetings to discuss Draft GSPs
- **December 2021/January 2022:** GSP Adoption by GSA Committees
- **January 31, 2022:** Final GSPs due to DWR
- **February/March 2022:** Public Review of Final GSPs (comment via DWR website)



For more information, meeting announcements, and to review and comment on draft documents, please visit

SantaYnezWater.org or call (805) 693-1156 ext. 403

Cuenca de Aguas Subterráneas del Valle del Río Santa Ynez

Las tres Agencias de Sostenibilidad de Aguas Subterráneas (GSAs) en la Cuenca de Aguas Subterráneas del Valle del Río Santa Ynez han preparado **Planes de Sostenibilidad de Aguas Subterráneas (GSPs)** como lo requiere la Ley de Gestión Sostenible de Aguas Subterráneas (SGMA) de enero de 2015. Los Borradores Finales de los tres GSP están disponibles para su revisión pública y comentarios en línea en SantaYnezWater.org. Los GSP Finales deben ser presentados al Departamento de Recursos Hídricos de California (DWR) antes del 31 de enero de 2022. Una vez presentados, el DWR organizará un período de comentarios públicos sobre los GSP Finales a través de su página web.

COMENTE AHORA

La SGMA es aplicada a nivel local

Revisión y Comentarios Públicos sobre los Planes de Sostenibilidad de Aguas Subterráneas

Los tres Borradores de los GSP están disponibles en línea SantaYnezWater.org

PERÍODOS DE COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS :

Consulte el sitio web para conocer las fechas exactas o regístrese para recibir notificaciones por correo electrónico.

Borrador del GSP: 45 días en septiembre - octubre, 2021

GSP Final: 75 días en febrero - marzo, 2022

Los GSP Finales también estarán disponibles en línea.

GSP del Área de Gestión Occidental (WMA)

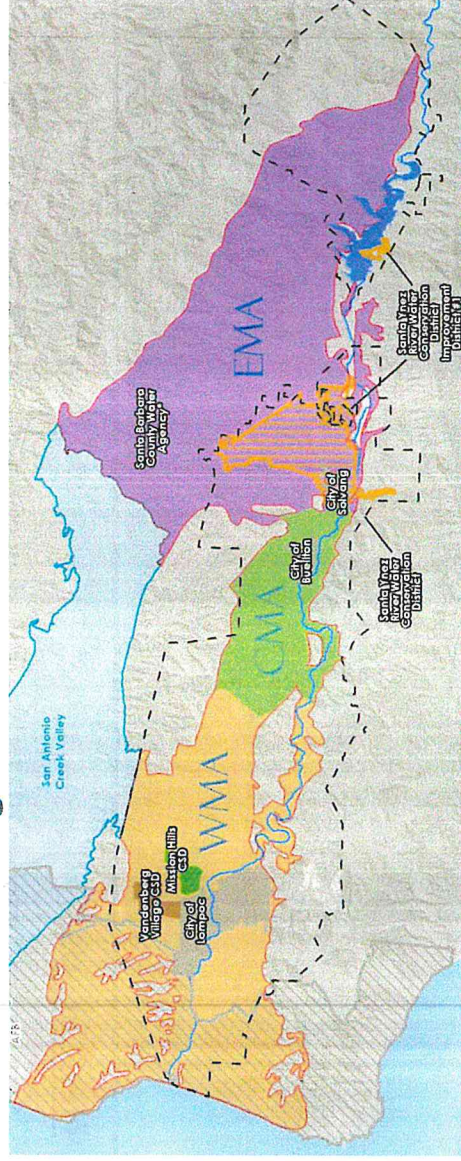
GSP del Área de Gestión Central (CMA)

GSP del Área de Gestión Oriental (EMA)

En las siguientes bibliotecas públicas, estará disponible una copia impresa para su revisión: Solvang, Buellton, Lompoc y Vandenberg Village.

Calendario de Reuniones Públicas, Talleres y Períodos de Comentarios en SantaYnezWater.org

Tres Agencias de Sostenibilidad de Aguas Subterráneas (GSA) en la Cuenca de Aguas Subterráneas del Valle del Río Santa Ynez



Próximos Pasos:

- **Septiembre/octubre 2021:** Revisión Pública de los Borradores de los GSP
- **Octubre 2021:** Reuniones de Grupos Consultivos de Ciudadanos para discutir los Borradores de los GSP
- **Octubre 2021:** Reuniones del Comité de la GSA para discutir los Borradores de los GSP
- **Diciembre 2021/enero 2022:** Aprobación del GSP por los Comités de la GSA
- **31 de enero, 2022:** GSP Finales por el DWR
- **Febrero/marzo 2022:** Revisión Pública de los GSP Finales (comentarios a través del sitio web del DWR)



Para más información, anuncios de reuniones y para revisar y comentar los borradores de los documentos, visite SantaYnezWater.org o llame al (805) 693-1156 ext. 403

Lisa Palmer, President
Tom Fayram, Vice President
Mike Arme, Director
Brian O'Neill, Director
Brad Ross, Director



Agenda Item 12. - Reports

LOS OLIVOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT Board of Directors Regular Meeting October 13, 2021, 6:00 PM

This meeting will be held both in-person and electronically via Zoom Meetings. In-person the meeting will be held at the following Location: St Mark's in the Valley Episcopal Church, Stacy Hall. The public will also be able to hear and participate electronically:

1. Join Zoom Meeting from PC, Mac, or Android: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86910226634?pwd=S3NTa-WxDT1JydE1WY3huM2xBeHhoUT09>
2. Via telephone: +1 (408) 638-0968 Meeting ID: 869-1022-6634 Passcode: 523136

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Directors will give reports on any meetings that they attended on behalf of the District and/or choose to comment on various District activities.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the Board on any items of interest within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Board but not on the agenda today (Government Code - 54954.3). Speakers are limited to 3 minutes. Due to the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act, the District cannot take action today on any matter not on the agenda, but a matter raised during Public Comments can be referred to District staff for discussion and possible action at a future meeting.

6. SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (EHS) DISCUSSION REGARDING ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM (OWTS) REQUIREMENTS

EHS staff will discuss the local and state process to consider interim requirements for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) until the community wastewater system is available.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

All matters listed hereunder constitute a consent agenda and will be acted upon by a single roll call vote of the Board. Matters listed on the Administrative Agenda will be read only on the request of a member of the Board or the public, in which event the matter shall be removed from the Administrative Agenda and considered as a separate item.

a. MEETING MINUTES

- i. Approve Minutes of September 15, 2021
- ii. Approve Minutes of October 4, 2021

b. INVOICE PAYMENT

- i. September 15, 2021 Robert Perrault General Management Services (9-15-2021) \$3,510.
- ii. August 5, 2021, GSI Water Solutions Invoice # 876-001-07 Groundwater Management Services (July) \$1,926.25.

S.Y.R.W.C.D.I.D. #1

OCT 12 2021

RECEIVED

Los Olivos Community Services District, P.O. Box 345, Los Olivos, CA 93441, (805) 500-4098
losolivoscscd@gmail.com, www.losolivoscscd.com

- iii. March 3, 2021, Urban Planning Concepts Invoice #9844 February Services Siting Study \$2,663.75

8. BUSINESS ITEMS DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING

- a. **Review and Approve the GSI Technical Memorandum Providing a Preliminary Cost Estimate for Injection and Provide Direction Regarding Remaining Tasks in the Treated Wastewater Injection Program Statement of Work.** In August the Board received a Proposed Statement of Work to complete a Treated Wastewater Injection Assessment for the Wastewater Project. The Board authorized GSI to proceed with Task 1 within the Statement of Work to develop a planning estimate for wastewater injection. **Staff is recommending the Board review and approve the planning estimate contained in the Technical Memorandum and provide direction regarding the remaining tasks contained in the Statement of Work.**
- b. **Project Development - Project Management Committee Report. Committee members and General Manager will report on recent District activities.**

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Report on current assignments, action items, and general District business.

10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: November 10, 2021, St Mark's Episcopal Church, Stacy Hall. The meeting will also be a Zoom Meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Los Olivos Community Services District is committed to ensuring equal access to meetings. In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting or need this agenda provided in a disability-related alternative format, please call 805.946.0431 or email to losolivoscsd@gmail.com. Any public records, which are distributed less than 72 hours prior to this meeting to all, or a majority of all, of the District's Board members in connection with any agenda item (other than closed sessions) will be available for public inspection at the time of such distribution at a location to be determined in Los Olivos, California 93441.

MINUTES TO APPROVE

MINUTES TO APPROVE

Lisa Palmer, President
Tom Fayram, Vice President
Mike Arme, Director
Brian O'Neill, Director
Brad Ross, Director



LOS OLIVOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Regular Meeting September 15, 2021 6: 00 PM

This meeting was held electronically via Zoom Meetings. The public was able to hear and participate.

1. Join Zoom Meeting from PC, Mac, or Android: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89000408577?pwd=TjkzM28wM01YRXNkeiZnRzYzUUVlZz09>
2. Via telephone: +1 (408) 638-0968 Meeting ID: 890 0040 8577 Passcode: 26366

REGULAR MEETING Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present were President Palmer, Vice President Fayram, Director Arme, Director O'Neill, and Director Ross
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Palmer.
4. **DIRECTOR COMMENTS:** President Palmer noted that shed and General Manager Perrault had a discussion with EHS staff member Lars Seifert about future funding opportunities and a presentation EHS will be making at the next meeting.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.
6. **Public Discussion of the Methodology used in Selection of a Preferred Site and a Preferred Alternative Site to Study as a Possible Location of a Wastewater Treatment Package Plant.**
President Palmer provided introductory remarks and General Manager Perrault provided a PowerPoint regarding the process used by the District to select potential sites for further study. District Counsel discussed the District's ability to acquire facilities outside of the District. Board members provided additional comments.

The following members of the Public addressed the Board: Kevin Yacoub, Bill Reynolds, Paul Rohrer, Caller #1 Cardiologist, and property owner, Lettie Wetto, Spencer Baily Laura Lippencott and Kathryn Lohmeyer made comments in the chad. Comments consisted of questions about the size of the plant, potential impact on neighbors, process, and notice.

President Palmer thanked those community members who participated in the discussion.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Vice President Fayram requested that Item 7a be taken separately due to his absence. Director O' Neill moved that the minutes of August 18, 2021, be approved. The motion was seconded by Director Ross. **Roll Call:** President Palmer yes, Vice President Fayram abstain, Director O' Neill yes, Director Ross yes, Director Arme yes. The motion was approved 4-0-1.

A motion was then offered by Vice President Fayram to approve the invoice payment contained in 7b. Director Ross seconded the motion. **Roll call:** President Palmer yes, Vice President Fayram yes, Director O' Neill yes, Director Ross yes, Director Arme yes, the motion was approved 5-0.

a. MEETING MINUTES

- i. Approve Minutes of August 18, 2021

b. INVOICE PAYMENT

- i. July 14, 2021, UPC Invoice 10021, (through June) \$155.00

- ii. August 15, 2021 Robert Perrault General Management Services (7-17- 8-15, 2021) \$3,645.00 .
- iii. August 24, 2021, MNS Invoice #78559 District Support Service (July) \$ 7,799.50
- iv. September 9, 2021, Aleshire and Wynder1245 Legal Services (August) \$1,160.
- v. September 9, 2021, GSI Groundwater Solutions Invoice # 0876.001-8, Groundwater Management Services, \$7,300.00

8. Business Items: Discussion and Action on the following:

- a. **Consideration of Stantec Design Proposal from Stantec for the entire, District-wide Wastewater Collection and Treatment Plant Project.** At the request of the Board, Stantec Design Services Inc. submitted a revised proposal for Project Design Services Task Order No.2. The revised proposal includes a scope of work to complete the preliminary design for the entire, District-wide Wastewater Collection and Treatment Plant Project. The preliminary design proposal has been divided into three components: 1)Basis of Design, 2) 30% Completion and 3) 60% of Completion, **Recommendation: Authorize the Extension of the Design Services Contract and the completion of Task Order No. 2.** General Manager Perrault introduced the item and introduce Autumn Glaeser representing Stantec. Board members asked questions of Stantec and General Manager Perrault regarding the proposal and the Status of Funding from State Grant. Ms. Glaeser responded to questions regarding the proposal. Mr. Perrault provided a status update on the pending State Grant. Vice President Fayram indicated his concern with moving forward until the district receives notification from State.

Vice President Fayram made a motion to direct and authorize staff to make necessary revisions to the Design Services Contract with Stantec but withhold Authorization of Notice to Proceed until funding is made available from the State Grant. Director O’Neill seconded the motion. **Roll Call:** President Palmer yes, Vice President Fayram yes, Director O’ Neill yes, Director Ross yes, Director Arme yes. Motion passes 5-0.

- b. **Consideration of An Update and Revision to the Los Olivos Community Wastewater Program Project Description.** The Project Description has been updated and revised to clearly articulate a system design for the entire District. The Board is being asked to review the revised Project Description and adopt by motion or provide staff with direction.

President Palmer noted the proposed Program Project Description needed additional work. Vice President Fayram made a motion to table the item until the draft description can be further reviewed by the Project Management Committee. Director Arme seconded the motion. **Roll Call:** President Palmer yes, Vice President Palmer yes, Director O’ Neill yes, Director Ross yes, Director Arme yes. The motion was approved 5-0

- c. **Project Development - Project Management Committee Report. Committee members and General Manager will report on the following:** A brief update was provided by Committee members and the General Manager.

9. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Report on current assignments, action items, and general District business. A brief update was provided by the General Manager.

10. Informational Items: District Counsel Trindle provided an update on Brown Act and meeting in-person legislation.

11. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS: None

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regular meeting will take place on October 13, 2021, at St. Mark’s

13. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

The Los Olivos Community Services District is committed to ensuring equal access to meetings. In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting or need this agenda provided in a disability-related alternative format, please call 805.946.0431 or email to losolivoscscsd@gmail.com. Any public records, which are distributed less than 72 hours prior to this meeting to all, or a majority of all, of the District’s Board members in connection with any agenda item (other than closed sessions) will be available for public inspection at the time of such distribution at a location to be determined in Los Olivos, California 93441.

Lisa Palmer, President
Tom Fayram, Vice President
Mike Arme, Director
Brian O'Neill, Director
Brad Ross, Director



POSTED 10-01-21

**LOS OLIVOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Special Meeting October 4, 2021, 6:00 PM**

**Location: St Mark's in the Valley Episcopal Church, Stacy Hall
2091 Nojoqui Ave, Los Olivos, CA**

SPECIAL MEETING Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present were President Palmer, Vice President Fayram, Director O'Neill, Director Ross. Director Arme was Absent.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** President Palmer led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **DIRECTOR COMMENTS:** No Director Comments were made.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments were made regarding items on the agenda.
6. **Review of Notification from State on Grant Funding and Discussion on Preliminary Design Notice to Proceed.**
The notification was received on September 30 from the State Water Board that the district can begin incurring costs for the design of the project with State Water Recycling Fund Matching Grant coverage /reimbursement. The Board will discuss authorizing the issuance of the Notice to Proceed to district design contractor Stantec to provide preliminary designs using sites identified by Urban Planning Concepts, focussing on technical feasibility and estimated project costs, to create a shortlist of possible site selections for consideration and advancement in the design process.
Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board authorize the issuance of the Notice to Proceed to Stantec for the Preliminary Design of the Project incorporating a site review.

General Manager Perrault gave a brief staff report regarding the matter. He indicated that the State had provided notification to the district that the district could begin incurring costs with the preliminary design of the Project. He also noted he had asked Stantec to amend the proposed Task Order to include a site review for the potential location of the plant. He introduced Autumn Glaeser representing Stantec. Board Members asked clarifying questions of Ms. Glaeser and Mr. Perrault.

General Manager referenced communications having been received from the Rohr Family and Ann Marie Gott. These communications were distributed to the Board when they were received.

The following members of the public addressed the Board: Ann Marie Gott, Carey Kendall, Cody Seiller, Mark Herthel, Julie Kennedy, and Kelly Gray. Ms. Gott noted she is requesting her family properties be removed from consideration as a potential site. Other members of the public had positive comments about the project moving forward but did express concerns regarding the sizing of the plant, its location, and the need to keep the public participating.

Board members made additional comments regarding the need to move the project forward and that the district was at the very beginning of a process. Design work will be completed one component at a time and the end of each component, the resulting information will be brought back to the Board.

Vice President Fayram made a motion that the Board authorizes the issuance of the Notice to Proceed to Stantec for the Preliminary Design of the Project incorporating a site review. In making his motion Vice President Fayram indicated he remains concerned about the State's funding but his concern has been mitigated with the recent notification from the State. Director Ross seconded the motion.

Before the vote President Palmer that the site review added to the scope of work is to be broad with recommendations coming back to the Board as a part of the Preliminary Design.

Roll call: President Palmer yes, Vice President Fayram yes, Director O'Neill yes, Director Ross yes, Director Arme absent. The Motion was approved 4-0-1 with Director Arme absent.

7. **CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS:** The Board requested the General Manager/ District Counsel provide a report on recent housing legislation and its potential impact on the project.
8. **NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** October 13, 2021, In-person at St. Mark's Stacy Hall at 6:00 PM.
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 6: 54 PM.

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Lisa Palmer, President
Tom Fayram, Vice President
Mike Arme, Director
Brian O'Neill, Director
Brad Ross, Director



Memo To: President Palmer and Board of Directors

From: Bob Perrault, General Manager

Subject: GSI Preliminary Cost Estimate for Injection Program and Request for Direction

Date: October 13, 2021

In August, GSI Water Solutions Incorporated (GSI), provided the District with a proposed Statement of Work (please see the attachment). The Statement of Work outlined several tasks that once completed would provide the District with the feasibility of implementing an injection program as a part of the Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Project. The estimated cost for completing the feasibility assessment is \$217,000. During the August 18th meeting the Board authorized GSI to proceed with the first task, a Preliminary injection Program Cost Analysis. The value of completing this analysis is that it will provide the District with a high-level planning cost estimate for the implementation of the injection program proceeding with a full feasibility assessment.

GSI has prepared the attached Injection Program Preliminary Cost Estimate for the Board's review. the Memorandum provides an estimated range of costs of between \$5.3 million – \$6.5 million for the permitted and installed injection program for the entire district area. The annual cost of operations and maintenance is estimated at between \$200,000- \$350,000. In developing the cost estimate for the entire project GSI also provided a permitting and construction cost of the project distributed by zones or phases. The cost for providing this estimate is \$12,250.

Staff is recommending the Board approve the Preliminary Cost Estimate and provide direction regarding completing the remaining 8 tasks contained in the original Statement of Work. Each of these tasks has been identified in the proposal with a separate cost estimate. The total cost of the remaining work is \$205,000. The work will also be coordinated with the preliminary design of the overall project being completed by Stantec. While the remaining tasks are focused on the feasibility of injection the information gained would be useful in determining an acceptable alternative to injection should it become necessary.

GSI is currently working completing a series of tasks for the District under an original authorization of \$85,000. The tasks completed thus far include the completion of a Hydrogeologic Study and a Groundwater Management Plan. There remains approximately \$35,000 in this authorization that could Be shifted to reduce the \$205,000 associated with the Injection Feasibility Statement of Work. shifted to assist in covering the 8 remaining tasks.

Los Olivos Community Services District, P.O. Box 345, Los Olivos, CA 93441, (805) 946-0431
losolivoscsd@gmail.com, www.losolivoscsd.com

Lisa Palmer, President
Tom Fayram, Vice President
Mike Arme, Director
Brian O'Neill, Director
Brad Ross, Director



Staff Recommendation: The Board Approve the GSI Technical Memorandum Providing a Preliminary Cost Estimate for Injection and Provide Direction Regarding the Remaining Tasks In the Wastewater Injection Program Statement of Work.



DRAFT Scope of Work

To: Bob Perrault; Los Olivos Community Services District
From: Brian Franz, Andy Lapostol, Tim Thompson; GSI Water Solutions
Date: August 10, 2021
RE: Scope of Work for Treated Wastewater Injection Feasibility Assessment – Los Olivos Wastewater Reclamation Program Project

GSI Water Solutions (GSI) is pleased to present this scope of work for a treated wastewater injection feasibility assessment to support the Los Olivos Wastewater Reclamation Program. This work builds upon the previous work conducted during development of the District's Groundwater Monitoring Program and will provide a feasibility assessment of an injection project which would include installation of a series of wells to inject highly treated recycled water from the District's planned wastewater treatment facility into the underlying aquifer.

During the course of GSI's current work effort, in which both a Hydrogeological Conceptual Model (HCM) and a Groundwater Monitoring Plan (GWMP) were prepared, it became evident that there are many fundamental types of groundwater data that are not available, but which are needed for an assessment of feasibility for an injection project. The key types of data that have not been collected nor are not publicly available include:

- a. Water level data documenting the depth to the groundwater table within the aquifer sediments that are contemplated for use during the proposed injection of treated wastewater.
- b. Groundwater gradient data which would assist in assessing the direction and migration rate of the injected water.
- c. Hydrogeologic characteristics of the alluvial aquifer sediments, including the hydraulic conductivity and storage capacity values.
- d. Water quality data of groundwater present in the alluvial aquifer.
- e. Location, depth, and type of use (domestic or agricultural) for wells in and near Los Olivos.

Without the availability of even limited data for most of these types of groundwater information (identified as "data gaps"), the determination of whether an injection program could be constructed, operated, and permitted is not currently possible. The evaluation of data gaps pertaining to water level, quality, and gradient are addressed within the GWMP, and these data are important to the assessment of injection feasibility. The work conducted as part of this injection feasibility assessment will consider the data collected in the GWMP effort. The following scope of work presents a series of recommended steps to address data gaps and perform a stepwise assessment of feasibility for the injection of treated wastewater into one or more of the aquifers underlying Los Olivos.

The recommended tasks in this scope of work are as follows:

- **Preliminary Cost Analysis** – Prepare a high-level cost estimate for the construction and implementation of the injection well infrastructure. Provide the District with range of assumed project costs in order to compare with other wastewater disposal options.
- **Design, Permit, and Install Test Well** – Drill and install a test well in the vicinity of proposed injection well field. The test well will be used to conduct a pumping test which will provide important aquifer characteristics, including hydraulic conductivity and storage parameters. Drill and install dedicated observation monitoring well adjacent to test well if no other monitoring well (such as one of the proposed initial 6 monitoring wells of the GWMP) exists within approximately 150 feet.
- **Conduct Pumping Test** – Perform 8-hour step test and 24-hour constant rate test using the test well. Monitor water levels in both test well and observation well using manual measurements and dedicated pressure transducers
- **Perform Geochemical Analysis** – Collect aquifer matrix samples for geochemical analysis during installation of the test well. Samples will be analyzed to assess the potential for adverse chemical reactions in the aquifer soil matrix that could occur during injection operations.
- **Develop Groundwater Model** – Use existing data to create local-scale numerical groundwater flow model using MODFLOW-MT3D and Groundwater Vistas. Perform screening level analysis of groundwater transport times to help select a potentially feasible location for an injection wellfield. The groundwater model will be refined following the collection of aquifer parameter data during the pumping test at the proposed test well.
- **Identify Active Production Wells** – Conduct a detailed assessment identifying all active production wells in the vicinity of Los Olivos to determine which wells that may be impacted by an injection project.
- **Permitting Feasibility** – Assess feasibility of obtaining the necessary permits for the injection project. Evaluate the likelihood that an injection project could be successfully permitted and provide a regulatory pathway for the permitting process, including coordination with other local agencies such as ID#1.
- **Technical Memorandum** – Prepare a technical memorandum detailing the findings from these efforts and provide recommendations for next steps.
- **Project Management** – GSI will perform regular check-ins with the District to provide project status updates. GSI will also attend District Board meetings when requested to respond to any questions from Board members.

Scope of Work

Task 1 – Preliminary Injection Program Cost Analysis

This initial task will include the development of a planning-level cost estimate for the permitting and construction of an injection program which will allow the District to compare the estimated cost of the injection program with other alternatives, such as the option of obtaining an NPDES permit to discharge the treated wastewater into Alamo Pintado Creek. This work will be conducted prior to the subsequent tasks described in this Scope of Work that constitute the feasibility assessment.

For this effort, GSI will collect and utilize regional hydrogeologic data to estimate the number of wells necessary to accommodate the anticipated flow rates of treated wastewater. The size, depth, and performance of a typical injection well will be assumed based on data from production wells either within or close to the LOCS D area. Water level records from other wells in the area will also be evaluated to determine the typical range of water levels in the target aquifer which in turn is used to estimate anticipated injection rates in each injection well.

GSI will draw from experience with other injection projects to estimate the costs of construction and materials, in addition to costs associated with operations and monitoring, based on the assumed number of wells necessary for the project. This information will be summarized in a memorandum to the District, after which the District may decide whether or not to proceed with the other elements of the injection feasibility assessment (Tasks 2 through 9). The cost estimates and assumptions used will be at a planning level of detail and as such, will not reflect the technical feasibility of the project.

Task 2 – Design, Permit, and Install Test Well

To better understand aquifer characteristics of both the shallow alluvium and the Paso Robles Formation, and to help inform the groundwater model (see Task 5), installation of a test well capable of performing a full-scale pumping test is recommended. Given the variability of aquifer sediments in the Los Olivos area, it will be important to install the test well in the vicinity of the potential injection wellfield site in order to collect representative data.

If the proposed test well location is not within 150 feet of an existing monitoring well with the same screen interval (i.e., one of the 6 new monitoring wells planned for the GWMP), then a new, dedicated monitoring well will also need to be constructed to serve as an observation well during aquifer testing (as well as subsequent injection testing which would be conducted following a favorable assessment of project feasibility). It is important to have a nearby observation well of similar depth and perforated interval for data collection during aquifer testing.

Work conducted in this task will include preparing well designs, specifications and bid documents for the test well and for the adjacent monitoring well. This task will include the development of well construction criteria, such as total depth, casing diameter, and perforation intervals, as well as navigating the permitting process. GSI will work with LOCS D to decide on the casing material (stainless-steel or PVC) to be used for the test well, as this represents the most significant factor in determining the cost of installation. Should an injection project be determined to be feasible, LOCS D could potentially save on future drilling costs by designing the test well with higher-grade materials so that it may also serve as a pilot injection testing well.

The test well will be drilled by a licensed contractor using mud-rotary methods. GSI will be on-site to oversee construction of the well in accordance with the specifications and permitting requirements. Drill cuttings will be collected and detailed logs of drilling time and borehole lithology will be kept. It is anticipated that the adjacent monitoring well will also be drilled with a mud rotary methods.

Task 3 – Conduct Pumping Test

GSI will design and oversee the pumping test at the test well. Testing will include an 8-hour step test and a 24-hour constant rate pumping test. The data collected during the step test will be used to determine the preferred flow rate for the subsequent constant rate test. Water levels during the tests will be monitored in both the pumping well and the nearby observation well using both manual measurements and pressure transducers. A pressure transducer will be installed in both wells for the duration of the testing. Transducers will be programmed to measure water level and temperature at designated intervals.

Data on aquifer characteristics (i.e., transmissivity and storativity) are of critical importance for determining the feasibility of an injection project. Conducting pumping tests can provide these valuable parameters which are essential for developing a representative groundwater model which can be used to determine feasible locations of the wellfield, groundwater travel times, and associated injection rate estimates. Before the end of the 24-hour constant rate pumping test, GSI will collect a water quality sample for laboratory analysis.

Task 4 – Geochemical Analysis

The purpose of this task is to characterize potential for subsurface geochemical reactions that may impact the feasibility of an injection project. This characterization includes an assessment of (a) the potential for the injection well screens and filter pack to become clogged due to chemical reactions between injected water, native groundwater, and the aquifer matrix in the vicinity of the wells, and (b) the potential to adversely impact groundwater quality due to chemical reactions of the injected water with the native sediments comprising the aquifer, which could lead to the mobilization of hexavalent chromium or other undesirable constituents.

During construction of the test well and/or observation well, GSI will collect undisturbed physical samples of the aquifer sediments from the primary pumping/injection zone. These samples will be properly preserved and submitted to a specialized analytical laboratory for geochemical analysis.

A separate workplan will be developed prior to the initiation of this task which will provide greater detail for the steps and procedures necessary to conduct this analysis.

Task 5 – Develop Groundwater Model

Development of a groundwater model, which can be used to conduct simulations of groundwater hydraulics and flow dynamics is an essential component in determining the feasibility of using injection wells to inject the recycled water into the aquifers underlying Los Olivos. This task will include creating a local-scale numerical groundwater flow model (using USGS MODFLOW and Groundwater Vistas) to perform a screening-level analysis of groundwater migration rates and directions both before and during the proposed injection project. The extents (domain) of the model will be based on existing data, including previously compiled well logs in the Los Olivos area and data obtained during the construction and subsequent monitoring of the groundwater monitoring network as described in the GWMP.

The model development will begin with a meeting with GSI and LOCSO staff to identify preferred locations for an injection wellfield. Potential wellfield sites should have the ability to accommodate several wells, as it is currently unknown how many wells will be required to achieve planned injection volumes. The placement of injection wells, in addition to the number of wells and spacing requirements necessary to meet project goals, will be refined during the modeling process based on the need to satisfy regulatory residence time requirements for the injected water.

Based on the results of the pumping test, the model will be revised with updated aquifer properties and predicted well performance. The newly installed test well and monitoring well will provide valuable new data on the physical and hydrogeologic characteristics of the aquifer in the proposed injection wellfield area. These data will be used to refine the model, providing field-verified parameters to calculate groundwater travel times and identify preferred locations for the injection wellfield.

Task 6 – Identify Active Production Wells

Identifying active production wells that may be impacted by nearby injection operations is a critical step in determining the feasibility of an injection project. This task will include working with LOCSD to locate and determine the type of groundwater usage (i.e., domestic/potable or agricultural/non-potable) of all potentially active wells within the vicinity of Los Olivos. GSI will request groundwater well records from Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services (EHS), which will include a list of known wells by assessor parcel number¹. A review of recent aerial imagery, and potentially a site visit to Los Olivos, is recommended to confirm the location wells and assess the completeness of the EHS dataset.

Task 7 – Permitting Feasibility

The objective of this task is to provide a regulatory pathway towards permitting the proposed injection project. This work will include identifying the required permits, process for obtaining the permits, and the anticipated timeline. GSI will review similar injection projects in the Central Coast area and, in coordination with LOCSD, conduct communications with representatives at the appropriate regulatory agencies. A necessary part of this task will be a robust water quality dataset; therefore, work will need to be completed in coordination with the implementation of the GWMP. Additionally, LOCSD will need to provide anticipated water quality characteristics of the treated wastewater that will be used for injection.

Task 8 – Technical Memorandum

GSI will prepare a technical memorandum that documents the efforts described in the various tasks outlined above, along with conclusions and recommendations regarding project feasibility. A draft technical memorandum will be submitted to LOCSD for review. GSI will be available for a conference call to discuss draft comments and provide a final draft to LOCSD.

Task 9 – Project Management

GSI will communicate regularly with the District to discuss project progress and provide status updates. District Board meetings will be attended by GSI staff as necessary to address questions.

¹ The EHS Well Database may or may not include any new well logs that have not already been evaluated as part of the HCM development, however, the Database may provide more up-to-date information on the status and usage category of wells within the LOCSD.

Fee Estimate

Our team’s proposed fee to complete the tasks on a time-and-materials basis is \$217,075. This fee estimate includes a 10 percent markup on laboratory water quality samples, and a 6% labor contingency. Well contractor costs are not included in this budget. The below table shows the budget breakdown for each task.

GSI understands that the District would like to complete the above tasks no later than February 2022. Following the completion of Task 1, the remaining tasks will be conducted as concurrently as possible in order to meet the project schedule. GSI will act as expeditiously as is reasonable to meet the proposed timeline. The project schedule is subject to change based on contractor availability, regulatory agency response times, laboratory analysis, permitting, and property access restrictions.

Description	Labor Hours	Labor Cost	Outside Services	Direct Expenses	Total
Task 1 – Preliminary Cost Analysis	71	\$12,254	\$0	\$0	\$12,254
Task 2 – Design, Permit, and Install Test and Monitoring Well	256	\$41,510	\$0	\$866	\$42,375
Task 3 – Conduct Pumping Test	117	\$18,137	\$1,320	\$1,069	\$20,525
Task 4 – Perform Geochemical Analysis	62	\$10,833	\$38,500	\$353	\$49,686
Task 5 – Develop Groundwater Model	204	\$41,488	\$0	\$114	\$41,602
Task 6 – Identify Active Production Wells	61	\$9,307	\$0	\$102	\$9,409
Task 7 – Permitting Feasibility	64	\$11,660	\$0	\$0	\$11,660
Task 8 – Technical Memorandum	126	\$21,253	\$0	\$0	\$21,253
Task 9 – Project Management	42	\$8,310	\$0	\$0	\$8,310
Project Totals	1003	\$174,752	\$39,820	\$2,503	\$217,075

We thank you for your consideration of this proposal and look forward to continuing to work with you on this exciting project.

Sincerely,
GSI Water Solutions, Inc.



Brian Franz, PG
Consulting Hydrogeologist



Tim Thompson, PG, CHG
Principal Water Resources Consultant



DRAFT

Technical Memorandum

To: Bob Perrault; Los Olivos Community Services District

From: Andy Lapostol, Tim Thompson and Brian Franz; GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Date: September 17, 2021

RE: Preliminary Injection Program Cost Analysis – Los Olivos Wastewater Reclamation Program Project

This technical memorandum presents a summary of a preliminary injection program cost analysis performed by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI), for Los Olivos Community Services District (District) Wastewater Reclamation Program Project (LOWRPP). This document constitutes the deliverable for Task 1 of GSI's Treated Wastewater Injection Feasibility Assessment.

The purpose of Task 1 is to provide the District with a planning-level cost estimate for the permitting, construction, and maintenance of an injection well system, which will allow the District to compare the potential cost of such an injection program with other wastewater disposal alternatives. A description of the methodology used to estimate the cost of an injection program, as well as a cost summary table, are presented below.

Data Analysis

Groundwater data from various sources were compiled and analyzed to estimate the size, depth, and number of wells necessary to accommodate the anticipated flow rates of treated wastewater from the LOWRPP. GSI collected all data available from wells in the area, and this consisted exclusively of wells completed in the Paso Robles Formation; very little data were available from any of the relatively smaller wells completed in the Shallow Alluvial aquifer. The Paso Robles Formation is the primary water supply aquifer in this groundwater basin and is also the aquifer from which the nearby municipal production wells are designed and constructed to pump groundwater.

The groundwater information as collected from nearby municipal production wells include the following types of data:

- Driller's logs and well construction details
- Well production rates
- Static and pumping water levels
- Historical water levels
- Hydrogeologic reports

Based on our experience developing a Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and the Groundwater Monitoring Plan for the District, we understand that the Paso Robles Formation is the preferred target aquifer for the injection of

treated wastewater. The cost estimate presented in this memorandum assumes that injection will occur into the Paso Robles Formation aquifer.

Injection into the overlying Shallow Alluvial aquifer was previously considered, but further study would be required to assess costs and feasibility due to the significant lack of hydrogeologic data in that aquifer. Very little data are available for wells completed in the overlying Shallow Alluvial aquifer, as discussed in the Los Olivos Groundwater Monitoring Plan, prepared earlier this year by GSI. Further details concerning data gaps are available in the Groundwater Monitoring Plan.

Injection Estimate

As described in Stantec's 2021 Los Olivos Wastewater Loading Study, this project will be broken out into three phases. Based upon the information discussed below, GSI has estimated the total number of injection wells needed for both Phase 1 as well as the complete project (which includes Phase 2 and 3). To accomplish this, several fundamental criteria for each phase were needed, including anticipated flow rate of the treated wastewater to be injected, anticipated sustainable injection rate at each well, and expected water level response in the receiving aquifer during injection operations.

Most municipal production wells within the vicinity of Los Olivos are roughly 800 to 1,200 feet deep, with reported pumping rates between 500 and 1,500 gallons per minute (gpm). For wells with available drawdown data, GSI calculated the specific capacity¹ of pumping. Specific capacities calculated for nearby wells generally ranges from 5–10 gallons per minute per foot (gpm/ft).

Based on anecdotal data and other well injection projects conducted by GSI and others, the specific capacity of injection can be estimated as roughly 50–70 percent of the specific capacity of pumping. For example, a well that can pump 100 gpm with 10 feet of drawdown (specific capacity of pumping equal to 10 gpm/ft) could theoretically inject approximately 50–70 gpm with 10 feet of drawup (specific capacity of injection equal to 5–7 gpm/ft), provided there is adequate available headspace² to have 10 feet of drawup within the well casing. Drawup is the opposite of drawdown since the water is being injected rather than pumped.

Historical water level data from nearby wells screened in the Paso Robles Formation were assessed to estimate the anticipated static water levels in a typical injection well. As an additional resource, GSI used the groundwater model that was created as part of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, which includes Los Olivos. Based on both nearby well data and the groundwater model, the average depth to water (corresponding to available headspace for injection considerations) assumed for a new injection well is approximately 100 feet. It should be noted that this amount of headspace is a planning-level estimate, and some wells within the vicinity of Los Olivos have static water levels deeper or shallower than 100 feet. Though the Paso Robles Formation is considered a single hydrogeologic unit, it is a non-uniform mixture with localized, confining layers of clay and therefore water levels are likely to vary depending on the depth and screened intervals in a given well.

Based on the assumptions presented above, estimated injection rates for a single well range from approximately 150 to 300 gpm.

¹ Specific capacity (which is an indicator of the transmissivity of an aquifer) is defined as the pumping rate a well can sustainably produce (gallons per minute) per foot of drawdown.

² Available headspace, which is the depth to the groundwater surface within the well, is an important factor that will constrain potential injection rates. Greater available headspace allows for better injection rates similar to how greater drawdown (caused by pumping at higher rates) corresponds with better pumping rates.

Treated Wastewater Effluent

GSI collaborated with Stantec to determine a range of wastewater effluent volumes that could be expected during both Phase 1 (downtown commercial area only) and Phases 2 and 3 (the entirety of the Los Olivos community within the District service area). Injection system design is based upon being capable of accepting treated wastewater volumes equal to the predicted peak wet-weather flow rates.

For Phase 1, the estimated peak wet-weather flow rate reported by Stantec in the Wastewater Loading Study dated February 2, 2021, is approximately 175,000 gallons per day (gpd), which is equivalent to 125 gpm.³

Stantec has not yet provided an estimate for the Phase 2 or 3 effluent volumes. However, AECOM prepared a study in 2013 (and an update to the study in 2016) that estimates the average daily flow rates for Phase 3 to range from 107,000 to 143,000 gpd. These average daily flow rates, multiplied by a peak flow factor of 4.5 to estimate peak wet-weather flow rates, range from approximately 480,000 gpd to 640,000 gpd, or roughly 350 to 450 gpm.

Well Design

GSI prepared a conceptual well design (Figure 1) for the injection wells in order to estimate the costs of construction and materials. The design is similar to that of nearby municipal water supply wells that draw from the Paso Robles Formation. Stainless steel, although more expensive upfront, is recommended for construction purposes due to its durability and longevity compared to cheaper alternatives such as low-carbon steel or PVC.

For each injection well, a nearby monitoring well of similar depth must be installed in order to measure water levels and collect groundwater samples, both of which are essential to the operation and maintenance management associated with an injection program. Monitoring wells are much smaller in diameter and typically constructed using PVC casing.

Cost Estimate

Table 1 shows a summary of the preliminary cost estimate for an injection program. For Phase 1, it is assumed that two injection wells will be sufficient for the anticipated volume of effluent. Although a single well may be able to accept all the treated effluent, it is important for redundancy and reliability purposes to have at least one extra well that is operational to accommodate injection during regular well maintenance activities and also in case a well goes offline for any reason. For Phases 2 and 3, it is anticipated that four to five wells will be necessary.

Table 1 also shows estimated costs for pilot injection testing, permitting, and well equipping, in addition to annual costs for operations and maintenance.

- Pilot injection testing will occur in a test well after the completion of the injection feasibility study.
- Permitting the injection project with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) includes several steps, such as the preparation of a Report of Waste Discharge and a Title 22 Engineering Report, the latter of which includes extensive reporting on the wastewater treatment facility and which would largely be prepared by the contracted wastewater facility engineering firm.
- Although the wells will be primarily used for injection, it is necessary to equip each injection well with a pump that will be used to regularly backflush the well. Backflushing is essential to removing loose particulates and/or biological growth that commonly form and that reduce well performance.

³ The actual recycled water conveyed to the injection wells will be somewhat less than this amount as a result of the losses that occur as part of the treatment processes. Those losses could be on the order of 20–30 percent depending on the final treatment processes deployed in the facility.


Table 1. Injection Program Cost Estimate

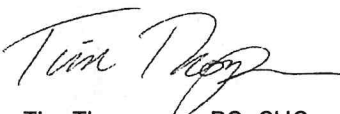
Description	Cost Per Well	Phase 1 (2 wells)	Phases 2 and 3 (2-3 Additional Wells)	Project Total
Pilot Testing (Using Test Well)	-	-	-	\$200,000
RWQCB Permitting (Injection Aspects)	-	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$300,000
Drilling and Construction of Injection Well	\$800,000	\$1,600,000	\$1.6M-\$2.4M	\$3.2M-\$4M
Drilling and Construction of Monitoring Well	\$240,000	\$480,000	\$480K-\$720K	\$1M-\$1.2M
Injection Well Equipping	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$300K-\$450K	\$600K-\$750K
Total	\$1,190,000	\$2,580,000	\$2.5M-\$3.7M	\$5.3M-\$6.5M
Operations and Monitoring (Annual Cost)	-	-	-	\$200K-\$350K per year

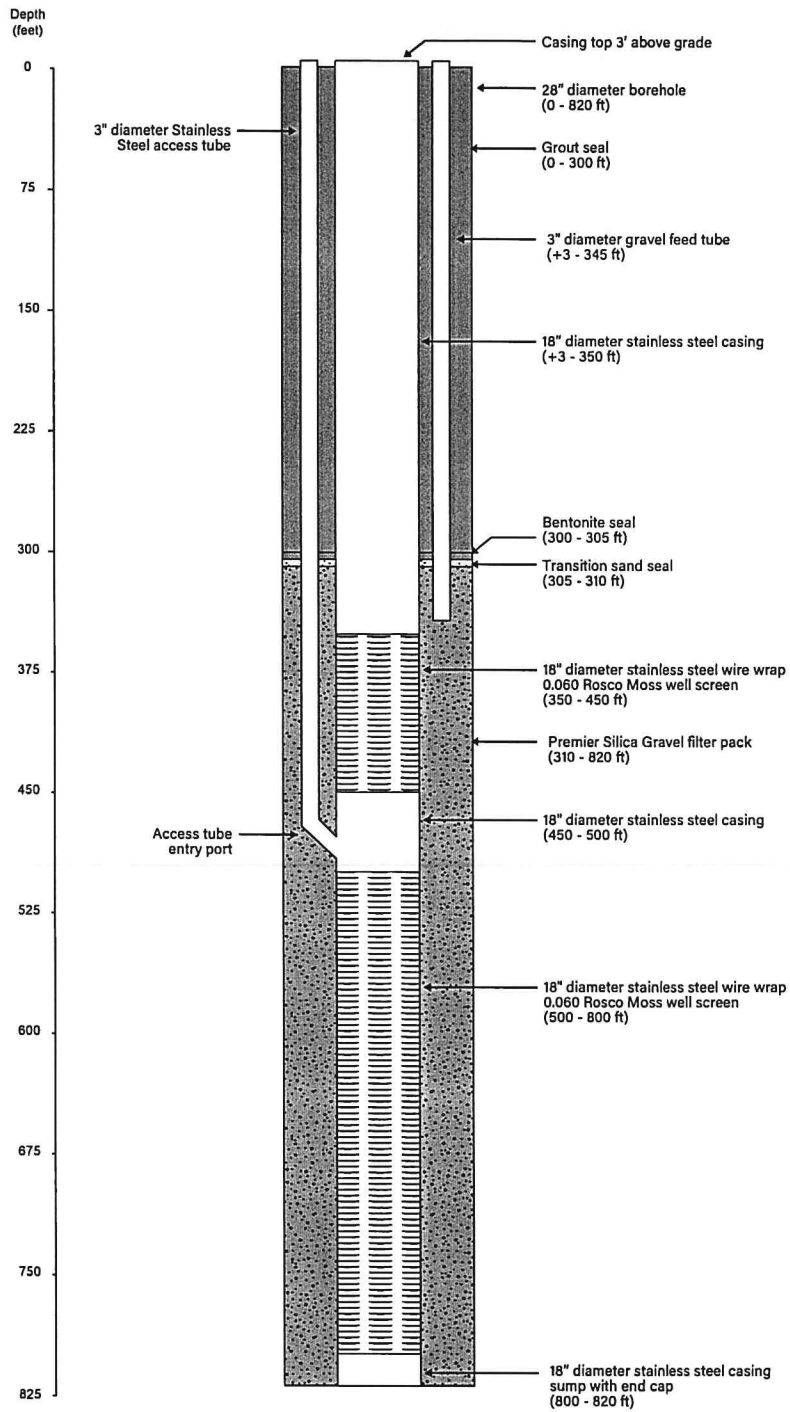
The total cost of an injection program serving the entire District is anticipated to be on the order of \$5,300,000–\$6,500,000, with an annual operations and maintenance cost of \$200,000–\$350,000. As stated previously, these are planning level estimates and there may be opportunities for the District to save on costs as the project progresses. For example, it may be possible for the District to use the test well as a backup well, depending on its size, location, and performance. Furthermore, there may be existing wells in the project area that could be converted to serve as injection wells.

We thank you for your consideration of this memorandum and look forward to continuing to work with you on this exciting project.

Sincerely,
GSI Water Solutions, Inc.


Andres Lapostol, GIT
Project Geologist


Tim Thompson, PG, CHG
Principal Water Resources Consultant



NOTE:
Horizontal not to scale

FIGURE 1
Conceptual Injection Well Diagram
Los Olivos Community Services District
Treated Wastewater Injection Feasibility Assessment

Monthly Briefing

A Summary of the Alliance's Recent and Upcoming Activities and Important Water News

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Hangs in Balance House Democrats Struggle Toward Vote

As September came to a close, House Democrats appeared to be no closer to an agreement on how their two-pronged approach to massive investments in infrastructure and social programs will survive in the coming weeks.

At risk are provisions in the Senate-passed *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, which includes more than \$8 billion to address critical Western water supply needs, including to repair aging dams and canals, build new surface and groundwater storage and conveyance facilities, fund water conservation and recycling projects, and enhance watershed management and improve ecosystems.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CALIFORNIA) pulled a vote on the \$1.2

trillion Senate-passed bipartisan infrastructure package originally planned for September 30. As this "Monthly Briefing" was going to press, House Members were advised that the

complete consideration of the bipartisan infrastructure bill would be delayed to October 1.

The vote was postponed after it became evident that House Democrats did not have enough support to clear the bill and send it to President Biden's desk.

"I'm never bringing a bill to the floor that doesn't have the votes," Speaker Pelosi had earlier told ABC's "This Week".

She added that the reconciliation bill will likely have to be trimmed to some degree in order to win support of crucial moderates, including Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), according to *The Hill*.

"We still don't know if Speaker Pelosi will pull the



Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) exits a closed-door meeting at the U.S. Capitol on September 30. Sen Manchin has stated that he will not support a social policy spending package that goes over \$1.5 trillion, at odds with the \$3.5 trillion package supported by more liberal Democrats. (Photo by Drew Angerer/Getty Images)

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Infrastructure Vote Delayed *(Continued from Pg. 1)*

bill or let it go to a vote, which could sink the measure without progressive or Republican votes," said Mark Limbaugh, the Family Farm Alliance representative in Washington, D.C. late in the evening of September 30. "Stay tuned."

The White House said Democrats would continue trying to resolve their wide-ranging differences.

"A great deal of progress has been made this week, and we are closer to an agreement than ever," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said in a statement. "But we are not there yet, and so, we will need some additional time to finish the work, starting tomorrow morning [October 1] first thing."

What this means for Western water users

The Family Farm Alliance helped lead a coalition of over 220 agricultural, urban and water organizations that pushed for the provisions in the bipartisan Senate infrastructure bill.

"While the politics are messy and complicated, our message to House Members is pretty simple," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. "We support the bipartisan infrastructure bill passed by the Senate. The Western water provisions included in that bill are a once-in-a-generation shot in the arm that our members desperately need. Our members are taking note of how their House representatives will vote on this."

Inside Baseball on the Hill

The battle over the \$1.2 trillion "hard" infrastructure bill has been linked to what happens with the Democrats' \$3.5 trillion "human infrastructure" reconciliation package. Speaker Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, President Joe Biden and many Democrats initially embraced tying the two pieces of legislation together using the so-called "two-track process."

House leadership was planning on bringing their \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill to the floor for a vote during the week of September 27th after a rare weekend markup of the almost 2,500-page reconciliation bill by the House Budget Committee.

Speaker Pelosi touted the Budget Committee markup, while noting that the package will change before she brings it to a floor vote as "negotiations continue with the Senate."

"The next few days will be a time of intensity," the speaker presciently wrote near the end of September.

The Senate-passed bipartisan \$1.2 trillion infrastructure package was scheduled to get the House vote on September 30, pushed back from the original September 27 target date that was promised to a handful of moderate House Democrats who had wanted a vote on the package before a budget resolution and reconciliation could proceed.

The House infrastructure vote is now in peril of either taking down the \$3.5 trillion measure or being delayed. House progressives say they won't vote for the bipartisan Senate infrastructure bill until the Senate also votes on the

completely partisan, reconciliation measure.

"Progressives will vote for both bills, but a majority of our members will only vote for the infrastructure bill after the President's visionary Build Back Better Act passes," Congressional Progressive Caucus Chair Pramila Jayapal, a Washington Democrat, said in a statement.

Democrats in both Chambers are facing slim majorities and can't afford to lose 3 votes in the House and 1 vote in the Senate to pass the White House agenda.

House Republicans remain in lock step against both infrastructure and reconciliation packages.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CALIFORNIA) and Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) have launched a forceful campaign to make sure most of the GOP caucus opposes the bill, CNN reports. They've framed the infrastructure bill as a "gateway drug" to the larger \$3.5 trillion

reconciliation bill, which Republicans are universally opposed to.

"I think the majority, an overwhelming amount of our members, are going to vote

no, because they don't view it as an infrastructure bill," Rep. McCarthy said at a recent press briefing on Capitol Hill.

Senator Manchin earlier in September told Democrats that they should "hit the pause button" on the \$3.5 T budget reconciliation package. He says he still has problems with the massive reconciliation package, including some of the progressives' favorite climate provisions. He will not vote in favor of the package as currently envisioned, which would essentially doom it in the Senate.

"What I have made clear to the President and Democratic leaders is that spending trillions more on new and expanded government programs, when we can't even pay for the essential social programs, like Social Security and Medicare, is the definition of fiscal insanity," Sen. Manchin said. "I cannot – and will not - support trillions in spending or an all or nothing approach that ignores the brutal fiscal reality our nation faces."

Senator Sinema (D-AZ) has also weighed in against the price tag. Other moderate House Democrats are raising concerns.

House majority leaders are trying to downplay their caucus differences. But – they're also starting to talk about a smaller package coming out of the Senate to satisfy Sen. Manchin and get a positive Senate vote (50-50 with Vice-President Harris breaking the tie) on reconciliation.

"They're figuring that half a loaf is better than no loaf," said Mark Limbaugh, the Family Farm Alliance's representative in Washington, D.C.

Government Shutdown Avoided

Congress did manage to avoid a government shutdown that would have started on the first day of the new month after both chambers passed a last-minute short-term spending bill, sending the measure to the White House for President Biden's sig-

"I cannot – and will not - support trillions in spending or an all or nothing approach that ignores the brutal fiscal reality our nation faces."

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV)

Continued on Page 3

Government shutdown avoided (*Cont'd from Pg. 2*)

nature just hours before federal cash expired.

"There's so much more to do," President Biden noted in a White House press statement. "But the passage of this bill reminds us that bipartisan work is possible and it gives us time to pass longer-term funding to keep our government running and delivering for the American people."

The House passed the stopgap bill on the afternoon of September 30, just a few hours after the Senate approved the bill in a 65-35 vote. The continuing resolution (CR) would keep spending levels at current levels for both the military and non-defense programs.

"This provides Congress additional time until December 3 to either work out a broader deal on new funding totals or passing yet another CR," said Mr. Limbaugh.

Importantly, the legislation also approves the funding for the WIIN Act projects included in a July 23, 2021 letter from Bureau of Reclamation, including millions of dollars for storage projects in California and other Western states. The CR extends CALFED and the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act by one year and provides significant drought response and financial relief to programs to various agricultural producers, including \$200 million for drought response in Reclamation states.

It also addresses the firefighter overtime pay issue in response to the ongoing wildfires across the western U.S.

Federal Debt Limit to Hit in October

Senate Republicans refused to support a debt hike or suspension and say Democrats should raise the debt ceiling through their upcoming reconciliation bill, which can pass with only Democratic votes in the Senate. The CR passed by the Senate did not include the debt provision.

Democrats will need to address how the debt ceiling issue will get resolved.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has notified congressional leaders that the federal government will reach its borrowing limit sometime in October.

"We now estimate that Treasury is likely to exhaust its extraordinary measures if Congress has not acted to raise or suspend the debt limit by October 18," said Secretary Yellen. "At that point, we expect Treasury would be left with very limited resources that would be depleted quickly."

Reconciliation Efforts

Individual House committees last month worked on the various bills that parsed out the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation proposal, and completed that work during the last week of September.

"Getting our Reclamation provisions included in the Senate-passed bipartisan infrastructure bill was huge," said Mr. Keppen. "Our coalition efforts in the past month have focused on using the reconciliation process to fill in the gaps behind our \$30 billion forest health and \$4 billion PL-566 asks."

The House Natural Resources Committee approved a \$31 billion reconciliation package on a party-line vote, which in-

cludes a \$3 billion investment in the creation of a Civilian Climate Corps. There is also \$1 billion for Bureau of Reclamation Western irrigation and tribal drought mitigation activities. And, there's hundreds of millions of dollars for tribal settlements, ecosystem restoration, snow surveys, conveyance repairs, large scale water reuse grants, and research

The House Agriculture Committee proposal includes billions of dollars for USDA to manage national forests, increase rural development, upgrade biofuel infrastructure and conduct climate research. Notably, it did not include provisions related to conservation and farm debt relief. The final reconciliation bill passed developed by the House Budget Committee includes \$28 billion out of the \$94 billion total devoted to agriculture.

As reported in POLITICO, the reconciliation package includes:

- \$5 billion for direct payments to producers who establish cover crops totaling \$25 per-acre, up to 1,000 acres per producer.
- \$9 billion for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- \$4 billion for the Conservation Stewardship Program through fiscal year 2026.
- \$1.5 billion for the Agricultural Conservation Easements Program through fiscal year 2026.
- \$7.5 billion for the Regional Conservation Partnerships Program.
- \$200 million for Natural Resources Conservation Service technical assistance.
- \$650 million for climate change adaptation through regional climate hubs and carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions quantification through NRCS.

Last month, the Environmental Defense Fund, Irrigation Association, The Freshwater Trust, and Trout Unlimited joined the steering committee of the Western Water Infrastructure Coalition in a letter to Congressional leadership calling out funding gaps that remain in areas critical to counteracting the historic drought and wildfire currently gripping the West.

The coalition steering committee includes the Family Farm Alliance, Association of California Water Agencies, California Farm Bureau, National Water Resources Association and Western Growers Association.

The coalition letter identified additional funding needs for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to accelerate the pace and scale of restoration that improves ecosystem resiliency, reduces the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire, deploys water technology, boosts conservation programs, and responds to the ongoing drought emergency.

"Additional resources are necessary to improve the long-term management and resilience of water resources and the natural environment amongst changing climate and hydrological conditions," the coalition letter said.

Alliance President Floats Colorado River with Sens. Bennet and Romney

Family Farm Alliance President Pat O’Toole (WYOMING) and Advisory Committee Member Andy Mueller (COLORADO) spent part of a September weekend on a float trip down the Colorado River, organized by Sen. Michael Bennet (D-COLORADO) with the goal to talk about climate change and drought in the West. Senator Bennet was joined by Senator Mitt Romney (R-UTAH), Utah Lt. Gov. Deidre Henderson and other state politicians, industry representatives, scientists and ranchers – like Pat O’Toole.

“Crisis management is best approached with cooperation,” said Mr. O’Toole. “It was an honor to participate in an open discussion with Senator Bennet and Senator Romney about how we come together to implement policy that will support farmers and ranchers in a changing environment.”

From Hittle Bottom to the Rocky Rapid campground outside of Moab, Utah, the group floated the river and discussed a bipartisan approach to address drought, wildfire, and mudslides in the West. With the stretch of the river was running at roughly 2,700 cubic feet per second (cfs), well below its average of about 7,200 cfs, the setting was appropriate to discuss drought.



Family Farm Alliance President Pat O’Toole (in Raft #4) prepares to embark down the Colorado River near Moab (UTAH) with a group of stakeholders, tribal representatives and U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and Mitt Romney. Photo source: Sharon O’Toole, Ladder Ranch.

level in 2025, just about 100 feet from “dead pool” where no water can be released to downriver states.

While Lake Mead is the lower basin’s (AZ/NV/CA) key to stable water supplies, Lake Powell is the upper basin (CO/WY/UT/NM) buffer against a “Compact call” for water from the lower basin under the 1922 Colorado River Compact.

Lake Powell and Lake Mead, the largest man-made reservoirs in the U.S., largely rely on melted snow. They have been hard hit by persistent drought amid climate change, characterized by a warming and drying trend in the past 30 years. Both have dipped to historic lows. The lakes had a combined capacity of 39 percent at the end of September, down from 49 percent at this time last year.

“We’re providing detailed information on our modeling and projections to further generate productive discussions about the future of Lake Powell and Lake Mead based on the best data available,” said Reclamation’s Lower Colorado Basin Regional Director Jacklynn Gould. “Being prepared to adopt further actions to protect

the elevations at these reservoirs remains a Reclamation priority and focus.”

Grim Conditions on the Colorado River

New projections from the Bureau of Reclamation have provided a grim outlook for the drought-plagued Colorado River. Reclamation recently declared the first-ever shortage on the Colorado River, which means Arizona, Nevada and Mexico will get less water than normal next year.

By the year 2025, there’s a 66 percent chance Lake Mead will reach a level where California would be in its second phase of cuts under the 2019 drought contingency plan adopted by the seven Colorado River states that provide 40 million people with their water supply from the river.

“The latest outlook for Lake Powell is troubling,” said Reclamation’s Upper Colorado Basin Regional Director Wayne Pullan. “This highlights the importance of continuing to work collaboratively with the Basin States, Tribes and other partners toward solutions.”

Reclamation also says there’s a 22 percent chance that Lake Mead will drop to an elevation of 1,000 feet above sea

Impacts to Water and Power Customers

Due to the low Lake Mead levels, ag producers served by the Central Arizona Project will soon see their allocations drastically reduced, with zero water projected for 2023.

Reclamation’s projections show about a 30 percent chance Lake Powell will hit a level where Glen Canyon Dam that holds it back cannot produce hydropower as early as July 2022 if the region has another dry winter. The Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), which distributes Lake Powell’s electricity will ask its customers to help offset rising costs linked to Lake Powell’s inability to produce as much power due to drought.

“It’s all bad news, but it isn’t necessarily unexpected,” said WAPA spokesperson Lisa Meiman.

Continued on Page 10

Fall Rains Help Parts of the West, but Drought Remains

Fall ushered in wetter weather in many areas of the Western United States, but overall, the region continues to reel from the unprecedented drought of 2021.

“No, the drought is definitely not over,” said Kevin Eubank, Meteorologist for KSL TV in Salt Lake City (UTAH). Roughly 88% of Utah is still in “extreme drought,” the second-worst category.

“No storm cycle, no season is going to get us out of a multi-year drought,” said Mr. Eubank. “Generally speaking, holistically, it takes as long to get out of a drought as it takes to get in a drought.”

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, heavy rain clipped some eastern sections of the High Plains, but many areas remain dry, or nearly so. A surge of heat in advance of a cold front, peaking on September 18, resulted in unusually high temperatures, followed by cooler conditions.

Still, drought conditions in many parts of the High Plains have modestly improved in recent weeks. Due to that beneficial rain, the “exceptional drought” designation was removed from central North Dakota. A few other areas also noted drought improvements, as moisture generally increased for newly planted winter wheat—and some pastureland has begun to respond.

Even with the rain, some rangeland and pastures in the Dakotas and Wyoming continue to feel the effects from drought that appears to have peaked earlier in the year.

The situation is dire with very little feed, especially in the northern tier states of the Dakotas, Montana, Washington and Oregon, as well as Nebraska, Wyoming and Utah. Arizona and Nevada conditions are worse than normal, and California is experiencing its worst drought in memory.

“It’s a pretty sad story in all of the West,” Larry Schnell, president of the Livestock Marketing Association recently told *Capital Press*. “There are very few states west of the Mississippi that aren’t in very dire trouble.”

Further West, any meaningful precipitation in recent weeks was confined to the northern Rockies and the Pacific Northwest, resulting in modest improvement in the drought depiction for those areas. As colder air arrived on September 19, precipitation changed to snow in Yellowstone National Park and other high-elevation sites in the northern Rockies and Northwest.

Jerry Schneider, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Seattle, told the *Washington Post* that the predicted that the rain event would be good news.

“It’s essentially going to end our fire weather season in western Washington,” he explained. “We still have a bit of [time] when it could dry out again, but we’re expecting two to four inches in the mountains, which should put a damper on the fire weather conditions.”

A record 1.80 inches of rain fell in downtown Portland (OREGON) on September 27, leading to a flood advisory for parts of the metro area. Unfortunately, the precipitation had little impact east of the northern Rockies. Montana led the nation last month with low topsoil moisture readings.

Further south, the 2021 North American monsoon has withdrawn from the Southwest, following a summer of beneficial rainfall that provided relief from short-term drought. However, significant, underlying long-term

drought issues remain, such as groundwater depletion and low reservoir levels.

Elsewhere, several wildfires continued to actively burn, especially in parts of California (*see related story, Page 12*).

Meanwhile, producers from California to Wyoming continued to deal with abysmal rangeland and pasture conditions, as reported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

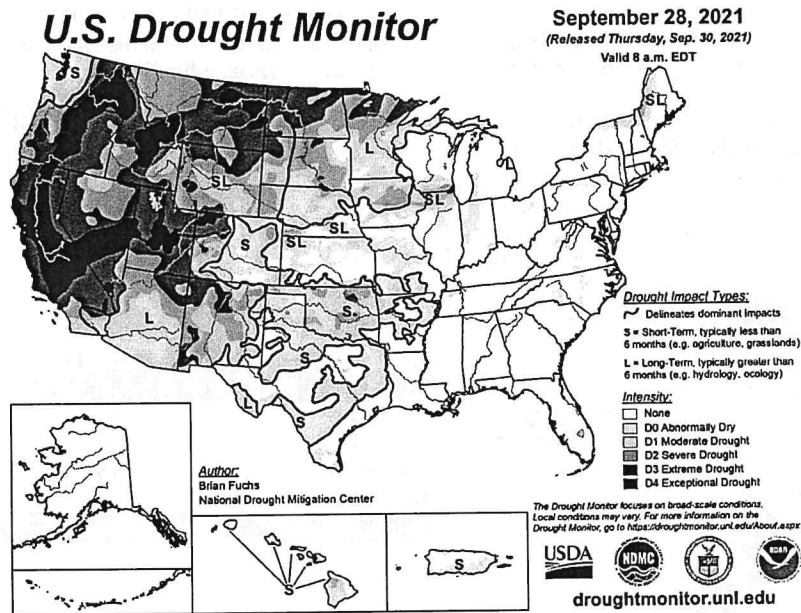
Livestock Producers are Hard-Hit

As the region-wide drought and tight water supplies continue to shrink the amount of hay grown this year, it’s hurting the farmers who grow it — and the ranchers and dairy operators who depend on the crop to feed their livestock, according to the *Capital Press*.

Nationwide, alfalfa hay production is expected to be down 12% this year on 16.1 million acres, a decline of 107,000 acres compared to 2020. Production of other hay is expected to be down 4% on 35.4 million acres, a decline of 594,000 acres.

Nationwide, ranchers are fearing it will be difficult to meet expected long-term demand hikes with commensurate supply, as reported in the September 15 edition of *SLATE Magazine*.

“The long-term effect of this will be less cows producing less calves, and demand is increasing steadily around the world, so prices will begin to rise,” said Emmett Sturgill, who co-owns a ranch in Kingman (ARIZONA). “When the dust all settles, we expect 2022 to have much higher prices. It will take years to get the cow herds back to where they were in 2021 when the culling began.”



Continued on Page 6

Western Drought (Continued from Page 5)

SoCal Lags in Water Conservation: California Farmers “Get the Middle Finger”

Despite an appeal by Governor Gavin Newsom for all Californians to voluntarily cut water use by 15%, Southern California has trailed in conservation efforts and water usage actually slightly increased in Los Angeles and San Diego, according to figures released by the State Water Resources Control Board.

“We believe that 15% is achievable because we’ve gotten down to these state water use levels before,” Marielle Pinheiro, a research data specialist for the board, told *SFGATE* last month.

On average, Californians reduced water use by just 1.8% statewide during July as compared to the same month last year. Across much of Southern California, however, water use dropped by just 0.1% overall, and rose by 0.7% in Los Angeles and 1.3% in San Diego.

Meanwhile, California farmers and ranchers—many of whom had their Central Valley Project surface water supplies completely curtailed this year—saw their hopes for critical water infrastructure scrapped by the California Legislature.

Senate Bill 559—*The State Water Resiliency Act of 2021*—as introduced by Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger) would have created a blueprint for fully funding the repair of vital water delivery systems that provide drinking water to communities throughout California and water to sustain the state’s leading agricultural economy.

The bill outlined a funding path to fix the Friant-Kern Canal, the Delta-Mendota Canal and major portions of the California Aqueduct, all of which have degraded and are losing water as a result of subsidence—the actual shrinking of land.

“Western States are at war with climate change driven drought,” said Senator Hurtado. “The situation continues to worsen, and solutions for us to adapt are clear.”

Congressman Jim Costa and U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein have companion legislation in Congress.

In his May Revisé, Governor Gavin Newsom proposed \$200 million to help repair the canals. In the budget ultimately adopted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, \$100 million was allocated to fixing the canals.

Senate Bill 559 passed out of the Appropriations Committee on August 26, with amendments that stripped the measure of funding provisions worth nearly \$800 million.

“It is unfortunate, but I will not add further pain to struggling farmworkers and communities. For this reason—I am withholding SB 559 for a vote this session,” Senator Hurtado said in a statement. “I’m disappointed, but will keep pushing to secure adequate funding for water infrastructure, and I hope to further inform my colleagues on the consequences of drought—namely food insecurity and water shortages.”

Farm and water organizations immediately issued statements slam-

ming the Assembly’s gutting of the bill. Western Growers President and CEO Dave Puglia said that “the Assembly’s leaders leave no uncertainty as to the future they want for the farms, farmers, farmworkers and communities of the San Joaquin Valley.”

Mr. Puglia shared his gratitude for Senator Hurtado as well as for

“those who stood with her even as their leaders gave them, and all of us, the middle finger.”

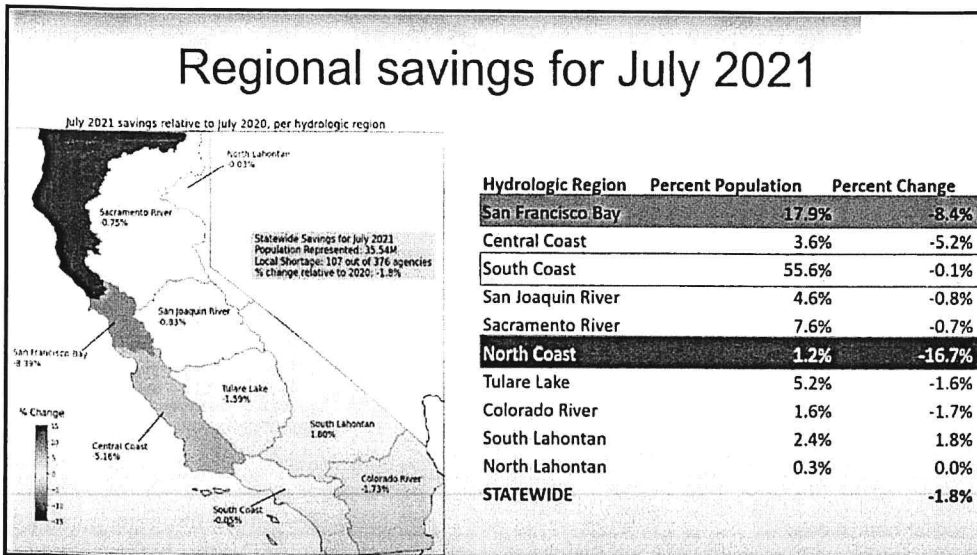
Energy Production Impacts

The extreme and exceptional drought conditions in California and states in the Pacific Northwest are impacting the region which is home to the majority of U.S. hydropower capacity. The U.S. Energy Information Administration’s latest Short Term Energy Outlook (STEO) forecasts that electricity generation from U.S. hydropower plants will be 14% lower in 2021 than it was in 2020. The latest STEO expects hydropower generation in the Northwest electricity region, which includes the Columbia River Basin and parts of other Rocky Mountain states, to be 12% less than in 2020.

Hydropower generation in the California electricity region is expected to be 49% lower in 2021 than in 2020. Last month, four temporary mobile emergency power generating units totaling 120 megawatts were deployed by the Department of Water Resources to support California’s energy grid in times of extreme stress on the grid.

“These temporary generators are an important last resort

Continued on Page 8



The California State Water Resources Control Board shared a graphic showing how much regions across the state reduced water use in July 2021 compared to July 2020. Source: California State Water Resources Control Board.

Alliance Seeks to Influence 30 x 30 Initiative

Throughout the transition and early months of the Biden-Harris Administration, the Family Farm Alliance has worked with other Western landowner groups and Members of Congress to monitor and seek to influence the development of the Administration's "Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful" initiative. The Biden Administration noted that its interim report, released earlier this year, was only the starting point on the path to fulfilling the president's conservation vision.

"Where this path leads over the next decade will be determined not by our agencies, but by the ideas and leadership of local communities," the interim report noted. "It is our job to listen, learn, and provide support along the way to help strengthen economies and pass on healthy lands, waters, and wildlife for generations to come."

In the past month, the Alliance signed on to a letter providing guidance to the Administration on collaboratively engaging with Western farmers and ranchers to implement the Biden conservation vision.

Western Landowners Alliance Letter

The Alliance, along with 7 other organizations representing farmers, ranchers and landowners on hundreds of millions of acres across the West, signed on to a September 10 letter addressed to Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, spearheaded by the Western Landowners Alliance.

The letter proposed a collaborative engagement process with the administration to identify solutions intended to keep working landscapes whole and healthy for the benefit of people, wildlife and ecosystems. This process would include a series of professionally facilitated work sessions, hosted by the signatory organizations and attended by federal officials from relevant agencies, state agency officials, conservation NGOs and other interested organizations.

In addition to the outlining the proposed process, the letter identifies seven questions that could be addressed through the structured engagement process:

- How do we define conservation and measure success?
- How do we define "community", what is meant by "locally led", and how can community-led and/or locally led conservation be better integrated and supported in policy?
- In addition to funding for short-term conservation and restoration work, how do we pay for ongoing ecological stewardship?
- How can we improve federal funding programs and delivery, and how can groups with direct experience and local relationships help guide federal funding allocations?
- How can we improve public lands management and agency/landowner relationships?
- How can we remove regulatory barriers to conservation?
- How can we support working lands stewardship as a strategy to deliver natural climate solutions and improve community and landscape climate resiliency?

The letter commends the Administration for committing to use science as a guide in implementing the Initiative. At the same time, the co-signers believe that it is essential in designing carbon markets that a range of benefits beyond just carbon sequestration are considered.

"In some parts of the country, no-till practices and cover cropping may generate marketable benefits in terms of carbon sequestration," the letter notes. "However, in arid landscapes dominated by rangeland, carbon benefits from practices may be more difficult to quantify, capture and compensate."

In the West, healthy grasslands and rangelands are already serving as carbon sinks and sequestering additional carbon through management in some cases. They also support biodiversity and agricultural livelihoods and are facing increasing pressure from manmade and natural forces.



Family Farm Alliance President Pat O'Toole was in the audience listening to a speech by USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack on challenges facing American agriculture at Colorado State University's Lory Student Center on Sept. 29, 2021, in Fort Collins (COLORADO). Photo source: Jon Austria/The Coloradan

Federal Officials Say Public Grazing Lands Should Count Toward Conservation Target

Ranchers who use Western public lands for cattle, horses, goats and sheep received some good news late this month when top officials with the Interior and Agriculture departments said that millions of acres of public lands leased for grazing livestock should be counted toward the Biden administration's conservation target.

"If we're going to look at ways to restore and then con-

Continued on Page 10

Alliance President to Speak at “Water in the West” Symposium

Family Farm Alliance President Patrick O’Toole, whose family owns and operates a sheep and cattle ranch on the Colorado-Wyoming border, is one of three speakers who will participate in the “Solutions in the American West” panel at the Water in the West Symposium, scheduled for November 3-4 at the Seawell Ballroom in downtown Denver (COLORADO).

The fourth annual symposium will be hosted by Colorado State University (CSU) and sessions will be held in-person, with a virtual option available.

“This year’s Symposium is focused on solutions to water and other challenges at different scales,” said Jocelyn Hittle,

Assistant Vice Chancellor at CSU. “The idea is that audience members can take lessons learned from regional work, and apply them at the scale at which they work.”

“We all know these are unprecedented times. My family is accelerating efforts to be more resilient in order to adapt to fundamentally changing conditions. Rural Americans throughout the West—farmers, ranchers and food producers—are striving to attain this resiliency in order to succeed, maintain our water resources, and take on the task of feeding the world. I’m honored to be able to talk about solutions.”

**Family Farm Alliance President Patrick O’Toole
Wyoming Rancher**

Mr. O’Toole will be joined by Bidtah Becker (Navajo Tribal Utility Authority) and Jennifer Pitt (Colorado River Program Director, Audubon). The panel will be moderated by Brad Udall, Senior Water and Climate Research Scientist at CSU.

“This panel focuses on solutions to water challenges in the American West,” said Ms. Hittle. “This could take a number of directions, but we know that addressing the Colorado River, inter-jurisdictional and inter-sectoral work, and creative thinking are all part of the picture.”

Western Drought (Continued from Page 6)

resource that can be relied on to support electricity reliability across California during grid emergencies,” said Siva Gunda, who sits on the California Energy Commission.

Government Response

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack on September 29 announced a comprehensive set of investments to address challenges facing America’s agricultural producers. These include assistance to address challenges and costs associated with drought.

“American agriculture currently faces unprecedented challenges on multiple fronts,” said Secretary Vilsack. “Farmers, ranchers and forest landowners increasingly experience the impacts of climate change as severe storms, floods, drought and wildfire events damage their operations and impact their livelihoods. We know these challenges will continue into 2022, and others may emerge.”

USDA is preparing \$3 billion in investments that will support drought resilience and response, animal disease prevention, market disruption relief, and purchase of food for school nutrition programs. Of this amount, \$500 million of this package will be used to support drought recovery and encourage the adoption of water-smart management practices.

Earlier in the month, in response to the severe drought conditions in the West and Great Plains, USDA announced its plans to help cover the cost of transporting feed for livestock that rely on grazing.

USDA is updating the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP) to immediately cover feed transportation costs for drought impacted ranchers.

“USDA is currently determining how our disaster assistance programs can best help alleviate the significant economic, physical and emotional strain agriculture producers are experiencing due to drought conditions,” said Secretary Vilsack on September 8. “Today’s announcement is to provide relief as ranchers make fall and winter herd management decisions.”

To be eligible for ELAP assistance, livestock must be intended for grazing and producers must have incurred feed transportation costs on or after Jan. 1, 2021. The deadline to file an application for payment for the 2021 program year is Jan. 31, 2022.

Meanwhile, USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial assistance to improve irrigation efficiency and water storage in soil, helping producers build resilience to drought.

In response to drought this year, NRCS targeted \$41.8 million in Arizona, California, Colorado and Oregon through Conservation Incentive Contracts, a new option available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, focused on drought practices.

USDA offers a comprehensive portfolio of disaster assistance programs at farmers.gov.

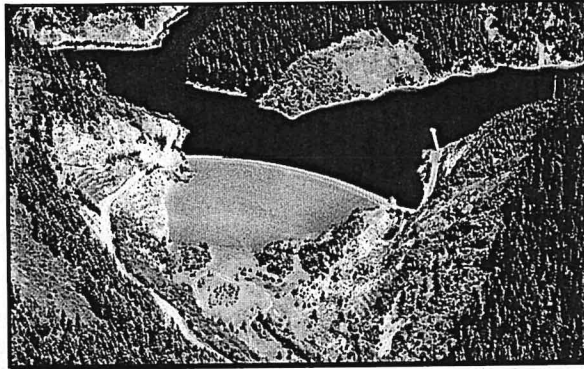
Judge Orders Corps to Change Operations at Oregon Dams for Fish

A federal judge has ordered the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to take significant operational measures at several dams on the Willamette River in Oregon to protect threatened salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), ruling that the Corps continued to delay mitigation measures and has further imperiled the fish.

The order comes after the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon ruled more than a year ago that the Corps and other agencies had illegally failed to implement operational measures required by a 2008 biological opinion. Those measures – called Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives, or RPAs – included requirements for fish passage at several of the 13 dams in the Willamette Valley Project.

"The Corps," Chief Judge Marco Hernández wrote, "has failed to carry out several of the most important RPA measures."

The judge's 60-page order, citing inaction by the Corps, requires that the Corps lower the elevation of reservoirs at several dams and prioritize flow and spill over hydropower production.



Blue River Dam and Reservoir, Willamette Project (OREGON). Photo source: USACE

"The status of the species has continued to decline since the 2008 BiOp was issued, and the Corps' operation of the [Willamette Valley Project] is a cause of that decline," Hernández, an Obama appointee, wrote.

The court's order stems from a lawsuit filed by the Northwest Environmental Defense Center, WildEarth Guardians and the Native Fish Society.

"This order comes at a critical moment for wild Willamette River salmon and steelhead," said Northwest Environmental Defense Center attorney Jonah Sanford. "These populations are in real trouble, but the court's required measures provide a road map for protecting and restoring these fish and this river."

EPA Rescinds Trump Guidance on *Maui* CWA Decision

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is rescinding a Trump Administration guidance document intended to provide clarity on Clean Water Act (CWA) applications to groundwater discharges, contrary to recommendations provided by the Family Farm Alliance and other agricultural organizations.

The Supreme Court in April 2020 in *County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund* held that discharges to groundwater require a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit if the pollutants eventually reach a "waters of the U.S." (WOTUS) and they are the "functional equivalent" of a direct surface discharge. The Court identified seven factors to determine a functional equivalent discharge.

The Trump guidance is being rescinded because the new administration determined it to be inconsistent with the Clean Water Act and the *Maui* decision.

"EPA will work with state permitting agencies and the regulated community to implement the Supreme Court's decision in *County of Maui*, consistent with law and science," the agency said in a press statement. "The Office of Water is evaluating appropriate next steps."

In the interim, EPA will continue to apply site-specific, science-based evaluations to determine whether a discharge from a point source through groundwater that reaches jurisdictional surface water requires a permit under the Clean Water Act.

The Trump guidance, titled "Applying the Supreme Court's *County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund* decision in

the Clean Water Act Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Program," was signed on January 14, 2021.

The new leadership team at EPA solicited input from the public before reaching its decision to pull the Trump guidance. Last June, the Family Farm Alliance was one of three national agricultural groups invited to participate in a "listening session" hosted by EPA's Office of Water on this topic.

"On that call, we emphasized the need to avoid undermining or eliminating the threshold conditions required to trigger the need for an NPDES permit, as well as protecting existing exemptions from the NPDES permitting program," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen.

Alliance General Counsel Norm Semanko does not believe that the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Maui* impacted either the threshold NPDES requirements or existing exemptions.

"It was appropriate for EPA to provide guidance that includes these matters," Mr. Semanko told the Biden EPA team. "Clarity is important for the regulated community to understand the requirements."

Mr. Keppen said the Alliance representatives encouraged EPA to retain the existing *Maui* guidance and perhaps consider modifying it to include specific reference to the existing NPDES exemptions, which are important to agriculture. He expressed disappointment in the final decision.

"EPA obviously chose to go in a different direction," said Mr. Keppen.

“America the Beautiful” Initiative (Cont’d from Page 7)

serve landscapes and ensure they are more climate resilient, we will need to be working on a lot of those lands with all of you,” Nada Culver, the acting director of the Bureau of Land Management, told attendees at the annual meeting of the Public Lands Council, which advocates for livestock grazing on public lands.

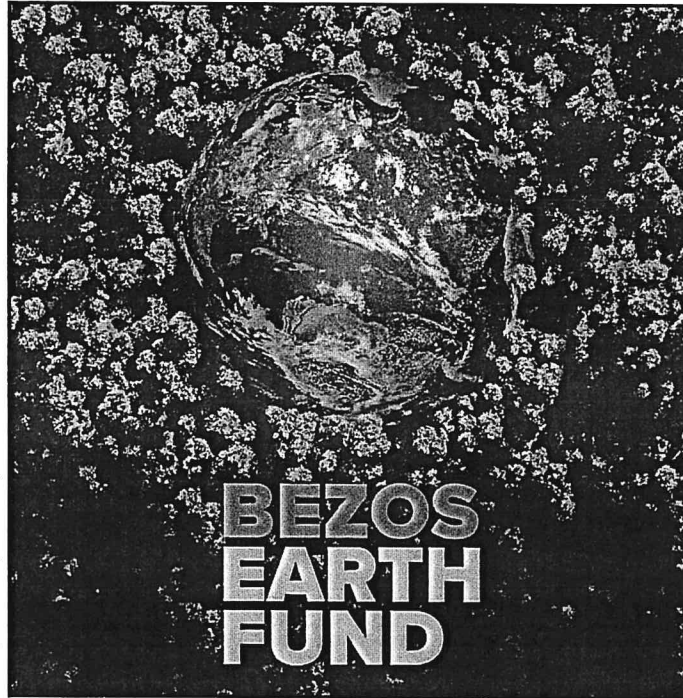
30x30 Working Group Established, Holds First Meeting

The White House last month announced the establishment and inaugural meeting of the 25-member “America the Beautiful Interagency Working Group.” Co-chaired by Council on Environmental Quality Chair Brenda Malloy, Interior Sec. Deb Haaland, Agriculture Sec. Tom Vilsack, and Commerce Sec. Gina Raimondo, the group was created to coordinate federal efforts to implement the Biden administration’s initiative.

The Working Group discussed several issues at its initial meeting, including efforts underway to collaborate and engage stakeholders on voluntary, locally-driven efforts on private and working lands. Discussion also focused on conservation-related elements of the bipartisan infrastructure bill (*see*

related story, Page 1).

The Working Group will meet quarterly, with current agency members. The White House noted that membership will expand further in order to achieve “an all-of-government approach.”



Foundations Announce \$5B Pledge to Further 30x30

Nine foundations last month launched the “Protecting Our Planet Challenge”, calling for additional private and public funding and pledging \$5 billion over the next 10 years to support the creation, expansion, management, and monitoring of protected and conserved lands, inland waters, and seas.

The contributing foundations include Arcadia, Bezos Earth Fund, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Re:wild, Nia Tero, Rainforest Trust, Rob and Melani Walton Foundation, and the Wyss Foundation.

As part of the commitments, Bezos Earth Fund announced last month that it will contribute \$1 billion, with a focus on the tropical Pacific Ocean, Congo Basin, and tropical Andes. The Bezos Earth Fund is Jeff Bezos’s \$10 billion commitment to fund scientists, activists, NGOs, and other actors that will drive climate and nature solutions.

Senators, O’Toole Float the Colorado River (Continued from Pg. 4)

Senators endorse locally-driven solutions

Senators Bennet and Romney both believe that solutions to the challenges facing the Colorado River basin will come from the ground up.

“The best solutions that come will be initiated at the state level and local level where local communities and the states work together,” Romney told the *Deseret News*. “We’ll certainly have a role to play with financial resources and perhaps regulatory adjustments, but a top-down command from Washington is the wrong answer.”

Senator Bennet had a similar message, telling the *Deseret News* that having the federal government support, rather than dictate, how states combat the climate crisis and the shrinking river will not only ease tensions in the West, but lead to more

effective policy.

“We need to find ways to get the work done at the local level and state level, and I think the federal government can be an important backstop to what they’re already doing,” he said.

At a time when partisan bickering in Congress grabs most of the headlines, the collegial dialogue that occurred on the day-long Colorado River float was welcomed by the tour participants.

“I truly appreciate the opportunity to discuss the impacts of climate change on the Colorado River and support the thoughtful, bipartisan approach to bringing solutions to the table demonstrated by both Senators Bennet and Romney,” said Mr. Mueller, who serves as the General Manager for the Colorado River District.

EPA and Corps Pull Trump-era Clean Water Act Rule

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) last month halted the Trump-era Clean Water Act (CWA) rule after a federal judge in Arizona ruled that the regulation was too harmful to remain in place.

EPA announced the decision on its website, pointing to a recent order from the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona that brought a swift end to the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR), which took effect last year.

“The agencies remain committed to crafting a durable definition of “waters of the United States” that is informed by diverse perspectives and based on an inclusive foundation,” EPA noted.

Judge Rosemary Márquez ruled in that case that the Trump rule, which replaced the Obama administration's 2015 Clean Water Rule, was too flawed to keep in place.

EPA and the Corps of Engineers said they will revert to pre-2015 regulations, including implementing a 1986 rule as interpreted by the George W. Bush administration to determine what qualifies for federal protection as “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) under the CWA. The agencies said they will continue to review the order and consider next steps, including “working expeditiously to move forward with the rulemakings” announced on June 9 “in order to better protect our nation’s vital water resources that support public health, environmental protection, agricultural activity, and economic growth.”

EPA and the Army Corps in August and September conducted several webinars / “listening sessions” to inform their efforts to revise the Trump Administration’s definition of WOTUS to “better ensure clean and safe water for all”.

The Family Farm Alliance and other agricultural organizations expressed disappointment in the agencies’ decision.

“This ruling casts uncertainty over farmers and ranchers across the country and threatens the progress they’ve made to

responsibly manage water and natural resources,” said Zippy Duvall, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. “We are reviewing the ruling to determine our next course of action.”

The Alliance has made engagement on WOTUS – which now spans three presidential administrations- a top priority.

“During the Trump Administration era, working with a team of Western attorneys and water managers, we developed detailed comment letters to EPA and the Corps, urging them to repeal the 2015 rule, and providing guidance as to how the new rule should look,” said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. “We thought the Trump rule repeal and replacement was actually a good thing for the West.”

The Alliance on September 3 transmitted a formal letter to EPA and the Corps that reiterated this message, and outlined the concerns that will be addressed in the upcoming rulemaking process.

The Alliance letter advocates for guidance that sustains, recognizes, and implements the CWA provisions in Sec. 404 (f) that exempt the construction, operation, maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of man-made ditches and canals and maintenance of drains from CWA Section 404 jurisdiction.

Later in the month, Alliance representatives met virtually with Radhika Fox, the head of EPA’s Office of Water, to directly appeal to her and her staff on this matter.

The Alliance WOTUS letter also insists that the new rule ensures that Congressionally-approved permitting exemptions for point source regulation of agricultural stormwater discharges and irrigation return flows are acknowledged and protected.

“We will continue to advocate for clearly written exclusions of dry washes, arroyos, and other ephemeral features, as well as the other ten non-jurisdictional features that the NWPR excluded from the definition of WOTUS,” said Alliance General Counsel Norm Semanko.

Alliance Supports Wyden’s Watershed Restoration Bill

The Family Farm Alliance last month publicly supported *The Watershed Results Act*, introduced by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OREGON). This legislation would use the best scientific and data analysis to identify the most effective acres where watershed restoration work would generate the greatest environmental results at the best value for taxpayers.

“When watersheds suffer that undermines the safety of what Americans can eat, drink and do,” said Senator Wyden. “My *Watershed Results Act* creates science-driven, cost-effective tools to protect the land that touches all of our nation’s waterways and provide stability for generations to come.”

Watersheds are made up of millions of acres of rivers and streams, farms and rangeland, forests and developed towns and cities, with restoration needs often varying dramatically

from acre to acre. The *Watershed Results Act* would use the best scientific and data analysis to identify the most effective acres where watershed restoration work would generate the greatest environmental results at the best value for taxpayers.

The Interior Department, Agriculture Department and Environmental Protection Agency would coordinate to establish several watershed restoration programs across the country.

“The dire and worsening problems impacting our rivers and streams have a direct impact on the future of freshwater in our country,” said Joe Whitworth, President and CEO of The Freshwater Trust. “The urgency of this moment is unmistakable, and a bill like this lays the foundation for much-needed change on how those working in water work on behalf of this resource. We hope others will support it.”

Continued on Page 12

Camille Touton Gets Bipartisan Support at Confirmation Hearing

Members from both sides of the political aisle on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee last month voiced support for President Biden’s nominee to serve as the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation. Ms. Camille Touton, a longtime water policy adviser to Hill Democrats, appears headed towards being the first Filipino American to lead Reclamation after her confirmation hearing last month.

Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WASHINGTON), Chairman of the Western Caucus, sent a letter to committee chairman Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) and ranking member Sen. John Barrasso (R-WYOMING) endorsing Ms. Touton.

“Ms. Touton’s nomination demonstrates a continued tradition of putting forth pragmatic, solutions-oriented leaders to head Reclamation,” Newhouse wrote, “and I am confident in her ability to address the water storage, delivery, and supply needs of families, businesses, agriculture producers, tribes, local governments, and ecosystems throughout the West.”

Ms. Touton was praised by her former boss, Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WASHINGTON) and other committee Democrats at the hearing.

In addition to her time working on Congressional water committees, Ms. Touton also worked at the Interior Department on water and science issues during the Obama Administration. She is currently the Deputy Commissioner at Reclamation.

“The drought has very real implications on people and the environment,” Ms. Touton testified. “Farmers, whose life’s work is to put food on America’s table, worry about the ability to put food on their own. Tribal communities who fear for the loss of species of cultural significance. Communities who

see the low reservoirs and worry about their water supply. Ecosystems and species that are stressed to the brink.”

The Family Farm Alliance earlier this year sent a letter support for Ms. Touton’s nomination to the Senate ENR Committee.

“We worked closely with Ms. Touton in her roles as Professional Staff for the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee,” said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. “She also served as Interior’s Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science under the Obama administration, a position which oversees and interacts closely with Reclamation. In our view, she excelled in her capacity in all of these endeavors, and was very responsive and effective on the issues we raised.”

The ENR Committee also heard from Ms. Laura Daniel-Davis, nominee for the Department of the Interior’s Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management, and Ms. Sara Bronin, nominee to chair the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The committee will vote on Ms. Touton’s nomination in a future meeting, which has not been announced. If approved by a majority of the panel’s members, her nomination will proceed to a final vote in the full Senate.

In related news, another Biden appointee – Robert Anderson – was confirmed by a Senate voice vote last month as the Solicitor of the Department of Interior. And, Reclamation has selected Levi Brekke, Ph.D., as the senior advisor for research and development. The newly established position provides executive oversight of all aspects of the research and development office and data management activities for Reclamation’s workforce of nearly 6,000 federal employees.



Camille Calimlim Touton. Photo source: Asian Journal.

Senator Wyden’s Watershed Restoration Bill (Cont’d from Pg. 10)

Mr. Whitworth moderated a panel discussion on quantified conservation - the method of using data and technology to ensure that every restoration action translates to a positive outcome for the environment – at the 2019 Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference in Reno (NEVADA).

Mr. Whitworth and Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen were both quoted in Senator Wyden’s press release announcing the introduction of his legislation.

“The Freshwater Trust is grateful to Sen. Wyden for his leadership in proposing a truly innovative and groundbreaking approach to outcome based, partnership oriented, financially

sound, watershed and sub-watershed management that is so desperately needed,” said Mr. Whitworth.

The Family Farm Alliance has long advocated for collaborative solutions to water challenges that employ the best available technology and yield measurable results.

“Farmers play a critical role in ensuring the resiliency of our watersheds. We are supportive of this legislation because it encourages collaboration among all those funding and working with and on behalf of water,” said Mr. Keppen. “Collaboration and innovation are both desperately needed if we are going to ensure that our freshwater resources can support the future of farming.”

Western Wildfires Draw D.C. Attention

As the “endless summer” of 2021 came to an end, wildland firefighters continued to work toward containment goals on 63 large fires and complexes that have burned more than 3.1 million acres in the Western United States, according to the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC). The conflagrations also drew attention from the White House and Capitol Hill.

President Biden stopped at Boise’s National Interagency Fire Center (IDAHO) enroute to California last month to tout infrastructure and his \$3.5 trillion spending plan, which he said can help battle wildfires, drought and extreme weather in the West, driven by climate change.

“Even some of my less believing friends are all of a sudden having an altar call,” President Biden said of climate change skeptics “They’re seeing the Lord.”

House Committee on Natural Resources Ranking Member Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) issued a statement in response to the President’s visit to the West, criticizing “inaction” by Democrats toward Republican proposals to mitigate the scale and frequency of Western wildfires.

“Talk is cheap; action is harder,” said Rep. Westerman. “We’ve got to start using commonsense practices on our nation’s forests so we don’t rinse and repeat the same cycle year after year. I sincerely hope the president hears from the men and women on the ground today on the urgency of implementing forest management, and I welcome future bipartisan collaboration on this issue.”

Rep. Westerman participated in a ZOOM meeting with Family Farm Alliance leadership last month to discuss the Western wildfire situation and the status of federal forest lands. Much of the conversation focused on the deterioration of U.S. Forest Service lands in the past thirty years, and the need to undertake active forest restoration on a large scale.

“The forest needs the timber industry more than industry needs the forest,” Rep. Westerman remarked.

Elsewhere on Capitol Hill last month, bipartisan legislation introduced in the Senate would provide carbon credits to companies and other non-federal partners in exchange for

thinning trees on fire-prone forests.

“America’s Revegetation and Carbon Sequestration Act,” co-sponsored by Senator John Barrasso (R-WYOMING) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) would encourage more intensive forest management — and reforestation — through a variety of initiatives.

The carbon credit idea would allow non-federal entities to be awarded carbon credits through voluntary markets in exchange for money they provide the Forest Service for projects that increase carbon sequestration.

“The bill will support the economy by expediting the logging of damaged trees and enhancing revegetation projects,” said Sen. Barrasso. “The ‘ARCs Act’ will also reduce emissions and the threat of future fires by allowing for additional wildfire mitigation such as tree thinning in fire-prone forests.”

According to one Senate committee staffer who wished to remain unnamed, efforts are underway to build momentum towards larger forest management reforms in subsequent bipartisan legislation.

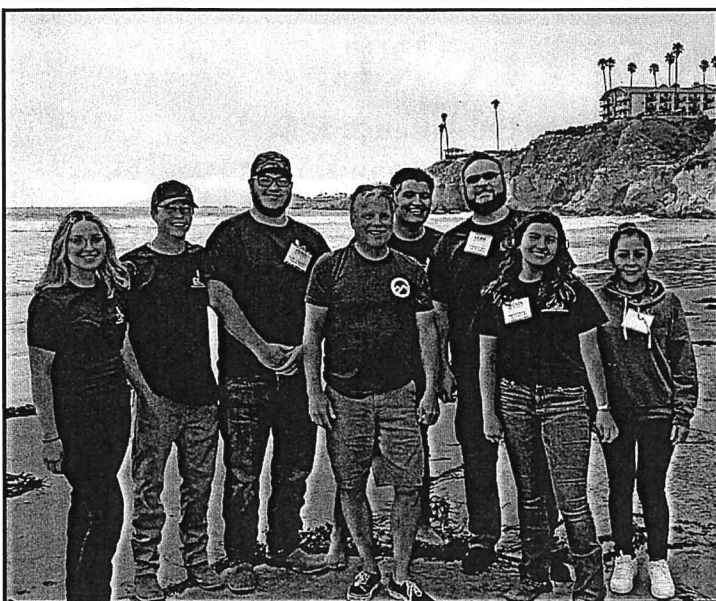
So far this year, 46,121 fires in the West have charred more than 5.8 million acres, slightly lower than the 10-year average at this time of the year.

How do wildfires in the West most often start? The answer is not lightning, which accounts for just 12 percent of wildfire ignitions globally. The real problem is human-caused ignitions—whether accidental or intentional—which account for 88 percent of ignitions globally, but are closer to 90 to 95 percent of ignitions in places like California.

The top ignition causes are unattended campfires; equipment use or malfunction, including lawnmowers, tractors, trucks and power lines; burning of debris; fireworks; carelessly throwing out cigarettes; car fires or blown tires; and arson (*Spectrum News 1*, Los Angeles).

“As we head into fall, wildland firefighters need your help to prevent wildfires,” the NIFC noted on its website.

“Remember to check for fire restrictions and recreate responsibly as you enjoy your public lands.”



Family Farm Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen (center) hits Pismo Beach with students enrolled in the Ag Irrigation Academy at the College of the Sequoias (COS) in Tulare (CALIFORNIA). Mr. Keppen was in Pismo for the fall meeting of the California Agricultural Irrigation Association, where he spoke on a panel with Mike Wade (California Farm Water Coalition) and John Farmer (Netafim).

The academy pairs students with an irrigation dealer, manufacturer, farm or some other agency dealing with irrigation for an internship. The students will complete 225 internship hours and 300 classroom hours to earn their Ag Irrigation Technician Certificate from COS.

“We would really like to talk about connecting with potential internship sites as we planned for 15 students originally and have exceeded that by 4 students,” said Charlie Abee, a professor of agricultural irrigation at COS.

If you think you could help, check out the program website at cos.edu/agirrigation.

A Big Thank You to Our New and Supporting Members!

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**If you have questions, please call our fundraising coordinator, Jane Townsend,
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**Contributions can also be mailed directly to:
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CORRESPONDENCE LIST
OCTOBER 2021

Agenda Item 13.

1. Received September 17, 2021 - Notice and Agenda for September 20, 2021 IRWMP Cooperating Partners Meeting
2. September 21, 2021 - Letter from District regarding water service requirements letter - Madera Street - APN 143-212-021
3. Received September 21, 2021 - Notice and Agenda for September 23, 2021 Central Coast Water Authority Board of Directors Meeting
4. Received September 22, 2021 - Notice and Agenda for September 27, 2021 Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board of Directors Meeting
5. September 23, 2021 - Letter from District regarding refund of deposit for meter termination - Hill Haven Road
6. September 27, 2021 - Letter from District regarding water service requirements letter - Mesa Verde Road - APN 139-510-004
7. Received September 29, 2021 - Notice and Agenda for October 7, 2021 Santa Barbara County Local Agency Formation Commission Meeting
8. September 30, 2021 - District e-filed Quarterly Contribution Return and Report of Wages to the State of California
9. September 30, 2021 - District e-filed the Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return
10. September 30, 2021 - Letter from District regarding San Marcos Avenue Tap Water Sampling Results
11. Received September 30, 2021 - County of Santa Barbara Office of the Auditor-Controller letter regarding 2021-2022 Property Tax Allocations
12. Received October 1, 2021 - Notice and Agenda for October 4, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting for the Los Olivos Community Services District
13. October 4, 2021 - Letter from District regarding water service requirements letter - Still Meadow Road - APN 137-030-004
14. October 4, 2021 - Letter from District regarding water service requirements letter - San Marcos Avenue - APN 135-162-011
15. Received October 12, 2021 - Notice and Agenda for October 13, 2021 Los Olivos Community Services District Board of Directors Meeting