

## **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, November 21, 2023**  
**1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, CA - Conference Room**

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTION VIA TELECONFERENCE**

**TELECONFERENCE PHONE NUMBER: 1-669-900-9128**

**MEETING ID: 929 0039 9487#**

**PARTICIPANT ID NO.: 180175#**

**MEETING PASSCODE: 180175#**

Trustee Michael Burchardi will be attending the meeting via teleconference from the following location:  
The Marriott Puerto Vallarta-Paseo La Marina Norte 435, Marina Vallarta, Puerto Vallarta, JAL, Mexico, 48335

Members of the public may join Trustee Burchardi at that location.

The meeting will be held according to California time, 3:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time

**Notice Regarding Public Participation:** For those who may not attend the meeting 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](mailto:general@syrwd.org). All submittals should indicate “**November 21, 2023 Board Meeting**” in the subject line. Materials received by the District during and prior to the meeting will become part of the post-meeting Board packet materials available to the public and posted on the District’s website.

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. **ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA**
5. **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.
6. **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2023**
7. **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
8. **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

9. **REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**
- A. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**
1. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Update
  2. Interim Cost Sharing Agreement Among EMA GSA Agencies
- B. AMENDMENT TO RULES & REGULATIONS AND CAPITAL FACILITIES CHARGES**
1. Draft Resolution No. XXX: A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement No. 1 Approving the Automatic Annual Adjustments to the Capital Facilities Charges and Meter Installation Fees Contained in Appendix "C" and Appendix "D" of the District's Rules and Regulations
10. **REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**
11. **CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS**
12. **REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:** Any member of the Board of Trustees may request to place an item on the 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.
13. **NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for **December 19, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.**
14. **CLOSED SESSION:**  
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 – 3 Cases]
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
  3. Name of Case: In Re Aqueous Film-Forming Foams Products Liability Litigation, Case No. 2:18-mn-2873-RMG (City of Camden, et al. v. 3M Company, Case No. 2:23-cv-03147-RMG; City of Camden, et al. v. E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company, et al. Case No. 2:23-cv-03230-RMG)
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION**  
[Subdivision (d)(2) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Significant Exposure to Litigation Against the Agency – One Matter]
- C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION**  
[Subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Potential Initiation of Litigation By the Agency – One Matter]

**15. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

[Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

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This Agenda was posted at 3622 Sagunto Street, Santa Ynez, California, and notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Section 54950 et seq., 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 any 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 at 3622 Sagunto Street, Santa Ynez. 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. Questions concerning any of the Agenda items may be directed to the District's General Manager at (805) 688-6015. If a court challenge is brought against any of the Board's decisions related to the Agenda items above, the challenge may be limited to those issues raised by the challenger or someone else during the public meeting or in written correspondence to the District prior to or during the public meeting. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any individual needing special assistance to review Agenda materials or participate in this meeting may contact the District Secretary at (805) 688-6015. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will best enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
OCTOBER 17, 2023 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, October 17, 2023, in-person at 1070 Faraday Street and via teleconference.

Trustees Present:           Jeff Clay (via teleconference)  
                                      Brad Joos  
                                      Nick Urton  
                                      Michael Burchardi

Trustees Absent:           Jeff Holzer

Others Present:           Paeter Garcia           Mary Robel  
                                      Karen King           Eric Tambini  
                                      Gary Kvistad           Kristopher McLaughlin  
                                      Mikala Butson

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

Trustee Joos called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m., he stated that this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Robel conducted roll call and reported that four Trustees were present, and that Trustee Holzer was absent.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Trustee Joos led 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. Robel presented the affidavit of posting 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 54953, as well as District Resolution No. 340.

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

There were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Trustee Joos welcomed members of the public and offered time for them to speak and address the Board on matters not on the Agenda. Ms. Mikala Butson and Mr. Kristopher McLaughlin provided public comment to the Board. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2023:**

The Regular Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2023 were presented for consideration.

Trustee Joos asked if there were any changes or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2023. There were no changes or additions requested.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve the September 19, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

1 7. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

2 The Consent Agenda Report was provided in the Board Packet.

3  
4 Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of September.

5  
6 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Urton, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by 4-0-0 roll call  
7 vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

8  
9 8. **MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING**  
10 **SUBJECTS:**

11 **A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

12 1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters

13 a) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements – Revenues and Expenses

14 Ms. Robel announced that the Financial Statements were provided to the Board via  
15 email earlier today and were included in the handout materials and posted on the  
16 District’s website in the Board packet materials section for any member of the public  
17 wishing to follow along or receive a copy.

18  
19 Ms. Robel reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of  
20 September. She highlighted various line-items related to revenue and expense  
21 transactions that occurred during the month and referred to the Fiscal-Year-to-Date  
22 Statement of Revenues and Expenses that provides a budget to actual snapshot for  
23 the first quarter of this fiscal year. Ms. Robel reported that the District revenues for  
24 the month of September exceeded the expenses by \$408,211.79 and the year-to-date  
25 net income was \$1,068,301.08.

26  
27 b) Approval of Accounts Payable

28 Ms. Robel announced that the Warrant List was provided to the Board via email  
29 earlier today and included in the handout materials and posted on the District’s  
30 website in the Board packet materials section for any member of the public wishing  
31 to follow along or receive a copy.

32  
33 The Board reviewed the Warrant List which covered warrants 25432 through 25487  
34 in the amount of \$488,230.11.

35  
36 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Urton, Seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 4-  
37 0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve the Warrant List for  
38 September 20, 2023 through October 17, 2023.

39  
40 9. **REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**

41 **A. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

42 1. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Update

43 The Board packet included a Notice and Agenda for the September 28, 2023 meeting of  
44 the EMA GSA, certain excerpts from the September 28 EMA GSA meeting packet, and  
45 notice of the October 26, 2023 EMA GSA meeting.

46  
47  
48 Mr. Garcia reported on the September 28, 2023 meeting of the EMA GSA. He reviewed  
49 the status of negotiations regarding a new JPA governance structure for the EMA GSA.  
50 He stated that progress is being made on the “one director, one vote” voting structure  
51 for the new JPA, and the addition of an agricultural representative on the JPA board.  
52 Mr. Garcia also reported that the Department of Water Resources has awarded grant

1 funding in the amount of \$5,534,000 to the entire Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater  
2 Basin for SGMA implementation. He stated that the next regular meeting of the EMA  
3 GSA is scheduled for October 26, 2023.  
4

5 **B. NEWLY ENACTED STATE WATER LAWS**

6 1. Senate Bills 389 and 659

7 The Board packet included Senate Bills 389 and 659.  
8

9 Mr. Garcia stated that Senate Bills 389 and 659 have been signed into law by the  
10 Governor. He reported that SB 389 amends Section 1051 of the Water Code and  
11 authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to investigate and  
12 determine the validity of surface water rights throughout the State. Among other things,  
13 the new law authorizes the SWRCB to enforce unauthorized water diversions or use as  
14 a trespass.  
15

16 Mr. Garcia reported that SB 659 establishes the California Water Supply Solutions Act of  
17 2023, requiring the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to provide actionable  
18 recommendations to develop additional groundwater recharge opportunities for the  
19 state's groundwater basins, where applicable. Such recommendations must be provided  
20 as part of the 2028 update to the California Water Plan, and in each subsequent update  
21 thereafter. The law requires DWR to consult with the SWRCB, the nine regional water  
22 quality control boards, and an advisory committee.  
23

24 **C. DISTRICT SUCCESSION PLANNING**

25 Mr. Garcia announced that two of the District's key management positions will be retiring  
26 within the next nine months. He reported that staff has been evaluating a succession plan  
27 to fill those positions, along with two other vacant positions at the District. Mr. Garcia  
28 explained that management has researched various firms to assist with the recruitment  
29 process and believes that Regional Governmental Services (RGS) will provide an excellent  
30 fit to assist the District with its hiring needs. He reported that RGS has provided a draft  
31 agreement for recruitment services that covers four (4) positions for an initial not-to-exceed  
32 amount of \$35,000. Mr. Garcia noted that the qualifications and quoted amount from RGS  
33 are very competitive.  
34

35 Discussion ensued regarding the District's current staffing levels, budgeted positions, and  
36 succession planning. For the two management positions, Mr. Garcia explained that ideally  
37 the District would be able to hire replacement candidates before the current managers retire,  
38 such that sufficient training time can be provided for each position. The Board was in favor  
39 of utilizing recruitment services to help fill the District's vacant positions, and supported  
40 overlapping time for the two management positions until the retirements go into effect.  
41

42 Mr. Garcia recommended that the Board authorize him to enter into a professional services  
43 agreement with Regional Governmental Services to assist with the recruitment process for  
44 four positions.  
45

46 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Joos, and carried by 4-0-0 roll call  
47 vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to authorize the General Manager to execute a professional  
48 services agreement with Regional Governmental Services, in an initial not-to-exceed amount  
49 of \$35,000, to provide recruitment services to the District for four positions.



1 **10. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS,**  
2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS**  
3 **NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION:**  
4

5 Mr. Garcia reported that District employee Christian Quesada recently passed his Grade D2  
6 Water Distribution Operator test. He explained that a substantial amount of studying and  
7 substantive knowledge are required to successfully complete this level of testing and  
8 certification, and he expressed his appreciation for Mr. Quesada hard work and dedication to  
9 the District.

10  
11 The Board packet included a news article entitled "California's epic rain year boosted  
12 groundwater levels, but not enough to recoup losses."  
13

14 The Board packet included the October 2023 Family Farm Alliance Monthly Briefing.

15  
16 Mr. Gary Kvistad, Legal Counsel, announced that Mr. Stanley Hatch, of Hatch & Parent passed  
17 away on September 27, 2023. Mr. Hatch was a pioneering water law expert in California and  
18 provided legal counsel for the District in its early years. He will be greatly missed by family,  
19 friends, colleagues, and the legal community.  
20

21 Trustee Burchardi reported that he attended the October 16, 2023 Los Olivos Community  
22 Services District Board meeting and provided a summary of the topics discussed.  
23

24 Mr. Garcia reported on a motor failure at Well 5 that occurred in early summer. He explained  
25 that various factors suggested that the failure was caused by irregularities in PG&E power  
26 service at the well site. Mr. Garcia explained that the District submitted a reimbursement claim  
27 to PG&E for the cost of the motor replacement, and that PG&E recently approved the claim in  
28 the amount of \$13,917.  
29

30 **11. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS:**

31 The Correspondence List was received by the Board.  
32

33 **12. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:**

34 There were no requests from the Board.  
35

36 **13. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

37 Trustee Joos stated the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for November  
38 21, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.  
39

40 **14. CLOSED SESSION:**

41 The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:05 p.m.  
42

43 **A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

44 [Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code - 2 Cases]

- 45 1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources  
46 Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of  
47 Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests
- 48 2. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood  
49 Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court  
50 Case No. 21CV02432  
51  
52





**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
November 21, 2023**

**Consent Agenda Report**

CA-1. Water Supply and Production Report. Total water production in **October 2023 (350 AF)** was approximately 29 AF lower than total production in **September 2023 (379 AF)**, 42 AF above the most recent 3-year running average (2020-2022) for the month of **October (308 AF)**, and 39 AF less than the most recent 10-year running average (2013-2022) for the month of **October (389 AF)**. Generally speaking, the District's overall demands and total production have been trending well below historic levels for domestic, rural residential, and agricultural water deliveries due to water conservation, changing water use patterns, and private well installations.

For the month of **October 2023**, approximately **158 AF** was produced from the Santa Ynez Upland wells, and approximately **192 AF** was produced from the 6.0 cfs well field in the Santa Ynez River alluvium. As reflected in the Monthly Water Deliveries Report from the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA), the District took **0 AF** of SWP supplies for the month because of the constrained delivery capacity of the Coast Branch system resulting from the electrical explosion at the Devil's Den pumping plant in mid-August, followed by inferior water quality once the full delivery capacity was restored in late October. Direct diversions to the County Park and USBR were **1.31 AF**.

The USBR Daily Operations Report for Lake Cachuma in **October** (ending October 31, 2023) recorded the end of month reservoir elevation at **747.42'** with the end of month storage of **176,471 AF**. USBR recorded total precipitation at the lake of **0.01 inches** for the month. SWP deliveries to the reservoir for South Coast entities were **73.9 AF**. Reported reservoir evaporation in **October** was **939.5 AF**.

Based on the updated maximum storage capacity of 192,978 AF (previously 193,305 AF), as of **November 11, 2023** Cachuma reservoir was reported at **90.6%** of capacity, with then-current storage of **174,747 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. 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 2021-2022 (October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022), USBR issued a 70% allocation, equal to 18,000 AF. ID No.1's 10.31% share of that allocation was 1,855 AF. In the Fall of 2022 when reservoir conditions were low, the Cachuma Member Units initially requested an approximate 15% Cachuma Project allocation for federal WY 2022-2023. By letter dated September 30, 2022, USBR issued an initial 0% allocation for WY 2022-2023. **Based on extraordinary rain conditions that filled and spilled the reservoir early this year, in February 2023 USBR issued a revised 100% Project allocation for WY 2022-2023. ID No.1's share of that allocation is 2,651 AF. By letter dated June 30, 2023 the Cachuma Member Units submitted a joint request for another 100% Cachuma allocation for WY 2023-2024. On July 10, 2023 USBR approved that request, which translates to another 2,651 AF for ID No.1.**

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 portion of 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*

As of the end of **December 2022** (prior to the spill in January 2023), a total of approximately **49,653.3 AF** of Cachuma Project water had been released under regulatory requirements for the protection of fish and fish habitat below Bradbury Dam since the year after the 2011 spill. **For the months of January through October 2023, water releases for fishery requirements, spill conditions, and other operational purposes have been made from the Cachuma Project. Reclamation has indicated that it will provide an accounting of those releases.**

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

In 2022, the SWP Table A allocation for SWP Contractors was only 5 percent, which translated to 35 AF for ID No.1's share of Table A supplies through CCWA. As previously reported, by Notice to the SWP Contractors dated December 1, 2022, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) issued an initial 2023 SWP Table A Allocation of 5 percent, along with a provisional allocation of additional SWP supplies to certain Contractors to ensure the needs for human health and safety. **In response to this year's extraordinary rain events and resulting increases in Lake Oroville storage, DWR incrementally increased the 2023 SWP Table A allocation to 30 percent (January 26, 2023), then 35 percent (February 22, 2023), then 75 percent (March 24, 2023), and then 100 percent (April 20, 2023) for the first time since 2006.** For ID No.1, the increase to 100 percent translates to a current 2023 Table A allocation of 2,200 AF. Of that amount, 700 AF is available to ID No.1 and the remaining 1,500 AF is contracted to the City of Solvang.

As reflected in the October 26, 2023 meeting agenda for the CCWA Board of Directors (along with other recent Board agendas), CCWA remains engaged in a variety of matters relating to the SWP, including but not limited to: SWP supplies and related SWP operations; the Devil's Den Pumping Plant Emergency Repair Project; renewal of the Cachuma Project Warren Act contract; and various administrative matters. CCWA and its member agencies also remain engaged in their pending litigation against the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to maintain CCWA sovereignty over important decisions pertaining to SWP supplies. CCWA has indicated that the Board of Directors will not hold meetings in November or December of 2023.



— BUREAU OF —  
**RECLAMATION**

Historical Archive and Report Database

**Lake Cachuma Daily Operations**

Run Date: 11/10/2023

October 2023

DAY	ELEV	STORAGE ACRE-FEET		COMPUTED* INFLOW AF.	CCWA INFLOW AF.	PRECIP ON			RELEASE - AF.			EVAPORATION		PRECIP INCHES
		IN LAKE	CHANGE			RES. SURF. AF.	TUNNEL	HILTON CREEK	OUTLET SPILLWAY	AF.	INCH			
	748.56	179,819												
1	748.52	179,701	-118	3.0	0.0	2.5	61.1	13.3	32.0	0.0	16.6	0.090	0.01	
2	748.48	179,583	-118	-16.0	0.0	0.0	38.7	13.3	28.0	0.0	22.2	0.120	0.00	
3	748.44	179,465	-118	-3.0	0.0	0.0	47.7	13.4	23.0	0.0	31.4	0.170	0.00	
4	748.41	179,377	-88	32.0	1.3	0.0	52.2	13.3	24.0	0.0	31.4	0.170	0.00	
5	748.37	179,259	-118	9.0	3.1	0.0	51.0	13.3	23.0	0.0	42.4	0.230	0.00	
6	748.34	179,171	-88	54.0	0.0	0.0	56.8	13.3	24.0	0.0	47.9	0.260	0.00	
7	748.30	179,053	-118	33.0	0.0	0.0	63.2	13.4	23.0	0.0	51.6	0.280	0.00	
8	748.24	178,877	-176	-32.0	0.0	0.0	63.2	13.3	23.0	0.0	44.2	0.240	0.00	
9	748.22	178,818	-59	53.0	0.0	0.0	38.9	13.3	23.0	0.0	36.8	0.200	0.00	
10	748.18	178,700	-118	-16.0	0.0	0.0	39.9	13.3	23.0	0.0	25.7	0.140	0.00	
11	748.13	178,553	-147	-34.0	0.0	0.0	45.2	13.3	23.0	0.0	31.2	0.170	0.00	
12	748.09	178,406	-147	-16.0	0.0	0.0	54.7	13.3	23.0	0.0	40.4	0.220	0.00	
13	748.05	178,318	-88	26.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	13.3	23.0	0.0	27.5	0.150	0.00	
14	748.01	178,200	-118	-4.0	0.0	0.0	49.9	13.3	23.0	0.0	27.5	0.150	0.00	
15	747.97	178,082	-118	5.0	0.0	0.0	50.4	13.3	23.0	0.0	36.7	0.200	0.00	
16	747.92	177,935	-147	-29.0	0.0	0.0	50.8	13.2	23.0	0.0	31.2	0.170	0.00	
17	747.89	177,847	-88	18.0	0.0	0.0	37.0	13.3	23.0	0.0	33.0	0.180	0.00	
18	747.86	177,759	-88	43.0	0.0	0.0	69.5	13.2	23.0	0.0	25.6	0.140	0.00	
19	747.82	177,641	-118	8.0	0.0	0.0	56.6	13.2	23.0	0.0	33.0	0.180	0.00	
20	747.78	177,523	-118	-11.0	0.0	0.0	35.8	13.2	23.0	0.0	34.8	0.190	0.00	
21	747.75	177,435	-88	3.0	0.0	0.0	40.8	13.2	22.0	0.0	14.6	0.080	0.00	
22	747.72	177,347	-88	29.0	0.0	0.0	54.7	13.2	23.0	0.0	25.6	0.140	0.00	
23	747.69	177,258	-89	-2.0	0.0	0.0	30.5	13.2	23.0	0.0	20.1	0.110	0.00	
24	747.65	177,141	-117	-17.0	2.7	0.0	35.6	13.2	23.0	0.0	31.1	0.170	0.00	
25	747.62	177,052	-89	-4.0	7.7	0.0	37.2	13.2	22.0	0.0	20.1	0.110	0.00	
26	747.58	176,936	-116	-21.0	0.0	0.0	40.7	13.2	23.0	0.0	18.3	0.100	0.00	
27	747.54	176,820	-116	-21.0	11.1	0.0	46.1	13.2	19.0	0.0	27.4	0.150	0.00	
28	747.51	176,733	-87	6.0	12.0	0.0	45.3	13.2	19.0	0.0	27.4	0.150	0.00	
29	747.48	176,645	-88	2.0	12.0	0.0	44.5	13.1	19.0	0.0	25.5	0.140	0.00	
30	747.45	176,558	-87	-3.0	12.0	0.0	35.3	13.1	18.0	0.0	29.2	0.160	0.00	
31	747.42	176,471	-87	8.0	12.0	0.0	45.7	13.1	19.0	0.0	29.1	0.160	0.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>-3,348</b>	<b>103.0</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1,469.0</b>	<b>410.7</b>	<b>706.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>939.5</b>	<b>5.120</b>	<b>0.01</b>	
<b>AVERAGE</b>		<b>178,021</b>												

Comments: \*Computed inflow is the sum of change in storage, releases and evaporation minus precip on the reservoir surface and ccwa inflow.  
Indicated outlet release includes leakage from outlet valves and spillway gates.  
Data based on a 24 hour period ending 0800.





# 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: 11/13/2023

Water Year: 2024

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	0.00	0.01	1%	0%	
Cachuma Dam (USBR)	332	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	1%	0%	
Carpinteria (Fire Stn)	208	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	3%	0%	
Cuyama (Fire Stn)	436	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0%	
Figueroa Mtn. (USFS Stn)	421	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	1%	0%	11.4
Gibraltar Dam (City Facility)	230	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0%	11.4
Goleta (Fire Stn-Los Carneros)	440	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	1%	0%	
Lompoc (City Hall)	439	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	19%	2%	11.3
Los Alamos (Fire Stn)	204	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	3%	0%	
San Marcos Pass (USFS Stn)	212	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	9%	1%	
Santa Barbara (County Bldg)	234	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	3%	0%	
Santa Maria (City Pub. Works)	380	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	14%	1%	
Santa Ynez (Fire Stn /Airport)	218	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	7%	1%	
Sisquoc (Fire Stn)	256	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	2%	0%	

County-wide percentage of "Normal-to-Date" rainfall : **5%**

County-wide percentage of "Normal Water-Year" rainfall : **0%**

County-wide percentage of "Normal Water-Year" rainfall calculated assuming no more rain through Aug. 31, 2024 (End of WY2024).

**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 based on Dec 2021 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)
<b><u>Gibraltar Reservoir</u></b>	1,400.00	1,383.31	4,693	1,551	33.0%	-258	-1,631
<b><u>Cachuma Reservoir</u></b>	753.**	746.97	192,978	174,747	90.6%	-1,174	-9,247
<b><u>Jameson Reservoir</u></b>	2,224.00	2,221.78	4,848	4,577	94.4%	-39	-207
<b><u>Twitchell Reservoir</u></b>	651.50	557.91	194,971	12,823	6.6%	-5,634	-42,609

[Previous Rainfall and Reservoir Summaries](#)



California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS)

# CIMIS Daily Report

Rendered in ENGLISH Units.

Sunday, October 1, 2023 - Tuesday, October 31, 2023

Printed on Wednesday, November 1, 2023

## 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)
10/1/2023	0.14 R	0.00	453	10.5	73.4	38.3	55.3	96	42	70	45.8	2.1	50.8	76.5
10/2/2023	0.13 R	0.00	444	12.5	78.0	43.1	58.2	98	46	75	50.5	2.2	52.0	75.9
10/3/2023	0.16 R	0.00	484	11.8	87.9	46.6	62.8	99	26	61	49.0	2.0 Y	48.2 Y	75.7
10/4/2023	0.17 R	0.00	489	11.1	94.3	43.2	65.6	94	21	52	47.4	1.8 Y	42.3 Y	75.9
10/5/2023	0.17 R	0.00	491	11.0	97.1	44.1	68.0	93	17	47	47.1	2.0 Y	47.1 Y	76.2
10/6/2023	0.17 R	0.00	488	10.4	100.3	44.3	69.1	95	14	43	45.7	1.7 Y	41.7 Y	76.5
10/7/2023	0.16	0.00	428	11.0	97.5	45.7	68.4	93	17	46	47.1	2.1	50.0	76.8
10/8/2023	0.16	0.00	475	13.4	94.8	44.3	65.6	95	22	62	52.3	1.9	46.1	76.8
10/9/2023	0.12	0.00	406	14.2	77.5	50.8	60.7	98	49	78	53.9	2.1	49.3	76.9
10/10/2023	0.12	0.00	407	13.8	77.3	48.7	60.8	97	49	76	53.1	2.4	58.7	76.6
10/11/2023	0.16	0.00	467	10.6	81.4	47.0	62.5	96	22	55	46.0	3.3	79.4	76.1
10/12/2023	0.14 R	0.00	561 R	9.1	84.7	36.6	60.7	92	16	50	42.0	2.0	47.4	75.6
10/13/2023	0.14 R	0.00	439	9.9	86.8	37.6	58.4	95	21	60	44.4	2.0	46.8	75.2
10/14/2023	0.13 R	0.00	406	10.2	86.8	38.8	58.2	96	25	62	45.2	1.7	40.8	74.8
10/15/2023	0.14 R	0.00	437	11.1	90.0	38.9	60.0	93	24	63	47.2	1.8	43.7	74.5
10/16/2023	0.13 R	0.00	425	12.8	88.0	46.1	61.3	99	29	69	51.2	1.6 Y	38.1 Y	74.4
10/17/2023	0.13 R	0.00	432	13.1	89.2	44.4	62.1	99	30	69	51.8	1.9	45.4	74.5
10/18/2023	0.14	0.00	438	12.5	97.5	43.5	65.8	99	19	58	50.4	1.6 Y	38.0 Y	74.6
10/19/2023	0.14 R	0.00	419	12.4	96.9	45.7	66.6	96	17	56	50.3	1.8	42.0	74.8
10/20/2023	0.12 R	0.00	400	13.6	89.7	48.1	62.1	99	31	71	52.8	1.7	41.7	75.0
10/21/2023	0.12 R	0.00	410	12.6	77.2	44.4	59.3	98	44	73	50.7	2.0	47.4	75.0
10/22/2023	0.11 R	0.00	369	13.1	77.3	40.7	59.0	97	49	77	51.8	2.8	67.1	74.7
10/23/2023	0.12	0.00	381	14.1	81.1	49.0	64.0	95	35	69	53.8	2.5	60.7	74.2
10/24/2023	0.11	0.00	379	13.7	79.1	45.1	60.1	98	47	78	53.0	1.9	45.7	74.1
10/25/2023	0.04 R	0.00	181	14.0	68.8	51.9	58.2	97	61	85	53.6	1.9	46.2	74.0
10/26/2023	0.11	0.00	374	11.5	75.9	36.6	56.4	94	42	74	48.2	2.2	52.6	73.5
10/27/2023	0.11 R	0.00	391	8.7	75.7	32.4	50.1	98	34	70	40.8	1.9	46.4	73.0
10/28/2023	0.11 R	0.00	395	8.7	73.9	33.0	50.3	96	34	70	41.0	2.4	56.6	72.2
10/29/2023	0.11 R	0.00	407 R	5.5	80.6	27.8	48.7	96	13	47	29.5	1.6	39.5	71.5
10/30/2023	0.11 R	0.00	0 R	4.9	43.1 R	30.6	- S	90	10	- Q	- Q	1.0 I	23.9 I	70.3
10/31/2023	0.11 R	0.00	380	4.2 Y	87.6	24.9 Y	49.9	89	9	35 Y	23.2 Y	1.6	38.0	70.1
Tots/Avg	4.03	0.00	408	11.2	83.5	41.7	60.3	96	30	63	47.3	2.0	47.5	74.7

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:** Christine Forsyth, Administrative Assistant

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Water Deliveries

November 3, 2023

According to the CCWA revenue meters at each turnout, the following deliveries were made during the month of October 2023:

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Chorro .....	152.47
López.....	104.98
Shandon .....	0.00
Guadalupe.....	57.41
Santa Maria .....	638.20
Golden State Water Co. ....	0.00
Vandenberg.....	0.00
Buellton .....	34.23
Solvang .....	96.52
Santa Ynez ID#1 .....	0.00
Bradbury.....	<u>84.75</u>
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>1,168.56</b>

In order to reconcile these deliveries with the DWR revenue meter, which read 1,167 acre-feet, the following delivery amounts should be used for billing purposes:

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Chorro .....	152
López .....	105
Shandon.....	0
Guadalupe.....	57
Santa Maria .....	612*
Golden State Water Co .....	25*
Vandenberg .....	0
Buellton .....	34
Solvang .....	97
Santa Ynez ID#1 .....	0
Bradbury .....	<u>85</u>
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>1,167</b>

\*Golden State Water Company delivered 25 acre-feet into its system through the Santa Maria turnout. This delivery is recorded by providing a credit of 25 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 0 acre-feet of exchange water.

The exchange water is allocated as follows

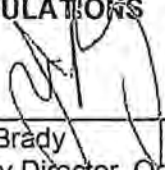
<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Exchange Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Goleta	0
Santa Barbara	0
Montecito	0
Carpinteria	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

Bradbury Deliveries into Lake Cachuma are allocated as follows:

<u>Project Participant</u>	<u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u>
Carpinteria	0
Goleta	0
La Cumbre	77
Montecito	0
Morehart	8
Santa Barbara	0
Raytheon	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85</b>

cc: Tom Bunosky, GWD  
Mike Babb, 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  
City of Guadalupe  
Robert MacDonald, Carpinteria Valley WD  
Mike Alvarado, La Cumbre Mutual WC  
Pernell Rush, Vandenberg SFB  
Nick Turner, Montecito WD  
Randy Murphy, 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

## Paeter Garcia

---

**From:** Lisa F. Watkins <lfw@ccwa.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 4:24 PM  
**Cc:** John L. Brady; Ray Stokes  
**Subject:** CCWA Devil's Den Update 10/23/2023

**Importance:** High

Via bcc: CCWA Water Operations Distribution

### CCWA PARTICIPANTS AND SLO TURNOUTS – Update 10/23/23

DWR's Devil's Den Pumping Plant has successfully returned Unit #4, #5 and #6 to service. The total pumping capacity to the Polonio Pass Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is now 66 cfs or 42.7 MGD, which near the rated capacity of the WTP. Therefore, there is no longer a limit on WTP production.

Please be advised that during the low flows, nitrification has occurred in areas upstream of Tanks 5 and 7. CCWA staff has been dosing both Tank 5 and 7 as a measure to address the nitrification, coupled with the existing chlorination systems. Currently, Tank 5 is scheduled for dosing today and Tank 7 on Tuesday. Also, the Santa Ynez Pumping Plant will be delivering 80 AF to Lake Cachuma by the end of this month and there is a request for 65 AF in November.

CCWA staff is also currently upgrading the Tank 7 chlorination systems to add the ability to increase chloramine residual as well as to oxidize nitrite to reduce its concentration in the treated water. This work is expected to be completed by the end of this week. Work is also progressing on the Nipomo and Tank 5 chloramination facilities and construction is scheduled for Winter Shutdown, which is expected to start at the end of January. The specific dates of the winter shutdown will be determined by the end of October.

CCWA has initiated the biweekly water quality status for the southern pipeline Participants. CCWA staff will be adding a concise update of the treatment enhancement projects in the biweekly water quality status reports as well.

If you plan to begin taking deliveries, please make your delivery requests through our standard protocol, through calling our Distribution On-Call Technician.

Sent for:  
John Brady  
Deputy Director  
JLB@ccwa.com  
Phone: 805-688-2292 ext 228  
Cell Phone: 805-680-2116



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

**Paeter Garcia**

---

**From:** Lisa F. Watkins <lfw@ccwa.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 10:17 AM  
**Cc:** John L. Brady; Ray Stokes  
**Subject:** CCWA Participants and San Luis Obispo County Turnouts Winter Shutdown Notice

**VIA BCC: ALL CCWA PARTICIPANTS AND SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY TURNOUTS**

Please be advised that the Department of Water Resources has re-scheduled their annual winter maintenance shutdown to **November 2024**. The tentative plan to have a winter maintenance shutdown in late January 2024 has been cancelled.



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

**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.



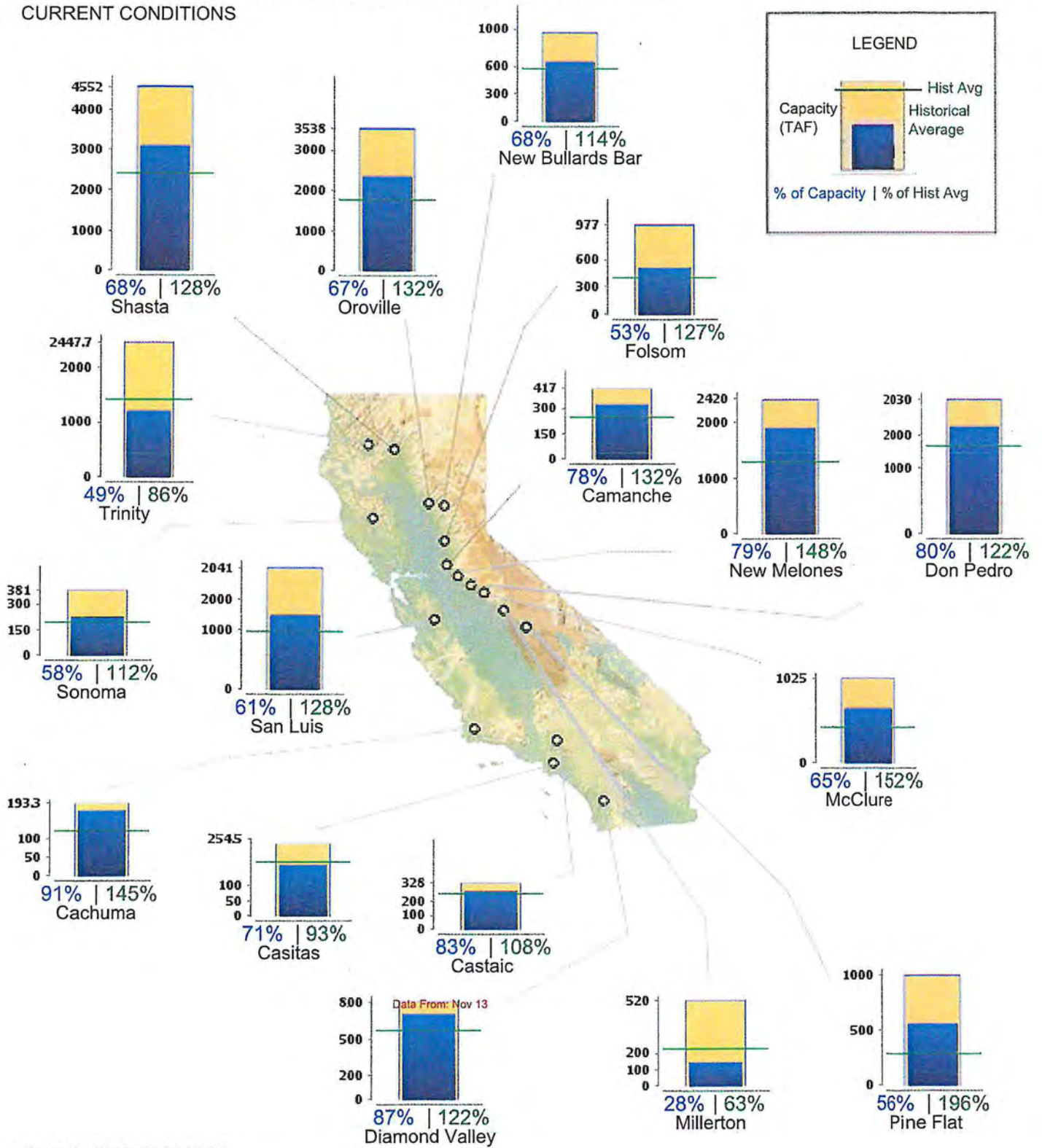


# CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

## CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - November 14, 2023

### CURRENT CONDITIONS





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

will be held at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, October 26, 2023  
 at 255 Industrial Way, Buellton, California 93427

Members of the public may participate by video call or telephone via  
 URL: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1470508474>  
 or by dialing (623)404-9000 and entering access Code/Meeting ID: 147 050 8474 #

Please note: public participation by video call or telephone is for convenience only and is not required by law. If technical interruptions to the video call/telephone occur, the chair has the discretion to continue the meeting and participants are invited to take advantage of the other participation options above.

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](mailto: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>.

Eric Friedman  
 Chairman

Jeff Clay  
 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

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

**II. Closed Session**

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d) (4): 1 case
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
 Government Code section 54956.9(d) (1)  
 Name of case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, et al. (Case No. 21CV02432)

**III. Return to Open Session**

**IV. 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 five minutes; all speakers to a total of fifteen minutes.)**

**V. Consent Calendar**

- \* A. Minutes of the September 28, 2023 Regular Meeting
  - \* B. Bills
  - \* C. Controller’s Report
  - \* D. Operations Report
- Staff Recommendation: Approve the Consent Calendar*

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

*Continued*

\* Indicates attachment of document to original agenda packet.

**VI. Executive Director's Report**

- A. Water Supply Situation Report  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.
- \* B. Emergency Bypass of Devil's Den Pumping Plant Due To Unplanned Outage and Associated Agreements  
*Staff Recommendation:* Adopt Resolution No. 23-08 Approving Letter Agreement with the Department of Water Resources and Berranda Mesa Water District re. the Devil's Den Pumping Plant Emergency Outage Bypass
- C. Administrative Procedures for Transfers and Exchanges, Including Implementation of Right of First Refusal Rule for Transfers Outside the County of Santa Barbara  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.
- \* D. Adoption of Resolution 23-09 Amending the CCWA Rules and Regulations Governing the Policy and Procedures for the Purchase of Services, Supplies or Equipment  
*Staff Recommendation:* Adopt Resolution No. 23-09 Amending the Rules and Regulations Governing the Policy and Procedures for the Purchase of Services, Supplies or Equipment
- \* E. DWR Calendar Year 2024 Statement of Charges Rebill  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.
- \* F. FY 2023/24 First Quarter Investment Report  
*Staff Recommendation:* Accept report.
- G. State Water Contractors Report  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.
- \* H. Legislative Report  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.

**VII. Reports from Board Members for Information Only**

**VIII. Items for Next Regular Meeting Agenda**

- IX. Date of Next Regular Meeting: January 25, 2024**  
(Consider canceling the November and December regular meetings)

**X. Adjournment**



**Paeter Garcia**

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**From:** Lisa F. Watkins <lfw@ccwa.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 2:54 PM  
**Cc:** Ray Stokes; Stephanie Hastings; John L. Brady; Dessimlava H. Mladenova; Lacey S. Adam; Christine M. Forsyth  
**Subject:** Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) Scheduled Meetings for 2024

Via bcc: CCWA Board of Directors and Alternates  
CCWA Operating Committee

Following are the scheduled meeting dates for 2024. If you have any questions, please call me at 805-697-5219.

MONTH (2024)	OPERATING COMMITTEE	BOARD
JANUARY	JANUARY 11	JANUARY 25
FEBRUARY	-	FEBRUARY 22
MARCH	MARCH 14	MARCH 28
APRIL	-	APRIL 25
MAY	-	MAY 23
JUNE	-	JUNE 27
JULY	JULY 11	JULY 25
AUGUST	-	AUGUST 22
SEPTEMBER	-	SEPTEMBER 26
OCTOBER	OCTOBER 10	OCTOBER 24
NOVEMBER	-	
DECEMBER	-	

November and December regular Board meetings are not scheduled due to Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays as well as conflicts with State Water Contractors Board of Directors meetings. Special meetings will be scheduled if needed.

All meetings are held at the CCWA office at 255 Industrial Way, Buellton, California.



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

**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.

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA  
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

HELD AT  
SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, BOARD ROOM  
1070 FARADAY STREET, SANTA YNEZ, CALIFORNIA  
6:30 P.M., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

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**Optional remote public participation is available via Telephone or ZOOM**

To access the meeting via telephone, please dial: 1-669-900-6833 or 1-669-444-9171  
or via the Web at: <http://join.zoom.us>

“Join a Meeting” - Meeting ID 858 4539 6311 Meeting Passcode: 533526

\*\*\* Please Note \*\*\*

The above teleconference option for public participation is being offered as a convenience only and may limit or otherwise prevent your access to and participation in the meeting due to disruption or unavailability of the teleconference line. If any such disruption of unavailability occurs for any reason the meeting will not be suspended, terminated, or continued. Therefore in-person attendance of the meeting is strongly encouraged.

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**AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
3. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any non-agenda matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction. The total time for all public comment shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Committee at this meeting on any public comment item.)
4. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of September 28, 2023
5. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List
6. Update on SGMA Governance and Draft Joint Powers Agreement for the EMA
7. Receive summary of EMA CAG meeting of October 18, 2023, from Gay Infanti and Mary Heyden
8. Review of EMA Cost Share Agreement
9. Review and Consider approval of **Resolution No. EMA-2023-003** “*EMA GSA Agreement to Provide Reimbursement to EMA GSA Agencies for Certain Shared Cost Contributions*”.
10. Review scope of work and cost estimate for the EMA’s Third Annual Report and receive update on contracting with GSI.
11. Receive update on Proposition 68 Grant Award
12. Receive Draft Schedule of Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin GSA meetings for 2024 and consider returning to quarterly regular meetings with special meetings as needed.
13. Discuss and set next EMA GSA Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 14 or 21, 2023, at 6:30 PM.
14. EMA GSA Committee reports and requests for future agenda items
15. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 72 hours prior to the scheduled regular meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and 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. Advanced notification as far as practicable prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]



**INTERIM COST SHARING AGREEMENT  
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin - Eastern Management Area**

This Interim Cost Sharing Agreement (“Agreement”) is made as of November 15, 2023 by and among the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (“Water Agency”), Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (“SYRWCD”), City of Solvang (“Solvang”), and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 (“ID No.1”). The entities listed above may be referred to herein individually as a “Party” or jointly as the “Parties.” For purposes of this Agreement, the “Effective Date” shall be the date the last Party executes this Agreement.

**RECITALS**

- A. Whereas, on or about April 27, 2017, the Parties entered into the “Memorandum of Agreement for Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez Valley Groundwater Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” (the “2017 MOA”); and
- B. Whereas, among the stated purposes of the 2017 MOA are to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) for the Eastern Management Area (“EMA”) of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“Basin”) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”), and to develop and submit a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the EMA portion of the Basin; and
- C. Whereas, the EMA is one of three Management Areas in the Basin, and pursuant to separate 2017 Memoranda of Understanding, the local public agencies in the Western Management Area (“WMA”) and Central Management Area (“CMA”), respectively, formed a WMA GSA and a CMA GSA; and
- D. Whereas, in January 2022, the EMA GSA, the WMA GSA, and the CMA GSA each timely adopted and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) its own GSP for its respective Management Area; and
- E. Whereas, the EMA GSP identifies various Projects and Management Actions (“PMAs”) to be pursued in the EMA, some to be pursued in the initial years following adoption and submittal of the GSP, to help achieve sustainable groundwater management in accordance with SGMA and the GSP, where funding will be needed for the development and implementation of said PMAs; and
- F. Whereas, SGMA and other applicable law authorize the imposition of fees and charges, including, but not limited to, permit fees and fees and charges on groundwater extraction or other regulated activity to fund, without limitation, the costs of a groundwater sustainability program and implementing a GSP in accordance with SGMA; and
- G. Whereas, to date, the EMA GSA has not imposed any fees or charges to generate funding needed for the development and implementation of PMAs identified in the EMA GSP; and
- H. Whereas, the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) has awarded a grant to the three GSAs for certain PMAs (“DWR Grant Funds”); and

- I. Whereas, the Parties to this Agreement are currently negotiating the formation of a new Joint Powers Agency (“JPA”) to serve as the EMA GSA, with authority under SGMA and other applicable law to adopt and impose fees and charges throughout the EMA to carry out sustainable groundwater management, including, but not limited to, the administration, development, and implementation of PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, the preparation and administration of reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and the carrying out of other administrative functions for the EMA GSA; and
- J. Whereas, the Parties to this Agreement recognize that a source or sources of interim funding is needed to begin administration, development, and implementation of certain PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, to prepare reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and to carry out other administrative functions for the EMA GSA, where such interim funding is needed prior to the receipt of DWR Grant Funds and/or prior to when the EMA JPA has developed its own funding sources; and
- K. Whereas, the purpose of this Agreement is to address interim cost sharing among the Parties as one source of funding to assist with initial efforts to administer, develop, and implement PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, prepare reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and carry out other administrative functions for the EMA GSA prior to the receipt of DWR Grant Funds and/or prior to when the EMA JPA has developed its own funding sources, recognizing that the interim cost sharing arrangement set forth by this Agreement is specifically limited in term, function, and scope as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the Recitals set forth above, and on the terms and conditions set forth below, the Parties agree as follows:

#### AGREEMENT

- 1. Cost Sharing / Reimbursement. Upon execution of this Agreement, the Parties agree to share in expenses (“Shared Costs”) for certain initial efforts to help implement SGMA in the EMA, as further described in Sections 2 and 3, below. This initial cost sharing arrangement is being agreed to by each Party pursuant to the express understanding and condition that any amounts paid in accordance with this Agreement by any Party on or after the Effective Date, including but not limited to each Party’s proportionate share of Shared Costs, shall be reimbursed, without interest, by the EMA GSA (whether the future EMA JPA or the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) through grant funds received by or on behalf of the EMA GSA to the extent allowed by the terms of such grant(s), or through other funds generated, acquired, or otherwise held by or on behalf of the EMA GSA, including but not limited to SGMA-related fees, charges, loans, or other funding, to the extent such reimbursement is authorized by law. Such reimbursement will be made when the EMA GSA determines it has funds available for such reimbursement that may legally be used for that purpose and such reimbursement will be made no later than December 2026, unless such date is extended by written agreement by the Parties hereto.

2. Cost Share Activities. Subject to other terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Parties acknowledge and agree that EMA GSA activities for which Shared Costs may be needed under this Agreement may include, without limitation:
- Consultant/Contractor work to prepare and submit Annual Report(s) required by SGMA;
  - Consultant/Contractor work to prepare and submit materials in response to comments or requests from DWR and/or the State Water Resources Control Board;
  - Consultant/Contractor work in support of developing, adopting, and implementing fees and/or charges authorized by SGMA and other applicable law to implement the EMA GSP;
  - Consultant/Contractor work in support of grant writing or other applications to secure funding to implement the EMA GSP;
  - Consultant/Contractor work to assist with the administration of this Agreement and/or other administrative activities on behalf of the EMA GSA to comply with SGMA;
  - Consultant/Contractor work in support of Group 1 PMAs set forth in the EMA GSP;
  - Securing and maintaining applicable insurance coverage(s) to be held by the EMA GSA.
3. Approval of Shared Costs. Each separate and specific activity to be undertaken by or on behalf of the EMA GSA for which the Parties agree to contribute Shared Costs under this Agreement (individually, a “Cost Share Activity”), such as an activity identified in Section 2 above, shall be expressly described and set forth as a new and separate Task Order, where each Party will have an opportunity to review and determine whether to contribute its portion of Shared Costs for such Cost Share Activity. Each proposed Cost Share Activity set forth as a new Task Order shall include a not-to-exceed dollar amount for the work to be undertaken, plus a ten percent (10%) contingency, the total of which shall constitute the “Total Cost” of said Cost Share Activity. On each occasion where all Parties are presented with a proposed Cost Share Activity and corresponding Total Cost, the Parties collectively shall endeavor in good faith to reach unanimous agreement on whether the Total Cost is acceptable, and upon reaching such unanimity, as applicable, each Party shall endeavor in good faith to notify the other Parties in writing within three (3) business days regarding its agreement to cost share. On any occasion where all Parties are informed that the costs to complete a Cost Share Activity will exceed its corresponding Total Cost as originally approved by the Parties (individually, a “Total Cost Exceedance”), the Parties collectively shall endeavor in good faith to reach unanimous agreement on whether the amount of the Total Cost Exceedance is acceptable, and upon reaching such unanimity, as applicable,

each Party shall endeavor in good faith to notify the other Parties in writing within three (3) business days regarding its agreement to cost share.

No Party shall be responsible for a proportionate or any other share of Shared Costs in excess of the maximum limits established in this Agreement without the express written agreement of that Party.

4. Allocation of Shared Costs. The Shared Costs shall be allocated among the Parties as follows:

Water Agency:	25%
SYRWCD:	25%
Solvang:	25%
ID No.1:	25%
Total:	100.0%

5. Administrative Coordination. The Parties agree to cooperatively share in the administrative duties related to this Agreement, including but not limited to soliciting, entering into, and coordinating professional services agreement(s) for consultant work contemplated by this Agreement. The Parties agree that any work undertaken by any Party, including its elected officials, officers, managers, employees, consultants, attorneys, experts, or agents, shall be at that Party's sole cost and expense and shall not become part of any Shared Costs incurred by or paid to any Party under this Agreement, except as otherwise expressly agreed upon in writing by all Parties to this Agreement.
6. Payments and Accounting. For each approved Task Order, the Parties agree to designate one Party, which designation must be unanimously agreed to by the Parties, for the purpose of administering payments and refunds of Shared Costs by and to the Parties, and administering expenses of Shared Costs for activities authorized by this Agreement. For each approved Total Cost or Total Cost Exceedance, each Party shall pay its proportionate share of Shared Costs on a lump sum basis. For each approved Task Order, to the extent that final actual costs are less than the corresponding Total Cost or Total Cost Exceedance as approved under this Agreement, the remaining Shared Costs shall be refunded to each contributing Party in proportion to its contribution of Shared Costs; provided, however, a Party may elect to carry forward any refund due under this Section as a credit of Shared Costs.
7. Term. This Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall continue in effect for up to two (2) years unless extended, amended, or terminated by the Parties in accordance with Sections 9 or 10, below.
8. Extension or Amendment. The term of this Agreement may be extended by the Parties at any time prior to its expiration by unanimous written agreement of the Parties. The terms of this Agreement may be amended or modified only by the mutual written agreement of



the Parties. No extension, supplement, amendment, or modification of this Agreement shall be binding unless it is in writing and signed by all Parties.

9. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated, and such termination shall be effective immediately, upon unanimous written consent of all Parties.
10. Withdrawal. Any Party may unilaterally withdraw from this Agreement without causing or requiring termination of this Agreement, where such withdrawal shall be effective immediately upon written notice to the other Parties. Upon withdrawal of a Party, the remaining Parties may agree in writing to a different allocation of Shared Costs in accordance with Section 4.
11. Effect of Termination or Withdrawal. Upon termination of this Agreement or unilateral withdrawal of a Party, each Party, including a withdrawing Party, shall remain obligated to pay its entire share(s) and obligation(s) of Shared Costs pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, but only to the extent that such share(s) and obligation(s) of Shared Costs were approved by the obligated Party prior to the effective date of such termination or withdrawal. No termination of, or withdrawal from, this Agreement shall be construed as affecting any Party's right to reimbursement from the EMA GSA (whether the future EMA JPA or the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) of any Shared Costs paid by said Party under this Agreement.
12. Relationship. Nothing in this Agreement creates an attorney-client relationship between any attorney and any Party that is not represented by that attorney as its legal counsel.
13. Written Notice. Whenever notice under this Agreement is required to be in writing, it shall be provided to all Parties by United States Mail with postage prepaid, by overnight delivery service, or via electronic mail, at the following addresses:

To Water Agency:

130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 200  
Attn: Matt Young  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
[mcyoung@countyofsb.org](mailto:mcyoung@countyofsb.org)

To SYRWCD:

P.O. Box 719  
Attn: William Buelow  
Santa Ynez, CA 93460  
[bbuelow@syrwcd.com](mailto:bbuelow@syrwcd.com)



To Solvang:

1644 Oak Street  
Attn: Randy Murphy  
Solvang, CA 93463  
[randym@cityofsolvang.com](mailto:randym@cityofsolvang.com)

To ID No.1:

P.O. Box 157  
Attn: General Manager  
Santa Ynez, CA 93460  
[pgarcia@syrwd.org](mailto:pgarcia@syrwd.org)

If sent by United States Mail, notice shall be considered to have been given forty-eight (48) hours after it has been deposited in the United States Mail with postage prepaid, addressed as set forth above. If sent by overnight delivery service, notice shall be considered to have been given twenty-four (24) hours after it has been deposited with the overnight delivery service.

14. Conditional Approval of Shared Cost Contributions. The Parties agree that their contributions of Shared Costs under this Agreement are conditioned upon and subject to approvals by the EMA GSA (including the future EMA JPA and the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) to provide reimbursement to the Parties as provided in Section 1 of this Agreement.
15. Law Governing. This Agreement is made in and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.
16. Section Headings. All section headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and are not to be construed as modifying or governing the operative language of this Agreement or to define or limit the scope of any provision of this Agreement.
17. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
18. Construction of Agreement. Each Party acknowledges and agrees that said Party has had an informed and complete opportunity to participate in the negotiation and drafting of this Agreement and has had access to competent legal counsel to advise said Party concerning the terms and effects of this Agreement, and all Parties agree that no Party shall be deemed to be the drafting Party of this Agreement in any dispute involving construction of the terms of this Agreement.
19. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which, together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

20. No Third Party Beneficiary. This Agreement shall not be construed or deemed to be an agreement for the benefit of any third party or parties and no third party or parties shall have any claim or right of action hereunder for any cause whatsoever.
21. Authorized Signature. Each Party represents that the individual signing this Agreement on its behalf is duly authorized to execute this Agreement and will legally bind that Party to the terms of this Agreement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto agree to the terms and conditions hereof and have executed this Agreement.**

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
William J. Buelow  
Assistant General Manager

**CITY OF SOLVANG**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Murphy  
City Manager

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paeter Garcia  
General Manager

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY**

**ATTEST:**

Mona Miyasato  
County Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board, Ex Officio Clerk of  
the Santa Barbara County Water Agency

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Das Williams, Chair  
Board of Directors

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:**

Santa Barbara County Water Agency

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott D. McGolpin  
Public Works Director

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

Greg Milligan, ARM  
Risk Manager

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Risk Management

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

Rachel Van Mullem  
County Counsel

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Counsel

**APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING  
FORM:**

Betsy M. Schaffer, CPA  
Auditor-Controller

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
APPROVING THE AUTOMATIC ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE CAPITAL FACILITIES CHARGES  
AND METER INSTALLATION FEES CONTAINED IN APPENDIX "C" AND APPENDIX "D"  
OF THE DISTRICT'S RULES AND REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 ("District"), is empowered to prescribe, revise, and collect charges and costs for services and facilities funded by the District; and

WHEREAS, a capital facilities charge is a critical component of the District's overall financing plan; and

WHEREAS, State law (Government Code § 66000 et seq.) requires that a reasonable relationship exist between the amount of a capital facilities charge and the costs of associated public facilities; and

WHEREAS, the District and the vast majority of water agencies throughout California require that new water users and those requesting new or expanded levels of service pay the costs of facilities needed to serve them; and

WHEREAS, the alternative to collecting charges and costs from new development and water users requesting new or expanded levels of service would be raising charges and costs paid by current water users, which is not equitable; and

WHEREAS, revenues from capital facilities charges are available to and used by the District to pay for new facilities and the proportionate costs of system improvements and expansions needed to serve and otherwise accommodate new and expanded water uses within the District's system; and

WHEREAS, capital facilities and meter installation charges are collected during the period when a new use or expanded level of use or service is requested from the District; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 1993, the District Board approved Resolution No. 422 adopting and establishing the capital facilities and meter installation charges and provided that each year on January 1, the capital facilities charges shall be automatically adjusted by an increment based on the change in the Engineering News Record (ENR) Construction Cost Index (20 cities average) from a base index of 5167; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 603 and Section 709 of the District's Rules and Regulations, the District's capital facilities and installation charges relating to water service connections and meters shall be automatically adjusted each year on January 1 by an increment based on the change in the ENR Construction Cost Index; and

WHEREAS, the ENR Construction Cost Index is 13,498 as of this date.

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

1. That APPENDIX "C" Installation and Capital Facilities Charges Pursuant to Article 6, Section 603 of the District's Rules and Regulations, as attached hereto and approved herein, be attached to the District's Rules and Regulations, effective on January 1, 2024; and,
2. That APPENDIX "D" Capital Facilities Charges and Meter Installation Fees for Services from Main Extensions Pursuant to Article 7, Section 709 of the District's Rules and Regulations, as attached hereto and approved herein, be attached to the District's Rules and Regulations, effective on January 1, 2024.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, being the duly qualified and acting 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 adopted and passed by the Board of Trustees at a Regular Meeting of the District held on the 19th day of December 2023, by the following roll call vote:

AYES, and in favor thereof, Trustees:

NOES, Trustees:

ABSENT, Trustees:

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Jeff Clay, President

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Mary Martone, Secretary to the Board of Trustees



APPENDIX "C"

**INSTALLATION AND CAPITAL FACILITIES CHARGES  
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6, SECTION 603**

(Effective January 1, 2024)

<u>Lot Size</u>	<u>Minimum Meter Size</u>	<u>Maximum Flow Rate</u>	<u>Ratio to 5/8" meter (1993 ratios)</u>	<u>Capital Facilities Charge</u>	<u>Installation Charge</u>
10,000 sq. ft.	5/8"	25	1.0	\$ 4,885.00	The meter and service installation charge shall equal the cost of installation as determined by the District from time to time
>10,000 sq. ft. to 1 acre	3/4"	35	1.2	\$ 5,862.00	
>1 to 3 acres	1"	55	2.0	\$ 9,770.00	
>3 to 10 acres	1½ "	125	4.0	\$ 19,540.00	
>10 acres	2"	160	6.4	\$ 31,264.00	
	3"	500	12.8	\$ 62,528.00	
	4"	1,250	18.0	\$ 87,930.00	
	6"	2,000	40.0	\$195,400.00	
	8"	4,000	64.0	\$312,640.00	

For parcels with multiple Domestic or Rural Residential meters, the meter sizes (e.g. 5/8-inch and 1-inch) may be added to result in a combined equivalent size that satisfies the minimum meter size requirements.

APPENDIX "D"

**CAPITAL FACILITIES CHARGES AND METER INSTALLATION FEES  
FOR SERVICES FROM MAIN EXTENSIONS  
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 7, SECTION 709**

(Effective January 1, 2024)

<u>Lot Size</u>	<u>Minimum Meter Size</u>	<u>Capital Facilities Charge</u>	<u>Meter Installation Fee</u>	<u>Total</u>
10,000 Sq. Ft.	5/8"	\$4,885.00	\$567.44	\$5,452.44
>10,000 to 1 acre	3/4"	\$5,862.00	\$601.92	\$6,463.92
>1 to 3 acres	1"	\$9,770.00	\$757.08	\$10,527.08
>3 to 10 acres	1-1/2"	\$19,540.00	\$1,182.69	\$20,722.69
> 10 acres	2"	\$31,264.00	\$1,523.18	\$32,787.18
	3"	\$62,528.00	\$3,813.95	\$66,341.95
	4"	\$87,930.00	\$4,458.29	\$92,388.29

# Monthly Briefing

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

## Rep. Johnson Elected as New Speaker after Weeks Long Process *Speaker Election Debacle, Gov't Shutdown Could Delay Farm Bill Passage*

After 22 days without a Speaker of the House, Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA) won the election last month by a vote of 220-209. Rep. Johnson began his Speakership by saying his "first priority" is avoiding a government shutdown. In doing so, the House Leadership canceled the Chamber's originally scheduled two-week recess.

Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) was ousted as Speaker of the House one month ago. His Speakership lasted only nine months and ended after fellow Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) filed a motion to vacate the Speaker.

"I think we need to rip off the band aid. I think we need to move on with new leadership that can be trustworthy," Rep. Gaetz said on CNN's "State of the Union".

Rep. Gaetz's move led to the removal of McCarthy as the vote passed 216-210 when eight Republicans joined all Democrats to remove the Speaker.



*On October 25, 2023, Congressman Mike Johnson was elected as the Speaker of the House. As a Congressman, Speaker Johnson represents the northwest and western regions of Louisiana. Photo source: U.S. House of Representatives*

Following the removal of Speaker McCarthy, Rep. Patrick McHenry was selected as Speaker pro tempore until a new Speaker was elected – over three weeks later.

House Republicans – after multiple rounds of voting for a plethora of potential leadership candidates, finally elected Rep. Johnson to serve as the 56<sup>th</sup> Speaker of the House.

Speaker Johnson said he wants to restore people's faith in the House.

"There's a lot going on in our country, domestically and abroad and we are ready to get to work again to solve those problems," he said. "I think all the American people at one

time had great pride in this institution but right now that's in

*Continued on Page 2*

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## Mike Johnson is New Speaker of the House (Cont'd from Pg. 1)

jeopardy. We have a challenge before us right now to rebuild and restore that trust.”

The new Speaker is a relative unknown to many in the Western U.S., but he is member of the Congressional Western Caucus, whose chairman Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WASHINGTON) issued a public statement congratulating the new Speaker on the election.

“As a member of the Western Caucus, our new Speaker knows the importance of re-establishing American energy independence, passing a Farm Bill to support our farmers, ranchers, and foresters and ensuring the multiple use of our federal lands is upheld,” said Rep. Newhouse. I look forward to working with Speaker Johnson to ensure the voice of Rural America remains strong in the halls of Congress.”

### Implications of Drawn-out Speaker Election

With no Speaker of the House for over three weeks, the House of Representatives could not pass any legislation. The November 17 deadline established in the 45-day Continuing Resolution (CR) Congress passed is now less than three weeks away, making time limited for Congress to resolve differences and pass long-term government spending.

The Farm Bill, Federal Aviation Administration, and National Flood Insurance Program reauthorizations are all legislative items that Congress must act on. Following an attack last month on Israel, members from both sides also spoke of an urgency to assist Israel.

The House has passed five funding bills so far, leaving seven appropriations bills for FY 2024 to pass before November 17. If Congress cannot pass all 12 bills by then, the Speaker is on record saying he will aim to pass a CR funding the government through January 15, 2024.

“If indeed we come to Nov. 17 and we're unable to finish that because it's detailed work and it takes some time, we'll look at another stopgap measure.” Speaker Johnson said on Fox News *Sunday Morning Futures*. “But I think everyone will be on board with that because they understand we're really doing this work. If we run out of time on the calendar, we may need a little bit more to complete it.”

At the time that this “Monthly Briefing” was going to the press, the Senate had resumed work on the three-piece “minibus” appropriations package that includes funding for USDA and the Food and Drug Administration. Considering this “minibus” took the chamber over a month to get across the floor, it's likely not going to have enough time to pass all twelve of its appropriations bills by Nov. 17. The Senate will likely have to pivot to another stopgap continuing resolution before long (*POLITICO*, 10/30/23).

### Delays in Congress Will Likely Impact Next Farm Bill

House Speaker Johnson is laying out an ambitious floor schedule that calls for the chamber to vote on a new farm bill in December.

In a dear colleague letter sent late last month, Speaker Johnson said he would aim to pass the House's farm bill version in December, though that timeline appeared to rely on

lawmakers quickly passing remaining appropriations bills, including the currently-stalled agriculture funding bill (*POLITICO* Pro, 10/25/23).

Key Senate Agriculture Committee Republicans are suggesting that work on the next farm bill reauthorization be put on hold this year and instead focus on a one-year extension, citing the absence of a House Speaker for three weeks and uncertainty over how much floor time will be needed to avert a government shutdown in November.

The farm bill expired on September 30, but some provisions were extended in the current CR. A one-year farm bill extension would provide the Congress with some breathing room toward a five-year farm bill reauthorization in early 2024 and give growers and agriculture programs certainty.

“We want to get the farm bill done as soon as possible, hopefully before the end of the year. That doesn't preclude us from getting it done,” said Senator John Boozman (R-Ark.). “But it gives us that time. And it gives the farmers the certainty that they will have a farm bill in place.”

Senator Boozman joined Missouri U.S. Sen. Eric Schmitt last month for a roundtable discussion with Missouri farmers about the farm bill.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture has yet to produce a draft farm bill, although Senator Boozman recently said certain sections are being drafted.

But Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) feels a sense of urgency and believes it is too early to retreat from the full five-year farm bill.

“I am committed to passing a strong, bipartisan Farm Bill as soon as possible,” she said last month on the Senate floor. “It is critical that we give rural America and agriculture the certainty of a 5-year Farm Bill.”

She told the media that there may come a time in the weeks and months ahead when farm bill backers will have to turn their focus to a one-year bill, but she did not believe they were there yet.

“Senator Boozman and I have a strong relationship, and we have already accomplished so much together,” said Chair Stabenow. “I know that we can come together with colleagues on both sides of the aisle and agree on a bipartisan Farm Bill that addresses the important needs of agriculture and rural America.”

Chairwoman Stabenow recently told *Agri-Pulse* that she expects to have about \$4 billion to \$5 billion in new funding available for the next farm bill.

### Family Farm Alliance Engagement on Farm Bill

The Family Farm Alliance has been working with members of the Western Agriculture and Conservation Coalition to advance Farm Bill legislative concepts with Congress that are intended to better streamline the implementation of the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program and the PL-566 program (*see related story*, Page 4).

The Alliance has also been working with the executive

Continued on Page 3



## Rep. Simpson Introduces New Urban Canal Bill

Idaho Congressman Mike Simpson last month introduced the Urban Canal Modernization Act (H.R. 6017). This legislation – supported by the Family Farm Alliance - allows the Bureau of Reclamation to authorize a 35% non-reimbursable cost share to help repair and rehabilitate “urban canals of concern,” canals through urban areas that would cause significant property damage or possible loss of life if the canal were to fail.

Many western canals, including the New York Canal in Boise, are considered urban canals of concern and need repairs.

The Urban Canal Modernization Act has support from Rep. Russ Fulcher (R-IDAHO) and Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WASHINGTON) in the House.

“We must address urban canal repairs to protect Idahoans and westerners’ way of life,” said Rep. Simpson. “The substantial urban growth around irrigation canals has created challenges and poses a threat to communities nearby. It’s well past time we act on these concerns. This legislation does just that by maintaining safety, expanding accessibility, and providing additional tools to ensure these crucial repairs get completed.”



Rep. Mike Simpson (R-IDAHO). Photo source: Office of U.S. Congressman Mike Simpson

Extensive urban growth around irrigation canals has created new challenges for water managers throughout the west. Whereas these canals historically crossed through farm fields

and other open areas, they are now surrounded by housing developments, parks, schools, shopping centers, and other development.

“The increase in development has resulted in many such canals being designated as urban canals of concern,” said Paul Arrington, Executive Director and General Counsel for the Idaho Water Users Association. “Importantly, the challenges, and associated significant increase in costs for maintenance, were not anticipated when the canals were constructed.”

The Family Farm Alliance is on record for supporting the House bill and the Senate companion - S.2160 from Sen. Jim Risch (R-IDAHO).

“S. 2160 and H.R. 6017 would accelerate investments improving urban canals of concern and assist in supporting the huge costs associated

with this work,” said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. “Simply put, this legislation would provide additional tools for local water managers to provide safe, efficient delivery of water into the future.”

## Alliance Engagement in Farm Bill (Cont'd from Pg 3)

branch, advocating for flexibility as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) seeks to implement over \$20 billion of “climate smart” agricultural practices granted by last year’s passage of the “Inflation Reduction Act” (IRA) by Congress.

The Alliance, along with 19 other water user groups, Western state farm bureaus, and other ag and conservation organizations, sent a letter to USDA late last year asking that a variety of irrigation modernization and forest fuel control

measures be added to the list of “climate smart” practices that are eligible for the \$20 billion IRA funding that was dropped into existing farm bill conservation title programs.

“We learned some good news last month,” said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. “NRCS has now added “irrigation pipelines”, “irrigation systems”, “sprinkler systems” and “pumping plants”, “brush management”, “prescribed burning”, “fuel breaks” to the climate smart list. This is great news.”

Information on conference agenda, registration and hotel reservations, and sponsorship / exhibitor opportunities will be available later this month!

**2024 Annual Meeting and Conference**  
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## Amendment to Boost Watershed Improvement, Irrigation Modernization Passes Key Senate Vote

Oregon's U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley and Idaho's Senator Mike Crapo last month announced their bipartisan amendment to significantly boost investments for multi-benefit projects under the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) program, including watershed improvements and irrigation modernization projects, passed the full Senate.

Clearing this key hurdle means the amendment will be included in the FY24 Senate Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies funding bill, which is poised to pass the full Senate soon.

The WFPO program, also known as the PL-566 program, has become a vital tool to mitigate the effects of severe drought conditions harming farmers, ranchers, and wildlife, especially in Western states.

"Climate chaos continues to make the West hotter and dryer, depleting water resources for people, farms, and wildlife. The PL-566 program has proven to be an effective modernization tool for irrigation systems to conserve water, keep farms in operation during droughts, and protect habitat for wildlife," said Senator Merkley, who revitalized this program when he served as Ranking Member of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. "Oregonians' ingenuity with this program has supported projects that benefit both farmers and wildlife, and this amendment will further those efforts here at home and across the West."

Originally, \$10 million was set-aside in the FY24 Senate Agriculture funding bill for multi-benefit projects under the PL-566 program, but Sens. Merkley and Crapo's amendment doubled the funding to \$20 million for these efforts.

Multi-benefit projects in the PL-566 program include watershed improvements and irrigation modernization, which have proven to reduce water loss due to evaporation and seepage, as well as conserve water to keep farmland in production during droughts and keep water in-stream for wildlife and recreation.

"Multi-benefit projects improve water quality, restore habitat and deliver water more efficiently to

agriculture producers," said Senator Crapo. "This is an important step forward in equitable distribution of these funds to those who need it most. As we continue to mitigate the effects of drought in Western states, it is imperative that we have reliable water sources for all users."

A total of 21 watershed program projects are currently underway or completed around Oregon, including projects in all eight Central Oregon irrigation districts, which were the first to utilize the PL-566 program.

Senator Merkley was in Central Oregon last month to celebrate the groundbreaking of three new piping projects with farmers, irrigation districts, Tribes, conservationists, and other key partners in the Deschutes Basin who are critical to turning irrigation modernization plans into a reality.

In total, the FY24 Senate Agriculture bill includes \$90.4 million for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program, \$20 million of which is now set aside for multi-benefit projects like the ones in Oregon due to Senators Merkley and Crapo's successful amendment.

"The PL-566 program has a strong track record of helping farmers, ranchers and local water management agencies with efforts to modernize water systems across the West," said Family Farm Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. "We thank Senator Merkley, his staff and other sponsors for their leadership and initiative to secure this amendment, which increases the set-aside for multibenefit projects -like the ones completed and underway in Central Oregon- under the already over-subscribed watershed and flood prevention operations program."

The bipartisan amendment is cosponsored by fellow Western state Senators Ron Wyden (D-OREGON), Jon Tester (D-MONTANA), Steve Daines (R-MONTANA), and Michael Bennet (D-COLORADO).

This amendment is widely-supported by the Family Farm Alliance, Farmers Conservation Alliance, Trout Unlimited, and the Western Agriculture and Conservation Coalition.

## DOI Announces Next Steps for Near-Term and Post-'26 Colo. River Ops

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) last month announced next steps in the formal process to develop future operating guidelines and strategies to protect the stability and sustainability of the Colorado River system.

DOI's Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) published the Proposed Federal Action and a Scoping Summary Report related to Colorado River Basin operations post-2026. The Scoping Report, which was supported by a 60-day public scoping period, will inform the post-2026 operating guidelines.

"The Colorado River Basin has come together over the past year to create a consensus path in the short term that now allows us to focus on the future," said Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton. "Today's next steps for post-2026 planning helps continue the momentum between all stakeholders across the Basin on what the future operations of this critical system will look like."

The guidelines under development would be implemented in 2027, replacing the 2007 Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, which are set to expire at the end of 2026.

Reclamation last month also released a revised draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), intended to inform Reclamation's ongoing efforts to set interim guidelines through the end of 2026.

### Summary of Post-2026 Process

The planning process announced by Reclamation last month is separate from ongoing efforts to protect the Colorado River Basin through the end of 2026. The post-2026 process is a multi-year effort that will identify a range of alternatives and ultimately determine operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead and other water management actions, potentially for decades into the future.

Reclamation will develop a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) that will analyze how future operational guidelines and strategies can be sufficiently robust and adaptive to withstand a broad range of hydrological conditions and ultimately provide greater stability to water users and the public throughout the Colorado River Basin.

"As the range of alternatives is developed, Reclamation is committed to a collaborative, inclusive and transparent process with our partners, stakeholders and the public," said

Commissioner Touton.

The completed draft EIS is anticipated by the end of 2024 and will include a public comment period. Reclamation anticipates a final EIS will be available in late 2025, followed by a Record of Decision in early 2026.

While the post-2026 process will determine domestic operations, the Biden administration will continue collaboration with Mexico. It is anticipated that the International Boundary and Water Commission will facilitate consultations between the United States and Mexico, with the goal of continuing the Binational Cooperative Process under the 1944 Water Treaty.

### Short-Term Efforts to Protect Lakes Mead and Powell

Reclamation last month also made progress on efforts to set interim guidelines through the end of 2026, with the release of its SEIS.

"The Colorado River Basin's reservoirs, including its two largest storage reservoirs Lake Powell and Lake Mead, remain at historically low levels," said Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton last month. "Today's advancement protects the system in the near-term while we continue to develop long-term, sustainable plans

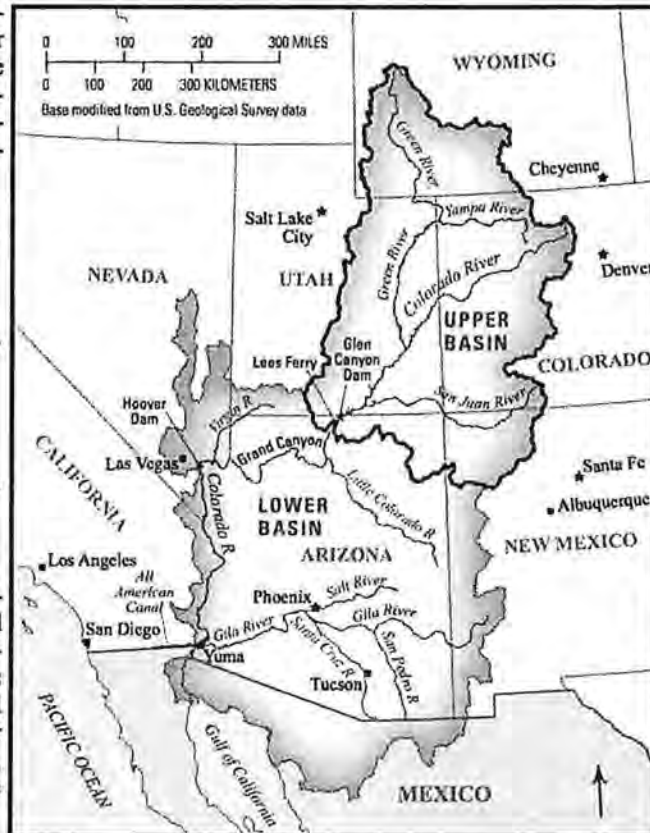
to combat the climate-driven realities facing the Basin."

In order to protect Glen Canyon and Hoover Dam operations, system integrity, and public health and safety through 2026 – at which point the current interim guidelines expire – an initial draft SEIS was released in April 2023. Later that spring, the Lower Basin states forged a consensus-based proposal with the Biden Administration that committed to measures to conserve at least 3 million-acre-feet (maf) of system water through the end of 2026.

These efforts were enabled in part by some of the \$4 billion provided by last year's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to tackle drought challenges on the Colorado River and other parched areas of the West.

"The availability of those federal funds, as well as improved recent hydrology, helped grease the Lower Basin deal," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen.

Reclamation then temporarily withdrew the draft SEIS to allow for consideration of the new proposal.



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## Colorado River Operations (*Cont'd from Page 5*)

The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) announced that the state will continue to collaborate with Arizona and California on a long-term sustainable plan for the stability of the Colorado River.

“With a population of 2.3 million residents, Southern Nevada will use less than 200,000 acre-feet this year—our lowest annual water use since 1993 when our population was about 900,000 people,” said John Entsminger, SNWA General Manager. “As a river community, we can all maintain diverse, robust economies while using less water, and the reductions in municipal and agricultural water use across the Lower Basin demonstrates that.”

The revised draft SEIS released last month includes two key updates: the Lower Basin states’ proposal as an action alternative, as well as improved hydrology and more recent hydrologic data. The release of the revised draft SEIS initiates a 45-day public comment period.

“As we move forward in this process, supported by historic investments from the President’s Investing in America agenda, we are also working to ensure we have long-term tools and strategies in place to help guide the next era of the Colorado River Basin,” said Commissioner Touton.

The results of recent Reclamation modeling indicate that the risk of reaching critical elevations at Lake Powell and Lake Mead has been reduced substantially. As a result of the commitment to record volumes of conservation in the Basin and recent hydrology, the chance of falling below critical elevations was reduced to eight percent at Lake Powell and four percent at Lake Mead through 2026.

However, elevations in these reservoirs remain historically low and conservation measures like those outlined by the Lower Division proposal will still be necessary to ensure continued water delivery to communities and to protect the long-term sustainability of the Colorado River System.

Based on these modeling results, Reclamation will continue the SEIS process with detailed consideration of the No Action Alternative and the Lower Division Proposal. The revised SEIS designates the Lower Division Proposal as the Proposed Action. Alternatives 1 and 2 from the initial SEIS were considered but eliminated from detailed analysis.

### Proposed Conservation Actions

Because of the “once in a generation” level of funding provided by the IRA and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), conservation efforts have already benefited the system this year.

This includes eight new System Conservation Implementation Agreements in Arizona that will commit water entities in the Tucson and Phoenix metro areas to conserve up to 140,000-acre feet of water in Lake Mead in 2023, and up to 393,000-acre feet through 2025.

“The projects funded under the program will help increase water conservation, improve water efficiency, and prevent the System’s reservoirs from falling to critically low elevations, threatening water deliveries and hydropower production,” said Commissioner Touton.

Reclamation is working with its partners to finalize additional agreements.

These agreements are part of the 3 maf of system conservation commitments made by the Lower Basin states, 2.3 maf of which will be compensated through funding from the IRA, which invests a total of \$4.6 billion to address the historic drought across the West.

Through the BIL, Reclamation is also investing another \$8.3 billion over five years across the West for water infrastructure projects, including water purification and reuse, water storage and conveyance, desalination and dam safety.

To date, the Interior Department has announced \$728 million in recycling, water conservation, drought resiliency and new infrastructure investments for Colorado River Basin states, which they say will yield hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water savings each year once these projects are complete.

### Alliance Engagement

The Family Farm Alliance has members in each of the 7 Colorado River Basin states, where individual perspectives clearly demonstrate the amazing diversity in views on Colorado River policy matters.

“Within the Basin, all of the various water users’ perspectives are shaped by where they are in the system,” said Alliance Director Don Schwindt (COLORADO). “It depends on whether they are in the Upper or Lower Basin, within or outside of the natural hydrologic basin boundaries, in which state, and the priority of their use within their state.”

Despite the diversity of Colorado River policy opinions within our membership, the Alliance board of directors in 2015 and again in 2022 adopted principles and recommendations intended to guide state and federal decision-makers as they negotiate a long-term operating agreement on the Colorado River.

The 2022 policy paper – which has also been adopted by several water agencies served by the Colorado River – has as its top principle the need to “recognize that Western irrigated agriculture is a strategic and irreplaceable national resource”.

“This means that to ensure balanced solutions are achieved, agricultural producers throughout the Basin must be represented at the decision-making table, where the full value of irrigation must be accurately and fairly considered,” said Mr. Schwindt.

Family Farm Alliance Director Steve Benson (CALIFORNIA) was recently named as the incoming chairman by IVH2O, an organization that represents the interests of Imperial Valley landowners on Colorado River issues. The first event he hosted as IVH2O Chairman on October 26 focused on the post-2026 guidelines.

“I am honored to serve as IVH2O’s incoming Chairman,” said Mr. Benson. “I am a Brawley farmer and proud to have

*Continued on Page 7*



## Alliance Engagement on Colorado River (Cont'd from Page 6)

recently served on the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) board only seven short years ago. It is critical that the interests of Imperial Valley water users are represented in the development of Post-2026 Colorado River guidelines for reservoir operations."

The Colorado River update took place on October 26 at Pioneers' Museum in Imperial. Speakers included JB Hamby, Chairman of the Colorado River Board of California and IID Board Vice President, and Tina Shields, IID Water Manager, and a member of the Alliance Advisory Committee.

"We also had a special guest, Mark Limbaugh, President of The Ferguson Group, a Washington DC lobby firm focused on water and

natural resources," said Mr. Benson.



*Tina Shields (Imperial Irrigation District) speaks to a recent forum hosted by IVH2O in southern California. Fellow speakers JB Hamby (IID board member and Chair of the Colorado River Board of California –L) and Mark Limbaugh (The Ferguson Group—R) listen, along with new IVH2O Chairman and Family Farm Alliance Director Steve Benson (behind the podium).*

Photo courtesy of IVH2O.

Mr. Limbaugh is a retired Idaho farmer, former President of Family Farm Alliance, and the former Department of Interior Assistant Secretary of Water and Science in the George W. Bush Administration. He previously served as IID's federal lobbyist and provided a regional and Washington D.C. perspective on Colorado River politics.

"I was with the George W Bush Administration when the 2006 Interim Operating Guidelines were negotiated," said Mr. Limbaugh. "I explained to the audience in Imperial how that agreement was reached, and what we might expect this time around."

## Fish and Wildlife Service Announces \$36 million for Fish Passage Projects

*Projects are part of a 5-year, \$200 million investment to restore aquatic ecosystems*

The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) last month announced the availability of up to \$36 million for fish passage projects across the nation that address outdated, unsafe or obsolete dams, culverts, levees and other barriers fragmenting U.S. rivers and streams.

"Waterways have been reconnected, fish migration is improved, and local economies have been stimulated through the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law," said Service Director Martha Williams. "With \$36 million in additional investments in fish passage projects, communities will benefit from dam removals, culvert replacements, and reduced flooding. The Service will continue to work with Tribes, state and local agencies, non-governmental organizations and conservation partners to reconnect important aquatic systems."

Projects will be part of a five-year, \$200 million BIL investment to restore aquatic ecosystems.

An inter-agency task force is supporting an efficient and collaborative approach to investing a total of \$2 billion in fish passage projects under the Bipartisan

Infrastructure Law (BIL) across the Departments of the Interior, Transportation, Agriculture, and Commerce.

The funding announcement was greeted with enthusiasm by Western water leaders, including April Snell, Executive Director of the Oregon Water Resources Congress, and an active member of the Family Farm Alliance Advisory Committee. In Oregon, there are nearly 600 fish passage barriers included on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) statewide priority list, with obstructions – primarily culverts, dams and tide gates - in every major river basin of the state.

"This critical funding will help communities in Oregon and throughout the West address artificial obstructions and enhance fish passage," said Ms. Snell, who is also a member of the ODFW Fish Passage Task Force. "Federal investment is critical to supporting voluntary and collaborative efforts to improve fish passage while continuing the vital functions of infrastructure associated with fish passage barriers, including agricultural water deliveries, flood control, and more."

## Amicus Briefs Submitted in *Yurok Tribe v. Klamath Water Users Association*

The Family Farm Alliance last month signed on to a “friend of the court” (*amicus*) brief in support of Klamath Basin farmers’ legal arguments to have their water rights recognized in the continuing tension over the Bureau of Reclamation’s (Reclamation’s) release of water for Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance for its operations of the Klamath Project, which straddles the California-Oregon state line.

The Alliance board of directors in August authorized joining an amicus brief in *Yurok Tribe, et al. v. Klamath Water User Association, et al.*, in support of the Klamath Water Users Association (KWUA). The case is currently on appeal to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.

KWUA in October filed opening briefs in their respective appeals to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals of the February 8, 2023 ruling of the U.S. District Court (Judge Orrick) in the *Yurok* litigation. Broadly, KWUA’s principal arguments on appeal are twofold.

KWUA argues that that Reclamation lacks discretion to curtail Project deliveries in order to benefit ESA-listed species. The organization also posits that the ESA does not preempt the application of state water law to Reclamation.

The *amicus* brief signed on to by the Alliance backs this assertion, and notes that, while neither courts nor federal agencies can create more water, they can ensure the predictable and equitable allocation of existing water resources by applying the law consistently. This includes rigorously interpreting Reclamation’s federal statutory authorities to enforce the agency’s congressional mandate to follow state water law

and interpreting Reclamation’s contracts to hold the federal government to its contractual commitments.

“The district court sidestepped these necessary analyses, resulting in an opinion that vastly overstates the Bureau’s discretion and authority,” the *amicus* brief states. “We collectively urge the Court to correct the district court’s flawed analysis and restore predictability and certainty for water resource managers and water users across the West.”

The Alliance joined the brief prepared by the Oregon Water Resources Congress that also includes National Water Resources Association, Agribusiness and Water Council of Arizona, Idaho Water Users Association, Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, and Washington State Water Resources Association.

The *amicus* brief is well done and has a strong consistent message that reads well,” said Norm Semanko, general counsel for the Alliance.

This case is the latest in a continuing effort by the Klamath farmers to have their water rights recognized as Reclamation decisions regarding its operations of the Klamath Project have redirected stored agricultural water to meet ESA targets. Since the expiration of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement in 2016, the Klamath Basin has been embroiled in nonstop ESA litigation, including at least ten different lawsuits in federal court filed by various stakeholders, in addition to state court litigation.

Two other amicus briefs in support of KWUA were submitted by California farm and water interests, and California and Oregon counties impacted by Klamath Project operations.

## It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like El Niño

All reports suggest that the West will be seeing weather events driven by El Niño in the coming months.

On October 12, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) reported that El Niño is expected to continue in the Northern Hemisphere through next spring, with an 80% chance during March-May 2024. Recent CPC observations indicate at least a “strong” event November - January.

The CPC noted that strong events only increase chances that some impacts will occur, but do not guarantee strong impacts locally.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) Water and Climate Update on October 12 reported disproportionate amounts of annual precipitation throughout most of the Western U.S. for the past water year 2023.

“The SNOTEL sites in the Pacific Northwest received some of the lowest annual precipitation amounts on record, while other locations in the intermountain west and southwestern U.S. received near-record high amounts of precipitation for the year,” NRCS said in a statement.

El Niño is predicted to bring wetter than normal conditions across the southern one-third of the U.S., including a wetter forecast for southern and eastern Colorado into much of Kansas, but increased chances of warmer than normal tem-

peratures across the northern U.S.

“This is a reflection of an enhanced sub-tropical jet stream, which could deliver cloudy, damp winter wheat to the southern Plains and environs, thereby suppressing temperatures to near-normal levels,” said Brad Rippey, USDA meteorologist, Office of the Chief Economist, World Agricultural Outlook Board in Washington, D.C. “For places like Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and Nebraska, this means changeable weather, alternating between periods of mild, dry weather and cloudy conditions with rain or snow.”

An El Niño likely will make the Pacific Northwest warmer than normal this winter and cause drought to persist east of the Cascade Range, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted.

An El Niño shifts the Pacific jet stream, meaning the northern U.S. will get less cold air than usual from upper Canada and the North Pole.

“The anticipated strong El Niño is the predominant factor driving the U.S. winter outlook this year,” said NOAA chief forecaster Jon Gottschalck. “The greatest odds for warmer-than-average conditions are in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest and northern New England.”

- Excerpts sourced from *Western States Water Issue* #2579-



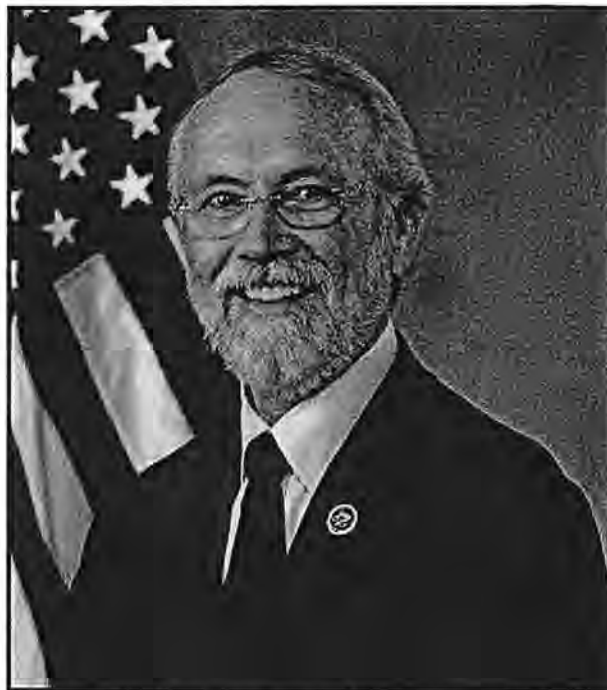
## ESA Bills Considered at House Legislative Hearing

The House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries (WWF) last month held a legislative hearing on several bills that prosed reforms to the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). The following bills were included in the hearing:

- **H.R. 520**, introduced by U.S. Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA), would amend the ESA by requiring the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce to not distinguish between naturally propagated (born in the wild) and artificially propagated (born through artificial means) species.
- **H.R. 5103**, the Fishery Improvement to Streamline Untimely Regulatory Hurdles Post Emergency Situation Act, introduced by U.S. Rep. Byron Donalds (R-FL), would create timelines for the Office of Management and Budget to review fishery disaster requests.
- **H.R. 5504**, introduced by U.S. Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA), would require the withdrawal of three Biden administration rulemakings that remove vital regulatory certainty for stakeholders, which were proposed on June 22, 2023, dealing with the implementation of the ESA.
- **H.R. 5874**, the Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Program Act, introduced by U.S. Rep. Juan Ciscomani (R-AZ), would reauthorize appropriations for the United States-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Act, which helps assess pressing water resource challenges along the U.S.-Mexico border.
- **H.R. \_\_\_**, introduced by U.S. Rep. Garret Graves (R-LA), gives the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) additional time to conduct studies and utilize the best available science on Rice's whales and to engage with the regulated community when updating documents for the Gulf of Mexico oil and gas program.
- **H.R. 2990**, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2023, introduced by U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), expands coverage of NOAA's Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response Policy to include observers and voting members and staff of regional fishery management councils.
- **H.R. 5509**, the Electronic Permitting Modernization Act, introduced by U.S. Rep. Katie Porter (D-CA), would require the Secretary of the Interior to create and use an electronic system to accept and process applications for permits, forms and other paperwork.

H.R. 5504 requires the withdrawal of three proposed ESA rules issued by the Biden administration.

"I have said it many times, but for far too long, radical environmental activists have weaponized the ESA against farmers, ranchers, landowners, and rural communities while recovering less than three percent of species listed over the last 50 years," said the bill's sponsor, Rep. Newhouse. "As Chairman of the Western Caucus, I am proud of this legislation and was happy to introduce it alongside chair of the Senate Western Caucus, Senator Cynthia Lummis to prevent these egregious rules from taking effect and to steer the ESA



*Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WASHINGTON).*  
Photo source: Office of Congressman Newhouse

back to its intended purpose of helping species recover without being a barrier to prosperity for our rural communities."

The Family Farm Alliance and other organizations representing individuals and businesses impacted by federal agency implementation of the ESA submitted formal comments expressing concerns to the Services on the proposed rule.

"All three proposed rules essentially roll back rules from the previous administration that our organization strongly supported," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. "We maintain the position of support that we placed behind the substance and process used to finalize the 2020 ESA rules that have been rescinded and rewritten."

In general terms, one of the three proposed rules seeks to revise regulations regarding interagency consultation, including broadening the scope of the Services' conditioning authority. Another would reinstate a blanket protection for threatened species managed by FWS. The third intends to clarify any "misconceptions" created by the Trump administration when it removed language in 2019 referencing economic impacts within the context of the classification process.

"As we formalized in a letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service earlier this year, not only do the ESA rules lack incentives for further species conservation, but they also remove regulatory certainty for stakeholders," said Mr. Keppen.

On May 11, 2023, the Senate passed a Congressional Review Act resolution introduced by Senator Lummis that would overturn the Biden administration's ESA rule related to critical habitat. The CRA is awaiting consideration in the House.

## House Dems Push Legislation to Restore Post-Sackett CWA Protections

More than 100 House Democrats have unveiled the "Clean Water Act of 2023" to restore what Clean Water Act (CWA) protections they believe were lost in the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett v. EPA*.

The controversial court ruling has Senate Democrats fuming over what they perceive as backsliding on clean water protections, while Republicans celebrate the ruling as a reining in federal overregulation of the nation's water and land resources.

On September 8, the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a new Revised Definition of "Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) to conform with the Supreme Court ruling in *Sackett*.

Republicans believe the modified Biden WOTUS rule is still too broad and vow to challenge it again under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) as they did earlier this Congress. In April, President Biden vetoed that bipartisan CRA resolution striking down the WOTUS rule. Congress failed to override that veto.

Under the new legislation, Congress would clarify the scope of "protected water resources" under the original CWA with the intent of mitigating *Sackett's* impact.

The effort is led by Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) ranking member Rick Larsen (D-WASHINGTON), T&I Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment ranking member Grace Napolitano (D-CALIFORNIA) and Reps. Don Beyer (D-VA) and Melanie Stansbury (D-NEW MEXICO).

"Clean water means the difference between healthy communities and sick ones, thriving businesses and stunted ones, preserved natural environments and polluted ones," Ranking Member Larsen said. "The *Clean Water Act of 2023* restores historic, bipartisan protections to the estimated 50% of wetlands and 70% of streams lost through the misguided *Sackett* decision."

Litigious environmental groups were also, for the most part, supportive of the legislation, although some believe it doesn't go far enough.

"Although the proposed legislation accomplishes the critically important goal of expanding protections to include all the waters that Congress meant to cover under the Clean Water Act, it also provides a path for later excluding waters from those protections," said Julian Gonzalez, Earthjustice senior legislative counsel. "This exclusions provision, in the hands of anti-environment judges and administrations, could undercut the effectiveness of the legislation."

The *Sackett* decision took away the "significant nexus" test for jurisdictional waters as WOTUS created in Justice Anthony Kennedy's plurality opinion in *Rappanos*, replacing it with the "relatively permanent" surface water connection test from Justice Antonin Scalia's opinion in the same case. This change takes most ephemeral, intermittent, and isolated water bodies and wetlands out of CWA jurisdiction.

The bill is unlikely to get any traction in the current Congress. Republicans, who control the House, celebrated the Supreme Court ruling and said the Biden Administration's hastily revised WOTUS rule doesn't follow it closely enough.

### Senate EPW Committee Reviews *Sackett* Impacts

In the Senate, the Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee held a hearing on October 18 on *Sackett's* impact on CWA enforcement.

"While the Clean Water Act has been immensely successful at cleaning up our country's waters and slowing the loss of wetlands, the *Sackett* decision has jeopardized nearly a half-century of progress under this bedrock environmental law," said EPW Committee Chair Tom Carper (D-Del.).

Senate Republicans are expecting further Supreme Court litigation over the definition of WOTUS as a result of what they charge is the Biden administration's failure to adequately align its rulemakings with the court's direction in *Sackett v. EPA*.

"We're going to be back at court, and this is going to be back up to the Supreme Court, the way the administration has rewritten this rule," Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), ranking member of the EPW Committee, said during the hearing.

On October 10, the U.S. District Court for North Dakota lifted the stay of litigation in *West Virginia et al. v. EPA*. The case was filed by a coalition of 24 states,

originally requesting that the court vacate the Revised Definition of WOTUS Rule issued in January 2023. The court issued a preliminary injunction on April 12, staying the implementation of the January 2023 WOTUS Rule in the plaintiff states.

"The district court had issued a stay of the litigation in July, pending the publication of the new conforming September 2023 WOTUS Rule," said Norm Semanko (IDAHO), general counsel for the Family Farm Alliance. "This stay has been removed."

The Alliance was part of an "agriculture" *amicus* brief in support of the *Sacketts* that was submitted to the Supreme Court last year.

"At the Family Farm Alliance, we've been tracking the WOTUS ping pong game for the past 15-plus years, as CWA implementation changes with every new occupant in the White House," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen (OREGON). "The *Sackett* decision is a game changer and a monumental victory for irrigated agriculture. No longer will farmers be required to hire an army of consultants just to figure out whether a wet spot on their property is regulated under the CWA."

The district court ordered a deadline of November 13, for the States to amend their complaint to challenge the September 2023 WOTUS Rule. The deadline for federal agencies and intervenor defendants to file their answers is December 13.

***"We're going to be back at court, and this is going to be back up to the Supreme Court, the way the administration has rewritten this rule."***

**Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Ranking Member of the Senate EPW Committee  
October 18, 2023**



## Senate Committees Change Following Loss of Sen. Feinstein *Senator Padilla to ENR, Senator Sinema to Appropriations*

Following the late California Sen. Dianne Feinstein's death last month, Senate Democrats announced that Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CALIFORNIA) will join the Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee, Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (I-ARIZONA) will join Senate Appropriations and Sen. Laphonza Butler (D-CALIFORNIA) will join Senate Judiciary.

"At this critical moment for guaranteeing California's water security, I am ready to get to work on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee to continue to invest in resilient, reliable water infrastructure across the state," Senator Padilla said in a recent email to the Family Farm Alliance. "I'm proud to represent the top agricultural producing state in the country. California's farmers and farm workers feed our nation by producing over one-third of our vegetables and two-thirds of fruits and nuts."

See the inset box below for Senator Padilla's complete statement.

Sen. Butler is also getting tapped for Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Rules and Administration.

Sen. Feinstein (D-CA) was Chair of the Energy and Water (E&W) Development Appropriations Subcommittee funding the Department of Energy, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Reclamation, among other things. Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA), who is currently Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that she will take over the gavel of E&W for the remainder of this Congress.

"Senators Murray and Sinema have been very responsive to the needs of their agricultural constituents on water issues," said Family Farm Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. "It's encouraging to have Western representation like this on the Senate Appropriations Committee."

Alliance leaders look forward to working closely with Senator Padilla in his new role on the ENR Committee.

"The Senate ENR Committee is one of the most important committees we work with, since it has jurisdiction over the Bureau of Reclamation, Western water matters, and forestry, the issues that are most important to our organization," said Mr. Keppen. "We're grateful for the constructive relationship we have with Senator Padilla and his staff and look forward to more opportunities to work with him in this important committee assignment."

### Senator Alex Padilla's Full Statement to Family Farm Alliance On his new Role as Senate ENR Committee Member

*"At this critical moment for guaranteeing California's water security, I am ready to get to work on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee to continue to invest in resilient, reliable water infrastructure across the state. I'm proud to represent the top agricultural producing state in the country. California's farmers and farm workers feed our nation by producing over one-third of our vegetables and two-thirds of fruits and nuts."*

*"Our farmers are facing unprecedented challenges navigating historic supply chain disruptions and record consumer demand while rising temperatures, historic droughts, and catastrophic flooding threaten their crops. I am excited to build on the work I've done to bolster western water infrastructure and secure a drought-proof water supply for California and for all Americans in my new role, including by investing in groundwater recharge, other multibenefit storage projects, desalination efforts, and systems for water reuse, reclamation, and efficiency."*

*"It's also clear that we will have to learn to live with less in order to maximize our resources, which is why I'm leading legislation to fix leaky pipes in urban areas and to give farm communities another tool to repurpose unproductive agricultural land. I look forward to rolling up my sleeves and working closely with my partners in the agricultural community and in the Senate to address the difficult challenges that lie ahead."*

**Senator Alex Padilla (D-CALIFORNIA)**  
**October 31, 2023**

## Interior Signs ROD on Expansion of CA Reservoir

The Interior Department and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) have advanced a major water storage project in California, issuing a final record of decision (ROD) to expand the B.F. Sisk Dam and Reservoir.

Representatives from the Interior Department signed the ROD with the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority. Reclamation Commissioner Camille Touton was in California for the signing of the ROD and Notice of Determination with the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA), which marks the first approval of a major water storage project in California since 2011.

"I'm thrilled to be here today with our state and local partners on the banks of San Luis Reservoir to make this important project a reality," said Commissioner Touton. "Thanks to major investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this project will allow us to secure the B.F. Sisk Dam and contribute to California's water supply reliability through increased storage capacity at San Luis Reservoir."

The project will add 130,000 acre-feet (AF) of capacity to the San Luis Reservoir. The facility currently holds 2 million

AF. The project builds on existing dam safety modifications that had called for raising the 382-foot-tall earthen dam by 10 feet, for a total of a 22-foot increase in the structure.

"San Luis Reservoir has served as the hub of California's water system south of the Sacramento San Joaquin Bay-Delta since its completion in 1967," said SLDMWA Board Chair Cannon Michael, who also serves on the Family Farm Alliance board of directors. "The ability to capture more water in the years it is available, particularly given California's changing climate, is a critical component of a more secure future for the communities, farms and wildlife dependent on the Central Valley Project for their water supply."

The Administration has used \$35 million in taxpayer funds for the project to date, in addition to \$60 million previously allocated through the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. The project also received \$100 million in Reclamation dam safety funds.

"We value our partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation and look forward to completion of this vital water storage project," said Mr. Michael.

## Out and About in the Great American West...



Alliance representatives had a busy travel schedule in October, with speaking engagements by Alliance advocate Mark Limbaugh (above) in El Centro (CALIFORNIA) and Executive Director Dan Keppen (below, L, with United Water Conservation District GM Mauricio Guardado) in Ventura County (CALIFORNIA). Mr. Keppen and several Alliance members also participated in the Bureau of Reclamation's tribal and stakeholder conference in Denver (above, L). Photos courtesy of IVH2O, United Water and the Bureau of Reclamation, respectively.

**A Big Thank You to Our New and Supporting Members!**

**SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2023**

**DEFENDER (\$1,000-\$4,999)**

Klamath Irrigation District (OR)  
Teixeira & Sons (CA)  
Twin Falls Canal Company (ID)  
Vail Ranches (CA)  
Yuma County Water Users Association (AZ)

**PARTNER (\$500-\$999)**

Clerf Farms (WA)  
Clinton Pline (ID)  
L.J. Olsen Inc. (WA)  
Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation District (AZ)  
Nelson Irrigation Corporation  
Stingray Communications, LLC (OR)  
Stotz Equipment (AZ)

**SUPPORTER (\$250—\$499)**

Carnevale Environmental Consulting LLC (CO)  
Imperial Valley Water (CA)  
Jeffrey Slothower (WA)  
Jon Rubin (CA)  
Karen Henderson (AZ)  
Midland Tractor (CA)  
Schnepf Farms (AZ)  
Schroeder Law Offices (NV)  
Steve Moore Farms (CA)  
Todd Stromback (CA)  
Venture Properties (CA)

**DONOR SUPPORT**

**Make your tax-deductible gift to the Alliance today!**

**Grassroots membership is vital to our organization.**

**Thank you in advance for your loyal support.**

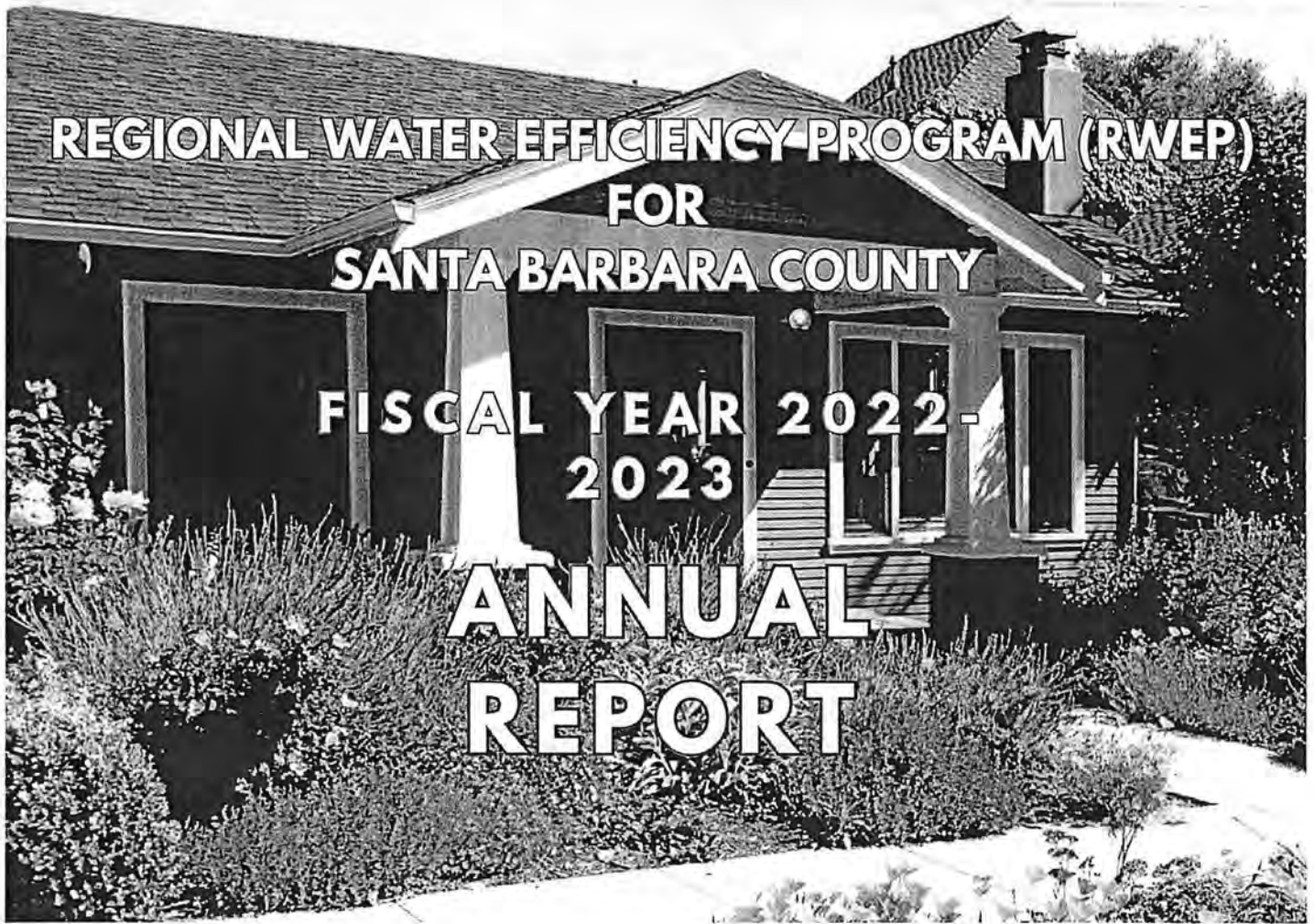
*If you have questions, please call our fundraising coordinator, Jane Townsend,  
at (916)206-7186 OR EMAIL [jane@familyfarmalliance.org](mailto:jane@familyfarmalliance.org)*



*Protecting Water for Western Irrigated Agriculture*

**Contributions can also be mailed directly to:  
Family Farm Alliance  
P.O. Box 1705  
Clearlake Oaks, CA 95423**





PREPARED BY THE

**SANTA BARBARA  
COUNTY WATER AGENCY**

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Covering July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

October 2023



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# REGIONAL WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Santa Barbara County Water Agency established the Regional Water Efficiency Program (RWEF) of Santa Barbara County in December 1990 in partnership with local water purveyors. RWEF promotes the countywide efficient use of urban and agricultural water supplies, and provides information and assistance to the eighteen local water purveyors within the county, as listed on page 3. Through the RWEF, the Santa Barbara County Water Agency coordinates a collaborative water conservation partnership among purveyors, co-funds projects and programs, acts as a clearinghouse for information on water use efficiency, manages specific projects and programs, and monitors local, state, and national legislation related to efficient water use.

This annual report provides information on the accomplishments of the RWEF as coordinated by the County. This report does not capture all water conservation activities or accomplishments of each individual water purveyor across the County.

Some local water purveyors, along with the County Water Agency, are required to implement certain Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). This report identifies which RWEF accomplishments relate to specific BMPs that satisfy the USBR's requirement for the County Water Agency, as USBR master contractor for the Cachuma Project, to have a regional water conservation plan as a supplement to individual water purveyors' water conservation and supply plans.

For information on water conservation in Santa Barbara County, please visit the RWEF's website at [www.WaterWiseSB.org](http://www.WaterWiseSB.org).

# WATER PURVEYORS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

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Below is a list of the 18 water purveyors in Santa Barbara County:

BUELLTON, CITY OF  
CARPINTERIA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
CASMALIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT\*  
CUYAMA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
GOLETA WATER DISTRICT  
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY, ORCUTT  
GUADALUPE, CITY OF  
LA CUMBRE MUTUAL WATER COMPANY  
LOMPOC, CITY OF\*  
LOS ALAMOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
MISSION HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT\*  
MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
SANTA BARBARA, CITY OF  
SANTA MARIA, CITY OF  
SANTA YNEZ RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, ID # 1  
SOLVANG, CITY OF  
VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE  
VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

*\*Not a FY2022-23 RWEPMember*

# PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS

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## Supporting USBR's Public Information Program BMP #2.1

### Continued to promote the new WaterWiseSB brand and logo for the Regional Water Efficiency Program

- Seasonal media campaigns featured our brand (WaterWise in Santa Barbara County), our logo (see cover of this report), and our tagline (Let's Save Together).
- Included the brand/logo on items such as water bottles given to students participating in the High School Video Contest, as well as clip boards and hats given to graduates of the Green Gardener Program, and on all outreach material available to the public.

### Informed the Public Through Marketing Campaigns

- WA placed advertisements through TV, digital (including Facebook), streaming, print, and radio.
- Seasonal WaterWiseSB Media Campaigns and Ad Placements (metrics presented are from both English and Spanish ad placements):
  - Summer 2022 media campaign consisted of:
    - TV: "It's 4am - Check Your Sprinklers"
      - September 2022 – October 2022: 7 Stations; 2,579 spots.
    - Digital and Streaming: "It's 4am - Check Your Sprinklers"
      - September 2022 – October 2022: 9 Spots; 306,390 Impressions.
    - Radio: "It's 4am - Check Your Sprinklers"
      - September 2022 - October 2022: 5 stations; 182 spots
  - Fall 2022 - Winter 2023 media campaign consisted of:
    - TV: "Sneaking In" and "Sneaking Out"
      - November 2022 – January 2023: 7 Stations; 1,808 Spots.
    - Digital and Streaming: "Sneaking In" and "Sneaking Out"
      - November 2022 - December 2022: 7 spots; 308,749 Impressions
    - Theater: "Sneaking In" & "Sneaking Out"
      - November 2022 – January 2023: 14 theaters; 66 screens; 185,758 Impressions
    - Radio: "Sneaking In" & "Sneaking Out"
      - December 2022 - January 2023: 4 stations; 182 spots
  - Spring 2023 media campaign consisted of:
    - TV: "Spruce Up Your Sprinklers"
      - May 2023 - June 2023: 6 Stations; 4,325 Spots.
    - Digital & Streaming: "Spruce Up Your Sprinklers"
      - May 2023 – June 2023: 63 Spots; 1,031,862 impressions.
    - Print: "Spruce Up Your Sprinklers"
      - May 2023 – June 2023: Full Page Ad in Santa Barbara Independent
    - Radio: "Spruce Up Your Sprinklers"
      - May 2023 – June 2023: 3 Stations; 228 Spots.



# PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS

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- Green Gardener Program Ad Placements:
  - 510 Green Gardener radio ads were placed across 6 radio stations in English and Spanish to advertise 10 classes in total in fall, spring, and summer. Said radio ads also included advertisements that promote the Public List of certified Green Gardeners on GreenGardener.org.
- Media ads were co-funded by most water providers across the County. See list of funding agencies at the end of this report.



*A media campaign sample.*

## Informed Public Through Water Conservation Website: [WaterWiseSB.org](http://WaterWiseSB.org)

- County staff maintained the website to be current and used as a resource to help promote and expand outreach for member agencies. Continually, staff posted needed changes and updates, countywide calendar events, new information, resources, and links.
- The Water Agency uses Google Analytics to track website statistics. This year, Google Analytics transferred from Universal Analytics to GA4. There were several transition months where website data was not available or incorrect, and the website statistics are still experiencing accuracy issues. Therefore, the website data is incomplete, and may only reflect a few months of the year.
- The transition to GA4 should help capture analytics from real people only, and crack down on "robots, spiders, etc." so this may also be why there are less page views from earlier years.
- The website received 17,502 page views, and averaged 1022 "users" per month. There were a total of 21,677 new users for the recorded data from FY22-23.

## Participated in Public Events

- The Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival was held at Alameda Park this year in April 2023. The County Water Agency had a booth with resources on WaterWiseSB along side a new groundwater demonstration, as well as a native plant and rain barrel raffle.
- In support of Water Awareness Month in May, SBCWA prepared a Resolution that was passed by the County Board of Supervisors on May 2, 2023.
- Annually, the County WA coordinates a public display in North County and South County. This year, the North County Location was Joseph Centeno Betteravia Government Administrative Building. The South County display is usually at the County's Admin Building, but was closed this year due to construction.
- Provided educational water conservation brochures and handouts for free.
- Provided materials for members to distribute at local community events year-round.

# PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS

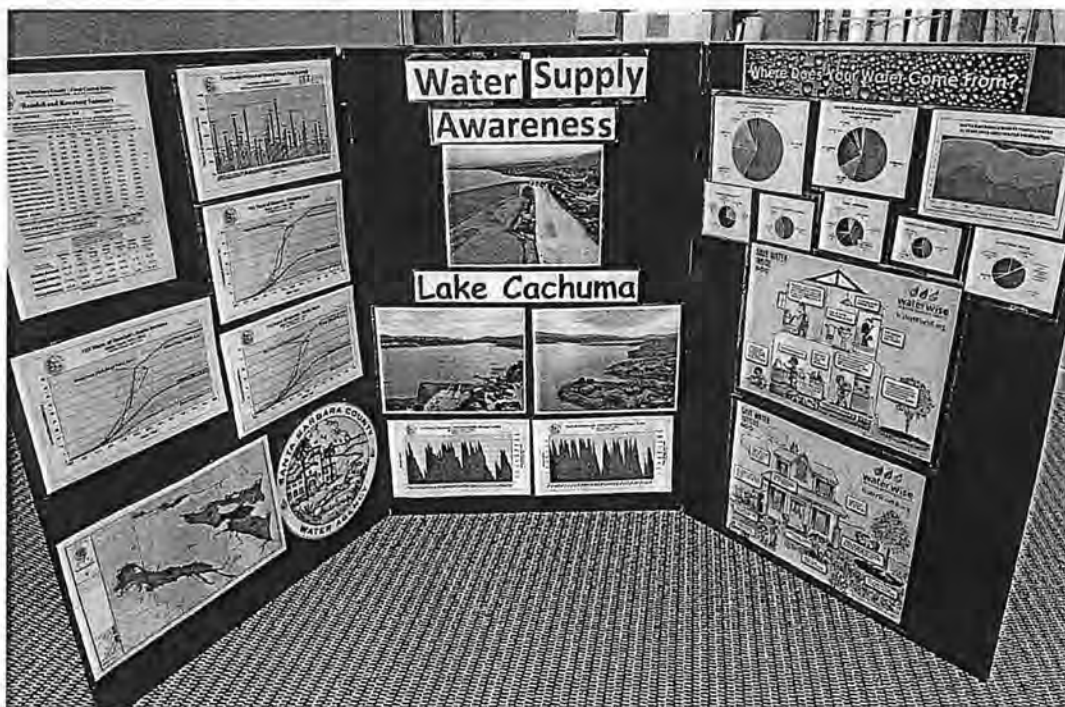
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## Water Conservation Outreach Material and Brochures updated

- Distributed brochures and other materials to RWEPP partners for distribution to their retail customers.
- Development of the Water Wise Landscape Maintenance Guidebook is complete. The guidebooks have been distributed upon request to RWEPP members and local landscaping companies, and given out to the public at events.

## Issued Press Releases

- Periodically issued 5 press releases (3 of the 5 also had Spanish translations) County-wide for RWEPP program announcements:
  - "Montecito Resident Wins the WaterWise Garden Recognition Contest" (August 26, 2022).
  - "Video Contest Challenges County High School Students" (December 20, 2022).
  - "Applications are open for 2023 WaterWise Garden Recognition Contest" (April 7, 2023).
  - "Your Vote Counts in the WaterWise High School Video Contest" (April 4, 2023).
  - "Dos Pueblos High School Wins the 2023 WaterWise High School Video Contest" (May 12, 2023).



*Poster board display for Earth Day.*

# LANDSCAPE WATER USE PROGRAMS

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## **Supporting USBR's Landscape BMP #5; and Residential BMP #3.2 for Landscape Water Survey.**

### USBR Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Project for Regional Landscape Rebate Program

- The County WA, on behalf of 7 participating RWEPP members, applied for and was awarded a grant from the USBR for a "WaterWise Landscape Rebate Program" in April 2023.
- WA will serve as the lead administrator of the awarded grant project for regional Water-Wise Landscape Rebate Program (project) with support from participating RWEPP members who committed.
- The project will increase funding to offer rebates to participating water customers who meet eligibility requirements for successful landscape transformations that improve water efficiency and sustainability.
- SBCWA will administer and coordinate the 2-year USBR grant-funded program with participating RWEPP members.



*A sample of the previous Water-wise Landscape Rebate Program with before and after photos.*

# LANDSCAPE WATER USE PROGRAMS

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## Garden Recognition Contest

- This program was reinstated in FY19-20 and has continued into FY22-23.
- Five agencies participated in the program this year, including the Carpinteria Valley Water District, City of Santa Barbara, City of Solvang, Montecito Water District, and Vandenberg Village Community Services District.
- WA received a total of 18 applications. One winner from each district was selected. One County winner was selected out of the district winners. The winners for the contest this year were:
  - John and Teri Keating, Montecito Water District, who was awarded the Countywide Grand Prize Winner
  - Anthony Lombardi, Carpinteria Valley Water District
  - Marron and Camille Smith, Vandenberg Village Community Services District
  - Susan Clarke and Rand Clark, City of Santa Barbara
  - Kurt and Joy Jonas, City of Solvang
- Winners were presented with an engraved Garden Award boulder to showcase in their garden.
- The County WA promoted the program by creating and distributing a flyer to participating agencies and by running a digital ad on Facebook, which reached 21,176 constituents and received 620 link clicks.
- A Press Release to announce the winners was issued in August 2022.



*Countywide Garden Recognition Contest winners John and Teri Keating*



# LANDSCAPE WATER USE PROGRAMS

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## Water Wise Landscape Maintenance Guidebook

- The County WA in coordination with RWEPP members established a contract with CalWEP as the Project Manager of the Guidebook. WA helped CalWEP select a design consultant to complete the project and coordinated printing shipments to RWEPP members.
- County WA is in the process of working with CalWEP to make a digital copy available online on the website.
- The development and printing of the Guidebook was funded by previous FY Landscape Education program funds already paid by members.

## Green Gardener Certification Program

- Students received training and certification in sustainable landscaping by completing a 50-hr course at Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) or Allan Hancock College (AHC).
- At SBCC, basic classes in English and Spanish were held during fall, spring, and summer sessions. The Advanced class was held in spring. A vocational ESL class was offered for students to develop English communication skills. In total, there were 61 graduates (26 were advanced graduates).
- The County WA is still working with AHC and local RWEPP members to secure an instructor to teach the class at AHC.
- Green Gardener Public List of Santa Barbara County was updated and published in February and May 2023 on [GreenGardener.org](https://www.GreenGardener.org). Each updated list was shared with RWEPP members.
- County WA finalized new and updated curriculum for the Basic and Advanced Student Manuals in both English and Spanish. Coordinated peer review of curriculum updates with interested RWEPP members as well as other related public agencies and industry professionals.
- Presented at Green Gardener class graduations. Organized and delivered student materials and graduation swag.
- WA designed four class flyers in total to share with RWEPP for outreach. They were posted on the website and social media.
- Secured an additional \$1,800 from private partner sponsorships from non-RWEPP member sponsors, including the Santa Barbara County Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, City of Santa Barbara Creeks Division, and Ewing Irrigation.
- Distributed new swag with the updated Green Gardener logo.



# LANDSCAPE WATER USE PROGRAMS

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## Produced and Aired Additional Episodes for Garden Wise TV Show

- 2 new episodes aired during FY22-23.
  - Episode 26: "Out With the Lawn, In With Lippia"
  - Episode 27: "Return of the Garden Wise Guys"
- Santa Barbara City TV filmed all shows; Aired on County GATV20, SB City TV18, Comcast 23, and Santa Maria public access TV. Also available for viewing online at WaterWiseSB's YouTube page.
- Co-funded by County, City of Santa Barbara, Goleta WD, and other water providers.



*Video still from Garden Wise Episode 26: "Out With the Lawn, In With Lippia."*

## Funded Website for "Water Wise Gardening for Santa Barbara County"

- Similar to the WaterWiseSB.org website, the data from the WaterWise Gardening Website is limited because of the transition to GA4. The transition to GA4 should help capture analytics from real people only, and crack down on "robots, spiders, etc." so this may also be why there are less page views from earlier years.
- Website received 27,914 sessions with 21,677 new users. The average page views per session was 5 pages, which shows that people are taking time to read through the website. 5 page views per session is considered very good in modern website standards.

## Updated Weekly Watering % Adjust

- County WA staff updated the website weekly using data from five out of nine California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) stations across SB County. Due to drought conditions, a number of CIMIS stations have stopped collecting data over the last few years.
- The Watering % Adjust was updated to be off after significant (>0.25" in 24 hours) rain events.

# LANDSCAPE WATER USE PROGRAMS

## Bilingual Landscaper Text Alerts Program

- Sent weekly messages in English and Spanish including the Watering % Adjust, upcoming events, and other landscaping related alerts via short message service (SMS) to subscribers.
- Maintained list of 291 subscribers (203 English and 88 Spanish) and sent a total of 22,089 messages.

## Large Landscape Evaluations

- The County WA provided \$100,000 in funding to the Cachuma Resource Conservation District (CRCD) for their Mobile Irrigation Lab Program, which offers free irrigation system audits to local farmers and turf irrigators.
- This year, CRCD conducted 17 irrigation system evaluations covering 207.83 irrigated acres. Area impacted by irrigation evaluations include Buellton, Carpinteria, Gaviota, Santa Maria, Santa Ynez, and Solvang (see Summary Table on next page).
- DU values ranged from 0.36 (below average of agricultural systems) to 0.99 (above average of agricultural systems); the average DU was 0.74 with the industry standard of 0.85.
- Performed field visits with 70 individual growers for one-on-one training with emphasis on nitrate leaching and the importance of irrigation management. One-on-one trainings were conducted in Spanish. The CRCD gave a radio interview on irrigation management on a Spanish language radio station.
- Implemented improvements could have potentially saved 74.7 ac-in/ac annually, average percent water saving of 16%.

**FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**  
FOR SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GROWERS AND FARMERS

**SAVE WATER·ENERGY·MONEY!**  
*The drought is not over!*

The Cachuma Resource Conservation District  
**Mobile Irrigation Lab**  
offers FREE irrigation assessments and information on water conservation best management practices to all agricultural growers and large landscape managers in Santa Barbara County

**Irrigation Assessment      Water Conservation**

**Funding is limited. Schedule your FREE assessment soon!**  
Call the Cachuma Resource Conservation District (CRCD):  
Anna Olsen ☎ 805.868.4013 ✉ aolsen@crcdsantabarbara.org

Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) assistance is available to all growers in Santa Barbara County. Program funds are provided by:



 Cachuma Resource Conservation District  
*Your Local Partner in Conservation*  
1601 Street East, Carpinteria, California 93021 • 805.868.4013 • [www.cachuma.org](http://www.cachuma.org)

A sample flyer for the CRCD Mobile Irrigation Lab services.

# LANDSCAPE WATER USE PROGRAMS

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A Summary of Agricultural Irrigation Evaluations Conducted in Santa Barbara County			
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023			
Area	Crop	DU - System	Acres
Carpinteria	Avocados	0.61 - micro sprinkler	1
Solvang	Walnuts	0.58 - drip	20
Carpinteria	Avocados	0.92, 0.90 - micro sprinklers	5
Carpinteria	Avocados	0.66 - micro sprinklers	1
Solvang	Vineyard	0.49, 0.36 - drip	14.29
Santa Ynez	Vineyard	0.65, 0.83 - drip	5.94
Santa Ynez	Vineyard	0.74, 0.84 - drip	8.5
Santa Maria	Strawberries	0.9 - drip	25
Gaviota	Blueberries	0.83 - drip	3
Santa Maria	Strawberries	0.87 - drip	8
Santa Maria	Strawberries	0.70 - drip	6
Santa Maria	Summer Squash	0.74 - drip	4
Santa Maria	Strawberries	0.63 - drip	4
Santa Maria	Vineyard	0.71 - drip	11.1
Santa Maria	Strawberries	0.71 - drip	7
Santa Maria	Vineyard	0.86 - drip	56
Buellton	Vineyard	0.83, 0.77, 0.93 - drip	28



# YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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## School Assembly Presentations on Water Conservation

- The County WA partnered with local water purveyors to co-fund water education assembly-style presentations at elementary schools.
- The County WA issued a contract (with "Shows That Teach") for an engaging musical-comedy-educational show about the value of water & water conservation. Due to COVID-19, both virtual and in-person performances are available.
- In total, 8 water purveyors participated in Shows That Teach performances. Performances were given at 28 schools and reached 9,563 students.
- The County WA also coordinated a weekend Earth Day Festival performance sponsored by the County WA, Goleta Water District, City of Santa Barbara, La Cumbre Mutual Water Company, and Montecito Water District.



Shot from "H2O, Where Did You Go?" Performance.

## High Schools Competed in the 2022 WaterWise High School Video Contest

- The County WA updated the contest flyer, emailed flyers to schools, and digitized student contest materials that were posted on the website.
- The contest received 9 video submissions by 18 students from 2 different schools countywide for potential use as 30-second Public Service Announcements on water conservation.
- The County WA secured \$1,900 of in-kind donations from 5 sponsors for student prizes. The featured prizes donated by the private sector companies were provided to the student winning teams:
  - First Place, "Water IS Life" by Dos Pueblos High School. The school received \$1,000, students won a \$500 prize provided by Carollo Engineers.
  - First Place (Spanish), "Adiós El Desperdicio de Agua" by Dos Pueblos High School. The school received \$1,000, and the students won a \$500 prize provided by La Buena - 105.1 FM.

# YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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- Second Place, "Does Your Lawn Belong?" by Dos Pueblos High School. The school received \$500, and the students received a \$250 prize provided by Geosyntec consultants.
- Third Place, "Lawns = Yawn" by Santa Ynez Union High School. The school received \$300, and students received a \$150 prize provided by Ewing Irrigation.
- People's Choice Award: "Does Your Lawn Belong?" by Dos Pueblos High School received 213 likes on the WaterWiseSB YouTube channel. The school received \$500, and the students received a \$500 prize provided by Dudek.
- Students and schools received awarded trophies and certificates. Schools included Dos Pueblos High School and Santa Ynez Union Valley High School.
- The student video submissions were posted on the WaterWiseSB [YouTube](#) Channel and on [www.WaterWiseSB.org](http://www.WaterWiseSB.org).
- The Teacher Questionnaire was updated and sent out to this year's and previous participating teachers.



*Video still from 2023 High School Video Contest First Place video "Water IS Life"*

# YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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*Photo collage of video stills from 2023 High School Video Contest Submissions.*

## Santa Barbara County Science Fair

- Starting this year, the Santa Barbara Unified School District moved away from supporting the Santa Barbara County Science Fair and will in future be supporting the Science Olympiad.
- The number of Science Fair projects was so low this year that they did not require our assistance with judging.
- The Santa Barbara Science Fair staff are still discussing the future of the fair, but currently there are no updates.

# COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

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## Supporting USBR's Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional BMP #4

### Participated in County's Green Business Program

- The County WA served as a representative on program's Steering Committee and attended 6 bi-monthly meetings.
- Staff helped coordinate the program's Green Business Program mixer, which has replaced the Annual Luncheon. Since this was the first in-person event since Covid-19, a mixer was deemed better because it is more casual and could allow for the increased number of people from newly certified businesses over the last several years. The mixer was held in June 2023 at the Elverhøj Museum.
- There were 5 new Green Business certifications and 1 business reached Innovator level. There were 5 Green Business re-certifications and 1 reached Innovator level.
- County WA is currently undergoing the process to recertify the County's Naomi Schwartz Building in Santa Barbara.



*Chumash Casino Resort receiving a Green Business Network "Innovator" award.*



# INFORMATION ON UTILITY OPERATIONS

## Supporting USBR's Utility Operations BMP #1.3 for metering rates; and BMP #1.4 for retail conservation pricing

### Reported on Regional Water Rates Water Rates

- The County WA compiled water rate information from 18 local water purveyors across Santa Barbara County and produced a *2023 Water Rates Summary Report*.
- The report was shared amongst purveyors countywide and posted online under "About Us" at [www.WaterWiseSB.org](http://www.WaterWiseSB.org).
- All local purveyors cooperated; staffed and created by County WA.

### Compiled Regional Water Production Data

- The County WA compiled local water purveyors' annual water production data for 2022 and produced a *2022 Water Use in Santa Barbara County Report*.
- The Report was shared amongst purveyors countywide and posted online under "About Us" at [www.WaterWiseSB.org](http://www.WaterWiseSB.org).
- All local purveyors cooperated; staffed and managed by County WA.
- County WA recently included energy tracking within the survey to collect information on local water system intensity for regional climate sustainability planning and for future grant opportunities.

Water Use in Santa Barbara County 2022 Report														
Agency	Population Served <sup>*</sup>	Types of Metered Water Deliveries				Per-Capita Water Use <sup>***</sup> Gallons/Person/Day		Number of Connections by Type						
		Agriculture (AFY)	Recycled Water (AFY)	Wholesale (AFY)	M&I <sup>**</sup> Water (AFY)	(a) Based on Total M&I	(b) Based only on Residential Water	Single Family	Multi-Residential	Commercial Institutional	Industrial	Landscape	Agriculture	Other (i.e. Fire Hydrant Meters, Recycled Water, etc.)
City of Buellton	5,055	0	0	0	1,451	256	175	1,222	358	187	38	17	0	3
Carpinteria Valley WD	15,996	2,267	0	62	1,906	106	71	3,275	356	287	58	68	387	135
Casmalia CSD	150	0	0	0	9	57	47	54	0	4	0	0	0	0
Cuyama CSD	763	0	0	0	127	149	89	212	0	22	0	20	0	0
Golden State Water Co.	33,364	0	0	0	5,168	138	113	11,282	146	352	4	70	0	83
Goleta Water District	84,462	2,744	836	0	7,775	82	56	13,375	1,879	997	0	308	165	502
City of Guadalupe	8,352	0	0	0	974	104	55	2,280	11	115	0	43	0	11
La Cumbre Mutual WC	4,900	11	0	0	1,084	197	197	1,404	30	0	0	10	26	0
City of Lompoc	41,079	0	0	0	3,603	78	56	8,207	753	720	5	143	0	52
Los Alamos CSD	1,464	0	0	0	249	152	116	472	83	31	0	16	0	12
Mission Hills CSD	3,600	0	0	0	516	128	111	1,299	0	11	0	2	0	0
Montecito Water Dist	11,881	231	0	2	4,081	307	247	4,254	65	265	0	0	41	0
City of Santa Barbara	98,420	152	828	1,430	9,216	84	61	16,752	6,997	2,715	52	821	68	119
City of Santa Maria	109,910	0	0	1,148	11,346	92	57	19,227	880	1,889	95	626	0	258
Santa Ynez RWCD-ID#1	7,022	1,683	0	0	2,013	256	207	1,982	0	169	0	0	98	483
City of Solvang	5,709	0	0	0	1,151	180	121	1,804	75	213	0	82	0	3
Vandenberg SFB	18,000	0	0	0	2,628	130	20	1,006	0	53	0	5	0	0
Vandenberg Village CSD	7,308	0	0	0	1,188	145	109	2,422	56	66	0	17	0	8

AFY= Acre-feet per year

\* Population as reported by water purveyor

\*\* M&I (Municipal, Commercial, Institutional & Industrial) refers to all urban use, not including recycled water, agricultural irrigation or wholesale sales.

1 acre-foot=325,851 gallons.

\*\*\* Per Capita Use is shown as (a) total M&I water divided by population and (b) Single & Multi-Family Residential use divided by population. Lot size and landscape water usage are major factors affecting Gallons/Person/Day

# COORDINATION OF REGIONAL WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

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## **Supporting USBR's Utility Operations BMP #1.1 for a Water Conservation Coordinator**

### Coordinated Bi-Monthly RWEF Meetings

- For program coordination, information sharing, vetting ideas, etc.
- The County WA scheduled and facilitated all meetings, including preparing agenda drafts for feedback, meeting materials, and circulating meeting notes. The County WA also maintained a video conferencing contract to hold virtual meetings.
- The County WA coordinated and conducted 6 meetings.

### Coordinated Quarterly RWEF Sub-Committee Meetings: Website & Education

- For program coordination, planning, and discussion of education and website specific programs. Vet ideas through sub-committee members to present to monthly RWEF meetings.
- Coordinated additional meetings with interested RWEF members for the HSVC group judging session, Green Gardener curriculum developments and general program updates, WEGG grant project, etc.

### Coordinated Joint-Meetings with Outside Water Conservation Agencies

- Meetings useful for program coordination, information sharing, networking, vetting ideas, etc.
- In February 2023, the WA coordinated the first in-person meeting since Covid-19. This meeting was hosted by the City of Santa Maria and sponsored by the County WA, Atascadero Mutual Water Company, and the City of San Luis Obispo.
- 24 water agencies attended from Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo (SLO) Counties.
- County WA coordinated the meeting agenda with SLO partners, which included guest speakers from AWE, CA Department of Water Resources, and local water agencies.

**REGIONAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS CO-FUNDED  
BY LOCAL WATER PROVIDERS  
FY2022-23\***

	Media	Youth Education	Websites	Green Gardener	Garden Wise Show
Buellton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carpinteria Valley Water District	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cuyama CSD	✓	✓	✓		
Golden State Water Company	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goleta Water District**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Guadalupe	✓	✓	✓	✓	
La Cumbre Mutual Water Company	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Los Alamos CSD	✓	✓	✓		
Mission Hills CSD	✓	✓	✓		
Montecito Water District	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Santa Barbara**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Santa Maria	✓	✓	✓		
Santa Ynez River WCD ID #1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Solvang	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vandenberg Village CSD	✓	✓	✓		✓

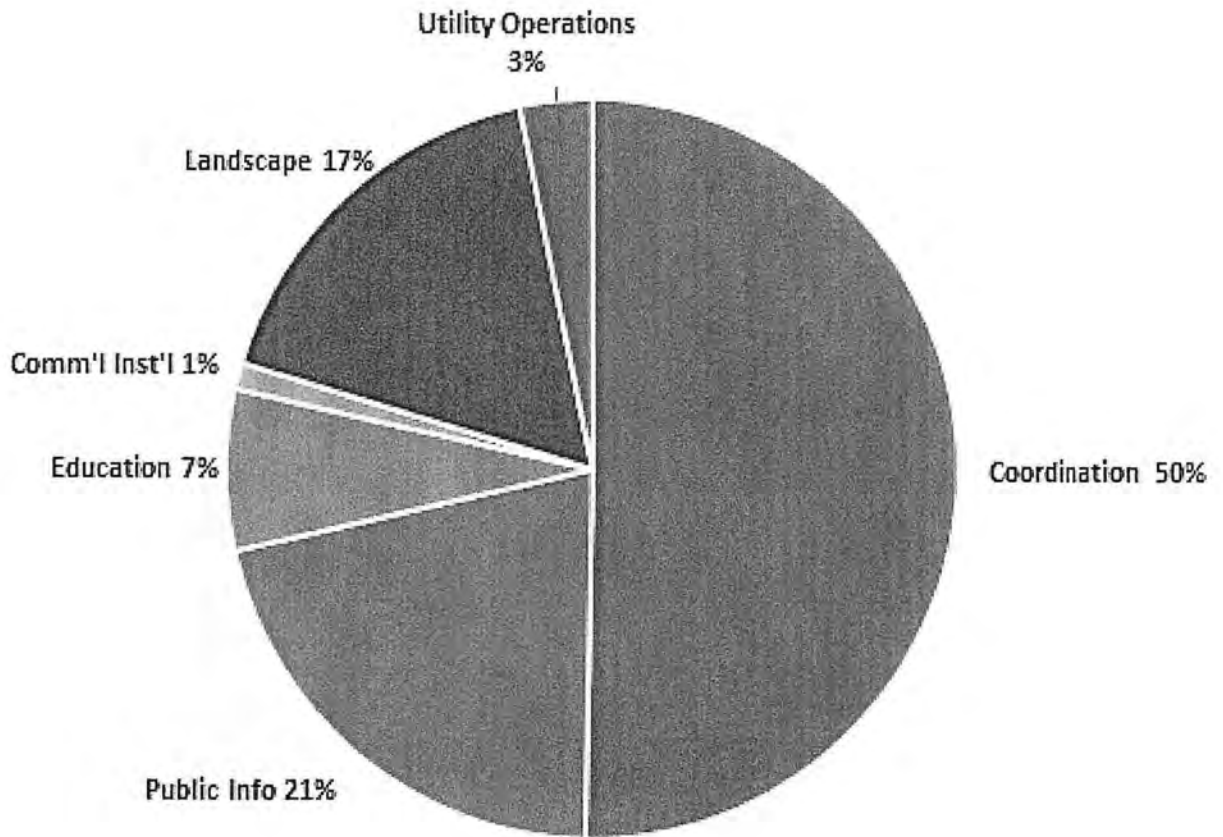
\*Many water purveyors have water conservation programs separate from regional projects listed here

\*\*The City of Santa Barbara and Goleta Water District help to co-fund the GardenWise TV Show outside of RWEP funds as well

# ALLOCATION OF WATER AGENCY STAFF TIME FOR RWEPP IN FY2022-23

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Below lists the total labor hours worked by County Water Agency staff on RWEPP.

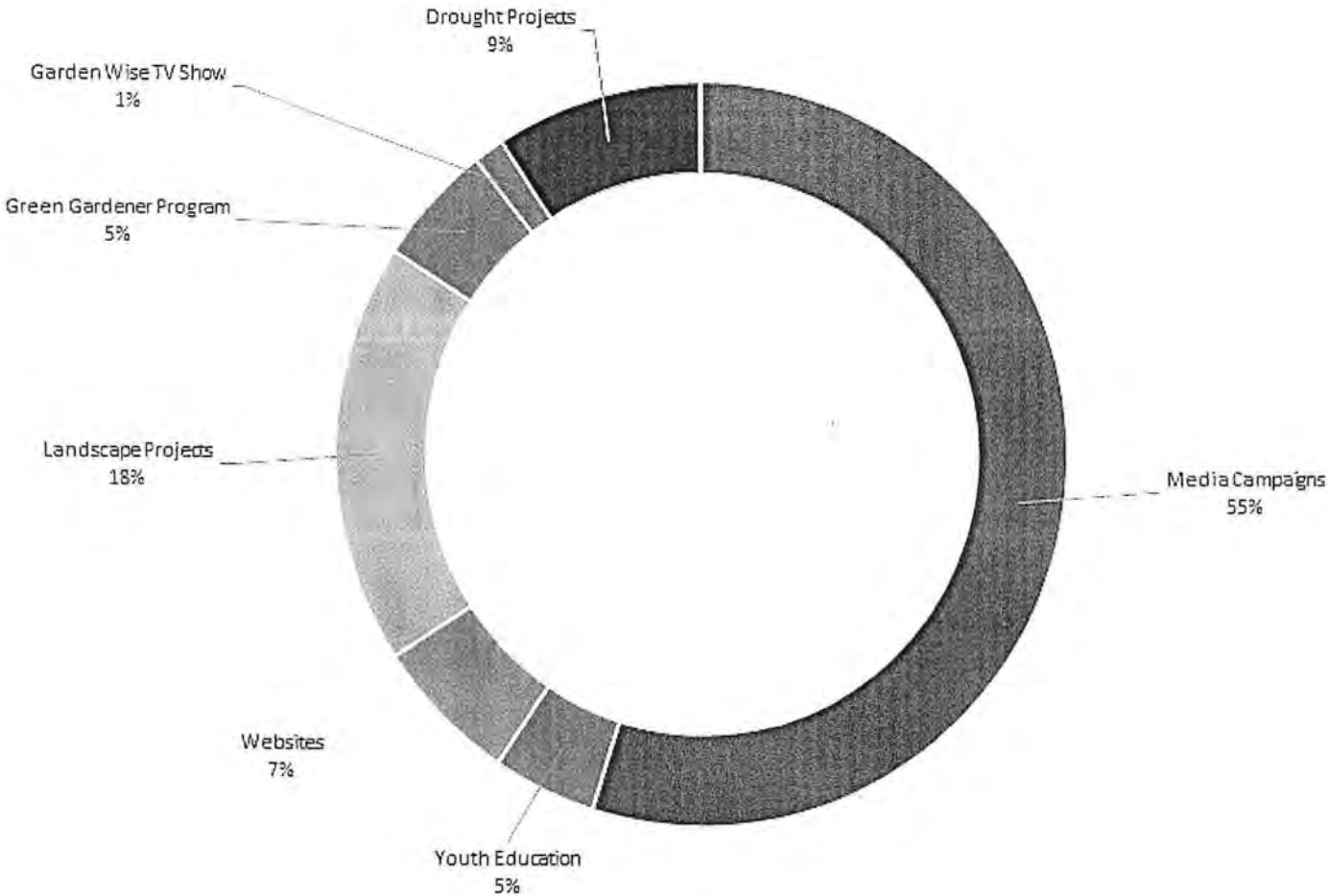




# ALLOCATION OF RWEF FUNDS IN FY2022-23

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Below lists the percentage of total funds spent on RWEF programs and projects by category. The total includes County Water Agency funds and the contributions from RWEF members for FY2022-23. Total funds used excludes County staff time.



Paeter Garcia

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**From:** California Water Boards <public@info.waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 4:48 PM  
**To:** Paeter Garcia  
**Subject:** PFAS News: Lawsuit Settlements Approved by U.S. District Court - Direct Impacts to Water Provider Legal Rights

Having trouble viewing this? [View it as a webpage](#)



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

**3M and DuPont Class Action Lawsuit Settlements Approved by U.S. District Court – Direct Impacts to Legal Rights of Many California Water Provider**

These settlement terms are binding on all California water providers and will result in a waiver of the right to pursue future litigation against 3M and DuPont UNLESS a water provider "opts out" of the settlement by filing a request for exclusion by **December 4 and 11, 2023**, respectively.

The following files are available at

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/pfas.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/pfas.html):

- Important notice about how these settlements may adversely impact your water system's legal rights.
- Template Letters to Request Exclusion (separate links for 3M and DuPont)
- Affidavits in Support of Request for Exclusion from Settlement Agreement (separate links for 3M and DuPont)
- Opt Out Checklists (separate links for 3M and DuPont)
- The settling parties have provided information about these settlements at [www.pfaswatersettlement.com](http://www.pfaswatersettlement.com) and water providers will be sent a court ordered notice via e-mail and U.S. mail. Additional information and resources related to these settlements will be provided on this website and through the Division of Drinking Water's email distribution list for water systems.

The settlement agreements can be viewed at the following links:

- **3M Settlement:** <https://www.pfaswatersettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/6.-ECF-59-1-Settlement-Agreement-as-amended.pdf>
- **DuPont Settlement:** <https://www.pfaswatersettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/3.-ECF-4-2-Settlement-Agreement.pdf>
- **DuPont Settlement Amendments:** <https://www.pfaswatersettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/7.-ECF-30-1-Settlement-Agreement-as-amended.pdf>

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This service provided to you at no charge by the [California Water Boards](#).

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This email was sent to [pgarcia@syrwd.org](mailto:pgarcia@syrwd.org) using govDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: California Water Boards · 1001 I Street · Sacramento, CA 95814



**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.

**Paeter Garcia**

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**From:** ACWA <acwabox@acwa.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 3:42 PM  
**To:** Paeter Garcia  
**Subject:** Legal Advisory: PFAS Manufacturers Reach Proposed Class-Action Settlements with Public Water Systems



[Click here to view it in your browser.](#)

## ACWA ADVISORY

LEGAL | PFAS SETTLEMENTS  
**Oct. 16, 2023**

### **PFAS Manufacturers Reach Proposed Class-Action Settlements with Public Water Systems**

Several PFAS manufacturers responsible for contaminating drinking water resources — including 3M, Chemours, Corteva, and DuPont — recently reached proposed settlement agreements with Public Water Systems (PWS), totaling more than \$13 billion. These settlements are not final until approved by the judge. If eligible, PWS may receive compensation for this PFAS contamination, and ACWA encourages member agencies to carefully evaluate whether to participate in or opt out of the proposed settlements.

Federal and state PFAS compliance standards are coming, and these settlements may provide funds to help pay future compliance costs. However, the proposed settlements also contain very broad release provisions.

#### **Member agency next steps**

ACWA encourages member agencies to review the settlement materials and decide whether your agency is a member of the settlement class and, if so, whether it would be beneficial to participate in the proposed settlements. A link to settlement materials is below.



If agencies do participate, they must submit any objections and/or forms by the dates listed below. Agencies that participate in a settlement release claims against 3M and DuPont. Generally speaking, the release will prevent the agency from bringing a future lawsuit against 3M or DuPont for claims related to PFAS.

If an agency is a member of the settlement class, but does not want to participate, then it must opt out of the DuPont and/or 3M proposed settlements by the deadlines below.

Agencies that don't opt out will be bound by the proposed settlements, including the release provisions, regardless of whether or not they file a claim or receive any distribution from the settlements.

### Important Deadlines

Deadline Descriptions	DuPont Deadline Dates	3M Deadline Dates
Deadline to submit objections	Nov. 4, 2023	Nov. 11, 2023
Deadline to opt out	Dec. 4, 2023	Dec. 11, 2023
Court's final approval	Dec. 14, 2023	Feb. 2, 2024
Deadline to file claims form	Phase one: 60 days after the effective date* Phase two: June 30, 2026	Phase one: 60 days after the effective date** Phase two: July 31, 2026

\* Effective date is defined in the DuPont settlement agreement as the date of final judgement.

\*\* Effective date is defined in the 3M settlement agreement as five business days after the final judgement.

### Questions

For information about the proposed settlements or to submit a claim, visit the official settlement [website](#).

More information is also available from an [ACWA Fact Sheet](#) or by contacting ACWA Director of State Relations [Adam Quiñonez](#) at (916) 441-4545.

**DID SOMEONE FORWARD THIS EMAIL TO YOU?**

ACWA members can get ACWA's alerts and advisories directly to your inbox.

[> SIGN UP HERE](#)



**CORRESPONDENCE LIST**  
**NOVEMBER 2023**

1. October 11, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the October 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
2. October 12, 2023 – Letter received from the Santa Barbara County Office of the Auditor Controller regarding 2023-2024 Property Tax Allocations
3. October 16, 2023 – Letter from District sent to one customer regarding backflow testing requirement
4. October 16, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the October 18, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
5. October 17, 2023 – Letter received from the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District to LAFCO regarding SYRWCD, ID No.1 – Proportionate share of LAFCO Budget for 2023-2024
6. October 18, 2023 – Letter from District sent to three customers regarding past due water service accounts
7. October 20, 2023 - Notice and Agenda received from the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board regarding the October 23, 2023 Regular Meeting
8. October 23, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District regarding the October 24, 2023 Regular Meeting
9. October 23, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District regarding the October 25, 2023 Special Board Meeting
10. October 25, 2023 – Letter from District sent to one customer regarding backflow testing requirement
11. October 25, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from Santa Barbara County IRWMP for the October 30, 2023 Cooperating Partners Meeting
12. October 25, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District regarding the November 1, 2023 Wastewater Committee Meeting
13. October 25, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District regarding the November 1, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting
14. October 31, 2023 - Existing Water Service/Can and Will Serve letter for APN 141-121-015
15. November 1, 2023 – Letter received from Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) regarding Call for Nominations for and Notice of Election for LAFCO Regular and Alternate Special District Members
16. November 3, 2023 – Letter from District to customer regarding access to District facilities
17. November 6, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the November 9, 2023 Finance Subcommittee Meeting
18. November 6, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the November 9, 2023 Project Management Subcommittee Meeting

19. November 6, 2023 – Letter from the District sent to ten customers regarding backflow testing requirement
20. November 7, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the November 10, 2023 Grants Subcommittee Meeting
21. November 9, 2023 - Letter from District to customer regarding Service and Billing Agreement requirement
22. November 9, 2023 - Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the November 17, 2023 Grants Subcommittee Meeting
23. November 9, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the November 14, 2023 Technical Subcommittee Meeting
24. November 9, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board for the November 13, 2023 Board Meeting
25. November 11, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the November 15, 2023 Regular Meeting
26. November 12, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the November 15, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
27. November 13, 2023 – Notice and Agenda received from the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the November 16, 2023 Regular Meeting
28. November 14, 2023 – Letter received from the Santa Barbara County Fire Department regarding Fire Service Requirements for APN 135-240-066
29. November 14, 2023 – Four letters received from the Santa Barbara County Fire Department regarding Fire Service Requirements for APN 135-093-004
30. November 14, 2023 – Letter received from the Santa Barbara County Fire Department regarding Fire Service Requirements for APN 143-143-013
31. November 14, 2023 – Letter received from the Official State Social Security Administrator - California Public Employees' Retirement System regarding Annual Information Request
32. November 15, 2023 – Received November 2023 Newsletter from Los Olivos Community Services District