

**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, May 21, 2024**  
**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 Mike Burchardi will be attending the meeting via teleconference from the following location:  
3769 Greenleaf Road, Columbia, South Carolina, 29206

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

Trustee Jeff Clay will be attending the meeting via teleconference from the following location:

Pono Kai Resort, 4-1250 Kuhio Hwy, Kapaa, Hawaii, 96746

Members of the public may join Trustee Clay at this 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 **“May 21, 2024 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 APRIL 16, 2024**
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

2. Board of Trustees Designations
  - a) Selection of Officers of the Board – Secretary and Treasurer
3. Resolution No. 843 - A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 Authorizing Signatures for Accounts at Mechanics Bank
4. Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Preliminary Budget
5. Setting the Appropriation Limit for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year - Article XIII B (Proposition 13)
  - a) California Department of Finance Calculations for 2024/2025 Appropriation Limitations and Authorization to Post Notice and Make Public the 2024/2025 Appropriation Limitation Calculation
  - b) Review of Draft Resolutions to be presented for adoption at the June 18, 2024 Board Meeting
    1. Draft Resolution: A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 Establishing the Appropriation Limit for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Pursuant to Article XIII B of the California Constitution
    2. Draft Resolution: A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 Adopting the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Requesting an Assessment Levy Required to Collect \$875,000

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

**A. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

1. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Update

**B. HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM (Cr6) – ADOPTED MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)**

1. Update on SWRCB Final Drinking Water MCL for Cr6 of 10 parts per billion

**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 **June 18, 2024 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 Permits 11308 and 11310 issued on Applications 11331 and 11332 to the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the Cachuma Project
2. 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
3. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 21CV02432

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - 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  
APRIL 16, 2024 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, April 16, 2024, in-person at 1070 Faraday Street.

Trustees Present: Michael Burchardi  
 Jeff Clay  
 Brad Joos  
 Mark Moniot  
 Nick Urton

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Paeter Garcia Mary Robel Racel Cota  
 Karen King Dan Drugan Vince Cerda  
 Gary Kvistad

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

President Clay called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., he stated that this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Robel conducted roll call and reported that all Trustees were present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Clay 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 reported that the Agenda for this meeting 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:

President Clay welcomed any members of the public and offered time for members of the public to speak and address the Board on matters not on the Agenda. There was no public comment. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting.

6. EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS: WATER RESOURCES SPECIALIST VINCE CERDA AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGER RACEL COTA

Mr. Garcia informed the Board that Employee Spotlights are intended to provide an opportunity for members of the District Team to be introduced to the Board and the public, and to discuss their experience and highlight their respective areas of responsibility within the District. He introduced Ms. Racel Cota, Administrative & Financial Manager, and Mr. Vince Cerda, Water Resources Specialist. Mr. Garcia explained that Ms. Cota and Mr. Cerda are the newest additions to the District Team. Mr. Garcia provided an overview of their respective work histories, experience, special certifications, and roles and responsibilities within the District. Mr. Garcia and the Board welcomed Ms. Cota and Mr. Cerda to the District.

1 7. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2024

2 The Regular Meeting Minutes from March 19, 2024 were presented for consideration.

3  
4 President Clay asked if there were any changes or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of  
5 March 19, 2024. There were no changes or additions requested.

6  
7 It was MOVED by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Moniot, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0  
8 voice vote, to approve the March 19, 2024 Regular meeting minutes as presented.

9  
10 8. CONSENT AGENDA:

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

12  
13 Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of March.

14  
15 It was MOVED by Trustee Urton, seconded by Trustee Joos, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0  
16 voice vote, to approve the Consent Agenda.

17  
18 9. MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING  
19 SUBJECTS:

20 A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

21 1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters

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

23 Ms. Robel announced that the Financial Statements were provided to the Board via  
24 email earlier in the day, and also included in the meeting handout materials and  
25 posted on the District’s website.

26  
27 Ms. Robel reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of March.  
28 She highlighted various line-items related to revenue and expense transactions that  
29 occurred during the month and referred to the Fiscal-Year-to-Date Statement of  
30 Revenues and Expenses that provides a budget to actual snapshot for the month of  
31 March. Ms. Robel reported that the District expenses for the month of March exceeded  
32 the revenues by \$154,311.16 and the year-to-date net income was \$1,447,114.40.

33  
34  
35 b) Approval of Accounts Payable

36 Ms. Robel announced that the Warrant List was provided to the Board via email earlier  
37 in the day, and also included in the meeting handout materials and posted on the  
38 District’s website.

39  
40 The Board reviewed the Warrant List which covered warrants 25792 through 25849 in  
41 the amount of \$603,206.33.

42  
43 It was MOVED by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a  
44 unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote, to approve the Warrant List for March 20, 2024 through  
45 April 16, 2024.

46  
47 2. Personnel Matters

48 a) Staffing Structure Updates

49 b) Personnel Policy Manual Updates

50 The Board packet included an April 16, 2024 Staff Memorandum regarding Updates  
51 to the Staffing Structure, Personnel Policy Manual, and Organization Chart.  
52

1 Mr. Garcia summarized the Staff Memo, including: an organizational structure with  
2 three executive level managers and related salary scales; temporary deactivation of  
3 the Assistant General Manager position; retitling the Board Administrative Assistant  
4 to Executive Assistant; revisions to the Personnel Policy Manual (PPM) to ensure all  
5 employees are eligible for annual step/merit increases; and the creation of a third tier  
6 for the existing Administrative Assistant position series. Mr. Garcia explained that  
7 the proposed modifications promote equity, employee satisfaction, and  
8 organizational retention. Board discussion ensued.  
9

10 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 5-0-  
11 0 voice vote to approve the recommendations set forth in the Staff Memo.  
12

- 13 c) Resolution No. 842 – A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River  
14 Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 Amending the District’s  
15 Personnel Policy Manual  
16

17 Mr. Garcia reviewed the proposed changes to the District’s Personnel Policy Manual  
18 (PPM) Section 1.9(c)(1) – Step Increases, Section 3.19 – Retirement, and the removal of  
19 references to “Assistant General Manager” throughout the PPM. Discussion ensued  
20 regarding CalPERS retirement contributions related to PEPRAs vs. Classic employees.  
21 Trustee Joos requested that information be presented at a future Board meeting  
22 regarding the CalPERS program and related financial implications for the District.  
23

24 No public comment was provided.  
25

26 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Moniot, to adopt  
27 Resolution No. 842, a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River  
28 Water Conservation District, Improvement No.1 Amending the District’s Personnel  
29 Policy Manual.  
30

31 The Motion carried and Resolution No. 842 was adopted by the following 5-0-0 roll  
32 call vote:  
33

34 **AYES, Trustees:** Mike Burchardi  
35 Jeff Clay  
36 Brad Joos  
37 Mark Moniot  
38 Nick Urton  
39

40 **NOES, Trustees:** None  
41 **ABSTAIN, Trustees:** None  
42 **ABSENT, Trustees:** None  
43

44 After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Resolution should be amended to  
45 include removal of references to “Assistant General Manager” throughout the Personnel  
46 Policy Manual and replacement with “General Manager or his/her designee.”  
47

48 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Clay, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 5-0-0 roll  
49 call vote to adopt Resolution No. 842 as amended.  
50

51 **B. OPERATIONS UPDATE**

52 1. Motor Control Center and Service Upgrades – Change Orders

53 The Board packet included a February 28, 2024 Change Order No.1 in the amount of  
54 \$2,851.23 from Electricraft, Inc. and a March 27, 2024 Change Order No.1 in the amount

1 of \$2,345.61 from Smith MEP, both related to the Motor Control Center and Service  
2 Upgrades Project.  
3

4 Mr. Dan Drugan, Water Resources Manager, reported on the status of the Motor Control  
5 Center (MCC) Project. He indicated that the Meadowlark Booster Pump Station work  
6 will be postponed until the fall in order to keep the pump station operational during the  
7 high water demand that is typical for the upcoming summer months.  
8

9 Mr. Drugan explained the basis of the two Change Orders, one relating to the Alamo  
10 Pintado Booster Pump Station in the amount of \$2,851.23, and the other relating to Well  
11 28 in the amount of \$2,345.61.  
12

13 Mr. Garcia recommended that the Board ratify the General Manager's approval of the  
14 Change Orders.  
15

16 It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a 5-0-0  
17 voice vote to approve and ratify the General Manager's signature on Change Order No.1  
18 in the amount of \$2,851.23 for Electricraft, Inc. and Change Order No.1 in the amount of  
19 \$2,345.61 for Smith MEP.  
20

21 **10. REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**  
22

23 **A. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

24 1. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Update

25 The Board packet included the Notice and Agenda for the March 28, 2024 Special Meeting  
26 of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area.  
27

28 Mr. Garcia summarized several topics that were discussed at the recent EMA GSA  
29 meeting, including: review and approval of the Third Annual Report for the EMA;  
30 updates on SGMA governance and negotiation of a Draft Joint Powers Agreement; and  
31 the Department of Water Resources SGMA Implementation Grant funding. He reported  
32 that discussions continue regarding agricultural representation on the EMA JPA Board  
33 and finalization of the JPA. Mr. Garcia noted that the Santa Ynez River Water  
34 Conservation District has indicated that it is preparing a proposed sub-grant agreement  
35 to address grant project implementation and how grant funding may be allocated among  
36 the three Management Areas in the Basin.  
37

38 **B. HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM (Cr6) - PROPOSED MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)**

39 1. Update on SWRCB Proposed Drinking Water MCL for Cr6 of 10 parts per billion

40 The Board packet included an announcement of an April 17, 2024 Public Hearing, SWRCB  
41 Staff Memorandum, Draft SWRCB Resolution, CEQA Findings and Facts, Proposed  
42 language of the Regulation, Final Environmental Impact Report for adoption of 10 ppb,  
43 and excerpts from "responses to comments".  
44

45 Mr. Garcia referred to the materials included in the Board packet and indicated that the  
46 State Water Resources Control Board is close to adopting a new 10 parts per billion (ppb)  
47 Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Hexavalent Chromium (Cr6) in drinking water.  
48 He then summarized the next procedural steps the State Board will take in adopting a  
49 final MCL for Cr6.  
50

51 Board discussion ensued regarding the current federal (100 ppb) and state (50 ppb)  
52 standards for Hexavalent Chromium in drinking water in comparison to the proposed  
53 MCL of 10 ppb. The Board also discussed the proposed three year period if the new MCL  
54 is adopted, treatment options, construction of a treatment facility, annual maintenance

1 and operational costs, potential legal challenges, impacts to mutual water companies,  
2 relation to the District's upcoming water rate study, funding, and public outreach.  
3

4 Mr. Garcia stated that District staff is in the process of re-engaging consulting experts to  
5 review treatment options/technologies, planning and construction schedules for  
6 treatment facilities, capital and annual operating costs, and financing alternatives.  
7

8 **C. CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SYRWCD) DRAFT FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT**

9 **1. Update on Draft Report**

10 The Board packet included the Draft Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District  
11 Forty-Sixth Annual Engineering and Survey Report on Water Supply Conditions and  
12 April 26, 2023 ID No.1 Comments submitted relating to the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Report.  
13

14 Mr. Garcia provided a brief overview of the Conservation District's Draft Forty-Sixth  
15 Annual Engineering and Survey Report. He indicated that ID No.1 staff has conducted a  
16 cursory review of the Draft Report and noted that, similar to last year's Forty-Fifth Annual  
17 Report, certain statements in this year's Draft Report may not be accurate. Mr. Garcia  
18 reviewed the comments that ID No.1 submitted to the Conservation District on last year's  
19 Report and indicated that ID No.1 staff will likely provide similar comments for this year's  
20 Draft Report. He stated that the Conservation District has scheduled an April 24, 2024  
21 Special Meeting and Public Hearing on the Forty-Sixth Annual Report.  
22

23 **11. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS,**  
24 **ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS**  
25 **NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION:**  
26

27 The Board packet included various materials, including an LA Times news article about  
28 increasing water rates, a Best Best & Krieger Legal Alert discussing SB 477, and the April 2024  
29 Family Farm Alliance Monthly Briefing.  
30

31 Trustee Burchardi reported that he attended the Los Olivos Community Services District  
32 (LOCSD) meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> and that LOCSD is evaluating treatment options and  
33 reconsidering an option to connect to the City of Solvang.  
34

35 Trustee Burchardi indicated that the District is planning to participate in this year's "Airport Day"  
36 event as it has done for the last two years. This year's event is scheduled to be held at the Santa  
37 Ynez Airport on May 18, 2024.  
38

39 **12. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS**

40 The Correspondence List was received by the Board.  
41

42 **13. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

43 Staff noted that a presentation regarding CalPERS matters will be provided at a future Board  
44 meeting to address the questions raised by Trustee Joos.

45 **14. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

46 President Clay stated that the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for  
47 May 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.  
48

49 **15. CLOSED SESSION:**

50 The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:35 p.m.  
51



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

2 [Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – 3 Cases]

- 3
- 4 1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources
- 5 Control Board regarding Permits 11308 and 11310 issued on Applications 11331 and
- 6 11332 to the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the Cachuma Project
- 7
- 8 2. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources
- 9 Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of
- 10 Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests
- 11
- 12 3. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood
- 13 Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court
- 14 Case No. 21CV02432
- 15

16 **B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

17 [Subdivision (d)(2) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Significant Exposure to

18 Litigation Against the Agency – One Matter]

19

20 **C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

21 [Subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Potential Initiation of

22 Litigation By the Agency – One Matter]

23

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

25 [Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

26

27 The Board reconvened to open session at approximately 6:16 p.m. Mr. Garcia announced that

28 the Board met in closed session in accordance with Agenda Items 15.A.1, 15.A.2, 15.A.3, 15.B.,

29 and 15.C. He reported that there was no reportable action for any of the closed session Agenda

30 Items.

31

32 **17. ADJOURNMENT:**

33 Being no further business, it was MOVED by President Clay, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and

34 carried by a 5-0-0 voice vote to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:17 p.m.

35

36

37 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

38

39

40 \_\_\_\_\_

41 Mary Robel, Secretary to the Board

42

43

44

45 **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

46 Jeff Clay, President

47

48

49 **MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

50

51 \_\_\_\_\_

52 Karen King, Board Administrative Assistant

53

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
May 21, 2024**

**Consent Agenda Report**

CA-1. Water Supply and Production Report. Total water production in **April 2024 (135 AF)** was 20 AF higher than total production in **March 2024 (115 AF)**, 154 AF lower than the most recent 3-year running average (2021-2023) for the month of **April (287 AF)**, and 173 AF lower than the most recent 10-year running average (2014-2023) for the month of **April (308 AF)**. Overall production in April 2024 was by far the lowest for the month of April over the last 10 years; indeed, the next lowest April production over the last ten years was 199 AF in 2023; whereas the highest April production in the last ten years was 458 AF in 2015. This record-breaking low production for April is mostly attributable to extraordinary rainfall early in the year and prevailing cool weather patterns throughout the month. 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 **April 2024**, approximately **37 AF** was produced from the Santa Ynez Upland wells, and approximately **65 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 CCWA, the District took approximately **33 AF** of SWP supplies for the month. Direct diversions to the County Park and USBR were **1.34 AF**.

The USBR Daily Operations Report for Lake Cachuma in **April** (ending April 30, 2024) recorded the end of month reservoir elevation at **754.27'** with the end of month storage of **197,286 AF**. USBR recorded total precipitation at the lake of **2.80 inches** for the month. SWP deliveries to the reservoir for South Coast entities were **0.0 AF**. Reported reservoir evaporation in **April** was **1,061.2 AF**.

Based on the updated maximum storage capacity of 192,978 AF (previously 193,305 AF), as of **May 13, 2024** Cachuma reservoir was reported at **101.7%** of capacity, with then-current storage of **196,215 AF** (Santa Barbara County Flood Control District, Rainfall and Reservoir Summary). **As reported last month, USBR declared reservoir spill conditions effective February 1 which currently remain in effect**. 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 spilled the reservoir in early 2023, USBR approved a 100% Project allocation for WY 2023-2024. According to similar conditions this year, the Cachuma Member Units are planning to submit a joint request for a 100% Project allocation for WY 2024-2025, which USBR would be expected to approve.**

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

**Based on recent hydrology, inflows to Cachuma Reservoir this water year have exceeded 33,707 AF and therefore triggered higher fishery release requirements from Bradbury Dam (Table 2 flows under Order 20219-0148; highlighted above). Those requirements will remain in place for the remainder of this year.**

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

As previously reported, based on last year's extraordinary rain events, DWR declared the 2023 SWP Table A allocation at 100 percent for the first time since 2006 (compared to a 5 percent allocation in 2022). This year (2024), despite above normal precipitation and snowpack, and above-average storage levels in Lake Oroville (99% of capacity and 127% of historic average), DWR has taken a conservative approach to the Table A allocation. On December 1, 2023, DWR issued an initial 10 percent Table A allocation for 2024. By notice dated February 21, 2024 DWR increased the Table A allocation to 15 percent. On March 22, 2024 DWR increased the Table A allocation to 30 percent.

**By notice to the State Water Contractors dated April 23, 2024 (included herein) DWR has increased the Table A allocation to 40 percent.** According to DWR's notice, the increased 40 percent allocation accounts for snow survey measurements and data through April 1, 2024. DWR states that it may increase the allocation again if hydrologic conditions change. The DWR notice further states:

*Although water year 2024 is currently classified as an Above Normal year, the ability to move water supply south through the system this spring continues to be impacted by the presence of threatened and endangered fish species near SWP pumping facilities in the south Delta. The presence of these fish species has triggered state and federal regulations that significantly reduce the pumping from the Delta into the California Aqueduct, which limits the SWP's ability to move and store water in San Luis Reservoir. This reduced pumping is expected to continue into late spring. The SWP is prepared to increase pumping as soon as the fishery conditions and state and federal operating permits allow.*

Lake Oroville currently stands at 99% of capacity (127% of the historical average), which would seem to provide a basis for DWR to increase the final 2024 Table A allocation above 40 percent.

As reflected in the Agenda for the April 25, 2024 meeting of the CCWA Board of Directors, CCWA remains engaged in a variety of matters relating to the SWP, including but not limited to: SWP supplies and related SWP operations; CCWA water transfer rules; and the CCWA proposed final budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25. 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 cancelled the CCWA Board of Directors meeting previously scheduled for May 23, 2024. The next regular meeting of the CCWA Board is scheduled for June 27, 2024.



— BUREAU OF —  
**RECLAMATION**

Historical Archive and Report Database  
**Lake Cachuma Daily Operations**  
Run Date: 5/10/2024

April 2024

| DAY            | ELEV   | STORAGE ACRE-FEET |              | COMPUTED*<br>INFLOW AF. | CCWA<br>INFLOW AF. | PRECIP ON      |              | RELEASE - AF. |                |                 | EVAPORATION    |              | PRECIP<br>INCHES |
|----------------|--------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
|                |        | IN LAKE           | CHANGE       |                         |                    | RES. SURF. AF. | TUNNEL       | HILTON CREEK  | OUTLET         | SPILLWAY        | AF.            | INCH         |                  |
|                | 752.53 | 191,842           |              |                         |                    |                |              |               |                |                 |                |              |                  |
| 1              | 752.10 | 190,517           | -1,325       | 5,324.0                 | 0.0                | 53.9           | 29.7         | 14.0          | 499.0          | 6,160.0         | 0.0            | 0.000        | 0.21             |
| 2              | 752.01 | 190,240           | -277         | 3,384.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 30.8         | 14.0          | 501.0          | 3,080.0         | 34.9           | 0.170        | 0.00             |
| 3              | 752.14 | 190,640           | 400          | 2,440.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 30.8         | 14.0          | 318.0          | 1,642.0         | 34.9           | 0.170        | 0.00             |
| 4              | 752.36 | 191,318           | 678          | 2,107.0                 | 0.0                | 5.1            | 25.8         | 14.0          | 116.0          | 1,247.0         | 30.9           | 0.150        | 0.02             |
| 5              | 752.64 | 192,182           | 864          | 1,851.0                 | 0.0                | 147.1          | 25.1         | 14.0          | 28.0           | 943.0           | 123.9          | 0.600        | 0.57             |
| 6              | 752.85 | 192,837           | 655          | 1,672.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 25.7         | 14.1          | 3.0            | 947.0           | 26.9           | 0.130        | 0.00             |
| 7              | 753.00 | 193,305           | 468          | 1,488.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 26.0         | 14.1          | 3.0            | 950.0           | 27.0           | 0.130        | 0.00             |
| 8              | 753.12 | 193,679           | 374          | 1,406.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.1         | 14.1          | 3.0            | 952.0           | 35.3           | 0.170        | 0.00             |
| 9              | 753.21 | 193,960           | 281          | 1,293.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 11.9         | 14.1          | 2.0            | 953.0           | 31.2           | 0.150        | 0.00             |
| 10             | 753.25 | 194,085           | 125          | 1,164.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 24.2         | 14.1          | 3.0            | 954.0           | 43.7           | 0.210        | 0.00             |
| 11             | 753.16 | 193,804           | -281         | 1,234.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 26.6         | 14.1          | 436.0          | 1,001.0         | 37.4           | 0.180        | 0.00             |
| 12             | 752.72 | 192,431           | -1,373       | 1,310.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 26.5         | 14.1          | 435.0          | 2,160.0         | 47.5           | 0.230        | 0.00             |
| 13             | 752.22 | 190,887           | -1,544       | 1,439.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.5         | 14.0          | 438.0          | 2,464.0         | 41.1           | 0.200        | 0.00             |
| 14             | 752.15 | 190,671           | -216         | 1,575.0                 | 0.0                | 369.6          | 26.3         | 14.0          | 184.0          | 1,932.0         | 4.1            | 0.020        | 1.44             |
| 15             | 752.79 | 192,650           | 1,979        | 3,286.0                 | 0.0                | 137.0          | 28.2         | 14.1          | 284.0          | 1,093.0         | 24.8           | 0.120        | 0.53             |
| 16             | 753.07 | 193,492           | 842          | 2,252.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.6         | 14.1          | 238.0          | 1,101.0         | 29.1           | 0.140        | 0.00             |
| 17             | 753.21 | 193,960           | 468          | 1,892.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.8         | 14.1          | 241.0          | 1,104.0         | 37.4           | 0.180        | 0.00             |
| 18             | 753.35 | 194,397           | 437          | 1,678.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.6         | 14.1          | 53.0           | 1,107.0         | 39.6           | 0.190        | 0.00             |
| 19             | 753.42 | 194,615           | 218          | 1,420.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.3         | 14.2          | 25.0           | 1,096.0         | 39.6           | 0.190        | 0.00             |
| 20             | 753.52 | 194,927           | 312          | 1,370.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 28.4         | 14.2          | 22.0           | 958.0           | 35.5           | 0.170        | 0.00             |
| 21             | 753.61 | 195,208           | 281          | 1,326.0                 | 0.0                | 0.0            | 27.6         | 14.2          | 19.0           | 959.0           | 25.1           | 0.120        | 0.00             |
| 22             | 753.66 | 195,365           | 157          | 1,189.0                 | 0.0                | 2.6            | 27.0         | 14.2          | 31.0           | 941.0           | 20.9           | 0.100        | 0.01             |
| 23             | 753.81 | 195,838           | 473          | 1,090.0                 | 0.0                | 5.2            | 28.4         | 14.2          | 463.0          | 91.4            | 25.1           | 0.120        | 0.02             |
| 24             | 753.98 | 196,373           | 535          | 1,109.0                 | 0.4                | 0.0            | 38.1         | 14.2          | 493.0          | 0.0             | 29.3           | 0.140        | 0.00             |
| 25             | 753.98 | 196,373           | 0            | 569.0                   | 0.4                | 0.0            | 38.1         | 14.2          | 493.0          | 0.0             | 23.9           | 0.114        | 0.00             |
| 26             | 754.07 | 196,625           | 252          | 810.0                   | 0.0                | 0.0            | 20.2         | 14.2          | 505.0          | 0.0             | 18.9           | 0.090        | 0.00             |
| 27             | 754.14 | 196,877           | 252          | 839.0                   | 0.0                | 0.0            | 37.1         | 14.3          | 489.0          | 0.0             | 46.2           | 0.220        | 0.00             |
| 28             | 754.22 | 197,129           | 252          | 848.0                   | 0.0                | 0.0            | 42.5         | 14.2          | 491.0          | 0.0             | 48.3           | 0.230        | 0.00             |
| 29             | 754.26 | 197,255           | 126          | 721.0                   | 0.0                | 0.0            | 38.4         | 14.2          | 494.0          | 0.0             | 48.3           | 0.230        | 0.00             |
| 30             | 754.27 | 197,286           | 31           | 631.0                   | 0.0                | 0.0            | 40.3         | 14.2          | 495.0          | 0.0             | 50.4           | 0.240        | 0.00             |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  |        |                   | <b>5,444</b> | <b>48,717.0</b>         | <b>0.8</b>         | <b>720.5</b>   | <b>868.6</b> | <b>423.6</b>  | <b>7,803.0</b> | <b>33,835.4</b> | <b>1,061.2</b> | <b>5.104</b> | <b>2.80</b>      |
| <b>AVERAGE</b> |        | <b>193,964</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](http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd)

## Rainfall and Reservoir Summary

Updated 8am: 5/13/2024

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 > <https://rain.cosbpw.net>

| Rainfall                       | ID  | 24 hrs | Storm<br>0day(s) | Month | Year* | % to Date | % of Year* | AI  |
|--------------------------------|-----|--------|------------------|-------|-------|-----------|------------|-----|
| Buellton (Fire Stn)            | 233 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.08  | 21.73 | 132%      | 131%       |     |
| Cachuma Dam (USBR)             | 332 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.09  | 30.76 | 157%      | 155%       |     |
| Carpinteria (Fire Stn)         | 208 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.10  | 26.61 | 158%      | 155%       |     |
| Cuyama (Fire Stn)              | 436 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.03  | 9.30  | 125%      | 121%       |     |
| Figueroa Mtn. (USFS Stn)       | 421 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.30  | 26.51 | 126%      | 124%       | 7.1 |
| Gibraltar Dam (City Facility)  | 230 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.06  | 42.68 | 164%      | 162%       | 7.3 |
| Goleta (Fire Stn-Los Carneros) | 440 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.10  | 25.35 | 140%      | 138%       |     |
| Lompoc (City Hall)             | 439 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.06  | 24.43 | 168%      | 166%       | 7.1 |
| Los Alamos (Fire Stn)          | 204 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.15  | 20.62 | 137%      | 135%       |     |
| San Marcos Pass (USFS Stn)     | 212 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.05  | 57.41 | 170%      | 167%       |     |
| Santa Barbara (County Bldg)    | 234 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.08  | 32.89 | 182%      | 179%       |     |
| Santa Maria (City Pub.Works)   | 380 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.14  | 16.47 | 126%      | 123%       |     |
| Santa Ynez (Fire Stn /Airport) | 218 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.07  | 20.44 | 131%      | 129%       |     |
| Sisquoc (Fire Stn)             | 256 | 0.00   | 0.00             | 0.06  | 15.41 | 104%      | 102%       |     |

Countywide percentage of "Normal-to-Date" rainfall : **144%**

Countywide percentage of "Normal Water-Year" rainfall : **142%**

Countywide 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<br>Real-Time Readings    | Spillway      | Current       | Max.               | Current            | Current         | Storage              | Storage                |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|  | Elev.<br>(ft) | Elev.<br>(ft) | Storage<br>(ac-ft) | Storage<br>(ac-ft) | Capacity<br>(%) | Change<br>Mo.(ac-ft) | Change<br>Year*(ac-ft) |
| <u><a href="#">Gibraltar Reservoir</a></u> | 1,400.00      | 1,400.02      | 4,693              | 4,697              | 100.1%          | -12                  | 1,515                  |
| <u><a href="#">Cachuma Reservoir</a></u>   | 753.**        | 754.03        | 192,978            | 196,215            | 101.7%          | -762                 | 12,221                 |
| <u><a href="#">Jameson Reservoir</a></u>   | 2,224.00      | 2,224.00      | 4,848              | 4,848              | 100.0%          | -2                   | 64                     |
| <u><a href="#">Twitchell Reservoir</a></u> | 651.50        | 579.26        | 194,971            | 31,963             | 16.4%           | 766                  | -23,469                |



**CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dessi Mladenova, Controller  
**FROM:** Lacey Adam, Senior Accountant  
**SUBJECT:** Monthly Water Deliveries – REVISED

May 7, 2024

[Note: This Revised Delivery Report for April 2024 reflects a change in Water Deliveries due to revised Lake deliveries. The total deliveries did not change.]

According to the CCWA revenue meters at each turnout, the following deliveries were made during the month of April 2024:

| <u>Project Participant</u> | <u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Chorro .....               | 122.29                             |
| López.....                 | 77.81                              |
| Shandon.....               | 0.00                               |
| Guadalupe.....             | 26.28                              |
| Santa Maria.....           | 276.84                             |
| Golden State Water Co..... | 0.00                               |
| Vandenberg.....            | 177.25                             |
| Buellton .....             | 13.27                              |
| Solvang .....              | 44.32                              |
| Santa Ynez ID#1 .....      | 32.90                              |
| Bradbury.....              | 4.65                               |
| <b>TOTAL .....</b>         | <b>775.61</b>                      |

In order to reconcile these deliveries with the DWR revenue meter, which read 787 acre-feet, the following delivery amounts should be used for billing purposes:

| <u>Project Participant</u>        | <u>Delivery Amount (acre-feet)</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Chorro .....</b>               | <b>124</b>                         |
| <b>López .....</b>                | <b>79</b>                          |
| <b>Shandon.....</b>               | <b>0</b>                           |
| <b>Guadalupe.....</b>             | <b>27</b>                          |
| <b>Santa Maria.....</b>           | <b>281*</b>                        |
| <b>Golden State Water Co.....</b> | <b>0*</b>                          |
| <b>Vandenberg .....</b>           | <b>180</b>                         |
| <b>Buellton .....</b>             | <b>14</b>                          |
| <b>Solvang .....</b>              | <b>45</b>                          |
| <b>Santa Ynez ID#1 .....</b>      | <b>37</b>                          |
| <b>Bradbury .....</b>             | <b>0</b>                           |
| <b>TOTAL .....</b>                | <b>787</b>                         |

\*Golden State Water Company delivered 0 acre-feet into its system through the Santa Maria turnout. This delivery is recorded by providing a credit of 0 acre-feet to the City of Santa Maria and a charge in the same amount to the Golden State Water Company.

Notes: 4 AF of water was delivered to Lake Cachuma to flush the pipeline and is being charged to Santa Ynez ID#1 per correspondence with Santa Ynez ID#1.

Santa Ynez ID#1 water usage is divided into 0 acre-feet of Table A water and 37 acre-feet of exchange water.

The exchange water is allocated as follows

| <u>Project Participant</u> | <u>Exchange Amount (acre-feet)</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Goleta                     | 13                                 |
| Santa Barbara              | 9                                  |
| Montecito                  | 9                                  |
| Carpinteria                | 6                                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>37</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                  | 0                                  |
| Montecito                  | 0                                  |
| Morehart                   | 0                                  |
| Santa Barbara              | 0                                  |
| Raytheon                   | 0                                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>0</b>                           |

cc: Tom Bunosky, GWD  
Mike Babb, Golden State WC  
Joshua Haggmark, City of Santa Barbara  
Janet Gingras, COMB  
Paeter Garcia, Santa Ynez RWCD ID#1  
Shad Springer, City of Santa Maria  
Todd Bodem, 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



**NOTICE TO STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS****Date:** April 23, 2024**Number:** 24-04**Subject:** Increase of State Water Project 2024 Allocation to 40 Percent

**From:** John Yarbrough  
**John Yarbrough**  
**Acting Deputy Director, State Water Project**  
**Department of Water Resources**

With continued accumulation of precipitation and snowpack through the winter and early spring, 2024 water supply and snowpack conditions throughout California remain around historical averages. After considering the updated improved water supply forecast along with an estimate of increased summer export capabilities, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is increasing the State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 30 to 40 percent of SWP contractors' requested Table A amounts for 2024 for most contractors, as shown in Attachment A – 2024 SWP Allocation, updated April 23, 2024.

Although water year 2024 is currently classified as an Above Normal year, the ability to move water supply south through the system this spring continues to be impacted by the presence of threatened and endangered fish species near SWP pumping facilities in the south Delta. The presence of these fish species has triggered state and federal regulations that significantly reduce the pumping from the Delta into the California Aqueduct, which limits the SWP's ability to move and store water in San Luis Reservoir. This reduced pumping is expected to continue into late spring. The SWP is prepared to increase pumping as soon as the fishery conditions and state and federal operating permits allow.

To determine the available SWP water supplies, DWR considers several factors including SWP contractors' 2023 carryover supplies into 2024, projected 2024 demands, existing storage in SWP conservation facilities, estimates of future runoff, SWP operational and regulatory requirements under the Federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act, and water rights obligations under the

State Water Resources Control Board's authority. This allocation increase takes into account snow survey measurements and data through April 1 as reflected in the runoff forecasts outlined in Bulletin 120. DWR may revise the SWP allocation if hydrologic conditions change.

To schedule SWP water deliveries under this allocation, DWR will develop the 40-percent water delivery schedules by prorating schedules submitted by SWP contractors in October 2023 (as part of initial requests) or as revised with any subsequent updates. If a contractor foresees any changes to their water delivery schedule, please communicate such changes to DWR in a timely manner.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Molly White, Assistant Division Manager, Water Management, SWP Division of Operations and Maintenance, at (916) 574-2722.

Attachment A: 2024 SWP Allocation, updated April 23, 2024

Attachment A  
2024 STATE WATER PROJECT ALLOCATION  
Updated  
April 23, 2024

| SWP Contractors                   | Maximum Table A<br>Amount<br>(Acre-Feet) | Initial Table A<br>Request Amount<br>(Acre-Feet) | Approved Table A<br>Allocation<br>(Acre-Feet) | Approved<br>Allocation as a<br>Percentage of<br>Initial Request |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
|                                   | (1)                                      | (2)  | (3)   | (4) = (3)/(2)   |
| <b><u>FEATHER RIVER</u></b>       |  |  |   |   |
| County of Butte                   | 27,500                                   | 27,500   | 19,250  | 70%   |
| Plumas County FC&WCD              | 2,700                                    | 2,700  | 1,080   | 40%   |
| City of Yuba City                 | 9,600                                    | 9,600  | 6,240   | 65%   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   | <b>39,800</b>                            | <b>39,800</b>                                    | <b>26,570</b>                                 |   |
| <b><u>NORTH BAY</u></b>           |  |  |   |   |
| Napa County FC&WCD                | 29,025                                   | 29,025   | 18,867  | 65%   |
| Solano County WA                  | 47,756                                   | 47,756   | 31,042  | 65%   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   | <b>76,781</b>                            | <b>76,781</b>                                    | <b>49,909</b>                                 |   |
| <b><u>SOUTH BAY</u></b>           |  |  |   |   |
| Alameda County FC&WCD, Zone 7     | 80,619                                   | 80,619   | 32,248  | 40%   |
| Alameda County WD                 | 42,000                                   | 42,000   | 16,800  | 40%   |
| Santa Clara Valley WD             | 100,000                                  | 100,000  | 40,000  | 40%   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   | <b>222,619</b>                           | <b>222,619</b>                                   | <b>89,048</b>                                 |   |
| <b><u>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</u></b>  |  |  |   |   |
| Oak Flat WD                       | 5,700                                    | 5,700  | 2,280   | 40%   |
| County of Kings                   | 9,305                                    | 9,305  | 3,722   | 40%   |
| Dudley Ridge WD                   | 41,350                                   | 41,350   | 16,540  | 40%   |
| Empire West Side ID               | 3,000                                    | 3,000  | 1,200   | 40%   |
| Kern County WA                    | 982,730                                  | 982,730  | 393,092                                       | 40%   |
| Tulare Lake Basin WSD             | 87,471                                   | 87,471   | 34,989  | 40%   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   | <b>1,129,556</b>                         | <b>1,129,556</b>                                 | <b>451,823</b>                                |   |
| <b><u>CENTRAL COASTAL</u></b>     |  |  |   |   |
| San Luis Obispo County FC&WCD     | 25,000                                   | 25,000   | 10,000  | 40%   |
| Santa Barbara County FC&WCD       | 45,486                                   | 45,486   | 18,195  | 40%   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   | <b>70,486</b>                            | <b>70,486</b>                                    | <b>28,195</b>                                 |   |
| <b><u>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</u></b> |  |  |   |   |
| Antelope Valley-East Kern WA      | 144,844                                  | 144,844  | 57,938  | 40%   |
| Santa Clarita Valley WA           | 95,200                                   | 95,200   | 38,080  | 40%   |
| Coachella Valley WD               | 138,350                                  | 138,350  | 55,340  | 40%   |
| Crestline-Lake Arrowhead WA       | 5,800                                    | 5,800  | 2,320   | 40%   |
| Desert WA                         | 55,750                                   | 55,750   | 22,300  | 40%   |
| Littlerock Creek ID               | 2,300                                    | 2,300  | 920   | 40%   |
| Metropolitan WDSC                 | 1,911,500                                | 1,911,500  | 764,600                                       | 40%   |
| Mojave WA                         | 89,800                                   | 89,800   | 35,920  | 40%   |
| Palmdale WD                       | 21,300                                   | 21,300   | 8,520   | 40%   |
| San Bernardino Valley MWD         | 102,600                                  | 102,600  | 41,040  | 40%   |
| San Gabriel Valley MWD            | 28,800                                   | 28,800   | 11,520  | 40%   |
| San Geronio Pass WA               | 17,300                                   | 17,300   | 6,920   | 40%   |
| Ventura County WPD                | 20,000                                   | 20,000   | 8,000   | 40%   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                   | <b>2,633,544</b>                         | <b>2,633,544</b>                                 | <b>1,053,418</b>                              |   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>4,172,786</b>                         | <b>4,172,786</b>                                 | <b>1,698,963</b>                              | <b>~40%</b>   |

**Paeter Garcia**

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**From:** Lisa F. Watkins <lfr@ccwa.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024 10:51 AM  
**Cc:** Ray Stokes; John L. Brady; Lacey S. Adam  
**Subject:** Increase of State Water Project 2024 Allocation to 40 Percent (NTC 24-04)  
**Attachments:** NTC\_24-04\_SWP\_2024Alloc\_40%\_20240423.pdf

Via bcc: CCWA Project Participants

Sorry everyone - with the attachment.

Attached is the Notice to State Water Project Contractors **No. 24-04 "Increase of State Water Project 2024 Allocation to 40 Percent."**



Lisa Watkins  
Office Manager  
Office: 805-697-5219  
Email: lfr@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.

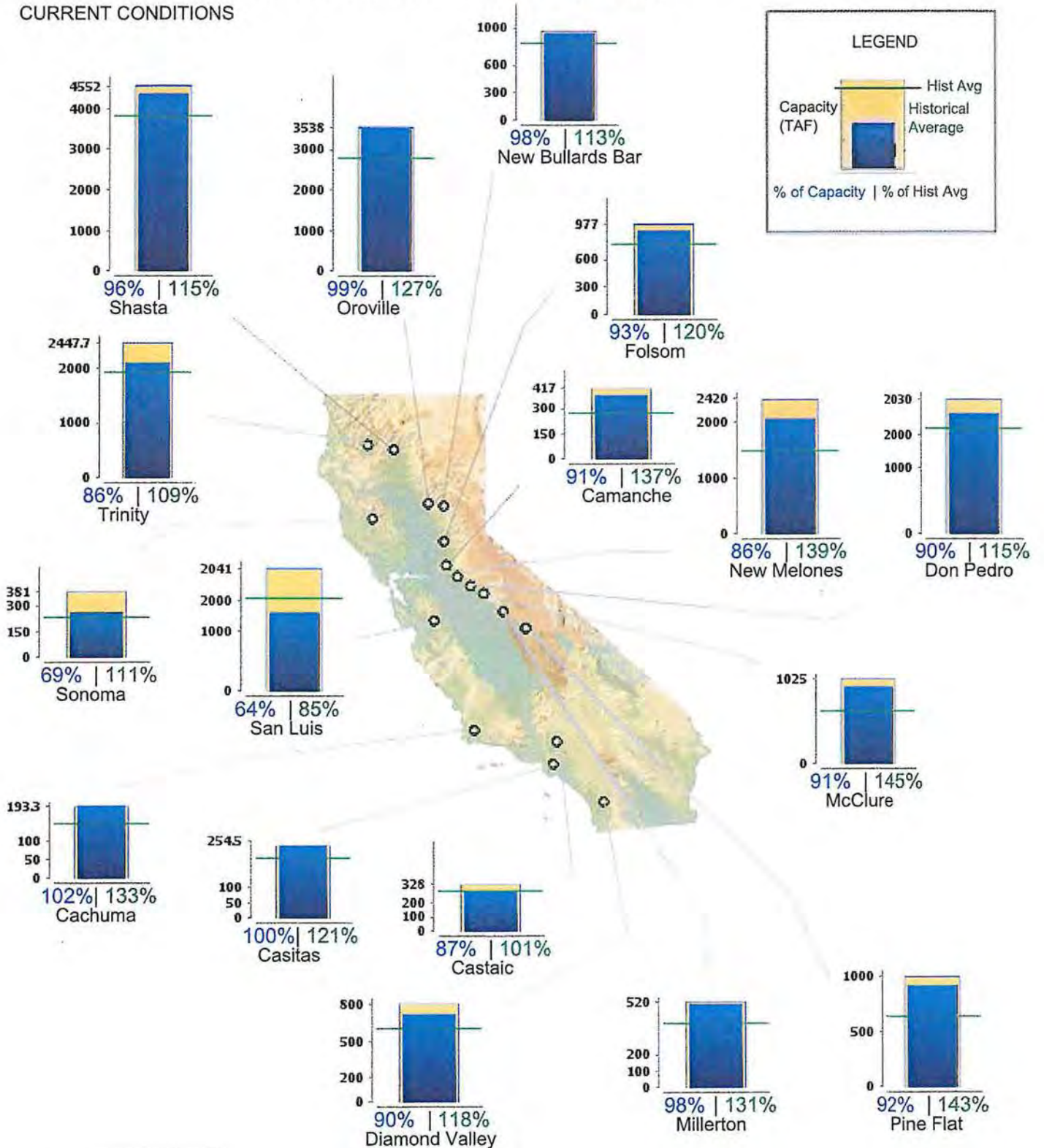
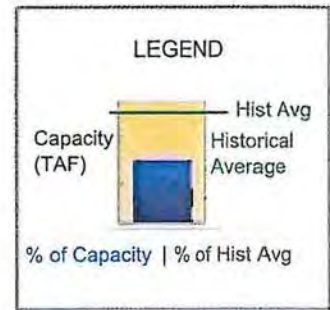


# CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

## CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - May 15, 2024

### CURRENT CONDITIONS



**State Water Project**  
**Historical Table A Allocations**  
**Water Years 1996-2024<sup>1</sup>**

| YEAR        | DATE       | ALLOCATION |
|-------------|------------|------------|
| <i>1996</i> | 12/1/1995  | 75%        |
|             | 3/4/1996   | 90%        |
|             | 3/8/1996   | 100%       |
| <i>1997</i> | 12/2/1996  | 70%        |
|             | 2/11/1997  | 100%       |
| <i>1998</i> | 12/1/1997  | 40%        |
|             | 1/26/1998  | 60%        |
|             | 2/11/1998  | 80%        |
|             | 3/11/1998  | 100%       |
| <i>1999</i> | 11/24/1998 | 55%        |
|             | 2/10/1999  | 60%        |
|             | 3/10/1999  | 100%       |
| <i>2000</i> | 11/30/1999 | 50%        |
|             | 2/25/2000  | 70%        |
|             | 3/10/2000  | 100%       |
|             | 4/20/2000  | 90%        |
| <i>2001</i> | 12/1/2000  | 40%        |
|             | 1/31/2001  | 20%        |
|             | 3/6/2001   | 25%        |
|             | 3/15/2001  | 30%        |
|             | 5/4/2001   | 33%        |
|             | 5/17/2001  | 35%        |
|             | 8/16/2001  | 39%        |
| <i>2002</i> | 11/30/2001 | 20%        |
|             | 1/11/2002  | 45%        |
|             | 3/22/2002  | 55%        |
|             | 3/28/2002  | 60%        |
|             | 5/14/2002  | 65%        |
|             | 8/23/2002  | 70%        |

| YEAR        | DATE       | ALLOCATION       |
|-------------|------------|------------------|
| <i>2003</i> | 12/3/2002  | 20%              |
|             | 1/16/2003  | 45%              |
|             | 3/26/2003  | 50%              |
|             | 4/24/2003  | 70%              |
|             | 5/16/2003  | 90%              |
| <i>2004</i> | 12/1/2003  | 35%              |
|             | 1/15/2004  | 50%              |
|             | 3/1/2004   | 65%              |
| <i>2005</i> | 12/1/2004  | 40%              |
|             | 1/14/2005  | 60%              |
|             | 4/1/2005   | 70%              |
|             | 4/21/2005  | 80%              |
|             | 5/27/2005  | 90%              |
| <i>2006</i> | 11/22/2005 | 55%              |
|             | 12/14/2005 | 65%              |
|             | 1/17/2006  | 70%              |
|             | 3/23/2006  | 80%              |
|             | 4/18/2006  | 100%             |
| <i>2007</i> | 11/30/2006 | 60% <sup>2</sup> |
| <i>2008</i> | 11/21/2007 | 25%              |
|             | 2/1/2008   | 35%              |
| <i>2009</i> | 10/29/2008 | 15%              |
|             | 3/18/2009  | 20%              |
|             | 4/15/2009  | 30%              |
|             | 5/20/2009  | 40%              |
| <i>2010</i> | 11/30/2009 | 5%               |
|             | 2/23/2010  | 15%              |
|             | 3/30/2010  | 20%              |
|             | 4/22/2010  | 30%              |
|             | 5/3/2010   | 40%              |
|             | 5/20/2010  | 45%              |
|             | 6/22/2010  | 50%              |
| <i>2011</i> | 11/22/2010 | 25%              |
|             | 12/16/2010 | 50%              |
|             | 1/20/2011  | 60%              |
|             | 3/15/2011  | 70%              |
|             | 4/20/2011  | 80%              |

| YEAR        | DATE       | ALLOCATION |
|-------------|------------|------------|
| <i>2012</i> | 11/18/2011 | 60%        |
|             | 2/21/2012  | 50%        |
|             | 4/16/2012  | 60%        |
|             | 5/23/2012  | 65%        |
| <i>2013</i> | 11/29/2012 | 30%        |
|             | 12/21/2012 | 40%        |
|             | 3/22/2013  | 35%        |
| <i>2014</i> | 11/19/2013 | 5%         |
|             | 1/31/2014  | 0%         |
|             | 4/18/2014  | 5%         |
| <i>2015</i> | 12/1/2014  | 10%        |
|             | 1/15/2015  | 15%        |
|             | 3/2/2015   | 20%        |
| <i>2016</i> | 12/1/2015  | 10%        |
|             | 1/26/2016  | 15%        |
|             | 2/24/2016  | 30%        |
|             | 3/17/2016  | 45%        |
|             | 4/21/2016  | 60%        |
| <i>2017</i> | 11/28/2016 | 20%        |
|             | 12/21/2016 | 45%        |
|             | 1/18/2017  | 60%        |
|             | 4/14/2017  | 85%        |
| <i>2018</i> | 11/29/2017 | 15%        |
|             | 1/29/2018  | 20%        |
|             | 4/24/2018  | 30%        |
|             | 5/21/2018  | 35%        |
| <i>2019</i> | 11/30/2018 | 10%        |
|             | 1/25/2019  | 15%        |
|             | 2/20/2019  | 35%        |
|             | 3/20/2019  | 70%        |
|             | 6/19/2019  | 75%        |
| <i>2020</i> | 12/2/2019  | 10%        |
|             | 1/24/2020  | 15%        |
|             | 5/22/2020  | 20%        |
| <i>2021</i> | 12/1/2020  | 10%        |
|             | 3/23/2021  | 5%         |



| YEAR        | DATE      | ALLOCATION      |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <i>2022</i> | 12/1/2021 | 0% <sup>3</sup> |
|             | 1/20/2022 | 15%             |
|             | 3/18/2022 | 5%              |
| <i>2023</i> | 12/1/2022 | 5%              |
|             | 1/26/2023 | 30%             |
|             | 2/22/2023 | 35%             |
|             | 3/24/2023 | 75%             |
|             | 4/20/2023 | 100%            |
| <i>2024</i> | 12/1/2023 | 10%             |
|             | 2/21/2024 | 15%             |
|             | 3/22/24   | 30%             |
|             | 4/23/24   | 40%             |

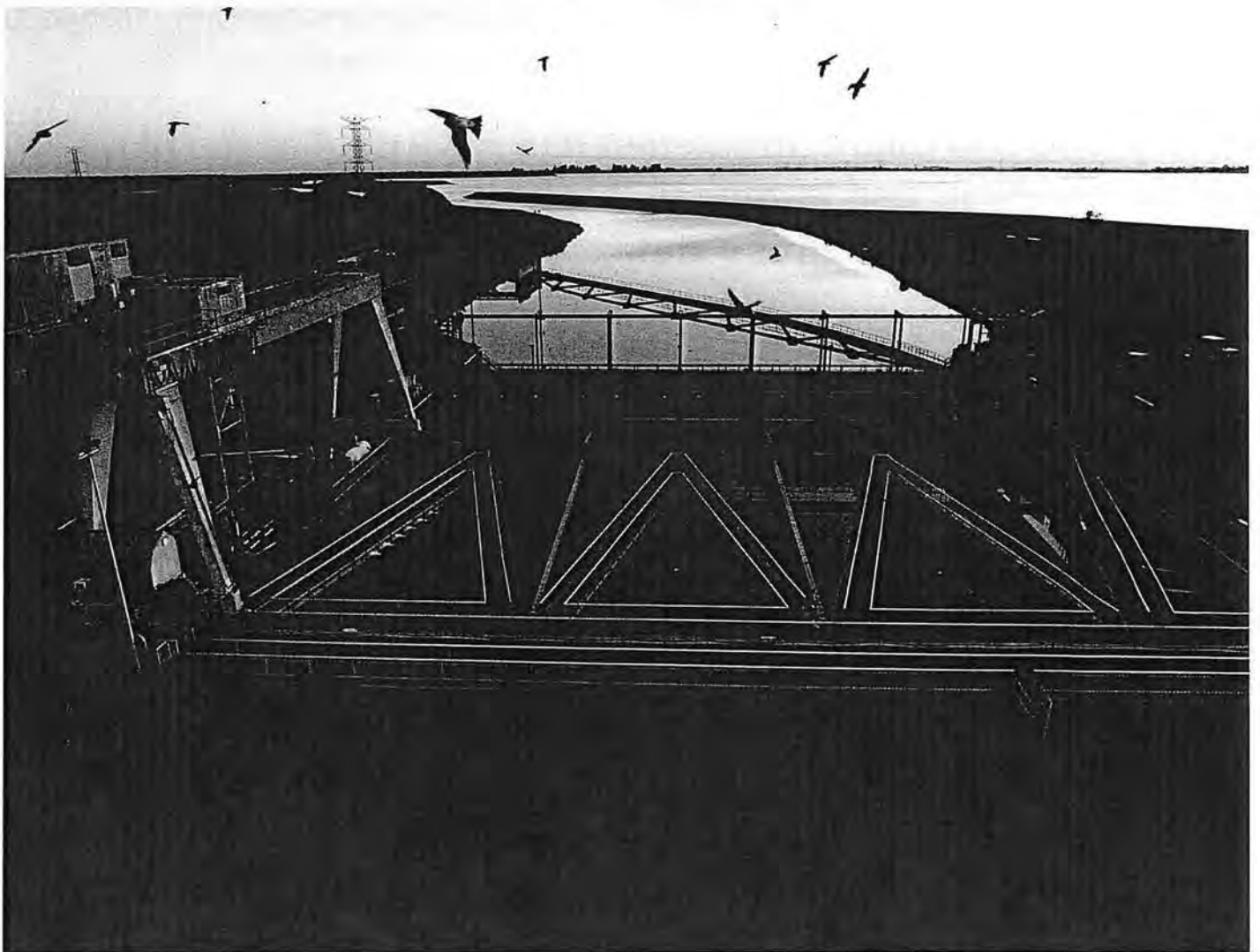
<sup>1</sup> Presents all allocation announcements for water years 1996 to the present. Data for earlier years can be found in Bulletin 132 or the 1967-1995 summary.

<sup>2</sup> The 11/29/06 initial allocation of 60% for 2007 remained unchanged for that year, as documented in Notice to Contractors (NTC) 07-06.

<sup>3</sup> The 2022 initial allocation was 0% of Table A, but with water to supply contractor unmet minimum health and safety needs, per NTC 21-07.

# A fish hazard clogs water system

Deaths of threatened species at a pumping facility trigger cuts in deliveries to the California Aqueduct.



SUBMERGED METAL louvers arrayed in a zigzag pattern at the John E. Skinner Delta Fish Protective Facility block fish from reaching a pumping station that feeds water to the California Aqueduct in Byron, Calif. (Paul Kuroda For The Times)

BY IAN JAMES

BYRON, Calif. — Giant pumps hum inside a warehouse-like building, pushing water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta into the California Aqueduct, where it travels more than 400 miles south to the taps of over half the state's population.

But lately the powerful motors at the Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant have been running at reduced capacity, despite a second year of drought-busting snow and rain.

The reason: So many threatened fish have died at the plant's intake reservoir and pumps that it has triggered federal protections and forced the state to pump less water.

The surge in fish deaths has angered environmentalists and fishing advocates, who argue the state draws too much water from the delta while failing to safeguard fish. Conversely, the reduced pumping has vexed Central Valley growers and water districts, which have complained that they need more water from the estuary and that deliveries are being unduly limited by regulatory constraints and outdated infrastructure.

Together, their criticisms have placed renewed attention on the half-century-old pumps and fish protection facilities that are critical linchpins of the State Water Project, one of the world's largest water-delivery systems. The recent problems are also adding to the complex debate over how the state

should manage water in the delta, and whether it should build a \$16-billion water tunnel beneath the region.

The Los Angeles Times recently requested a tour of the pumping plant and its nearby fish-collecting facility to gain insights into California's struggle to uphold environmental protections while delivering water to the state's cities and farmlands.

"The idea is to intercept as many fish as we can and collect them before they end up here in the pumping plant," said Javier Miranda, a biologist and environmental program manager. "We want to save those fish, return them back out into the delta."

The state's massive pumps, as well as nearby federal pumps that draw water into the canals of the Central Valley Project, are powerful enough that they regularly reverse the flow of water in parts of the south delta. The risk for fish is not just that they may be drawn into pump machinery and killed, but also that they will first be pulled into waters where they are easy prey for predators.

## **'Death trap' for fish**

The process begins at a holding reservoir called Clifton Court Forebay, northwest of Tracy, where gates are regularly opened to allow water to flow in from the delta's rivers and channels.

Miranda and his colleagues rode in a van to the forebay, passing green pastures where cattle were grazing among yellow blooming mustard. Two people stood with fishing poles on the banks of the shimmering reservoir, which covers nearly 2,200 acres.

Enclosed in levees, the shallow forebay is filled with nonnative striped bass and other predators, which feed on juvenile salmon, steelhead trout and other native fish.

Some experts describe the forebay as a “death trap” for fish species that have suffered major declines in recent years.

Studies have shown that about 75% of the young salmon that pass through the gates are killed by predators in the forebay, Miranda said.

For several years, he and other state scientists carried out an experimental program to capture as many nonnative fish as they could. They used methods including stunning fish with an electric current and trapping them with nets, then releasing them in another reservoir.

## **A fruitless effort**

Ultimately, however, Miranda said they stopped the effort because it wasn't improving the survival rate of salmon in the forebay.

Some environmentalists have urged the state to redesign the reservoir and erect large screens that would prevent fish from being drawn into the forebay, but state water officials say that wouldn't solve the problems.

Those fish that manage to avoid predators in the forebay next encounter an elaborate system of underwater barriers at the John E. Skinner Delta Fish Protective Facility, which has been operating since 1968.

Beside the facility, located about 2 miles from the pumps, Miranda and his colleagues stood on a bridge over the 158-foot-wide intake channel.

## A guidance device

On one side, beside a floating boom designed to trap debris, a mechanical gripping device lifted out a tangle of aquatic weeds.

On the other side of the bridge, the water flowed through a structure made up of dozens of metal panels arranged in a zigzag formation.

Each metal louver resembles a giant vertical blind or a tall fence, with the slats spaced 1 inch apart — large enough to allow large volumes of water to pass through while also functioning as a “fish guidance device.”

“This is our first point where we’re guiding fish into the facility,” Miranda said. “It’s to protect fish that would otherwise go to the pumping plant.”

The spaces between the metal slats create ripples, and fish tend to swim away. The system funnels many of the fish toward pipes that carry them into the collection facility.

About 75% to 80% of fish that make it to this point are collected, Miranda said. “And then the remainder are what we directly lose to the pumps.”

As Miranda and others walked on a metal grate over the channel, two workers in hard hats stood on a platform spraying water to clean algae off a metal louver.

“Every single one of these is lifted and cleaned every week,” said Trent Schaffer, the acting civil maintenance branch manager. “The cleaner they are, the more efficient the flow through the facility is.”

The captured fish pass through four large pipes, then enter other channels with louvers and screens, and finally travel through smaller pipes into the building, where they end up in 20-foot-wide concrete tanks.

Biologists have found that nearly all the fish that arrive in the building live through the process.

“Once they get in here, it’s very high survival,” Miranda said.

## **Can’t count them all**

The fish that are collected are regularly transferred to a truck with an oxygenated tank and hauled to one of several locations in the delta to be released. Before that occurs, however, the facility operators will collect a sample of the fish from one of the concrete tanks, and use it to estimate the total number that are “salvaged.”

“It’s impossible for us to count all of the fish,” Schaffer said.

Based on the number of fish collected, the employees estimate how many are killed by predators in the forebay or sucked into the pumps. These estimates are tracked against limits in the facility’s permits under endangered species laws.

During the tour of the Skinner facility, the pumping plant was not running, so there were no fish in the collection tanks. However, the staff demonstrated how they collect a sample.

First, a 90-gallon steel bucket with sieve-like perforations was lowered into one of the tanks on a cable. When it was lifted, water rushed out forcefully, filling the building with a crashing sound and causing metal railings to vibrate.

Next, the bucket slid into position above a large vat and emptied its payload. In this vat, workers will count, identify

and measure each fish by hand.

Last month, environmental groups called for state and federal agencies to reduce pumping after the estimated losses of steelhead trout and winter-run Chinook salmon exceeded maximum annual limits.

Managers of the facility said they've limited pumping in recent months after steelhead and salmon moved into the area, and have further cut water exports to minimal levels in recent weeks because of flow requirements for another species, longfin smelt.

## **System enlarged**

At other times, pumping has been reduced to avoid harming endangered delta smelt, which are on the brink of extinction.

The methods of collecting fish have largely remained the same since the facility was built. But the system was enlarged in 1986, when the number of pumps was increased from seven to 11.

Miranda and other state officials acknowledge that there are significant shortcomings in the existing facilities, such as the forebay filled with predators, but say they are making improvements in operations. They also tout the infrastructure's effectiveness at directing most fish away from the pumps and keeping the water flowing.

To prevent migrating fish from entering the south delta, the Department of Water Resources installed a fence-like system that creates a barrier of bubbles at the junction of the Sacramento River and Georgiana Slough in the north delta. Along with the bubbles, the system emits flashing lights and pulsating sounds that encourage fish to keep moving down the



Sacramento River toward San Francisco Bay, away from the interior delta and the zone of the pumps.

## The ‘disco barrier’

Some managers call this the “disco barrier.” They say it’s proving to be effective.

The department has also sought to improve the operation at the fish-collection facility by incorporating genetic testing technologies to more accurately differentiate between endangered and non-endangered types of salmon.

Despite these efforts, managers of the State Water Project have so far limited this year’s allocation to 40% of suppliers’ full allotments — the same level that federal officials have set for agricultural water districts south of the delta.

The restrictions on pumping have demonstrated the challenges the state faces with the existing infrastructure and the location of the pumps, said Karla Nemeth, director of the Department of Water Resources.

“It’s limiting the movement of water in a period where we should be focused on moving more so that we’re better prepared for a dry year,” Nemeth said.

She said that’s one of the reasons Gov. Gavin Newsom has proposed building the Delta Conveyance Project, a 45-mile tunnel that would transport Sacramento River water beneath the delta and create a second delivery route.

Newsom has said the project is critically important for the state to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Officials at the Department of Water Resources say building the tunnel would enable the state to capture more water

during wet periods while limiting harm to fish and reducing reliance on supplies from the “conflict zone” in the south delta. Upgrades to existing facilities won’t address the problems, they say.

## **Tunnel controversy**

Plans for the tunnel have generated bitter controversy and sparked lawsuits.

One of those criticizing the state’s approach in the delta is Chris Shutes, executive director of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance. He has argued that building the tunnel would cause more problems for fish and the ecosystem.

“They should be looking at improving the existing facilities,” Shutes said.

For more than a decade, his group has urged the state to upgrade its infrastructure by installing fish screens at the entrance to Clifton Court Forebay that would keep many fish out and reduce losses to predators.

The screens would need to be much larger than the existing louvers at the fish facility, and redesigning the system would be costly. But Shutes said this sort of upgrade, along with changes in pumping procedures, would lessen the toll on fish.

If that isn’t done, he said, “we’ll continue to have large amounts of fish mortality at the intakes.”

Along with the disagreements over how to modernize infrastructure, there is ongoing debate about how state regulators should manage water in the delta.

The State Water Resources Control Board is considering new water quality standards that will determine how much water

may be diverted and pumped, and how much should be allowed to flow through the delta.

## **Competing visions**

As part of this process, the Newsom administration has proposed negotiated “voluntary agreements” between the state and water suppliers, while environmental groups have urged the board to adopt traditional regulatory requirements, which they argue would help struggling fish populations.

At the same time, some experts say state officials should continue examining ways of improving the existing infrastructure to better protect fish.

Exactly how that might be done remains a dilemma, said Greg Gartrell, an engineer and former manager of the Contra Costa Water District. While there have been proposals to install new fish screens or move the intake to another location, he said, the conditions in much of the south delta make it an “unfriendly place” for native fish, where many are lost to nonnative predators such as bass.

“It’s a very, very difficult situation to resolve,” Gartrell said.

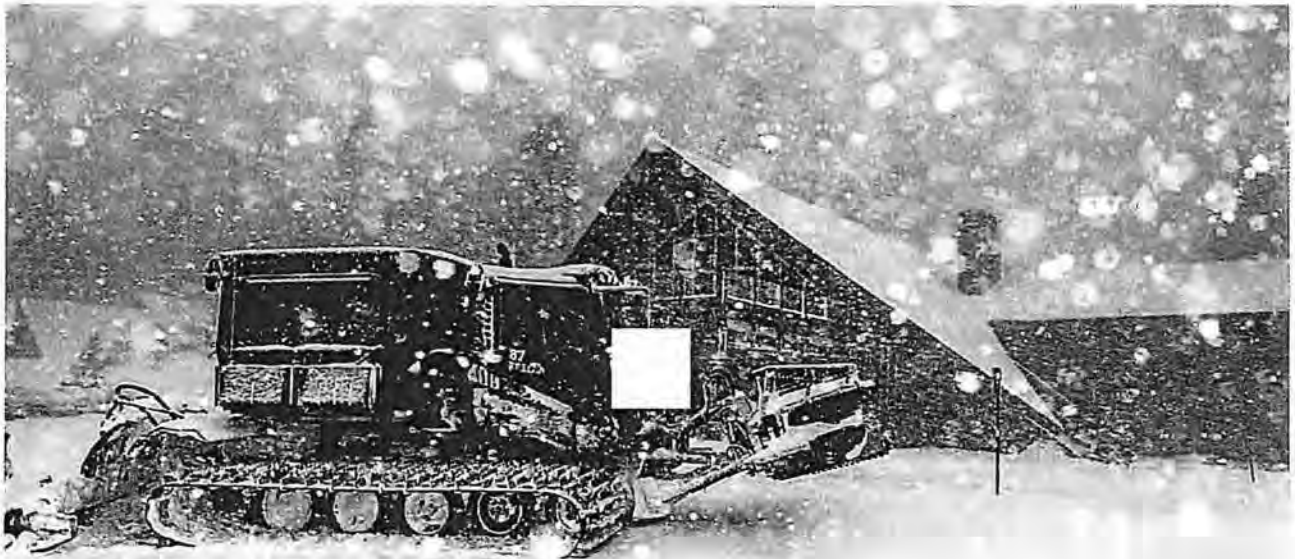
BREAKING

US soldier arrested in Russia, US official says

## Sierra Nevada records snowiest day of the season from brief but potent California storm

A weekend spring storm that drenched the San Francisco Bay area and closed Northern California mountain highways also set a single-day snowfall record in the Sierra Nevada

By The Associated Press  
May 5, 2024, 1:20 PM



In this photo provided by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, snow falls in Mammoth Lakes, Calif., Satu...  
The Associated Press

[Show More](#)

TRUCKEE, Calif. -- A weekend spring storm that drenched the San Francisco Bay area and closed Northern California mountain highways also set a single-day snowfall record for the season on Sunday in the Sierra Nevada.

The wet weather system had mostly moved out of the state by Sunday morning, but officials warned that roads would remain slick after around two feet (60 centimeters) of snow fell in some areas of the Sierra.

"Did anyone have the snowiest day of the 2023/2024 season being in May on their winter bingo card?" the University of California, Berkeley Central Sierra Snow Lab asked on the social platform X.

The 26.4 inches (67 centimeters) of snowfall on Sunday beat the second snowiest day of the season — March 3rd — by 2.6 inches (6.6 centimeters), according to the lab.

Treacherous driving conditions on Saturday forced the closure of several highways near Lake Tahoe, including Interstate 80 over the Donner Summit.

Flood advisories were issued for parts of the Bay Area, where up to an inch (2.5 centimeters) of rain fell while temperatures dipped into the low 40s (around 5 degrees Celsius), the National Weather Service said. Wind gusts reaching 40 mph (64 kph) were reported Saturday near San Francisco.

The storm brought light rain and gusty winds to Southern California.

Drier and warmer conditions were expected throughout the week.





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

will be held at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, April 25, 2024  
 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/1472676079>  
 or by dialing (623)404-9000 and entering access Code/Meeting ID: 1472 676 079#

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

Public Comment on agenda items may occur via video call or telephonically, or by submission to the Board Secretary via email at [lhw@ccwa.com](mailto:lhw@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 website, accessible at <https://www.ccwa.com>.

**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)
- C. Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Government Code Section 54957  
 Title: Executive Director
- D. Conference with Labor Negotiator - Government Code Section 54957.6  
 Name of Negotiator: Jeffrey Dinkin  
 Unrepresented Employees: Executive Director

**III. Return to Open Session**

- A. Report on Closed Session Actions (if any)
- B. CCWA Board Consideration of Executive Director Compensation Adjustment  
*Staff Recommendation: Consider matter.*

**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 March 28, 2024 Regular Meeting
- \* B. Bills
- \* C. Controller’s Report
- \* D. Operations Report  
*Staff Recommendation: Approve the Consent Calendar*

- VI. Executive Director's Report**
  - A. Water Supply Situation Report  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.
  - \* B. Proposed Administrative Rules for the Transfer or Exchange of Water  
*Staff Recommendation:* Approve and adopt Resolution No. 24-02 Approving Administrative Rules for the Transfer or Exchange of Water
  - \* C. Personnel Committee
    - 1. 2024 Review of Personnel Policy Manual  
*Staff Recommendation:* Approve the proposed changes to the Personnel Policy Manual as outlined in Personnel Counsel's memo dated March 14, 2024.
    - 2. Employee Benefit Adjustments  
*Staff Recommendation:* Approve the suggestions and direct staff to work with Personnel Counsel to make appropriate changes to the CCWA Personnel Policy Manual and include the necessary amounts in the Final FY 2024/25 Budget.
  - \* D. FY 2023/24 Third Quarter Investment Report  
*Staff Recommendation:* Approve the Third Quarter FY 2023/24 Investment Report.
  - \* E. Annual Review of the CCWA Investment Policy  
*Staff Recommendation:* Informational item only.
  - \* F. Adoption of Final CCWA FY 2024/25 Budget  
*Staff Recommendation:* Adopt Final CCWA FY 2024/25 Budget.
  - G. State Water Contractors Update  
*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: May 23, 2024**
- X. Adjournment**



**CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY**

**MEMORANDUM**

May 9, 2024

**TO:** CCWA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Ray Stokes  
Executive Director *RAS*  
**SUBJECT:** Cancellation of May 23, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting

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This memo is notice that the CCWA Board meeting scheduled for May 23, 2024 has been canceled.

**The next regular meeting of the CCWA Board of Directors is scheduled for June 27, 2024.**

Please call me if you have any questions.

RAS

cc: Operating Committee  
Stephanie Hastings, Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP  
Notice of Meetings Distribution List



**RESOLUTION NO. 843**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES FOR ACCOUNTS AT MECHANICS BANK**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 ("District") maintains banking accounts at Mechanics Bank ("Bank"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorizes certain District officials to make deposits to and withdrawals of funds from the Public Investment Money Market and Public Interest Checking Accounts held at the Bank in the name of the District (collectively, "Accounts") for payment of warrants, bills, and claims presented to and authorized by the District; and

WHEREAS, the checks issued by the District from the Public Interest Checking Account require two (2) authorized signatures on behalf of the District before the checks are honored by the Bank and, therefore, it is beneficial and efficient to have multiple officials of the District authorized as signatories for the Accounts on behalf of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees reviews and approves the payment of warrants, bills, and claims for all checks issued from the Public Interest Checking Account at the Board's monthly meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, 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 the following District officials are authorized signatories on the District's Public Investment Money Market Account and Public Interest Checking Account held at Mechanics Bank: Trustee Jeff Clay; Trustee Michael Burchardi; Paeter Garcia, General Manager; and Racel Cota, Administrative & Financial Manager, and Treasurer and Secretary to the Board of Trustees; and
2. That Mary Robel is removed as an authorized signatory on the District's Public Investment Money Market Account and Public Interest Checking Account and any other account held at Mechanics Bank in the name of the District; and
3. That the District officials identified in Paragraph 1, above, are authorized to execute signature cards to be held on file at Mechanics Bank for the District's Accounts.
4. That this Resolution will take effect July 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 held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2024, by the following roll call vote:

AYES, and in favor thereof, Trustees:

NOES, Trustees:

ABSENT, Trustees:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Clay, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Racel Cota, Secretary to the Board

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

**FY 2024/2025  
PRELIMINARY  
BUDGET**





**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Mark Moniot**  
Division 1

**Jeff Clay, President**  
Division 2

**Nick Urton**  
Division 3

**Michael Burchardi, Vice President**  
Division 4

**Brad Joos**  
Trustee-At-Large

This Budget was prepared under the direction of:

Paeter Garcia, General Manager

Mary Robel, Assistant General Manager

Racel Cota, Administrative and Financial Manager

**STAFF CONTRIBUTORS**

Dan Drugan, Water Resources Manager

Joe Come', Operations & Maintenance Superintendent

## MISSION STATEMENT

*To provide the residential and agricultural customers in the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 service area with reasonably priced, reliable, high quality water supply, and efficient and economical public services.*

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW, STRUCTURE AND STAFFING

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 (District) was formed in 1959 under the Water Conservation District Law of 1931, Division 21, Section 74000 et seq. of the California Water Code (the Act) for the purpose of furnishing water and related water supply services within the District's boundaries. The District has operated continuously since 1959.

Located in the central portion of Santa Barbara County, the District serves the communities of Santa Ynez, Los Olivos, Ballard, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, and the City of Solvang on a limited basis. With a service area population of approximately 7,022 (excluding the City of Solvang), the District currently provides water directly to approximately 2,624 municipal and industrial customers (including domestic/residential, commercial, institutional, rural residential, and fire service) and approximately 97 agricultural customers. The District encompasses an area of approximately 10,850 acres (including approximately 1,300 acres within Solvang).

The District obtains its water supplies from the Cachuma Project/State Water Exchange, direct diversions from the Cachuma Project (as needed), contractual deliveries from the State Water Project as a member agency of the Central Coast Water Authority, production from the Santa Ynez Uplands Groundwater Basin, and diversions from the Santa Ynez River alluvium. The District's major activities include acquisition, construction, operation, and maintenance of works and facilities for the development and use of water resources and water rights, including without limitation, works and facilities to divert, store, pump, treat, deliver, and sell water for reasonable and beneficial uses by the District's customers.

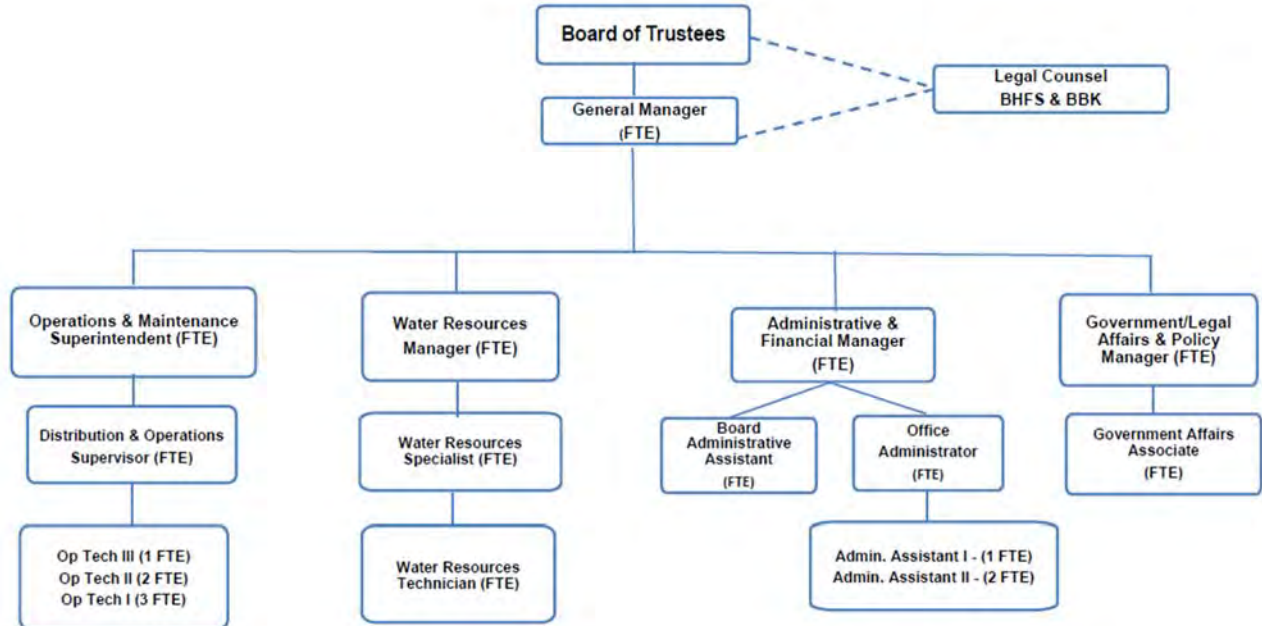
## Operational Information

- District Pipelines (in miles) = 92
- Number of Booster Pump Stations = 4 with 11 pumps
- Number of Active Wells = 17
- SWP/ID No.1 Turnout = 5 pumps
- Number of water storage reservoirs/tanks = 4 with a total capacity of 16.7 million gallons
- Current number of approved, funded full-time equivalent (FTE) positions = 20

# ORGANIZATION CHART

## FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025

### ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



TOTAL POSITIONS = 20  
 FULL TIME = 20  
 Updated 04/2024

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### FISCAL YEAR 2024/25

#### **BUDGET PROCESS**

The District's fiscal year budget is one of the most important documents prepared by management for the Board of Trustees. The financial accounts and line items reflected in this document and the FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget describe the annual fiscal year budget beginning July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025.

The development and adoption of the District's annual budget is based on projected revenues and expenditures, as well as identified projects and programs which provide the financial foundation for District activities. The budget serves as a roadmap for ensuring reasonable costs and predictable customer rates. The budget blends advanced revenue forecasting and effective expenditure management with the infrastructure investment needed to deliver safe, reliable, cost-effective, and sustainable water supplies to the communities served by the District.

Through the process of planning and preparing the budget, management compared the 2016 Water Rate Study results with the prior year financial conditions and year-end estimated outcomes, then forecasted the funding needs of the District in order to continue to provide high levels of water service, meet regulatory requirements, and comply with applicable financial obligations throughout the fiscal year and beyond.

To determine the annual operating budget and capital costs necessary to provide water service, the General Manager and Assistant General Manager work with the Administrative & Financial Manager, Water Resources Manager, and the Operations & Maintenance Superintendent to identify and prioritize estimated operating expenditures and capital improvement projects. Once a Preliminary Budget is prepared, it is presented to the Board of Trustees at a public meeting to provide an opportunity for questions, modifications, and direction to staff to finalize the budget for Board approval at a subsequent public meeting. The Final Budget provides a necessary foundation for the District's administrative, operations, and maintenance programs, debt service obligations, and other financial commitments and service objectives for the coming fiscal year.

#### **REPORTING BASIS**

The District utilizes the accrual basis for budgeting purposes and for accounting and financial reporting. The accrual method recognizes revenues and expenses in the period in which they are earned and incurred. The accrual method is the Generally Accepted Accounting Principal (GAAP) for financial reporting.

The District reports its activities as an enterprise fund. This method of reporting is used to account for operations that are financed and administered in a manner similar to a private business enterprise. The costs of providing water and services to customers on a continuing basis (including replacement of existing assets) should be financed or recovered primarily through user charges and the costs are borne by the customers who are receiving the benefit of the assets.

The FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget was developed from the Uniform System of Accounts for Water Utilities which includes a set of tables providing details for revenue and expenditure categories of the District. **The tables contained in this Report are intended to be reviewed in connection with the FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget document.**

The accounting for the budget is supported by the QuickBooks accounting system which is verified annually by an independent audit performed by Bartlett, Pringle & Wolf. The budget tables show categories of the operating revenues as compared to operating expenditures along with debt service and special studies expenditures, including but not limited to compliance with various state and federal regulatory requirements applicable to fisheries protection in the Lower Santa Ynez River, compliance with water rights orders issued by the State Water Resources Control Board, and implementation of contractual requirements. Historically, the District's operating expenses and Capital Improvement Project program are to be fully funded by operating revenues, and as necessary and appropriate from reserve funds. The Capital Improvement Project expenditures can be funded by a combination of operating revenues and reserves.

**BUDGET AND RESERVE FUND BACKGROUND**

The District's 2016 Water Rate Study, inclusive of the approved Water Rate Schedule, was adopted by the District's Board of Trustees on December 13, 2016 and became effective on February 1, 2017. The Water Rate Study and Schedule provide the foundation for incrementally increased revenues over a five-year period. Rates were developed to meet operating expenses, debt service obligations, capital improvement projects (partially), and other planned expenditures. The Water Rate Study also includes a Reserves analysis and a plan for adding to the District's reserve funds over time to allow for recovery of reserve deficits that occurred over the previous six-year period. The last rate adjustment pursuant to the Water Rate Schedule went into effect on July 1, 2021 and remains in effect for the FY 2024/25 budget cycle. The FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget proposes to fully fund all expense categories, including Operations and Maintenance (O&M), General and Administrative (G&A), Debt Service, Other Expenses and Special Studies, and Capital Improvement Project program costs, leaving a net balance of \$2,166,061 which will be added to the District's reserves.

Below are the past fiscal year and the most current fiscal quarter-end Reserve balances based on actual accounting and audit information.

Table 1

**RESERVE BALANCES**

|  | June 30, 2023       | March 31, 2024 <sup>1</sup> |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b><u>BOARD RESERVED</u></b>             |                     |                             |
| Debt Repayment Obligation                | \$291,241           | \$614,222 <sup>2</sup>      |
| Repair & Replacement                     | \$6,054,018         | \$7,390,060                 |
| Plant Expansion                          | \$7,366,450         | \$8,672,492                 |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                          | <b>\$13,681,709</b> | <b>\$16,676,774</b>         |
| <b><u>RESTRICTED RESERVE</u></b>         |                     |                             |
| Dev. Fee; SY Septic                      | \$109,212           | \$109,212                   |
| State Water Project Reserve <sup>3</sup> | \$3,000,000         | \$3,000,000                 |

1. Amounts reflected in this column represent the reserve balance at 9-months of current FY 2023/24. The year-end reserve amount will change at June 30, 2024 to reflect a balance based on actual accounting for projects and debt service expenditures.
2. This amount represents a Debt Payment Obligation reserve balance at 9-months of current FY 2023/24. The year-end reserve amount in this category will change at June 20, 2024 to reflect payments for the SWP payment due on June 1, and the USBR Safety of Dams Repayment Contract payment.
3. One year set aside payment established to guarantee ID No.1's contractual debt obligation in the event of a default by the City of Solvang.

## **BUDGET IN DETAIL**

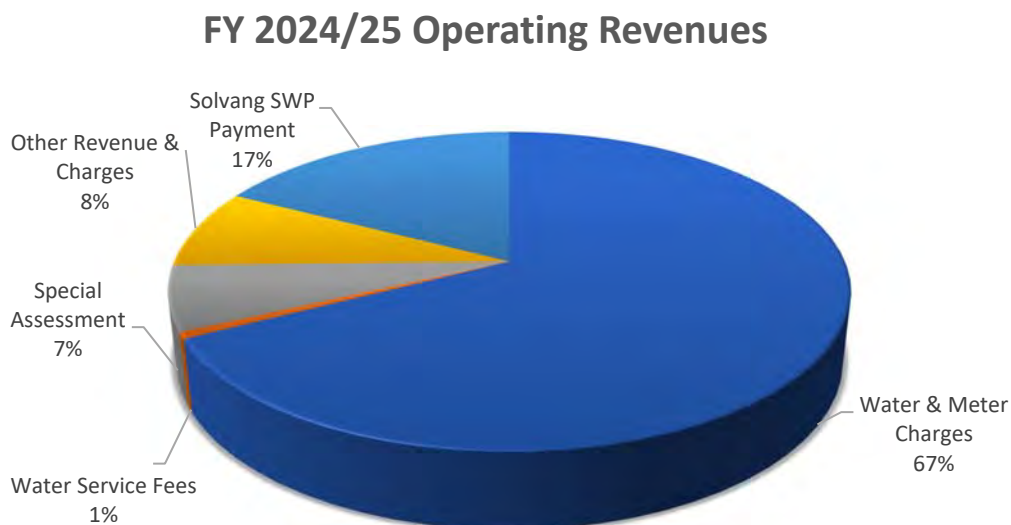
The specific revenue and expenditure categories of the budget account for the adopted water rates and revenues, prior year audit data, and financial account information. The categories are displayed using actual 9-month revenue and expenditure data from the current fiscal year and are also projected to show the fiscal year-end figures (June 30, 2024). This information is used as part of the evaluation to develop the FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget.

The FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget of \$13,257,340 reflects an overall 2.9% increase compared to the projected June 30, 2024 year-end results and is 2.6% more than the financial projections adopted as part of the 2016 Water Rate Study. As noted above, the FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget assumes that water rates remain static based upon the last rate increase that went into effect July 1, 2021. The water rates are applied to forecasted water sales and meter charges in FY 2024/25 based on actual sales and charges in the current and prior fiscal years. The budget also assumes no increase in the \$875,000 Special Assessment/Ad Valorem Tax, even though the authorized limit for FY 2024/25 is \$2,481,499. Other factors such as capital facilities charges and interest income are integral parts of the forecast. The information below shows that budgeted revenues will meet projected operating expenditures and debt service obligations, and result in a projected net revenue balance of \$3,898,498. This revenue balance will fund the Other Expenses and Special Studies categories as further detailed in the Preliminary Budget, leaving a balance of \$3,093,748 in net operating revenues, which will fully fund the proposed \$927,688 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Program for FY 2024/25, leaving a net balance of \$2,166,061 which will contribute to the District's reserves.

## **SUMMARY OF REVENUES**

The District operates according to cost of service, with revenues derived primarily from water sales, the special tax assessment, fixed monthly service charges, and other water services. For the FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget, the total operating revenues are projected at \$13,257,340 including the SWP revenue of \$2,297,460 from the City of Solvang. Actual projected total revenues are \$10,959,880 without the SWP pass-through payment. Table 2 below summarizes the distribution of the District's projected revenue sources for FY 2024/25.

**Table 2**

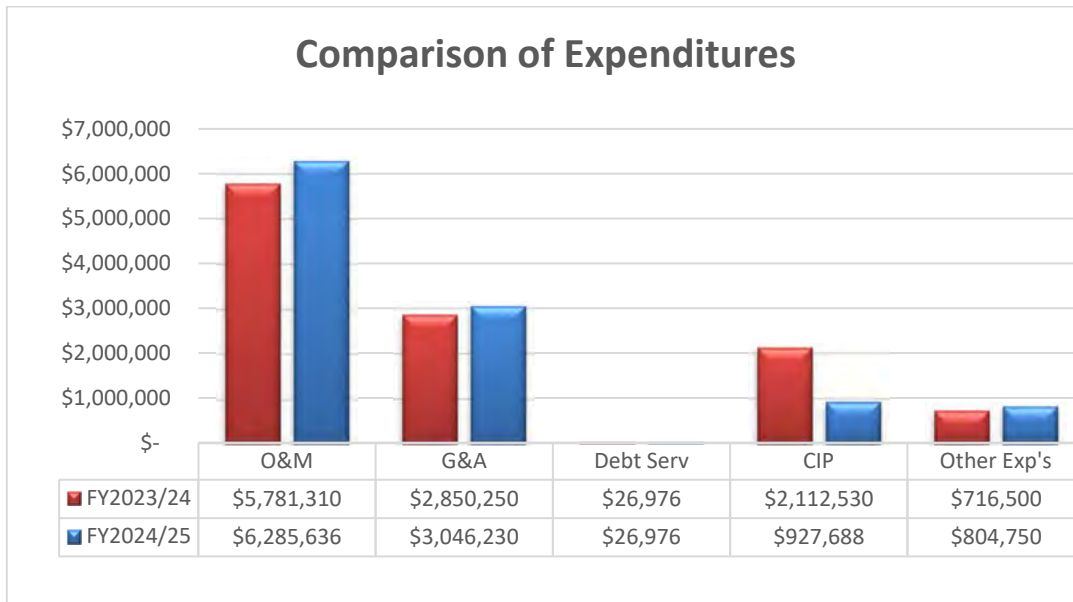




**SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES**

Based on the FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget, the District’s projected water sales and other operating revenues, including the FY 2024/25 special tax assessment, will fully fund the overall operating expenditures, including all categories of Operation & Maintenance, General & Administrative, and Debt Service, and result in a net revenue balance of \$3,898,498. This net balance of operating revenues is proposed to fund the District’s Other Expenses and Special Studies categories as further detailed in the Preliminary Budget. Thereafter, a net revenue balance of \$3,093,748 is proposed to fully fund the District’s FY 2024/25 CIP program. Table 3 below shows all expenditure categories for FY 2024/25 in comparison to the previous fiscal year.

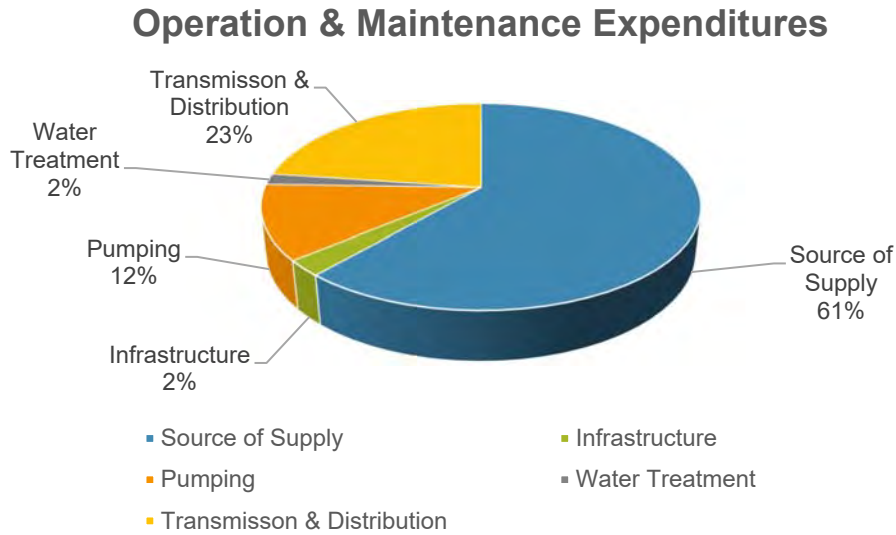
**Table 3**



**EXPENDITURES - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M)**

The overall budget for O&M expenditures for FY 2024/25 is 8% (\$504,326) more than last year’s FY 2023/24 budget, with the Source of Supply category having the single largest increase totaling \$493,295. This is directly attributable to an increase in fixed CCWA/DWR costs, which resulted in an increase of \$319,669 in ID No.1’s State Water Project costs for FY 2024/25 and \$154,177 for the City of Solvang’s passthrough expenses for the year. Additionally, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) charges for Cachuma Project supplies and Renewal/Environmental Fund reflects a \$17,097 increase in the coming fiscal year. The reason for the increase is the Renewal Fund obligation’s fluctuation that occurs from year-to-year, which is based upon the projected annual allocation of Cachuma Project water that is made available to the Cachuma Member Units for the upcoming water year. For FY 2024/25, there is an anticipated 100% allocation of Cachuma Project water. The Infrastructure expense category remained unchanged from FY 2023/24 and includes funding attributable to Santa Barbara County’s Pavement Rehabilitation Project, which is slated to be completed in FY 2024/25 and reflected in the District’s maintenance of mains account (712000). Funding for this work is estimated at \$30,000 (\$1,500 per valve box) for the County’s contractor to lower and raise 20 valve boxes to finished grade. Other expense categories of Pumping and Transmission & Distribution all realized increases based on inflationary and vendor increases. Table 4 on the next page illustrates the distribution of costs for the O&M expense categories.

**Table 4**



**EXPENDITURES - GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION (G&A)**

The overall budget for G&A expenditures for FY 2024/25 increased 6% (\$195,979) compared to last year's FY 2023/24 budget.

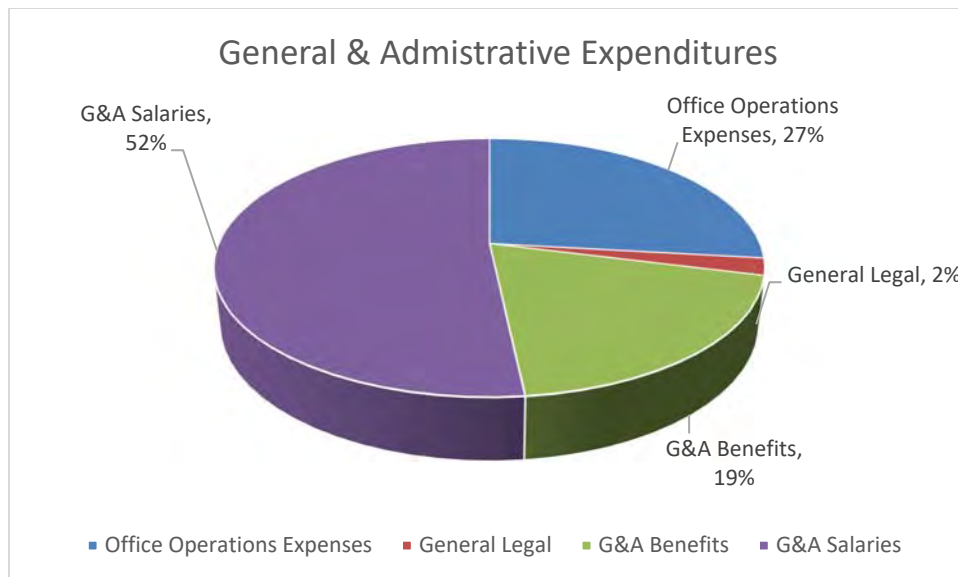
Administrative expenses, including election costs, dues and subscriptions, miscellaneous service contracts, various utilities, and liability insurance are projected to increase slightly due to inflationary and vendor cost increases related to the current economic climate. Consulting services for FY 2024/25 will increase based upon the need for an outside consultant to assist with updating the District's Geographic Information System (GIS) platform.

Other increases to this expense category are tied to Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) and merit increases to employee salaries in accordance with the District's adopted Personnel Policy Manual and Salary Schedule, which in turn affect retirement and payroll tax expenses. The District-wide COLA is being proposed at 3.9% for FY 2024/25. The COLA is consistent with industry standards and is based upon the Consumer Price Index 12-month calculation data (April-March). The COLA factor is obtained by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics through averaging the most recent 12-month indexes compared to the prior year for all urban wage earners and clerical workers for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area of California.

Additionally, according to ACWA JPIA, premiums for health, dental, and vision coverage are anticipated to have an inflationary increase of 10% for each coverage plan.

Table 5 below illustrates the distribution of costs for the G&A expense categories.

**Table 5**



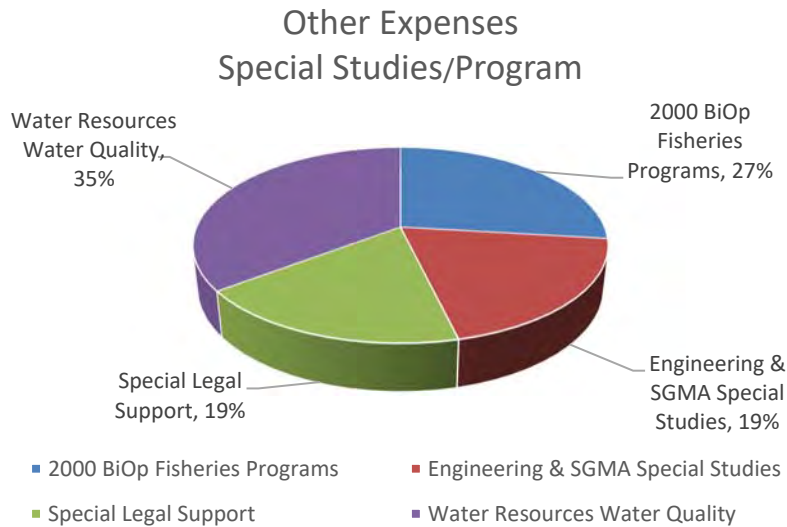
**DEBT SERVICE**

The District’s Debt Service category for FY 2024/25 includes the USBR Safety of Dams repayment (principal and interest) which remains constant for the 50-year term at \$26,976 per year. As detailed above, the FY 2024/25 operating revenues, inclusive of the special tax assessment, are projected to fully fund the District’s operating expenses plus debt service.

**OTHER EXPENSES**

For FY 2024/25, the budgeted amount of \$804,750 in the Other Expenses category will be funded by the net revenue balance of \$3,898,498. The FY 2024/25 budget for Other Expenses is \$88,250 more than what was budgeted in FY 2023/24. As fully detailed in the 2024/25 Preliminary Budget, many of the line-items reflect decreases, such as work on the 2019 State Water Resources Control Board Order, studies for the Cachuma Project, and water right proceedings on the Lower Santa Ynez River. On the other hand, expenses are projected to increase in connection with the newly adopted MCL for Chromium 6 (Cr6). FY 2024/25 reflects funding for professional services needed to update the District’s Cr6 Compliance Plan, treatment options and feasibility studies for wells that may be affected by the new MCL, additional studies and pilot testing of treatment technologies, and public outreach to District customers in relation to Cr6 regulation. Engineering expenses are also higher in FY 2024/25 due to the development of new Standard Details for the District, conducting an assessment of District infrastructure, and technical review associated with the 4.0 CFS well site. Table 6 on the next page illustrates the distribution of costs for the Other Expenses and Special Studies categories.

**Table 6**



**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP)**

Infrastructure planning and investment is critical to the ongoing reliability of the District’s water production and distribution system. In years past, the District’s CIP program was seriously compromised by shortfalls in operating revenues caused by outdated water rates and a multi-year suspension on the levy of a special tax assessment. Those shortfalls required incremental drawdowns of District reserves simply to meet annual operating expenses and debt service. Consequently, monies were not available to fund the CIP program, and needed capital improvements to the District’s aging water system were deferred.

However, when operating revenues are healthy and able to meet and exceed operating expenses, net revenues are available to fund the District’s Debt Service and Other Expenses (including Special Studies) and then contribute to building reserves and/or funding the CIP program. The CIP items include projects needed for replacements, betterments, upgrades, and repairs of the District water supply, production, and distribution system.

During FY 2023/24 certain CIP projects were not completed due to vendor scheduling delays, production and shipping delays, and inventory shortfalls for various parts and materials. As a result, they will be carried forward for completion in FY 2024/25. Projects that were not completed during FY 2023/24 are identified as “Rollforward Projects” below.

For FY 2024/25, a total of \$927,688 is budgeted for the CIP program. This amount is \$1,184,842 less than the \$2,112,530 CIP budget in FY 2023/24. Of particular note, the entire CIP program for FY 2024/25 will be funded from the District’s net revenues of \$3,093,748 (after funding Other Expenses and Special Studies) and will not require funding from District reserves.

**Account 900332 (\$50,000)** – District Building (Rollforward Project) – This account was originally budgeted to include a combination of a steel building to house a water treatment and control system for the District’s office wells, along with a garage bay for District equipment and needed expansion and upgrade of field crew quarters. The FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget includes funding to finalize architectural and engineering design modifications for a new District building to provide a District-designated Board Room, conference rooms, and various administrative and employee workspace.

**900372 (\$40,200)** – Office Computers, Furniture & Equipment (Partial Rollforward) – This account includes a partial rollforward project for the second phase of implementing a Laserfiche Enterprise Document Management System and new Accounts Payable system hardware, including five (5) desktop scanners for use by the Administrative staff (\$22,200). During FY 2023/24 the first phase of Laserfiche Document Management System was purchased and put in place to assist the transition of hard copy documentation to digitized format to assist with storage needs. The second phase will be implemented in FY 2024/25 which will modernize the business operations of the District and provide more efficiency through a workflow document approval and digitized storage process that is specific to the District’s accounts payable and financial functions.

Additional funds will be utilized to replace nine (9) office computers as part of the District’s routine computer replacement program. Costs include the purchase of equipment, software, and network set-up by the District’s IT vendor, which is estimated at \$18,000.

**900318 (\$10,000)** – Meter Replacement/Utility Billing (Partial Rollforward) – The Districtwide meter replacement program began in FY 2019/20. This multi-phase replacement program consists of purchasing and installing new meters to replace existing ones that have been in service for approximately 20 years and have diminished capabilities to provide accurate accounting of water use. During FY 2023/24, all District meters were replaced with the exception of one 8-inch agricultural meter, which was delayed due to shipping constraints from the vendor. Receipt of the meter is anticipated to occur in FY 2024/25. Once the meter is received and installed, the Meter Replacement Program will be 100% complete.

**900371 (\$90,000)** – Office Building/Shop Improvements – Expenditures under this account focus on enhancing exterior security measures at the District office. Approximately \$84,000 will be utilized to purchase and install iron fencing with a mechanically operated gate around the perimeter of the District yard that houses fleet and large equipment. This purchase is intended to function as a physical barrier, deterring unauthorized individuals from accessing the premises, as well as preventing vandalism and theft. The remaining \$6,000 will be utilized to purchase and install security cameras on the exterior of the District’s office and yard area to provide additional security measures and video to assist in providing evidence to law enforcement if issues arise.

**900181 (\$1,000)** – CAD/GIS – This account includes \$1,000 for equipment needs and/or software upgrades necessary to continue operation of the District’s GIS system that is used to maintain the District’s digital atlas.

**900350 (\$35,000)** – Upland Wells (Partial Rollforward Project) – The Motor Control Center (MCC) and electrical cabinet upgrade projects at Well Nos. 7 and 25 are nearing completion. Upgrades at Well No. 7 were postponed due to design specifications. The manufacturer is

currently inspecting the cabinet and expects to deliver it to the District in the summer of 2024. Additionally, transfer switches for Wells Nos. 7 and 25 will be tested by the contractor in FY 2024/25 to complete the projects. The work associated with these two well sites are Rollforward Projects from FY 2023/24.

**900200 (\$175,000)** – Pump & Motor Replacement – Pumps and motors serve as indispensable components of the District’s infrastructure and are essential for water supply operations. Due to continuous usage and wear over time, these assets are subject to deterioration and eventual failure. Unforeseen breakdowns can disrupt operations, leading to downtime, increased maintenance costs, and decreased water supply reliability. Funds under this account will be utilized as situations arise that dictate replacement of failed pumps and/or motors that occur during the fiscal year.

**900106 (\$55,000)** – Rehabilitation/Replacement of Mains/Laterals/Valves – The District operates 1,350 valves within the system. Funds will be used for the replacement of mainline valves that are found to be broken or inoperable during the District’s valve maintenance program. Approximately \$30,000 will be appropriated to replace various sized valves and fix non-functioning valves at various locations within the District.

Additional funds (\$25,000) will be utilized for the replacement of five (5) fire hydrants within the District’s system.

**900170 (\$15,000)** – 6.0 CFS Well Field (Partial Rollforward Project) – Funds will be appropriated to outsource engineering services for ArcFlash analyses and labels for the motor control cabinets. The work associated with this site is a Rollforward Project from FY 2023/24.

**900373 (\$150,000)** – Fleet Vehicle Replacement – This account includes funds for the purchase of one new dump truck. This vehicle will replace an existing 37 year-old dump truck within the District’s fleet that has outlived its useful life and continues to have frequent repairs and maintenance issues. A newer model will be equipped with advanced technology and features that improve efficiency and productivity, including faster dumping mechanisms, increased hauling capacity, and improved maneuverability. This purchase will also enhance employee safety, decrease maintenance costs, and ensure regulatory compliance and reliability.

**900171 (\$5,000)** – 4.0 CFS Well Field (Partial Rollforward Project) – The MCC and electrical upgrades for this site will be completed in FY 2023/24. However, \$5,000 will be needed in FY 2024/25 for final testing of the new manual transfer switch for emergency generator use at the site.

**900195 (\$5,000)** – Refugio 2 Booster Pump Station (Partial Rollforward Project) – The MCC and electrical upgrades for this site will be completed in FY 2023/24. However, \$5,000 will be needed in FY 2024/25 for remaining electrical engineering support for record drawings and testing of a new manual transfer switch for emergency generator use at the site.

**900196 (\$5,000)** – Alamo Pintado Booster Pump Station (Partial Rollforward Project) – The MCC and electrical upgrades for this site will be completed in FY 2023/24. However, \$5,000 will be needed in FY 2024/25 for final testing of a new manual transfer switch for emergency generator use at the site.

**900197 (\$134,188)** – Refugio 3 Booster Pump Station (Partial Rollforward Project) – The MCC and electrical panel upgrades at the Refugio 3 Booster Pump Station site were postponed in FY 2023/24 due to design specifications. The manufacturer is inspecting the cabinet and is expected to deliver it to the District in the summer of 2024 (\$29,188). Additional funds will be utilized for Arc Flash safety labeling on the cabinet and record drawings (\$5,000). Approximately \$100,000 will be utilized in FY 2024/25 for materials, labor, consultant, and engineering costs associated with installing a new concrete vault and related piping at this site.

**900198 (\$157,300)** – Meadowlark Booster Pump Station (Partial Rollforward Projects) – Funds from this account will be utilized for four projects.

First is a rollforward project for the construction of an open-sided pole barn structure to house the District's large equipment, trailers, and materials to mitigate weather damage currently being incurred for lack of protective cover. Costs for this project are approximately \$17,500 and the construction work will be completed by the District's field team.

The second project is a rollforward project totaling \$92,300 for the MCC cabinets at this site. Funds also will be spent on materials, support from the District's electrical engineering consultant, Arch Flash safety labeling on the cabinets, record drawings, and construction support (\$92,300).

The third project involves the installation of a new chlorine analyzer and associated SCADA equipment (\$17,500) at the Meadowlark Booster Pump Station that will transmit near real-time data for chlorine residual levels and performance at this location. This will provide the District's field team with an additional data point in optimizing operations of the water distribution system.

The fourth project involves installation of a pressure reducing/flow control valve (PRV), including a new 8-inch Cla-Valve and 8-inch meter (\$30,000). This project will enhance the capability of feeding water from Zone 2 to Zone 1, providing improved water quality and the ability to keep customers in service during an emergency and/or scheduled outage.

If additional CIP expenditures are needed, funding will come from the Repair and Replace and/or Plant Expansion Reserves. Alternatively, the projects could be deferred or re-prioritized.

### **FY 2024/25 PRELIMINARY BUDGET CONCLUSION**

The FY 2024/25 Preliminary Budget revenues of **\$13,257,340** are projected to be sufficient to meet total O&M expenses, G&A expenses, and Debt Service obligations of **\$9,358,841** with a net revenue balance of **\$3,898,498**. This net revenue balance of \$3,898,498 will be used to fund the \$804,750 of Other Expenses for special studies, engineering, design, legal, and consulting work to maintain protection and preservation of the District's water rights and to ensure compliance with

various regulatory orders and requirements applicable to the District's rights and water supply portfolio, including but not limited to state-mandated water quality standards and fishery protections applicable to the Cachuma Project in accordance with State Water Resources Control Board Orders and the federal Endangered Species Act. The remaining net revenue balance of **\$3,093,748** will be used to fully fund the District's FY 2024/25 CIP program as detailed above in the amount of **\$927,688**. The remaining net revenue balance of **\$2,166,061** will be added to the District's Reserves.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Trustees review the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Preliminary Budget and provide desired comment or direction to management for potential revisions. Approval of the FY 2024/25 Final Budget by Resolution will be recommended and considered for action by the Board at the June 18, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting.





**Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1**  
**PRELIMINARY BUDGET FY 2024-25**

| Account No.                                  | Service & Sales                          | FY 23/24      |                  | FY 23/24         |                  | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|--|--|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|  |  | Budget        | 9-Month Revenues | 9-Month Revenues | 9-Month Revenues |                            |                            |                              |
| 601000                                       | Agriculture Water Sales & Meter Charges  | \$ 1,352,413  | \$ 784,716       | \$ 1,069,079     | \$ 1,352,413     | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ -                         |
| 602000                                       | Domestic Water Sales & Meter Charges     | \$ 4,809,941  | \$ 3,706,712     | \$ 4,919,697     | \$ 4,809,941     | \$ -                       | \$ 4,809,941               | \$ -                         |
| 602100                                       | Rural Res/Lmt'd Ag Sales & Meter Charges | \$ 2,486,242  | \$ 1,821,651     | \$ 2,450,194     | \$ 2,486,242     | \$ -                       | \$ 2,486,242               | \$ -                         |
| 602200                                       | Cachuma Park Water Sales                 | \$ 19,575     | \$ 11,655        | \$ 16,535        | \$ 19,575        | \$ -                       | \$ 19,575                  | \$ -                         |
| 606000                                       | Water Sales to City of Solvang           | \$ 77,553     | \$ 41,373        | \$ 56,911        | \$ 77,553        | \$ -                       | \$ 77,553                  | \$ -                         |
| 608000                                       | Water Sales - On-Demand                  | \$ 27,442     | \$ 10,531        | \$ 14,030        | \$ 27,442        | \$ -                       | \$ 27,442                  | \$ -                         |
| 611500                                       | Fire Service Charges                     | \$ 135,539    | \$ 105,337       | \$ 137,194       | \$ 135,539       | \$ -                       | \$ 135,539                 | \$ -                         |
| 604000                                       | Temporary Water Sales                    | \$ 20,175     | \$ 9,190         | \$ 10,176        | \$ 20,175        | \$ -                       | \$ 20,175                  | \$ -                         |
|  | <b>Subtotal Water Sales</b>              | \$ 8,928,880  | \$ 6,491,165     | \$ 8,673,816     | \$ 8,928,880     | \$ -                       | \$ 8,928,880               | \$ -                         |
| 611100                                       | New Services Fees                        | \$ 40,000     | \$ 24,091        | \$ 28,791        | \$ 40,000        | \$ -                       | \$ 40,000                  | \$ -                         |
| 611200                                       | Activation/Reconnection Fees             | \$ 15,000     | \$ 8,544         | \$ 9,398         | \$ 15,000        | \$ -                       | \$ 15,000                  | \$ -                         |
| 611900                                       | New Fire Service Fees                    | \$ 6,000      | \$ -             | \$ -             | \$ 6,000         | \$ -                       | \$ 6,000                   | \$ -                         |
| 612400                                       | Penalties                                | \$ 31,000     | \$ 15,442        | \$ 19,302        | \$ 25,000        | \$ (6,000)                 | \$ 25,000                  | \$ (6,000)                   |
|  | <b>Subtotal Service</b>                  | \$ 92,000     | \$ 48,077        | \$ 57,491        | \$ 86,000        | \$ (6,000)                 | \$ 86,000                  | \$ (6,000)                   |
| <b>Assessments, Fees &amp; Other Revenue</b> |  |               |                  |                  |                  |                            |                            |                              |
| 627000-627200                                | Special Assessment                       | \$ 875,000    | \$ 474,383       | \$ 875,000       | \$ 875,000       | \$ -                       | \$ 875,000                 | \$ -                         |
| 628000-630300                                | Interest Income                          | \$ 350,000    | \$ 660,978       | \$ 970,205       | \$ 937,500       | \$ 587,500                 | \$ 937,500                 | \$ 587,500                   |
| 625200                                       | Application Fees/Special Services        | \$ 13,000     | \$ 8,000         | \$ 11,600        | \$ 13,000        | \$ -                       | \$ 13,000                  | \$ -                         |
| 611600                                       | Capital Facilities Charges               | \$ 70,000     | \$ 32,696        | \$ 55,296        | \$ 75,000        | \$ 5,000                   | \$ 75,000                  | \$ 5,000                     |
| 620006                                       | Reimbursed Field Labor                   | \$ 10,000     | \$ 2,532         | \$ 3,165         | \$ 5,000         | \$ (5,000)                 | \$ 5,000                   | \$ (5,000)                   |
| 620008                                       | Reimbursed Admin. Labor                  | \$ 1,000      | \$ 96            | \$ 200           | \$ 500           | \$ (500)                   | \$ 500                     | \$ (500)                     |
| 624000                                       | Other Misc Revenues                      | \$ 35,000     | \$ 31,708        | \$ 35,708        | \$ 37,000        | \$ 2,000                   | \$ 37,000                  | \$ 2,000                     |
| 634100                                       | Insurance Claims                         | \$ 2,000      | \$ 3,713         | \$ 3,713         | \$ 2,000         | \$ -                       | \$ 2,000                   | \$ -                         |
| 890100                                       | Solvang SWP Payment                      | \$ 2,143,283  | \$ 2,157,364     | \$ 2,195,787     | \$ 2,297,460     | \$ 154,177                 | \$ 2,297,460               | \$ 154,177                   |
|  | <b>Subtotal Assessment &amp; Fees</b>    | \$ 3,499,283  | \$ 3,371,470     | \$ 4,150,674     | \$ 4,242,460     | \$ 743,177                 | \$ 4,242,460               | \$ 743,177                   |
|  | <b>TOTAL</b>                             | \$ 12,520,163 | \$ 9,910,712     | \$ 12,881,981    | \$ 13,257,340    | \$ 737,177                 | \$ 13,257,340              | \$ 737,177                   |

**EXPENDITURES OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

| Account No. | Source of Supply                                    | FY 23/24            |                      |                            | FY 23/24                   |                   |  | FY 23/24 |  |  | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|-------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--|----------|--|--|------------------------------|
|             |   | Budget              | 9-Month Expenditures | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | 2023/24 Budget    |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 703000      | Cachuma Project (USBR) Water Purchase               | \$ 234,080          | \$ 120,571           | \$ 202,272                 | \$ 234,432                 | \$ 352            |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 703200      | Cachuma Project Renewal/Environmental Fund          | \$ 7,883            | \$ 7,883             | \$ 7,883                   | \$ 24,980                  | \$ 17,097         |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 704000      | State Water Charge- District Payment                | \$ 891,879          | \$ 730,757           | \$ 931,881                 | \$ 1,211,548               | \$ 319,669        |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 860000      | State Water Project - City of Solvang p/mt          | \$ 2,143,283        | \$ 2,157,364         | \$ 2,195,787               | \$ 2,297,460               | \$ 154,177        |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 705000      | Ground Water Charges                                | \$ 50,000           | \$ 22,020            | \$ 32,020                  | \$ 50,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 706000      | Cloudseeding Program                                | \$ 12,500           | \$ -                 | \$ 11,000                  | \$ 12,500                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 707000      | River Well Field Licenses (4.0cfs, 6.0cfs, Gallery) | \$ 21,000           | \$ 21,090            | \$ 21,090                  | \$ 23,000                  | \$ 2,000          |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Subtotal Source of Supply</b>                    | <b>\$ 3,360,625</b> | <b>\$ 3,059,685</b>  | <b>\$ 3,401,933</b>        | <b>\$ 3,853,920</b>        | <b>\$ 493,295</b> |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Infrastructure</b>                               |                     |                      |                            |                            |                   |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 711000      | Maintenance of Wells                                | \$ 50,000           | \$ 31,694            | \$ 39,618                  | \$ 50,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 712000      | Maintenance of Mains                                | \$ 85,000           | \$ 8,651             | \$ 10,813                  | \$ 85,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 713000      | Maintenance of Reservoirs                           | \$ 15,000           | \$ 2,777             | \$ 6,471                   | \$ 15,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 714000      | Maintenance of Structures                           | \$ 5,000            | \$ 40                | \$ 340                     | \$ 5,000                   | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Subtotal Infrastructure</b>                      | <b>\$ 155,000</b>   | <b>\$ 43,162</b>     | <b>\$ 57,242</b>           | <b>\$ 155,000</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>       |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Pumping</b>                                      |                     |                      |                            |                            |                   |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 726000      | Pumping Expense - Power                             | \$ 720,000          | \$ 522,802           | \$ 669,802                 | \$ 720,000                 | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 730000      | Maintenance of Pump Structures/Stations/Equip       | \$ 10,000           | \$ 9,543             | \$ 11,195                  | \$ 20,000                  | \$ 10,000         |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 732000      | Maintenance of Equipment                            | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Subtotal Pumping</b>                             | <b>\$ 730,000</b>   | <b>\$ 532,345</b>    | <b>\$ 680,997</b>          | <b>\$ 740,000</b>          | <b>\$ 10,000</b>  |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Water Treatment</b>                              |                     |                      |                            |                            |                   |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 744000      | Chemicals   | \$ 85,000           | \$ 58,387            | \$ 74,387                  | \$ 85,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 748000      | Maintenance of Treatment Structures/Equipment       | \$ 3,000            | \$ 1,443             | \$ 1,943                   | \$ 3,000                   | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 748100      | Water Treatment/Sampling/Monitoring Equipment       | \$ 5,000            | \$ 7,425             | \$ 7,525                   | \$ 7,000                   | \$ 2,000          |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 749000      | Water Analysis                                      | \$ 14,000           | \$ 5,520             | \$ 14,019                  | \$ 12,000                  | \$ (2,000)        |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Subtotal Water Treatment</b>                     | <b>\$ 107,000</b>   | <b>\$ 72,775</b>     | <b>\$ 97,874</b>           | <b>\$ 107,000</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>       |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Transmission &amp; Distribution</b>              |                     |                      |                            |                            |                   |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 751000      | Field Service Labor                                 | \$ 752,950          | \$ 585,919           | \$ 761,694                 | \$ 773,317                 | \$ 20,368         |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 775000      | PERS - Retirement                                   | \$ 189,700          | \$ 153,305           | \$ 179,243                 | \$ 204,614                 | \$ 14,914         |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 775401      | ACWA - Health Benefits                              | \$ 280,000          | \$ 151,412           | \$ 206,127                 | \$ 247,556                 | \$ (32,444)       |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 775201      | ACWA - Delta Dental                                 | \$ 14,600           | \$ 11,290            | \$ 13,591                  | \$ 13,059                  | \$ (1,541)        |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 775301      | ACWA - Vision                                       | \$ 1,700            | \$ 1,239             | \$ 1,652                   | \$ 1,518                   | \$ (182)          |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 775501      | ACWA - Standard Life                                | \$ 2,810            | \$ 2,866             | \$ 3,824                   | \$ 3,227                   | \$ 417            |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 799500      | Uniforms  | \$ 22,000           | \$ 15,527            | \$ 19,408                  | \$ 22,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 752000      | Work Materials & Supplies                           | \$ 10,000           | \$ -                 | \$ 2,000                   | \$ 10,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 752100      | Safety Equipment                                    | \$ 4,000            | \$ 3,090             | \$ 3,590                   | \$ 4,000                   | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 753000      | SCADA Maintenance                                   | \$ 15,000           | \$ 9,434             | \$ 9,434                   | \$ 20,000                  | \$ 5,000          |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 754000      | Small Tools   | \$ 10,000           | \$ 5,616             | \$ 8,616                   | \$ 5,000                   | \$ (5,000)        |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 754100      | Small Tool Repair                                   | \$ 1,500            | \$ 1,098             | \$ 1,298                   | \$ 2,000                   | \$ 500            |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 755000      | Transportation (Vehicle Maintenance/Fuel)           | \$ 70,000           | \$ 47,262            | \$ 63,803                  | \$ 70,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 756000      | Meter Service (New)                                 | \$ 15,000           | \$ 6,369             | \$ 8,369                   | \$ 15,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 756100      | Meter and Service Repair                            | \$ 12,000           | \$ 6,263             | \$ 7,763                   | \$ 12,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 757000      | Road Contracts                                      | \$ 2,800            | \$ 2,239             | \$ 2,239                   | \$ 2,800                   | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 758100      | Meter Reading System (Sensus) (Neptune)             | \$ 10,000           | \$ 7,451             | \$ 9,314                   | \$ 10,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 759000      | Maintenance of Structures and Improvements          | \$ 2,500            | \$ 303               | \$ 303                     | \$ 2,500                   | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 760000      | Fire Hydrants Maintenance                           | \$ 2,000            | \$ 62                | \$ 362                     | \$ 1,000                   | \$ (1,000)        |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 761000      | Back Flow Devices Testing                           | \$ 125              | \$ -                 | \$ 125                     | \$ 125                     | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
| 762000      | Backhoe/Generators Maintenance                      | \$ 10,000           | \$ 13,404            | \$ 15,016                  | \$ 10,000                  | \$ -              |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>Subtotal Transmission &amp; Distribution</b>     | <b>\$ 1,428,685</b> | <b>\$ 1,024,149</b>  | <b>\$ 1,317,771</b>        | <b>\$ 1,429,716</b>        | <b>\$ 1,031</b>   |  |          |  |  |                              |
|             | <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$ 5,781,310</b> | <b>\$ 4,732,116</b>  | <b>\$ 5,555,817</b>        | <b>\$ 6,285,636</b>        | <b>\$ 504,326</b> |  |          |  |  |                              |

**EXPENDITURES G&A**

| Account No. | General & Administrative                             | FY 23/24     |                      | FY 23/24             |              | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 |              | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|-------------|--|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
|             |  | Budget       | 9-Month Expenditures | 9-Month Expenditures | 6/30/2024    |                            | FY24/25                    |              |                              |
| 773000      | Elections  | \$ -         | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -         | \$ -                       | \$ 20,000                  | \$ 20,000    | \$ 20,000                    |
| 6560        | Payroll/Accounting Expenses                          | \$ 2,100     | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ 3,344     | \$ 3,344                   | \$ 3,500                   | \$ 3,500     | \$ 1,400                     |
| 774000      | ACWA Workers Comp Ins                                | \$ 27,000    | \$ 21,701            | \$ 21,701            | \$ 27,126    | \$ 27,126                  | \$ 29,595                  | \$ 29,595    | \$ 2,595                     |
| 775000      | PERS - Retirement                                    | \$ 259,800   | \$ 208,323           | \$ 208,323           | \$ 251,629   | \$ 251,629                 | \$ 266,613                 | \$ 266,613   | \$ 6,813                     |
| 775400      | ACWA - Health Benefits                               | \$ 294,900   | \$ 147,118           | \$ 147,118           | \$ 183,898   | \$ 183,898                 | \$ 296,306                 | \$ 296,306   | \$ 1,406                     |
| 775200      | ACWA - Delta Dental                                  | \$ 20,100    | \$ 9,452             | \$ 9,452             | \$ 11,816    | \$ 11,816                  | \$ 20,317                  | \$ 20,317    | \$ 217                       |
| 775300      | ACWA - Vision  | \$ 2,500     | \$ 1,306             | \$ 1,306             | \$ 1,633     | \$ 1,633                   | \$ 2,437                   | \$ 2,437     | \$ (63)                      |
| 775500      | ACWA - Standard Life                                 | \$ 4,450     | \$ 2,828             | \$ 2,828             | \$ 3,535     | \$ 3,535                   | \$ 3,689                   | \$ 3,689     | \$ (761)                     |
| 777100      | Management & Administrative Salaries                 | \$ 1,533,200 | \$ 875,894           | \$ 875,894           | \$ 1,138,662 | \$ 1,138,662               | \$ 1,575,167               | \$ 1,575,167 | \$ 41,967                    |
| 778000      | Education, Training & Travel                         | \$ 20,000    | \$ 10,979            | \$ 10,979            | \$ 14,273    | \$ 14,273                  | \$ 20,000                  | \$ 20,000    | \$ -                         |
| 779000      | Dues & Subscription                                  | \$ 39,200    | \$ 35,590            | \$ 35,590            | \$ 39,149    | \$ 39,149                  | \$ 39,200                  | \$ 39,200    | \$ -                         |
| 780000      | Office Maintenance                                   | \$ 8,000     | \$ 3,142             | \$ 3,142             | \$ 7,509     | \$ 7,509                   | \$ 8,000                   | \$ 8,000     | \$ -                         |
| 799525      | Gardening Service                                    | \$ 3,000     | \$ 2,160             | \$ 2,160             | \$ 2,880     | \$ 2,880                   | \$ 3,000                   | \$ 3,000     | \$ -                         |
| 781000      | Office Supplies                                      | \$ 15,500    | \$ 9,241             | \$ 9,241             | \$ 13,862    | \$ 13,862                  | \$ 15,500                  | \$ 15,500    | \$ -                         |
| 781100      | Computer Supplies, Software, Training                | \$ 6,000     | \$ 4,841             | \$ 4,841             | \$ 5,326     | \$ 5,326                   | \$ 6,000                   | \$ 6,000     | \$ -                         |
| 782000      | Postage & Printing                                   | \$ 56,000    | \$ 36,616            | \$ 36,616            | \$ 47,471    | \$ 47,471                  | \$ 56,000                  | \$ 56,000    | \$ -                         |
| 783000      | Utilities  | \$ 17,000    | \$ 14,410            | \$ 14,410            | \$ 19,000    | \$ 19,000                  | \$ 19,500                  | \$ 19,500    | \$ 2,500                     |
| 784000      | Telephone  | \$ 20,000    | \$ 14,962            | \$ 14,962            | \$ 19,762    | \$ 19,762                  | \$ 20,000                  | \$ 20,000    | \$ -                         |
| 785000      | Services(USA, Website, Security, Answering Services) | \$ 21,000    | \$ 16,857            | \$ 16,857            | \$ 19,737    | \$ 19,737                  | \$ 21,000                  | \$ 21,000    | \$ -                         |
| 785100      | Government Fees (County, State, Local)               | \$ 16,000    | \$ 17,380            | \$ 17,380            | \$ 17,916    | \$ 17,916                  | \$ 18,000                  | \$ 18,000    | \$ 2,000                     |
| 786000      | ACWA Liability Insurance                             | \$ 80,000    | \$ 69,746            | \$ 69,746            | \$ 94,175    | \$ 94,175                  | \$ 107,947                 | \$ 107,947   | \$ 27,947                    |
| 787000      | Payroll Taxes - Federal and State                    | \$ 153,000   | \$ 101,310           | \$ 101,310           | \$ 135,080   | \$ 135,080                 | \$ 179,659                 | \$ 179,659   | \$ 26,659                    |
| 788000      | Audit & Accounting                                   | \$ 40,000    | \$ 34,724            | \$ 34,724            | \$ 36,460    | \$ 36,460                  | \$ 40,000                  | \$ 40,000    | \$ -                         |
| 789000      | Legal - General                                      | \$ -         | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -         | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ -         | \$ -                         |
|             | BHFS   | \$ 55,000    | \$ 49,150            | \$ 49,150            | \$ 65,533    | \$ 65,533                  | \$ 55,000                  | \$ 55,000    | \$ -                         |
|             | Stradling  | \$ 10,000    | \$ 7,013             | \$ 7,013             | \$ 9,351     | \$ 9,351                   | \$ 10,000                  | \$ 10,000    | \$ -                         |
| 790000      | Consulting - General/Professional                    | \$ 15,000    | \$ 16,873            | \$ 16,873            | \$ 18,260    | \$ 18,260                  | \$ 20,000                  | \$ 20,000    | \$ 5,000                     |
| 791000      | Consulting - Planning/Research                       | \$ 10,000    | \$ 7,439             | \$ 7,439             | \$ 7,513     | \$ 7,513                   | \$ 55,000                  | \$ 55,000    | \$ 45,000                    |
| 792000      | Customer Debt - Write Offs                           | \$ 1,500     | \$ 284               | \$ 284               | \$ 284       | \$ 284                     | \$ 1,500                   | \$ 1,500     | \$ -                         |
| 793000      | Office Equipment/Computer Service Contracts          | \$ 50,000    | \$ 41,331            | \$ 41,331            | \$ 44,329    | \$ 44,329                  | \$ 58,300                  | \$ 58,300    | \$ 8,300                     |
| 797000      | Trustee Fees   | \$ 29,000    | \$ 20,247            | \$ 20,247            | \$ 23,247    | \$ 23,247                  | \$ 29,000                  | \$ 29,000    | \$ -                         |
| 799000      | Processing Fees, Admin. Expenses, Medical Costs      | \$ 40,000    | \$ 34,691            | \$ 34,691            | \$ 46,691    | \$ 46,691                  | \$ 43,000                  | \$ 43,000    | \$ 3,000                     |
| 799600      | Customer Refunds                                     | \$ 1,000     | \$ 2,744             | \$ 2,744             | \$ 2,944     | \$ 2,944                   | \$ 3,000                   | \$ 3,000     | \$ 2,000                     |
|             | <b>Subtotal General &amp; Administrative</b>         | \$ 2,850,250 | \$ 1,818,352         | \$ 1,818,352         | \$ 2,312,395 | \$ 2,312,395               | \$ 3,046,230               | \$ 3,046,230 | \$ 195,979                   |
|             | <b>TOTAL</b>   | \$ 2,850,250 | \$ 1,818,352         | \$ 1,818,352         | \$ 2,312,395 | \$ 2,312,395               | \$ 3,046,230               | \$ 3,046,230 | \$ 195,979                   |

**SUBTOTAL EXPENDITURES**

| G&A/O&M      | FY 23/24     |                      | FY 23/24             |              | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 |              | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|--------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
|              | Budget       | 9-Month Expenditures | 9-Month Expenditures | 6/30/2024    |                            | FY24/25                    |              |                              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | \$ 8,631,560 | \$ 6,550,468         | \$ 6,550,468         | \$ 7,868,212 | \$ 7,868,212               | \$ 9,331,866               | \$ 9,331,866 | \$ 700,307                   |

**DEBT SERVICE**

| Account No. | Debt Service                              | FY 23/24  |                      | FY 23/24             |                  | Projected        |           | Preliminary Budget |           | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|-------------|---|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
|             |   | Budget    | 9-Month Expenditures | 9-Month Expenditures | Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Yr-End 6/30/2024 | FY24/25   | FY24/25            |           |                              |
| 717000      | USBR SOD Repayment (Principal & Interest) | \$ 26,976 | \$ 26,976            | \$ 26,976            | \$ 26,976        | \$ 26,976        | \$ 26,976 | \$ 26,976          | \$ 26,976 | \$ -                         |
|             | <b>Subtotal Debt Service</b>              | \$ 26,976 | \$ 26,976            | \$ 26,976            | \$ 26,976        | \$ 26,976        | \$ 26,976 | \$ 26,976          | \$ 26,976 | \$ -                         |
|             | <b>TOTAL</b>                              | \$ 26,976 | \$ 26,976            | \$ 26,976            | \$ 26,976        | \$ 26,976        | \$ 26,976 | \$ 26,976          | \$ 26,976 | \$ -                         |

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES**

|   | FY 23/24     |                      | FY 23/24             |                  | Projected        |              | Preliminary Budget |            | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|---|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------------|
|   | Budget       | 9-Month Expenditures | 9-Month Expenditures | Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Yr-End 6/30/2024 | FY24/25      | FY24/25            |            |                              |
| <b>G&amp;A/O&amp;M/DEBT SERVICE TOTAL</b> | \$ 8,658,536 | \$ 6,577,444         | \$ 6,577,444         | \$ 7,895,188     | \$ 7,895,188     | \$ 9,358,842 | \$ 9,358,842       | \$ 700,307 |                              |

**SUBTOTAL REVENUE BALANCE**

|   | FY 23/24     |                | FY 23/24       |                  | Projected        |              | Preliminary Budget |           | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
|   | Budget       | 9-Month Actual | 9-Month Actual | Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Yr-End 6/30/2024 | FY24/25      | FY24/25            |           |                              |
| <b>OPERATING REVENUES LESS OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b> | \$ 3,861,627 | \$ 3,333,268   | \$ 3,333,268   | \$ 4,986,793     | \$ 4,986,793     | \$ 3,898,498 | \$ 3,898,498       | \$ 36,870 |                              |

**OTHER EXPENSES**

| Account No.                             | Special Studies/Programs                                    | FY 23/24   |                      |                            | FY 23/24           |            |                    | FY 24/25    |                    |             | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|---|---|------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
|   |   | Budget     | 9-Month Expenditures | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget | FY 24/25   | Preliminary Budget | FY 24/25    | Preliminary Budget | FY 24/25    |                              |
| <b>Fisheries Program</b>                |   |            |                      |                            |                    |            |                    |             |                    |             |                              |
| 825800                                  | BiOp Implementation   | \$ 60,000  | \$ 37,117            | \$ 52,117                  | \$ 60,000          | \$ 60,000  | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 825401                                  | BiOp Studies/Consultation (Stetson/Hanson)                  | \$ 50,000  | \$ 4,907             | \$ 11,907                  | \$ 50,000          | \$ 50,000  | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 800201                                  | BiOp/Reconsultation/ESA (BBK)                               | \$ 40,000  | \$ 4,182             | \$ 11,182                  | \$ 40,000          | \$ 40,000  | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 826101                                  | SWRCB Order/Studies (Stetson/Hanson)                        | \$ 15,000  | \$ 5,044             | \$ 8,044                   | \$ 15,000          | \$ 10,000  | \$ (5,000)         | \$ (5,000)  | \$ (5,000)         | \$ (2,500)  | \$ (2,500)                   |
| 826201                                  | SWRCB Order/Studies (BBK)                                   | \$ 10,000  | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ 10,000          | \$ 7,500   | \$ (2,500)         | \$ (2,500)  | \$ (2,500)         | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 825402                                  | SWRCB Hearings Support (Stetson/Hanson)                     | \$ -       | \$ 287               | \$ -                       | \$ -               | \$ -       | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 800101                                  | SWRCB Hearings Support (BBK)                                | \$ -       | \$ 1,377             | \$ 3,377                   | \$ -               | \$ -       | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| <b>Special Programs</b>                 |   |            |                      |                            |                    |            |                    |             |                    |             |                              |
| 825500                                  | Hydrology SYR; Cachuma Water, RiverWare (Stetson)           | \$ -       | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ -               | \$ 1,500   | \$ 1,500           | \$ 1,500    | \$ 1,500           | \$ 1,500    | \$ 1,500                     |
| 825601                                  | Integrated Regional Water Management Plan                   | \$ 1,500   | \$ 439               | \$ 639                     | \$ 1,500           | \$ 750     | \$ (750)           | \$ (750)    | \$ (750)           | \$ (750)    | \$ (750)                     |
| 825600                                  | Water Conservation Program/RWEP                             | \$ 5,000   | \$ 4,204             | \$ 4,204                   | \$ 5,000           | \$ 5,000   | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| <b>Subtotal Studies/Programs</b>        |   | \$ 181,500 | \$ 57,557            | \$ 91,470                  | \$ 181,500         | \$ 174,750 | \$ (6,750)         | \$ (6,750)  | \$ (6,750)         | \$ (6,750)  | \$ (6,750)                   |
| <b>Legal &amp; Engineering Services</b> |   |            |                      |                            |                    |            |                    |             |                    |             |                              |
| <b>Legal</b>                            |   |            |                      |                            |                    |            |                    |             |                    |             |                              |
| 800202                                  | Interagency Involvement                                     | \$ 35,000  | \$ 430               | \$ 430                     | \$ 35,000          | \$ 15,000  | \$ (20,000)        | \$ (20,000) | \$ (20,000)        | \$ (20,000) | \$ (20,000)                  |
| 800205                                  | SWP Water Management Case                                   | \$ 60,000  | \$ 36,486            | \$ 41,486                  | \$ 60,000          | \$ 45,000  | \$ (15,000)        | \$ (15,000) | \$ (15,000)        | \$ (15,000) | \$ (15,000)                  |
| 800500                                  | Unanticipated or Extraordinary Special Legal<br>BHFS<br>BBK | \$ 35,000  | \$ 947               | \$ 1,947                   | \$ 35,000          | \$ 20,000  | \$ (15,000)        | \$ (15,000) | \$ (15,000)        | \$ (15,000) | \$ (15,000)                  |
| <b>Engineering Services</b>             |   |            |                      |                            |                    |            |                    |             |                    |             |                              |
| 800301                                  | Downstream Water Rights & Studies                           | \$ 20,000  | \$ 5,609             | \$ 5,609                   | \$ 20,000          | \$ 45,000  | \$ 25,000          | \$ 25,000   | \$ 25,000          | \$ 25,000   | \$ 25,000                    |
| 800300                                  | Easements, Survey & Water Projects                          | \$ 10,000  | \$ 345               | \$ 345                     | \$ 10,000          | \$ 80,000  | \$ 70,000          | \$ 70,000   | \$ 70,000          | \$ 70,000   | \$ 70,000                    |
| 800102                                  | Sustainable Groundwater Management Act                      | \$ 100,000 | \$ 100,181           | \$ 115,181                 | \$ 100,000         | \$ 100,000 | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 800103                                  | SGMA Reimbursable Cost Shares                               | \$ 50,000  | \$ 12,439            | \$ 22,439                  | \$ 50,000          | \$ 10,000  | \$ (40,000)        | \$ (40,000) | \$ (40,000)        | \$ (40,000) | \$ (40,000)                  |
| <b>Subtotal Legal/Engineering</b>       |   | \$ 325,000 | \$ 163,143           | \$ 195,143                 | \$ 325,000         | \$ 330,000 | \$ 5,000           | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000           | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000                     |
| <b>Non Recurring Expenses/Projects</b>  |   |            |                      |                            |                    |            |                    |             |                    |             |                              |
| 826000                                  | CR6 Implementation Plan/Other Treatment Projects            | \$ 30,000  | \$ -                 | \$ 5,000                   | \$ 30,000          | \$ 180,000 | \$ 150,000         | \$ 150,000  | \$ 150,000         | \$ 150,000  | \$ 150,000                   |
| 825700                                  | Water Rate Study  | \$ 75,000  | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ 75,000          | \$ 75,000  | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -               | \$ -        | \$ -                         |
| 850500                                  | USBR Cachuma Project Contract/Studies                       | \$ 15,000  | \$ 6,856             | \$ 6,856                   | \$ 15,000          | \$ 10,000  | \$ (5,000)         | \$ (5,000)  | \$ (5,000)         | \$ (5,000)  | \$ (5,000)                   |
| 800203                                  | River Water Right Proceedings (BHFS)                        | \$ 50,000  | \$ 203,790           | \$ 210,790                 | \$ 50,000          | \$ 25,000  | \$ (25,000)        | \$ (25,000) | \$ (25,000)        | \$ (25,000) | \$ (25,000)                  |
| 800204                                  | River Water Right Proceedings (Stetson/Hanson)              | \$ 30,000  | \$ 21,398            | \$ 26,398                  | \$ 30,000          | \$ 10,000  | \$ (20,000)        | \$ (20,000) | \$ (20,000)        | \$ (20,000) | \$ (20,000)                  |
| 825900                                  | Water System Study Updates (Stetson)                        | \$ 10,000  | \$ 12,437            | \$ -                       | \$ 10,000          | \$ -       | \$ (10,000)        | \$ (10,000) | \$ (10,000)        | \$ (10,000) | \$ (10,000)                  |
| <b>Subtotal Non-Annual</b>              |   | \$ 210,000 | \$ 237,625           | \$ 249,044                 | \$ 210,000         | \$ 300,000 | \$ 90,000          | \$ 90,000   | \$ 90,000          | \$ 90,000   | \$ 90,000                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            |   | \$ 716,500 | \$ 458,325           | \$ 535,657                 | \$ 716,500         | \$ 804,750 | \$ 88,250          | \$ 88,250   | \$ 88,250          | \$ 88,250   | \$ 88,250                    |

**TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES**

| Account No.  | Special Studies/Programs | FY 23/24 |                      |                            | FY 24/25           |          |                    | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|--------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|------------------------------|
|              |                          | Budget   | 9-Month Expenditures | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget | FY 24/25 | Preliminary Budget |                              |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                          |          |                      |                            |                    |          |                    | \$ 88,250                    |

**BUDGET BALANCE**

|  | FY 23/24<br>Budget | FY 23/24<br>9-Month Actual | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | Variance from<br>2023/24 Budget |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| TOTAL REVENUES                                   | \$ 12,520,163      | \$ 9,910,712               | \$ 12,881,981              | \$ 13,257,340              | \$ 737,177                      |
| TOTAL O&M EXPENDITURES                           | \$ (5,781,310)     | \$ (4,732,116)             | \$ (5,555,817)             | \$ (6,285,636)             | \$ 504,326                      |
| TOTAL G&A EXPENDITURES                           | \$ (2,850,250)     | \$ (1,818,352)             | \$ (2,312,395)             | \$ (3,046,230)             | \$ 195,979                      |
| TOTAL DEBT SERVICE                               | \$ (26,976)        | \$ (26,976)                | \$ (26,976)                | \$ (26,976)                | \$ -                            |
| Subtotal Revenue Balance                         | \$ 3,861,627       | \$ 3,333,268               | \$ 4,986,793               | \$ 3,898,498               | \$ 36,870                       |
| TOTAL Other Expenses (Spec Study/Legal/Eng/NARE) | \$ (716,500)       | \$ (458,325)               | \$ (535,657)               | \$ (804,750)               | \$ 88,250                       |
| Sub Total Balance                                | \$ 3,145,127       | \$ 2,874,943               | \$ 4,451,136               | \$ 3,093,748               | \$ (51,380)                     |
| <b>Budget Balance</b>                            | \$ 3,145,127       | \$ 2,874,943               | \$ 4,451,136               | \$ 3,093,748               | \$ (51,380)                     |

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

| Account No.                 | Project Description                             | FY 23/24            | FY 23/24            | FY 23/24             |                      | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                             |   | Budget              | Budget              | 9-Month Expenditures | 9-Month Expenditures |                            |                            |                              |
| <b>Plant Expansion</b>      |   |                     |                     |                      |                      |                            |                            |                              |
| 900332                      | District Building                               | \$ 125,000          | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ 50,000                  | \$ (75,000)                  |
| 900333                      | Cr6 Water Treatment Facilities                  | \$ 285,000          | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ (285,000)                 |
| 900372                      | Office Computers, Furniture & Equipment         | \$ 36,500           | \$ 19,732           | \$ -                 | \$ 24,232            | \$ -                       | \$ 40,200                  | \$ 3,700                     |
| 900318                      | Meter Replacement/Utility Billing               | \$ 151,800          | \$ 89,760           | \$ -                 | \$ 103,009           | \$ -                       | \$ 10,000                  | \$ (141,800)                 |
| 900371                      | Office Bldg/Shop Improvements                   | \$ 26,000           | \$ 10,298           | \$ -                 | \$ 21,298            | \$ -                       | \$ 90,000                  | \$ 64,000                    |
| 900376                      | Communication/Telemetry Equipment (SCADA)       | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ -                         |
| 900181                      | ESRI CAD-GIS System; Equipment                  | \$ 1,000            | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ 1,000                   | \$ -                         |
| 900378                      | Major Tools, Shop & Garage Equipment            | \$ 102,230          | \$ 102,230          | \$ -                 | \$ 102,230           | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ (102,230)                 |
| 900350                      | Uplands Wells                                   | \$ 328,200          | \$ 323,703          | \$ -                 | \$ 325,703           | \$ -                       | \$ 35,000                  | \$ (293,200)                 |
|                             | <b>Sub-Total - Plant Expansion Projects</b>     | <b>\$ 1,055,730</b> | <b>\$ 545,723</b>   | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 576,472</b>    | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ 226,200</b>          | <b>\$ (829,530)</b>          |
| <b>Repair &amp; Replace</b> |   |                     |                     |                      |                      |                            |                            |                              |
| 900200                      | Pumps & Motor Replacement                       | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ 175,000                 | \$ 175,000                   |
| 900106                      | Rehab/Replace/New-Trans. Mains/Laterals/Valves  | \$ 134,400          | \$ 79,762           | \$ -                 | \$ 87,738            | \$ -                       | \$ 55,000                  | \$ (79,400)                  |
| 900170                      | 6.0 CFS Well Field                              | \$ 219,200          | \$ 198,078          | \$ -                 | \$ 200,078           | \$ -                       | \$ 15,000                  | \$ (204,200)                 |
| 900335                      | SWP Pump Station/Pipeline                       | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ -                         |
| 900373                      | Fleet Vehicle Addition & Replacement            | \$ 55,000           | \$ 67,986           | \$ -                 | \$ 67,986            | \$ -                       | \$ 150,000                 | \$ 95,000                    |
| 900171                      | 4.0 CFS Well Field                              | \$ 70,400           | \$ 54,503           | \$ -                 | \$ 54,503            | \$ -                       | \$ 5,000                   | \$ (65,400)                  |
| 900195                      | Refugio 2 BPS                                   | \$ 44,400           | \$ 45,776           | \$ -                 | \$ 47,776            | \$ -                       | \$ 5,000                   | \$ (39,400)                  |
| 900196                      | Alamo Pintado BPS                               | \$ 164,700          | \$ 141,141          | \$ -                 | \$ 141,141           | \$ -                       | \$ 5,000                   | \$ (159,700)                 |
| 900197                      | Refugio 3 BPS                                   | \$ 59,900           | \$ 119,515          | \$ -                 | \$ 123,515           | \$ -                       | \$ 134,188                 | \$ 74,288                    |
| 900198                      | Meadowmark BPS                                  | \$ 308,800          | \$ 198,600          | \$ -                 | \$ 198,600           | \$ -                       | \$ 157,300                 | \$ (151,500)                 |
| 900102                      | Zone 1, 2, 3 Reservoirs                         | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                       | \$ -                       | \$ -                         |
|                             | <b>Subtotal Repair &amp; Replace Projects</b>   | <b>\$ 1,056,800</b> | <b>\$ 905,361</b>   | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 921,337</b>    | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ 701,488</b>          | <b>\$ (355,312)</b>          |
|                             | <b>Grand Total Capital Improvement Projects</b> | <b>\$ 2,112,530</b> | <b>\$ 1,451,084</b> | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 1,497,809</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ 927,688</b>          | <b>\$ (1,184,842)</b>        |

**TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

| Account No. | Project Description | FY 23/24            | FY 23/24            | FY 23/24             |                      | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
|             |                     | Budget              | Budget              | 9-Month Expenditures | 9-Month Expenditures |                            |                            |                              |
|             | <b>TOTAL</b>        | <b>\$ 2,112,530</b> | <b>\$ 1,451,084</b> | <b>\$ -</b>          | <b>\$ 1,497,809</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ 927,688</b>          | <b>\$ (1,184,842)</b>        |

**RESERVE BALANCE**

| Account No.  | FY 23/24 Budget | FY 23/24 9-Month Actual | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>DISBURSEMENT OF REMAINING BUDGET BALANCE</b>      | \$ 3,145,127    | \$ 2,874,943            | \$ 4,451,136               | \$ 3,093,748               | \$ (51,380)                  |
| 271800 Repair & Replace Reserve                      | \$ (1,056,800)  | \$ (905,361)            | \$ (921,337)               | \$ (701,488)               | \$ (355,312)                 |
| 272000 Plant Expansion Reserve                       | \$ (1,055,730)  | \$ (545,723)            | \$ (576,472)               | \$ (226,200)               | \$ (829,530)                 |
| <b>Sub Total CIP Reserves</b>                        | \$ (2,112,530)  | \$ (1,451,084)          | \$ (1,497,809)             | \$ (927,688)               | \$ (1,184,842)               |
| <b>Funding from Reserves<br/>Funding to Reserves</b> | \$ 1,032,597    | \$ 1,423,858            | \$ 2,953,326               | \$ 2,166,060               |                              |

**TOTAL BUDGET**

|              | FY 23/24 Budget | FY 23/24 9-Month Actual | Projected Yr-End 6/30/2024 | Preliminary Budget FY24/25 | Variance from 2023/24 Budget |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | \$ 12,520,163   | \$ 9,910,712            | \$ 12,881,981              | \$ 13,257,340              | \$ 737,177                   |



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

**2024/2025 FISCAL YEAR APPROPRIATION LIMITATION CALCULATION**

Population and California per capita personal income change data provided by the State of California Department of Finance effective January 1, 2024 are used in computing the 2024/2025 Appropriation Limitation Calculation as follows:

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 2023/24 Appropriation Limit                                     | \$2,388,353                       |
| Per Capita Personal Income<br>Percentage Change over Prior Year | 3.62 percent                      |
| Population Change over Prior Year<br>Santa Barbara County       | 0.28 percent                      |
| Per Capita converted to a ratio:                                | $\frac{3.62 + 100}{100} = 1.0362$ |
| Population converted to a ratio:                                | $\frac{0.28 + 100}{100} = 1.0028$ |
| CPI Factor  | 1.0362                            |
| Population Factor   | 1.0028                            |
| CPI Factor X Population Factor                                  | 1.039                             |
| <b>1.039 x \$2,388,353 =</b>                                    | <b><u>\$2,481,499</u></b>         |

A Resolution will be presented to the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, for adoption of the 2024/2025 Appropriation Limit at a Regular Meeting on June 18, 2024.

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Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Posted: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at the District Office and on the District Website [www.syrwd.org](http://www.syrwd.org)  
Newspaper Publication Dates: Thursday, June 6, 2024 and Thursday, June 13, 2024

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
3622 SAGUNTO STREET - P.O. BOX 157  
SANTA YNEZ, CA 93460  
(805) 688-6015

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 will consider adopting a Resolution setting the limit of appropriations pursuant to Article XIII B of the Constitution of the State of California for fiscal year 2024/2025 at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Documentation used in determining said limit is available to the public at the District office located at 3622 Sagunto Street, Santa Ynez, and on the District's website as of the posted date set forth below.

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Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Dated: May 21, 2024

Posted: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at the District Office

Newspaper Publication Dates:

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Thursday, June 13, 2024



DEPARTMENT OF  
**FINANCE**  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

April 30, 2024

Gavin Newsom ■ Governor

1021 O Street, Suite 3110 ■ Sacramento CA 95814 ■ [www.dof.ca.gov](http://www.dof.ca.gov)

Dear Fiscal Officer:

## Price Factor and Population Information

### Appropriations Limit

California Revenue and Taxation Code section 2227 requires the Department of Finance to transmit an estimate of the percentage change in population to local governments. Each local jurisdiction must use their percentage change in population factor for January 1, 2024, in conjunction with a change in the cost of living, or price factor, to calculate their appropriations limit for fiscal year 2024-25. Attachment A provides the change in California's per capita personal income and an example for utilizing the factors to calculate the 2024-25 appropriations limit. Attachment B provides the city and unincorporated county population percentage change. Attachment C provides the population percentage change for counties and their summed incorporated areas. The population percentage change data excludes federal and state institutionalized populations and military populations.

### Population Percent Change for Special Districts

Some special districts must establish an annual appropriations limit. [California Revenue and Taxation Code section 2228](#) provides additional information regarding the appropriations limit. [Article XIII B, section 9\(C\) of the California Constitution](#) exempts certain special districts from the appropriations limit calculation mandate. Special districts required by law to calculate their appropriations limit must present the calculation as part of their annual audit. Any questions special districts have on this requirement should be directed to their county, district legal counsel, or the law itself. No state agency reviews the local appropriations limits.

### Population Certification

The population certification program applies only to cities and counties. California Revenue and Taxation Code section 11005.6 mandates Finance to automatically certify any population estimate that exceeds the current certified population with the State Controller's Office. **Finance will certify the higher estimate to the State Controller by June 1, 2024.** Please note: The prior year's city population estimates may be revised. The per capita personal income change is based on historical data.

If you have any questions regarding this data, please contact the Demographic Research Unit at (916) 323-4086.

/s Erika Li

Attachment

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

APR 30 2024

RECEIVED

- A. **Price Factor:** Article XIII B specifies that local jurisdictions select their cost of living factor to compute their appropriation limit by a vote of their governing body. The cost of living factor provided here is per capita personal income. If the percentage change in per capita personal income is selected, the percentage change to be used in setting the fiscal year 2024-25 appropriation limit is:

Per Capita Personal Income

| Fiscal Year (FY) | Percentage change over prior year |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2024-25          | 3.62                              |

- B. Following is an example using sample population change and the change in California per capita personal income as growth factors in computing a 2024-25 appropriation limit.

**2024-25:**

Per Capita Cost of Living Change = 3.62 percent  
 Population Change = 0.17 percent

Per Capita Cost of Living converted to a ratio:  $\frac{3.62 + 100}{100} = 1.0362$

Population converted to a ratio:  $\frac{0.17 + 100}{100} = 1.0017$

Calculation of factor for FY 2024-25:  $1.0362 \times 1.0017 = 1.0379$

Fiscal Year 2024-25

**Attachment B**  
**Annual Percent Change In Population Minus Exclusions\***  
**January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024 and Total Population, January 1, 2024**

| County<br>City       | Percent Change | --- Population Minus Exclusions --- |                | Total<br>Population |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
|                      | 23-24          | 1-1-23                              | 1-1-24         | 1-1-24              |
| <b>Santa Barbara</b> |                |                                     |                |                     |
| Buellton             | 0.04           | 4,968                               | 4,970          | 4,970               |
| Carpinteria          | 0.08           | 12,734                              | 12,744         | 12,744              |
| Galeta               | 0.04           | 32,503                              | 32,515         | 32,515              |
| Guadalupe            | 1.10           | 8,582                               | 8,676          | 8,676               |
| Lompoc               | -0.06          | 40,571                              | 40,545         | 43,610              |
| Santa Barbara        | 0.35           | 85,362                              | 85,659         | 85,679              |
| Santa Maria          | 0.84           | 109,687                             | 110,608        | 110,608             |
| Solvang              | 0.05           | 5,660                               | 5,663          | 5,663               |
| Unincorporated       | -0.07          | 136,235                             | 136,144        | 139,158             |
| <b>County Total</b>  | <b>0.28</b>    | <b>436,302</b>                      | <b>437,524</b> | <b>443,623</b>      |

\*Exclusions include residents on federal military installations and group quarters residents in state mental institutions, state and federal correctional institutions and veteran homes.

**DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
ESTABLISHING THE APPROPRIATION LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025  
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII B OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 ("District"), Santa Barbara County, California, that:

**WHEREAS**, the District is required pursuant to Government Code Section 7910 to establish by Resolution its appropriation limit for the 2024/2025 fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the documentation used in the determination of said limit has been available to the public at the District office and on the District website for at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of this Resolution, and was published in a newspaper of general circulation within the District on June 6, 2024 and on June 13, 2023.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that, in accordance with information published by the California Department of Finance, the appropriation limit of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, for the 2024/2025 fiscal year is established at \$2,481,499.

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED**, being the duly qualified President and Secretary, respectively, of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Board of Trustees of said District at a Regular Meeting held on June 18, 2024, by the following roll call vote:

**AYES**, and in favor thereof, Trustees:

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| <b>NOES</b> , Trustees:   | None |
| <b>ABSENT</b> , Trustees: | None |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Clay, President

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Racel Cota, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

**DRAFT RESOLUTION No. XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1  
ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025  
AND REQUESTING AN ASSESSMENT LEVY REQUIRED TO COLLECT \$875,000**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 ("District"), Santa Barbara County, California, that:

**WHEREAS**, on January 5, 1960 a Special Election was held and voters approved a contract with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, Contract No. 14-06-200-8253 ("Contract"), for the purpose of providing an adequate system of water supply, storage and distribution facilities, mains and appurtenances, and lands and easements necessary presently and prospectively for the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, and its inhabitants; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 18(b) of the Contract requires the District to cause to be levied ad valorem taxes and assessments to fulfill its obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, the District continues to incur and pay the costs of the continuing operations, maintenance, repair, replacement, and betterment of the project works; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, is required to forward to the Board of Supervisors and the County Auditor of the County of Santa Barbara an estimate, in writing, of the amount of ad valorem tax assessment money needed for the purposes of the District for the ensuing fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and any reserve funds; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with information published by the California Department of Finance, the appropriation limit of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 for fiscal year 2024/2025 is established at \$2,481,499 and the District adopted Resolution No. 8XX on June 18, 2024 establishing said appropriation limit for fiscal year 2024/2025 pursuant to Government Code Section 7910; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding the District's fiscal year 2024/2025 appropriation limit of \$2,481,499, and notwithstanding the financial projections from the District's 2016 Water Rate Study that the District would collect an assessment levy in the amount of \$875,000 in fiscal year 2017/2018, and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2018/2019, and \$1,125,000 in fiscal year 2019/2020, and \$1,250,000 in fiscal year 2020/2021, and \$1,250,000 in fiscal year 2021/2022, \$1,250,000 in fiscal year 2022/2023, \$1,250,000 in fiscal year 2023/2024 and \$1,250,000 in fiscal year 2024/2025, the District has limited its assessment amount to \$875,000 for fiscal years 2017/2018 through 2023/2024, and it has been determined that an assessment levy of \$875,000 for fiscal year 2024/2025 will provide sufficient funds to meet the needs of the District as stated above; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees has considered a budget for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, that the Secretary to the Board is hereby authorized and directed to forward to the Board of Supervisors and the County Auditor of the County of Santa Barbara, in writing, a request for an assessment levy of \$875,000 for the fiscal year 2024/2025; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Final Budget as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated by this reference is hereby approved and adopted for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

**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 duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Board of Trustees of said District at a Regular Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024, by the following roll call vote:

**AYES**, and in favor thereof, Trustees:

**NOES**, Trustees:

**ABSENT**, Trustees:

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Jeff Clay, President

**ATTEST:**

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Racel Cota, Secretary to the Board of Trustees



**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, MEETING ROOM  
1070 FARADAY STREET, SANTA YNEZ, CALIFORNIA  
6:30 P.M., THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024**

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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 842 5092 2697 Meeting Passcode: 665113**

**\*\*\* 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 March 28, 2024
5. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List
6. Receive update on Spring 2024 Water Level Measurements
7. Receive update on DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grant
8. Review and consider endorsing Draft EMA Joint Powers Agreement for approval by GSA member agencies
9. Discuss preparations for governance transition and consider directing staff to solicit qualifications and/or proposals for the following:
  - a. Executive Director
  - b. General Counsel
  - c. Rate Consultant
  - d. Insurance
10. Review and discuss meeting schedule for next two months. All meetings held at 6:30 PM, Santa Ynez CSD Meeting Room, 1070 Faraday St., Santa Ynez
  - a. Next Tentative Special EMA GSA Committee meeting, Thursday, June 27, 2024
  - b. Tentative Special EMA GSA Committee meeting Thursday, July 25, 2024

c. Next Regular EMA GSA Committee meeting, Thursday, August 22, 2024

11. EMA GSA Committee reports and requests for future agenda items
12. 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.]

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0015**

**ADOPTING A MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL FOR HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM  
AND CERTIFYING FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

**WHEREAS:**

1. California public water systems are subject to regulations adopted under the California Safe Drinking Water Act (Health & Saf. Code, div. 104, pt. 12, ch. 4, § 116270 et seq.).
2. Under the California Safe Drinking Water Act, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is responsible for adopting primary drinking water standards for contaminants in drinking water. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116365.) Primary drinking water standards are defined in the California Safe Drinking Water Act as the maximum levels of contaminants that, in the judgment of the state board, may have an adverse effect on the health of persons and the monitoring and reporting requirements adopted by the state board that pertain to the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). (Health & Saf. Code, § 116275, subd. (c).)
3. It is the policy of the state to reduce to the lowest level feasible all concentrations of toxic chemicals that, when present in drinking water, may cause cancer, birth defects, and other chronic diseases. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116270, subd. (d).)
4. Hexavalent chromium is a heavy metal that is carcinogenic and toxic to the liver, and it is present in drinking water due to both natural occurrence and its use in industrial applications.
5. The Legislature directed the State Water Board to adopt a primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116365.5.)
6. The State Water Board is required to set the primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium at a level that is as close as feasible to the public health goal published by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, placing primary emphasis on the protection of public health, and that, to the extent technologically and economically feasible, avoids any significant risk to public health. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116365.)
7. In 2011, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) published a public health goal for hexavalent chromium of 0.02 parts per

billion (ppb). In November 2023, as part of its review of the hexavalent chromium public health goal, OEHHA released a draft technical support document for a proposed health-protective concentration for the noncancer effects of hexavalent chromium in drinking water of 5 micrograms per liter (ug/L or ppb). Finalization of a PHG update will likely take at least another year to complete, including development of a health-protective concentration for cancer effects of hexavalent chromium.

8. On June 16, 2023, in accordance with the California Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (Gov. Code, div. 3, pt. 1, ch. 3.5), the State Water Board distributed, and the Office of Administrative Law published, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the proposed regulations, which included a primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium.
9. Consistent with the requirements of Government Code section 11346.2, the State Water Board prepared an Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) for proposing an MCL for hexavalent chromium of 10 ug/L, including a standardized regulatory impact analysis, as required by Government Code section 11346.3 and title 1 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 2000-2204, which was made available to the public.
10. Also on June 16, 2023, as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) (CEQA), the State Water Board completed a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed regulations in accordance with section 15187 of the CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.) and distributed a Notice of Availability of Draft EIR.
11. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and the Notice of Availability of Draft EIR solicited comments on the proposed regulations and the Draft EIR, respectively, until noon on August 4, 2023, for a public comment period greater than 45 days.
12. After distributing a Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on July 21, 2023, to change the location for a public hearing on the proposed regulations, the State Water Board distributed a Second Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to extend the public comment period on the proposed regulations to noon on August 11, 2023.
13. On August 2, 2023, the State Water Board held a hearing to receive oral and written comments from the public on the proposed regulations in accordance with the APA, and on the Draft EIR.

14. On August 4, 2023, the State Water Board distributed a Third Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to extend the public comment period on the proposed regulations to noon on August 18, 2023.
15. At the hearing and in written comments, groups representing publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) expressed concerns about the impacts of the hexavalent chromium MCL on their operations, including the need to meet the MCL as a water quality objective to protect municipal and domestic supply beneficial uses of water because some regional water quality control boards have prospectively incorporated by reference drinking water standards as water quality objectives into their water quality control plans. The State Water Board is adopting the MCL pursuant to its authorities and responsibilities under the California Safe Drinking Water Act, and as a result the State Water Board is not required to consider the factors specified in Water Code section 13241, even though some regional water boards' basin plans incorporate by reference primary drinking water standards as water quality objectives. The MCL would be incorporated as a numeric effluent limitation for a POTW only if appropriate and only in compliance with applicable laws (including the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act), through a noticed permit amendment or reissuance.
16. On November 22, 2023, in response to public comments, the State Water Board distributed a Notice of Public Availability of Changes to Proposed Regulations, soliciting comments on changes to the proposed regulations until noon on December 15, 2023.
17. On January 31, 2024, and February 14, 2024, the State Water Board distributed a Notice of Public Availability of Additional Documents Relied Upon and a Revised Notice of Public Availability of Additional Documents Relied Upon, respectively, soliciting public comments on the addition of the documents to the rulemaking record until noon on March 4, 2024.
18. Following the close of the final public comment period on March 4, 2024, State Water Board staff compiled, reviewed, and prepared draft responses to comments on the proposed regulations and the Draft EIR, and made those available to the public as part of the agenda item for the approval of the regulations.
19. Final responses to all comments on the proposed regulations that were received during the public comment periods will be prepared and contained within the Final Statement of Reasons and submitted to the Office of Administrative Law as part of the rulemaking record.

20. The State Water Board did not receive any comments or additional information that constituted significant new information requiring recirculation of the Draft EIR under section 21092.1 of the Public Resources Code and section 15088.5 of the CEQA Guidelines.
21. As required by CEQA, no fewer than 10 days before the date of this meeting the State Water Board distributed a copy of the Final EIR, including responses to comments, to all public agencies that commented on the Draft EIR.
22. The State Water Board is required to adopt a finding of the best available technology for each contaminant for which a primary drinking water standard has been adopted at the time the standard is adopted, taking into consideration the costs and benefits of best available treatment technologies that have been proven effective under full-scale field applications. (Health & Saf. Code, § 116370.)
23. The State Water Board finds that the best available technologies for removing hexavalent chromium from drinking water are ion exchange, reverse osmosis, and reduction/coagulation/filtration, as described in the Initial Statement of Reasons for the proposed regulations and as specified in the proposed regulations.
24. The State Water Board submitted the scientific portions of the proposed regulations, along with a statement of the scientific findings, conclusions, and assumptions on which the scientific portions of the proposed regulations are based and the supporting scientific data, studies, and other appropriate materials, for external scientific peer review in accordance with section 57004 of the Health and Safety Code. The State Water Board posted the peer review request, findings, and State Water Board responses on the State Water Board's website.
25. Regulatory package elements are posted on the program webpage at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/SWRCB/DDW-21-003\\_hexavalent\\_chromium.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/SWRCB/DDW-21-003_hexavalent_chromium.html).
26. The State Water Board finds that the proposed regulations are technologically and economically feasible for the reasons set forth in the Initial Statement of Reasons.
27. It is the policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking,

and sanitary purposes. (Wat. Code, § 106.3.) The State Water Board has considered this policy when adopting the proposed regulations, including the need to consider impacts to affordability from regulations that protect public health and safety. The adoption of the proposed regulations advances the human right to water by setting a primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium that is protective of public health, while avoiding substantial impacts to affordability and accessibility. Adoption of the proposed regulations would improve the safety of drinking water from public water systems in California by prohibiting hexavalent chromium above the proposed maximum contaminant level of 10 ppb. As described in the ISOR, the proposed regulations would reduce the risk of cancer and health effects from liver toxicity due to hexavalent chromium. At the same time, and as discussed in the ISOR, the proposed regulations are economically feasible. Nevertheless, it is possible that some customers may struggle to afford safe drinking water as a result of rate increases imposed by affected public water systems to comply with the proposed regulations. That risk, however, can potentially be mitigated by financial assistance for public water systems and alternative means of compliance for small systems, including implementation of point-of-use and point-of-entry treatment units in lieu of centralized treatment. In addition, the ISOR demonstrates that the likely monthly increase for the vast majority of those affected is less than \$8, an affordable increase to protect public health and provide safe drinking water to as many Californians as possible.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Certifies that the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA, that the Final EIR was presented to the State Water Board as the decision-making body, that the State Water Board reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR prior to approving the proposed regulations, and that the Final EIR reflects the State Water Board's independent judgment and analysis.
2. Adopts the CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations (Attachment 1).
3. Adopts the proposed regulations for a hexavalent chromium MCL of 10 ppb, and makes modifications to California Code of Regulations, Title 22, sections 64415, 64431, 64432, 64447.2, 64463.4, 64465, and 64481, as appended to this resolution (Attachment 2).

4. Encourages the regional water quality control boards to work with the POTWs and consider approaches, including schedules of compliance, to avoid imposing unnecessary costs to POTWs to address exceedances of hexavalent chromium in their effluent that will be addressed as public water systems come into compliance with the MCL.
5. Directs the Executive Director or designee to sign Form 400, and directs staff to compile the final statement of reasons, including the final responses to comments, and submit it with the adopted regulations to OAL.
6. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to make non-substantive revisions to the adopted regulations or supporting documentation, if prior to their filing by OAL with the Secretary of State, the State Water Board or its staff, or OAL, determine that non-substantive revisions are needed.
7. Directs staff to file a Notice of Determination in accordance with CEQA within five working days of the date of this resolution.
8. Directs staff to continue to monitor OEHHA's update of the PHG for hexavalent chromium, and to amend the MCL, as required by section 116365 of the Health and Safety Code, if any updated PHG indicates that hexavalent chromium may present a materially different risk to public health than was previously determined.

#### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on April 17, 2024.

AYE:           Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel  
                  Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo  
                  Board Member Sean Maguire  
                  Board Member Laurel Firestone  
                  Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY:           None

ABSENT:       None

ABSTAIN:      None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Tyler  
Clerk to the Board



WATER

# California sets nation's first water standard for cancer-causing contaminant



BY RACHEL BECKER

APRIL 17, 2024 UPDATED APRIL 18, 2024



California has set a new drinking water standard for a chromium contaminant found in many water supplies. Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

Listen to this article



## IN SUMMARY

Water suppliers say the costs will be massive, with rates increasing for many consumers. Known as the “Erin Brockovich” chemical, hexavalent chromium is found statewide.

*Lea esta historia en [Español](#)*

In an effort to protect more than 5 million Californians from a cancer-causing contaminant, state regulators today set a new standard that is expected to increase the cost of water for many people throughout the state.

The State Water Resources Control Board unanimously approved the nation’s first drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium, which is found **naturally in some California groundwater** as well as water contaminated by industries.

Now water suppliers will be forced to install costly treatment to limit the chemical in water to no more than 10 parts per billion — equivalent to about **10 drops in an Olympic-sized swimming pool**.

California water systems are expected to spend **\$180 million a year** to comply, including testing and treatment. The water board said the average cost for most people would be **less than \$20 per month, with 87% paying about \$8 per month**. The cost rises an average of \$135 per month for people served by water agencies with fewer than 100 connections.



Water California sets nation’s first water

Donate

Coachella City Councilman Frank Figueroa said it would cost his city \$90 million to install treatment on its wells, which would increase average monthly bills by almost 500% — “an insufferable figure” for the community, **where incomes average \$24,000 a year per person**.

Cities and water agencies said they desperately need financial help from the state.

“This year’s fiscal crunch does not bode well, and even in a good year, they (state officials) can’t get aid to everyone that needs it,” Tim Worley, managing director of the Community Water Systems Alliance, told CalMatters.

Hexavalent chromium was made infamous by the movie “Erin Brockovich,” which dramatized Pacific Gas & Electric’s contamination of the water supply of a small California desert town. PG&E paid a \$333 million settlement to about 600 Hinkley residents in 1996 who claimed they suffered high rates of cancer and other diseases.

Levels above the new state limit have been reported in about 330 sources of water supplies in California. Some of the areas affected are the counties of Sacramento, Solano, Santa Cruz, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Monterey and Merced. The highest levels found were in Riverside, Yolo, Los Angeles and Ventura counties, although water suppliers may blend or treat the water to reduce the contaminants there.

Central Coast resident Ana Maria Perez told the board that her community suffers from elevated levels of hexavalent chromium, nitrates and other contaminants.

“I’m here because the State Water Board has again failed us,” she said through an interpreter. “It’s not fair that many people have to get sick and even die because the State Water Board has not done their job well.”

The largest water suppliers will have two years to comply; smaller ones with fewer than 1,000 connections will have four years. Many water suppliers said permitting, financing and construction timelines would make it difficult to meet these deadlines, and urged the state for more flexibility.

“It’s untenable for some of those communities,” said Andrea Abergel, manager of water policy for the California Municipal Utilities Association.

The new standard is one of the least protective of all the water contaminants regulated by California, according to a state analysis.

Public health advocates had urged a more stringent standard because the one set is 500 times higher than the level that state scientists deemed a negligible, one-in-a-million cancer risk. Under the new standard, for every 2,000 people who drink the water for a lifetime, one person would be at risk of cancer.

“Personally, I think we should go lower,” said water board member Laurel Firestone. She voted for it anyway but wants to revisit it when the standard is reviewed in five years.

Max Costa, professor and chair of environmental medicine at NYU School of Medicine, was an expert witness for residents in the Brockovich case. When California regulators first unveiled the proposed limit, he said “it’s not terrible, but it’s not acceptable...The most acceptable level is none.”

Some hexavalent chromium occurs naturally in California's rocks and soils; some seeps into the environment from industries that work with chrome, such as metal-plating, stainless steel production and wood preservation.

California's new standard is "expected to protect an estimated 5.5 million people... from potential illness due to hexavalent chromium," according to a water board report.

California until now limited hexavalent chromium under a combined standard of 50 parts per billion for all types of chromium, including a more benign type called trivalent chromium.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency doesn't have a hexavalent chromium standard for drinking water. Instead, more than 30 years ago, it set a national standard for total chromium at 100 parts per billion, or 10 times higher than the California one for hexavalent chromium. In response to studies linking it to cancer, the EPA is now conducting a human health risk assessment for the contaminant.

A decade ago, California regulators tried to enact the same limit for hexavalent chromium but the regulation was overturned in court because it "failed to properly consider the economic feasibility of complying."

California regulators said their analysis now supports the feasibility because of the low per-person costs for most people and "because there are sufficient resources available." They added, though, that they can't guarantee state funding to assist water suppliers.

"Those same dollars are spoken for time and time again," water board member Sean Maguire said at the hearing today. "Which is why we have so many folks who still are struggling meeting even the current standards that we have today."

Hexavalent chromium has long been known to cause cancer when it's inhaled, but until recently it was controversial whether drinking it also was linked to cancer. In 2008, a study showed that rats and mice drinking high doses grew cancers in their mouths and intestines, which scientists say "clearly demonstrates" a cancer risk from consuming it.

Roberta Walker, a former resident of Hinkley, blames the contaminant for health problems that have plagued her family and community. The levels of contamination in Hinkley were far higher than the limits the state adopted today. But even California's new limits, Walker said, are too high.

"I don't care if it's a pinch or a lot. A poison is poison," Walker said. "No matter how you look at it, it's not good."

# Analysis: Benefits of the Delta Conveyance Project Far Exceed Costs

Published: May 16, 2024

*The project will deliver nearly \$38 billion in benefits, preventing both water shortages and water rationing, and saving more water during wet years*

**SACRAMENTO** – Today, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a [benefit-cost analysis](#) for the Delta Conveyance Project that finds the infrastructure modernization project would create [billions of dollars in benefits](#) for California communities, including reliable water supplies, climate change adaptation, earthquake preparedness and improved water quality.

For every \$1 spent, \$2.20 in benefits would be generated. The report also shows the very real cost of doing nothing, posing significant future challenges to supplying water to California communities.

"The Delta Conveyance Project passes the benefit-cost test readily, with benefits that are more than double the cost," said Dr. David Sunding, Emeritus Professor, UC Berkeley, who led the benefit-cost analysis. "The project enables ongoing demands to be satisfied and water supply reliability to be maintained," he said, adding "the benefits clearly justify the costs."

As climate change and regulatory constraints cause water supplies to diminish over time, the reliability of the State Water Project infrastructure is in jeopardy, putting 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland at risk. This new [benefit-cost analysis](#) provides a compelling financial rationale for the public water agencies funding the project to be able continue to provide affordable, safe, clean and reliable water supply.

"Twenty-seven million people rely on these surface water supplies that support a \$2.3 trillion economy in California," said Karla Nemeth, Director of the California Department of Water Resources. "There is a very real cost to do nothing. It is vastly more efficient and economical to avoid declining supplies. Water shortages, mandatory restrictions, land fallowing and job loss all impact our state and local economies."

**Figure: Delta Conveyance Project water supplies among most economical sources**

## MORE WATER SUPPLY

The need for operational flexibility that the Delta Conveyance Project would grant water managers is especially notable this year. Even though it was a wet winter, fishery-related regulations significantly constrained water exports from the south Delta. If the Delta Conveyance Project had been available, an additional 909,000 acre-feet of water could have been moved from the intakes in the north Delta where it is safer for fish. The Delta Conveyance Project helps resolve these difficult conflicts in the south Delta.

## COSTS REMAIN FLAT, DESIGN Innovations CAN SAVE ANOTHER \$1.2B

An [updated cost estimate](#) was prepared by the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA). The cost of the project is estimated to be \$20.1B in real 2023 (undiscounted) dollars. A preliminary cost assessment conducted in 2020, early in the design process, showed the project would cost about \$16B. Accounting for inflation to 2023 dollars shows that the two estimates are similar in cost. Even as details are added and refinements made to the program, costs are holding steady.

The DCA is the joint powers authority that, under DWR's direction, is responsible for project design and engineering and will oversee construction. The DCA is a public agency comprised of the local public water agencies participating in the project.

“Our member agencies are paying for this project, and they have a fiduciary responsibility to their ratepayers to ensure the project is built on time and budget with the highest industry standards for safety, quality and risk management,” said Graham Bradner, executive director of the DCA.

The DCA conducted a preliminary value engineering exercise to identify design and construction innovations that present opportunities to cut costs, save time, and reduce risks. These engineering innovations, while not representing changes to the approved project description, do show that there is genuine potential for a significant cost reduction of about \$1.2 billion even at this early stage of project development.

Some examples of the DCA’s recommended design and construction innovations include:

- Optimize the Bethany Reservoir Pumping Plant belowground configuration to reduce construction effort and house the pumping plant equipment and piping more efficiently.
- Consider the latest tunnel boring machine technology that allows excavation and lining installation to happen concurrently.
- Raise the elevation of the intake screens to create more separation from the river bottom, improving O&M and reducing the depth of the intake structure.

### **\$200 Million Set Aside for Local Delta Community Projects**

A number that is new and noteworthy is the \$200 million set-aside for the project’s Community Benefits Program. DWR committed to this program by including it in the project’s environmental impact report, and this is the first time identifying a dollar value.

“We are committed to bringing substantial and tangible benefits to the communities in the project area that will see the most impacts from construction,” said Carrie Buckman, DWR’s Environmental Program Manager for the Delta Conveyance Project.

The Community Benefits Program is a recognition that while the benefits of the project are in other parts of California, the construction effects are local. While DWR remains committed to all mitigation adopted to address local environmental impacts, the Community Benefits Program will provide a grant fund for local projects, in addition to business development set-asides for job training and local business utilization, and potential “leave-behinds” like broadband or other infrastructure.

“The Community Benefits Program is going to pick up steam,” Buckman said. “We would like to work with communities to identify their priority projects and earmark those funds.”

Later this year, a draft implementation plan will be published for community review and input. It will include details about funding criteria and program administration.

### **RESOURCES:**

- [Benefit Cost Analysis](#)
- [Cost Estimate](#)
- [Facts About the Economic Value of the Delta Conveyance Project](#)
- [FAQ: Understanding Costs, Benefits, Funding and Financing for the Delta Conveyance Project](#)

###

Contact:

Public Affairs, Department of Water Resources

[media@water.ca.gov](mailto:media@water.ca.gov)



April 30, 2024

Congressman Salud Carbajal  
125 East De La Guerra Street, Suite 203B  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Re: Funding for City of Solvang Wastewater Treatment Plant Project

Hon. Congressman Carbajal:

**HONORARY TRUSTEE:**  
Harlan J. Burchardi  
1969-2020

**TRUSTEES:**

**DIVISION 1**  
Mark Moniot

**DIVISION 2**  
Jeff Clay

**DIVISION 3**  
Nick Urton

**DIVISION 4**  
Michael Burchardi

**TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE**  
Brad Joos

**GENERAL MANAGER**  
Paeter E. Garcia

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 (District) submits this letter to express its overwhelming support for the application submitted by the City of Solvang for Congressional funding to upgrade the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Solvang's WWTP project is a key component of the City's effort to diversify its water supply portfolio and help address the variety of water supply challenges facing municipalities and water purveyors throughout California, including but not limited to variable climate, prolonged drought conditions, groundwater overdraft, and regulatory constraints affecting the availability, reliability, and affordability of water supplies for our growing population.

For decades, our District and the City of Solvang have worked together to develop and maintain water supply resilience for the communities we serve. Solvang's project to implement a recycled water system advances this shared objective and anchors the City's commitment to sustainable water resource management. Indeed, recycled water itself is drought resistant, and using more recycled water promotes the City's ongoing efforts to offset demands for potable supplies. Not only does Solvang's WWTP project provide tangible water supply benefits for local communities, it is also squarely aligned with California's environmental stewardship and sustainability goals to increase the efficient reuse of water resources.

The District respectfully requests your full support for the City of Solvang's recycled water project. Funding for this project is essential for maintaining the local economy, supporting community growth, and contributing to environmental well-being. For more information regarding City and District efforts to ensure water supply reliability, please feel free to contact me at (805) 688-6015 or via email at [pgarcia@syrd.org](mailto:pgarcia@syrd.org).

Sincerely,

Paeter E. Garcia  
General Manager



# Monthly Briefing

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

## West Coast Irrigators Prepare for Another "Dry" Year

### *Hydrologic, Regulatory Constraints Put the Squeeze on Food Production*

Despite El Nino-driven "atmospheric river" storms that have saturated much of the mid-Pacific coast and interior watersheds, irrigators dependent upon the federally operated

Central Valley Project (CVP) and Klamath Project are once again facing water cutbacks, driven in large part by federal decisions that prioritize environmental needs over food production.

Further north, where El Nino typically generates a warm, dry winter, an underwhelming snowpack has led Washington state officials to declare a statewide drought emergency, as they anticipate conditions to worsen in the weeks ahead.

#### Regulatory Drought in the California's Central Valley

Some California water users were pleased when the Bu-

reau of Reclamation last month announced another increase in the Central Valley Project 2024 water supply allocation for south-of-Delta contractors and those in the Friant Division.

Others – not so much.

While all CVP contractors in the Sacramento Valley will receive 100% of their supplies, south-of-Delta agricultural contractors on the West side of the San Joaquin Valley were only increased from 35% to 40%. On the east side of the Valley, Friant Division Class 1 allocation was increased from 95% to 100% and the Class 2 allocation



*A dry, unirrigated field of the Klamath Project. Photo Source: KWUA*

increased from 0% to 5%.

"Hydrologic conditions have improved enough that we are able to provide this gradual increase," said Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) California-Great Basin Regional Director Karl Stock.

*Continued on Page 2*

### STORIES INSIDE.....

|   | <u>Page #</u> |
|---|---------------|
| House Subcommittee Conducts Oversight Hearing on Proposed Refuge Rule                               | 3             |
| Biden Administration Finalizes ESA Rules, Proposes New Ones   | 4             |
| Alliance-led Coalition Raises Concerns with Army Corps' Proposed Procedures                         | 5             |
| Ag Committees Rollout Previews of 2024 Farm Bill  | 6             |
| Comment Period Extended for Western Pond Turtle Listing   | 7             |
| Sen. Padilla Introduces DROUGHT Act / Water Efficiency Bills  | 7             |
| White House Hosts "Earth Week" Water Summit — \$1 Billion Announced for Tribal Clean Water Projects | 8             |
| Biden Administration Finalizes BLM Public Lands Rule  | 10            |
| RCPP Funding Hits Record High   | 11            |
| House Conservation Bill Passes Committee — Alliance Concerns with Offsets Addressed in Amended Bill | 11            |
| Support Pours in for Patrick O'Toole Young Conservationist Scholarship                              | 13            |
| A Big "Thank You" to our New and Supporting Members!  | 14            |

## Hydrology and Regulations Impact Allocations *(Cont'd from Pg. 1)*

"We realize that our contractors were hoping to see a greater amount of water, and we understand how critical irrigation is to California agriculture and the surrounding communities. However, continued uncertainty in long-term hydrology and regulatory constraints necessitate Reclamation's approach with available water supplies."

Friant Water Authority (FWA) representatives believe the latest decision will help to ensure optimal reservoir management and deliver the maximum amount of desperately needed supplies for the farms and communities on the east side of the Valley.

"Responsive. Prudent. Nimble. Those are the words that best describe the latest update for Friant Division water users", said Jason Phillips, CEO of FWA. "We are grateful that our partners at the Bureau continue to acknowledge an improving water year, and have acted accordingly in a timely manner."

On the other side of the Valley, the revised allocation for South of Delta agricultural contractors - including Westlands Water District—was updated with an increase of 5 percent from 35 to 40 percent of the total water contract, which was greeted with disappointment by Westlands' leaders. Considering that California's reservoirs and snowpack are at above-average levels and much of the state no longer in drought conditions, Reclamation's announcement was a bitter pill to swallow.

"This meager increase in allocation continues to present unnecessary and unjustified hardships for the hard-working people of our District," said Allison Febbo, General Manager, Westlands Water District. "Water from the Central Valley Project is the lifeblood of our farms and communities that rely on the crops they grow. If we can't expect transparency in the process and a robust water allocation reflective of the hydrology during years when our reservoirs are full, then what can we expect for the future of our region?"

Westside water managers initially believe that the allocation is being held below 50 percent for two reasons: uncertainty in hydrology and corresponding conservatism in water management; and anticipated operational constraints for the protection of fisheries in the Delta.

Westlands continues to seek clarification and documentation for these decisions.

"At present, and based on available information, we believe the decisions will not result in a measurable effect on the populations of the species, despite their significant cost to water supply," Westlands said in a public statement. "We feel this is a missed opportunity to celebrate what appears to be a healthy population of fisheries and does not warrant the high cost or alarmist actions."

### **Klamath Project Irrigators Once Again Face "Regulatory Drought"**

Klamath Water Users Association (KWUA) last month publicly expressed "deep disappointment" with Reclamation's announcement of an agricultural water supply of 230,000 acre-feet this year.

This amount, characterized as an "initial allocation," is 35

percent less than the estimated need. The calculation of the initial allocation is based on an interim plan from 2020 that local water users say has not been followed in any year.

"Because of the way the internal distribution of water works, we are looking at family farms that will go without water for the fifth straight year," said KWUA Executive Director Paul Simmons.

Local water users this past winter have watched stored water sent downstream to flush sediment in the Klamath River, intended to mitigate impacts of the historic dam removal occurring downstream. KWUA says they have also "bent over backward" to put water on the national wildlife refuges that also depend on Klamath Project supplies. Upper Klamath Lake will be completely full for the first time in seven years, and the snowpack is in good shape for this time of year.

"Yet, we are looking at the fifth-worst allocation in the 120 years since the Klamath Project was authorized," said Mr. Simmons.

Reclamation's announcement does leave open the possibility to announce increases in the allocation at a later date.

Reclamation also announced funding of \$8.5 million for the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency (DRA). In past years, the DRA has signed contracts with producers who agree not to irrigate in exchange for compensation.

With the reduced agricultural water allocation, more farms will now need this program. With the additional demand, KWUA estimates at least a \$5.5 million dollar shortfall for the drought program.

Meanwhile, Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-OREGON) introduced legislation aimed at protecting agricultural producers in the Klamath Basin because of the dam removal.

"This bill builds upon the promises made by parties to the agreement entered into regarding dam removal and species restoration, all intended to shield farmers from the adverse effects of dam removal," said Rep. Bentz.

The legislation is intended to ensure that the Interior Department remains accountable, preventing the transfer of river infrastructure unrelated to irrigation costs onto local irrigators.

"Furthermore, the legislation tackles regulatory challenges posed by species habitat expansion while bolstering efforts to transport water to the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, thus reaffirming commitments made to farmers and ranchers," said Rep. Bentz.

KWUA expressed gratitude to Rep. Bentz for introducing this legislation in the House and Oregon Democrat Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley for doing the same in the Senate to protect farmers and ranchers in the Klamath Basin.

"It's proof positive of his leadership and that things can in fact happen in Washington," said Mr. Simmons. "We look forward to working with Congressman Bentz's office and our representatives in the Senate who have supported similar legislation in recent years."

### **REAL Drought in the Yakima Basin**

The Bureau of Reclamation nearly one month ago announced the April forecast for the 2024 water supply in Wash-

*Continued on Page 12*

## House Subcommittee Conducts Oversight Hearing on Refuge Rule

### *Fourth-generation farmer raises concerns in testimony*

Earlier this year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) proposed new regulations that target agriculture unnecessarily by presumptively prohibiting farming practices on wildlife refuges. The House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries (WWF Subcommittee) last month conducted an oversight hearing on this proposal, where a Family Farm Alliance formal comment letter was entering into the hearing record.

The oversight hearing was titled, "The National Wildlife Refuge System at Risk: Impacts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Proposed BIDEH Rule."

"The Service under this rule is instantly prohibiting practices and means of working on and around refuges, restricting the discretion of refuge managers and putting at risk [the] individual refuges," said Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-OREGON), who chairs the Subcommittee.

As reported in *E&D Daily*, the subcommittee's ranking member, Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CALIFORNIA), called the hearing "political theater" and said the subcommittee would do better to examine the adequacy of the FWS's \$527 million refuge system budget.

But another Democrat, Rep. Mary Peltola of Alaska, said she was "very unhappy" with the BIDEH plan.

"I do understand that the Service feels that the biological integrity, diversity and environmental health policies should be updated to meet current challenges, in particular concerning climate change," Rep. Mary Peltola (D-Alaska) said. "However, this rule doesn't align with the [2016] congressional mandate and supersedes state's management authority by prohibiting state-authorized predator control on the refuge system."

The FWS proposal is an update of a policy issued during the last week of the Clinton Administration, and targets, and points to the elimination of longstanding and widespread agricultural practices on those public lands.

FWS in late February agreed to extend the early March public comment period for the proposed regulation by 60 days, until May 6.

The Alliance - and many other agriculture and water organizations across the country - are urging that FWS not adopt the proposed regulations.

"The fact that some of the most litigious anti-farming and ranching organizations are supportive of this regulation speaks volumes," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen.

"While irrigation has increased agricultural productivity in the arid American West, these critics often focus only on how it has altered the natural landscape."

A key concern with the proposed regulation is that the notice of rule-making recites reductions in wildlife populations and climate change but does not link the specific policy changes to these underlying concerns. In reality, agriculture and human settlement have long been tied to ecologically important wetland and riparian resources and the water they provide.

For example, irrigation projects provide important benefits to wetlands. In California's Sacramento Valley, rice production provides vitally important surrogate habitat and food for waterfowl and other species.

In the Klamath Basin of California and Oregon - one of North America's most important wetland systems- cereal grains and other wildlife-friendly agricultural production are critical to meeting the needs of Pacific Flyway waterfowl.

The Alliance comment letter submitted to FWS further documents how irrigated agriculture supports abundant wildlife.

Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-CALIFORNIA) at the close of the WWF Subcommittee hearing asked to have the Alliance letter included in the hearing record.

Marc Staunton, a young farmer who has many years of experience farming on the lease lands of refuges served by the Klamath Irrigation Project, testified at the hearing.

"I strongly believe that, done correctly, conservation and agriculture go hand in hand, and that belief is based on life experience," Mr. Staunton testified.

"Any time that our goal of feeding 330 million Americans has a symbiotic relationship with the local ecosystem, I believe we are headed in the right direction," he told the subcommittee.



*Fourth-generation farmer Marc Staunton testifies before the U.S. House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries regarding the proposed BIDEH rule changes by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Photo Source: KWUA.*

## Biden Administration Finalizes ESA Rules, Proposes New Ones Plus—New Settlement Could Add Additional Species Listings

The Biden White House has approved changes to final Endangered Species Act (ESA) regulations, reversing some of the Trump-era rollbacks from 2019.

“Over the past three years, we have urged that the Biden Administration keep those reforms in place,” said Mr. Keppen. “Last August, we prepared detailed comments that further underscored our legal and technical concerns with all three of the administration’s proposals, which have now been finalized.”

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has also reached a legal settlement with one of the most litigious environmental groups in the country to complete the pending ESA tasks for 15 other various species.

And, FWS has also introduced newly proposed rules last month aimed at increasing enrollment in voluntary species conservation plans.

### Final ESA Regulations

The final ESA rules, promulgated by FWS and NOAA Fisheries, have sparked renewed debate and are likely to face further litigation, as they mark a significant shift in ESA implementation towards stricter protections for endangered and threatened species.

“The decision to reverse critical reforms to the ESA is yet another example of how the Biden Administration is beholden to extreme activists,” said Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WASHINGTON). “These misguided changes won’t improve the ESA’s goal of recovering species but will instead further impede on private landowners’ rights. The ESA needs true reforms to help save species without burdening rural communities.”

The revisions address critical elements of the ESA, such as the designation of critical habitat and defining terms like “foreseeable future” for assessing species status.

The new rules reinstate a default policy for threatened species to receive strict protections unless a special rule is created.

“The new proposal would essentially treat all threatened species as endangered once again,” said Family Farm Alliance executive director Dan Keppen.

Additionally, federal agencies must consult with FWS or NOAA Fisheries before authorizing actions on designated critical habitat.

The updated regulations emphasize ESA decisions based solely on scientific and commercial data, restoring a statement that listing decisions will be made without considering economic impacts, something the Trump-era rule included.

“Under the Biden proposal, the agencies are no longer able to share or disseminate information on the economic impact of a listing,” the GOP-led Congressional Western Caucus said in a March 29 press release. “More alarmingly, the proposal mandates the agencies must again designate unoccupied areas as critical habitat.”

Last September, House Republicans introduced legislation to prevent the Departments of Commerce and Interior from finalizing these rule proposals and retain the Trump-era regulations within the ESA.

The changes have drawn criticism from litigious environmental groups who feel more aggressive action is needed. The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) in a press statement praised the reinstatement of the rule that gave threatened species automatic protections and deletion of language that “gave industry’s economic interests sway” in final decisions about species protection.

“The Biden administration had the opportunity to fully reverse the damage inflicted upon the Endangered Species Act and the imperiled species it protects, but only got partway there,” said Drew Caputo, CBD’s Vice President of Litigation. “There are some important steps forward for species in this action, which we applaud. But unfortunately, the final regulations released today fail to fix, and effectively embrace, significant aspects of the Trump administration regulations that cause harm to endangered species.”

### FWS Agrees to 15 ESA Species Actions in New Settlement

FWS last month agreed to complete the pending ESA tasks for 15 various species under yet another legal settlement with the CBD. This agreement, filed in a federal court in Arizona, addresses the agency’s previous failures to meet ESA deadlines.

It includes finalizing decisions on listing 10 species as threatened or endangered and designating critical habitats for three species, with timelines extending up to 2026.

The species involved range from the alligator snapping turtle to the Mount Rainier white-tailed ptarmigan and several types of freshwater mussels like the Texas fatmucket.

The FWS has also agreed to decide on ESA protections for two additional species.

The settlement requires the FWS to only decide on the ESA action but does not require listing the species.

Settlements with CBD are not new for FWS, nor are the lawsuits that cause them.

CBD and FWS reached a similar settlement near the end of the second term of the Obama administration, dictating when FWS would decide whether ten avian, fish, and invertebrate species warrant listing under the ESA.

The FWS has previously cited limited budgets and staffing as factors affecting their pace of work implementing the ESA.

### Proposed Landowner ‘Conservation Agreements’

FWS last month introduced newly proposed rules aimed at increasing enrollment in voluntary species conservation plans, which has divided environmentalists.

The rule package is said to simplify and clarify a permit system intended to protect species while tolerating some harm to protected plants and animals.

“Improvements to the rule will encourage more landowners to engage in conservation for declining, candidate and listed species,” FWS Director Martha Williams said in a statement.

*Continued on Page 5*

## Alliance-led Coalition Raises Concerns with Corps' Proposed Procedures

The Family Farm Alliance last month led a coalition of national and state water and power organizations who signed on to a letter in response to the Army Corps of Engineers' proposed Agency Specific Procedures (ASPs) to implement the 2013 Principles, Requirements and Guidelines (PR&Gs).

### PR&G Background

As a result of a congressional directive in the Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) of 2007, the Obama Administration's White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) first developed PR&Gs for federal investments in water resources.

These PR&Gs were originally intended to accelerate Corps of Engineers' water project approvals, reduce costs, and support water infrastructure projects with the greatest economic and community benefits.

ASPs provide agency specific guidance for identifying which programs and activities are subject to the PR&G. The Corps has not issued final ASPs to implement the 2013 PR&G. The 2020 WRDA directed the Corps to issue its final ASPs.

The Corps last February published a proposed rule that does so. The deadline for public comments was April 15.

Joining the Family Farm Alliance on the comment letter were Agribusiness and Water Council of Arizona, Association of California Water Agencies, Colorado River Energy Distributors Association, Idaho Water Users Association, National Water Resources Association, Oregon Water Resources Congress and Washington State Water Resources Association.

### Western Water and Power User Concerns

The Corps of Engineers' most visible missions in the

Western U.S. include planning, designing, building, and operating navigation locks and dams, flood control and dredging projects, and environmental regulation and ecosystem restoration.

The proposed rule would adjust cost-benefit assessment criteria for federal investment decision-making to include consideration of ecological benefits, public safety concerns, and environmental justice.

"As a fundamental principle, we are concerned that the proposed ASPs and PR&Gs stray beyond the legislative intent of Congress stated in the 2007 WRDA," the coalition letter states. "This could significantly impede water management and development activities

*"The increased control exerted by federal agencies through a variety of means has increasingly led to gridlock in the management of water supplies in the West. We fear that the Army Corps' proposed ASP, if implemented, will lead to more of the same."*

in the Western United States by adding significant bureaucratic layers onto already complex federal environmental and engineering decision making processes."

The coalition letter describes concerns with the Army Corps' continued focus on imposing the Administration's aggressive environmental justice and climate change agenda, using "nonstructural" and other subjective management strategies that could slow or halt future federal water infrastructure investments and potentially result in significant alteration of operations of existing Army Corps hydropower dams.

"The increased control exerted by federal agencies through a variety of means has increasingly led to gridlock in the management of water supplies in the West," the letter concludes. "We fear that the Army Corps' proposed ASP, if implemented, will lead to more of the same."

We cannot support it as drafted and respectfully request the Army Corps to go back to the drawing board to address our multiple concerns."

## Key Recent ESA Rulemaking Efforts (Cont'd from Page 4)

"We are investing in the future, creating a legacy of resilient habitats to withstand environmental challenges and changes."

The proposed rulemaking changes focus on Section 10(a) of the ESA, which governs permits for actions benefiting or incidentally harming species during lawful activities.

Under the new rules, "safe harbor agreements" and "candidate conservation agreements with assurances" are merged into one "conservation benefit agreement" type which

was intended to clarify requirements for applicants.

The proposed rules also allow the issuance of permits for species of concern not yet listed as threatened or endangered, with conservation commitments starting immediately and incidental "take" authorization becoming effective if the species is listed.

The agency stated these revisions improve efficiency without significantly altering existing program implementation.

# Ag Committees Rollout Previews of 2024 Farm Bill

Both the Senate and House agriculture committees have released high-level “previews” of the long-awaited 2024 Farm Bill.

U.S. Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) on May 1 unveiled the *Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act*, which contains more than 100 bipartisan bills and puts the 2024 Farm Bill back on track to being signed into law by the end of the year.

“This is a serious proposal that reflects bipartisan priorities to keep farmers farming, families fed, and rural communities strong,” Chair Stabenow said. “I welcome my Republican colleagues to take it seriously and rejoin us at the negotiating table so we can finish our work by the end of the year. Farmers, families, and rural communities cannot wait any longer on the 2024 Farm Bill.”

The House Agriculture Committee on the same day released a high level overview of the sections of the 2024 farm bill. Committee Chairman GT Thompson (R-Penn.) intends to unveil a draft of the new farm bill legislation and hold a committee markup before the end of this month.

“Before Memorial Day, the House Committee on Agriculture will consider a farm bill that responds to a variety of crisis points, constituent priorities, needs of rural communities, and the demands of the current economy, both domestically and abroad,” Chairman Thompson posted on the Committee website.

The Senate Agriculture Committee hosted a press conference and released a more detailed summary of “The Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act”, including a section-by-section analysis.

“We don’t know what any of the actual text of the bill says,” said Mr. Keppen. “We’re just starting to go through these summaries now, but we’ll be meeting with our agriculture and conservation partners next week to compare notes further.”

## Battle over IRA Funds

As reported in past editions of the *Monthly Briefing*, House Republicans are pressing to repurpose some of the funds in order to pay for some key farm programs and other bipartisan priorities in the legislation (*POLITICO*).

Democrats insist that climate-related sideboards on \$20 billion of conservation funding provided by the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds must remain intact. House Republicans do not want to put sideboards on reallocated IRA funding at this time and are pressing to repurpose some of the funds in order to pay for key farm programs and other biparti-

san priorities in the legislation.

Debate has been brewing for over a year on what qualifies as a “climate-smart” agriculture project. Far left interests in Congress have criticized the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for undermining the IRA goal of tackling greenhouse gas emissions

Progressives are incensed that many of the dozen or so newly allowed practices are less targeted to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and are also subsidizing the country’s largest so-called “factory” farms that are supposedly a big source of emissions.

The Family Farm Alliance helped lead a coalition of Western ag and conservation groups sent a letter to USDA in December 2022 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.

A few months later, NRCS added “irrigation pipelines”, “irrigation systems”, “sprinkler systems” and “pumping plants”, “brush management”, “prescribed burning”, “fuel breaks” to the climate smart list.

“This was great news to us,” said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen.

However, progressives like Senator Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) and others are demanding President Biden reverse course. The fight over the IRA’s climate-ag money will likely heat up in coming months on Capitol Hill.

“With the release of the May 1 bill overviews, we now have a better sense of what may happen with the IRA funds,” Mr. Keppen. “Initially, it appears that both chambers are allocating all the IRA mon-

ey to the conservation title. The Senate is keeping the sideboards, the House isn’t.”

## Family Farm Alliance Conservation Title Priorities

A key part of Alliance and WACC collaboration has focused on Farm Bill conservation programs, where the interests of coalition agriculture and conservation groups are very closely linked.

The WACC is also striving to find ways to simplify program delivery without harming environmental interests or program integrity.

“On our WACC call later this month, we’ll discuss, exchange intel, and determine if there’s a pathway forward,” said Jeff Eisenberg, WACC Coordinator. “There will probably not be anything formally for us to do at least until the bill is introduced for markup. More likely, we’ll formally engage



**Rep. GT Thompson (R-Penn.), Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture.**  
Photo Source: House Committee on Agriculture

*Continued on Page 12*

## Comment Period Extended for Western Pond Turtle Listing

Taking the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at its word to employ a “robust public engagement process”, a coalition of a dozen national and state farm and water organizations including the Family Farm Alliance are engaging the agency and modifying a formal comment letter on its proposal to list the northwestern and southwestern pond turtles under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).

FWS earlier this year extended a public comment period on its proposal to add the Western Pond Turtle to the list of “threatened” ESA-protected species until May 5.

A “threatened” status means a species is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future and could lead to regulations limiting some activities that might harm the reptiles, like draining ponds or impacting nesting habitat.

“Food, water and shelter for northwestern pond turtles and southwestern pond turtles are becoming scarce across the western United States,” said Paul Souza, director of the FWS’s Pacific Southwest Region. “We need everyone’s support to help them thrive in the wild.”

More than 16,000 public comments have already been recorded in response to the federal agency’s dual proposals to list the pond turtle, many of them supporting the listing measure.

“Both species have suffered significant declines due to habitat loss and fragmentation from urban development, agriculture, and dams,” Jeff Miller with the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) wrote, noting that “they also are being hit hard by disease, invasive species, and climate change.”

The litigious CBD has been pushing for stronger protection for the pond turtles for over a decade.

The Family Alliance late last year worked with twelve other organizations from four states that signed a final letter to FWS, which was spearheaded by the Klamath Water Users Association (KWUA).

“Among other things, our coalition letter emphasized that the 4(d) rule is important, and the proposed rule provides an ESA Section 9 exemption for routine maintenance of stock ponds,” said KWUA Executive Director Paul Simmons. “However, we also point out that there is nothing in the proposed rule that covers operation and maintenance of irrigation delivery and drainage systems.”

ESA Section 4(d) provides for the conservation of a threatened species by tailoring protections to those needed to prevent further decline and facilitate recovery.

Representatives of the coalition are now working with staff from the FWS regional office overseeing the listing about shaping a 4(d) rule in ways that underscores the importance of irrigation, drainage and farming and ranching practices to the turtles.

“This provides an opportunity to recognize the value of irrigated agriculture to the turtle,” said Alliance executive director Dan Keppen. “We’re developing input from our irrigation district managers in Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada who could be impacted by this listing.”

## Senator Padilla Introduces Two New Water Bills

### Bills would improved financing , funding for infrastructure projects

The *Drought Relief Obtained Using Government Help Today (DROUGHT) Act* was introduced last month by Senator Alex Padilla (D-CALIFORNIA) and Rep. Scott Peters (D-CALIFORNIA) to address the severe drought conditions impacting the Colorado River and its reservoirs.

“Every American deserves access to reliable, clean drinking water and sanitation, but aging infrastructure and years of historic drought have stretched water systems and increased water bills across the West,” said Senator Padilla. “The *Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act* has successfully invested billions of dollars in California water projects, and this legislation will provide critical additional financial relief for drought-stricken and disadvantaged communities.”

The legislation proposes to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Loan Program by increasing the federal cost-share cap from 80% to 90% for water infrastructure projects in regions experiencing extreme drought or serving disadvantaged communities.

This adjustment aims to alleviate financial pressures on

state and local governments by allowing them to obtain additional federal loans or grants while maintaining their eligibility for WIFIA’s 49% long-term, low-interest loans.

Additionally, Sen. Padilla and Rep. Mike Levin (D-CALIFORNIA) introduced the *Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2023*, bicameral legislation that would authorize \$550 million for states, municipalities, water systems, and tribal nations to implement water-efficiency upgrades and establish programs to repair leaks, especially in areas experiencing severe drought and in low-income communities.

“The West has been facing historic droughts, and we must invest in resilient water supplies in order to improve water use efficiency and protect access to clean drinking water as we continue to face the worsening impacts of climate change,” said Representative Levin. “I am grateful to Senator Padilla for his partnership on this critical legislation that builds on ongoing state and local efforts to upgrade aging infrastructure and build a more resilient water system across the West.”

# White House Hosts “Earth Week” Water Summit

## \$1 Billion Rain Down for Tribal Clean Water Projects

During last month’s Earth Week celebration, the White House convened state, Tribal and local leaders from across the country for a Water Summit, where over a billion dollars of new spending were announced, most of which will benefit tribal communities.

Several other funding announcements were made, as well as new initiatives intended to protect wetlands and accelerate the delivery of drinking water and community sanitation infrastructure projects in Indian Country.

### Tribal Drinking Water Infrastructure

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and Indian Health Service (IHS) announced a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to speed the delivery of safe drinking water and community sanitation infrastructure projects in tribal communities.

Roughly half of tribal households lack access to clean drinking water or adequate sanitation. The agencies will collaborate to complete studies, planning, and design for domestic water infrastructure projects. The MOU establishes that Reclamation and IHS will work together to identify, scope, and prepare management plans for such projects.

The agencies also announced over \$1 billion in funding for tribal drinking water and sanitation projects from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). This includes \$700M through IHS and \$320M through Reclamation. The funding through IHS will provide access to improved sanitation facilities for over 36,000 American Indian and Alaska Native households by supporting 91 projects. The MOU will leverage Reclamation’s engineering capacity to accelerate project delivery.

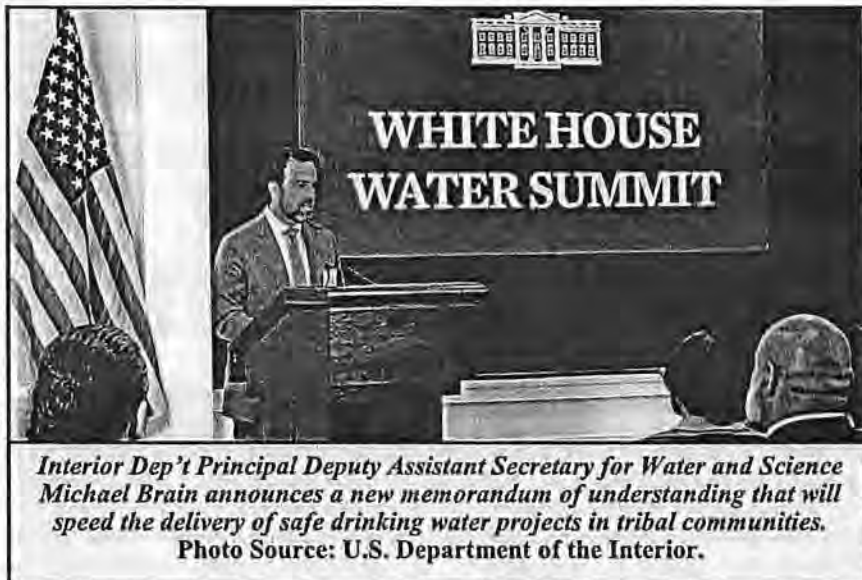
“At the Interior Department, we know that having modern water infrastructure is not only crucial to the health of our kids and families – it’s also important for economic opportunity, job creation and responding to the intensifying effects of climate change,” said Department of the Interior (DOI) Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Michael Brain.

The Colorado River Water & Tribes Initiative (WTI) in

April 2021 released a first of its kind, comprehensive analysis examining the underlying causes of the lack of access to clean drinking water affecting 30 tribes in the Colorado River Basin.

The Family Farm Alliance at the time issued a formal statement supporting the important work started by the WTI to bring attention to the lack of access to clean drinking water in Indian country.

“The initiative was launched to both educate the public about the lack of this basic service that most Americans take for granted and make real, tangible progress on the ground,” said former Alliance President Patrick O’Toole at the time. “While the Alliance is not advocating for any particular interest or outcome associated with the Initiative, we strongly support its intent to enhance the capacity of tribes and to advance sustainable water management through collaborative decision-making.”



*Interior Dep’t Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Michael Brain announces a new memorandum of understanding that will speed the delivery of safe drinking water projects in tribal communities.*

**Photo Source: U.S. Department of the Interior.**

### America the Beautiful Freshwater Challenge

At the White House Water Summit, the Biden Administration introduced the “America the Beautiful Freshwater Challenge” initiative, setting a goal to restore and reconnect 8 million acres of wetlands and 100,000 miles of streams and rivers by 2030.

“The Biden-Harris Administration has worked to build upon and improve our country’s long-standing policy of no net loss of wet-

lands,” the White House said in a statement. “Even still, freshwater resources are at risk. That is why in addition to reaffirming the importance of halting the loss of wetlands, the Biden-Harris Administration is setting bold, new national goals that help rebuild our nation’s wetlands and freshwater resources.”

This initiative, which aligns with global efforts alongside 45 nations, seeks to address the increased risk to freshwater resources, which according to Administration officials has been exacerbated by the Supreme Court’s *Sackett* Clean Water Act (CWA) ruling.

The ruling in *Sackett* significantly narrowed federal CWA regulatory jurisdiction over wetlands, prompting the Biden EPA, Corps, and other agencies to begin to think “differently” about new authorities they might be able to use to bolster wetland protections post-*Sackett*.

*Continued on Page 9*



## Earth Week Water Actions (Cont'd from Page 8)

The initiative not only emphasizes wetland restoration but also includes removing barriers in waterways and enhancing river and stream banks. States like North Carolina, New York, and Washington State have also set ambitious local goals for wetland and forest restoration.

### Combating Western Megadrought

DOI during Earth Week announced an additional \$11 million in new resources from Reclamation's WaterSMART program to help combat "Western megadrought".

"This important investment in the planning and design of water-related projects is focused on improving water management and infrastructure to enhance water supply reliability and promote sustainable practices in water management," said Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton. "Through historic resources provided through President Biden's Investing in America agenda, we have the opportunity to invest in projects like these to combat the impacts of long-term drought for current and future generations."

Over the first two years of its implementation, Reclamation selected 430 projects to receive \$3 billion of IJA funds for water infrastructure projects, including rural water, water storage, conservation and conveyance, nature-based solutions, dam safety, water purification and reuse, and desalination.

The Family Farm Alliance helped lead nation-wide coalitions in support of Congressional action to advance the 2021 IJA and the 2022 IRA. The IJA includes \$8.3 billion for Reclamation, as part of a proposal advanced by over 230 water, ag and urban organizations. That coalition was led by a steering committee that included the Alliance, Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Farm Bureau Federation, National Water Resources Association (NWRA) and Western Growers.

During remarks at the National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration in Albuquerque last month Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced the availability of up to \$95 million for projects to bolster water resources, advance ecosystem health and support resilience in communities facing drought and other climate change impacts.

"Nature is our best ally in the fight against climate change and now, through President Biden's Investing in America agenda, we have new transformational resources to advance locally led, partnership driven projects that will catalyze nature-based solutions and build resilient communities and landscapes," said Secretary Haaland. "As communities across the West continue to face the impacts of prolonged and worsening drought, these collaborative projects will enhance watershed health and conservation throughout Southwest desert ecosystems."

This year's IJA funding opportunity builds on last year's investments, which included \$51 million for 30 projects in 11 states.

Over the past 60 days, Reclamation has announced several grant awards through the WaterSMART program, including

\$51 million for aquatic ecosystem restoration in eight states. Support for collaborative planning and design projects that improve water sustainability and efficiency received \$11.1 million in funding.

"This important investment in the planning and design of water-related projects is focused on improving water management and infrastructure to enhance water supply reliability and promote sustainable practices in water management," said Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton.

Another \$13.3 million in applied science grants were dedicated to 51 projects across 12 states, focused on developing tools and information to support water management, including modeling and forecasting tools, hydrologic data platforms, and new data sets for decision-making.

"These grants support improved water management tools that will allow water managers to make more informed decisions, especially in terms of managing through drought and climate change," said Commissioner Touton. "It's especially promising to see all of the partnerships formed between universities and communities to tackle some of these scientific projects."

### Restoring Fragmented Aquatic Habitats

DOI during Earth Week announced more than \$70 million for 43 projects that will address outdated or obsolete dams, culverts, levees and "other barriers to the nation's rivers and streams". This IJA funding will support projects that reconnect aquatic systems and improve fish passage

"This year's \$70 million investment from the President's Investing in America agenda will have tremendous impacts, not only in restoring fragmented aquatic habitats but in revitalizing communities across the nation," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Martha Williams.

### Other Earth Week Announcements

At the White House Water Summit and throughout Earth Week, the Biden Administration made additional announcements focused on climate change and water.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued rules to improve flood resilience, while the Interior Department announced funding opportunities for projects to improve aquatic ecosystems and infrastructure.

On Day 1 of Earth Week, President Biden announced the launch of the American Climate Corps, a new program aimed at putting young people to work combating climate change.

"You'll get paid to fight climate change, learning how to install those solar panels, fight wildfires, rebuild wetlands, weatherize homes and so much more that's gonna protect the environment and build a clean energy economy," President Biden said.

## Biden Administration Finalizes BLM Public Lands Rule

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) last month finalized a new rule that elevates the priority of conservation and restoration of public lands, placing these efforts on equal footing with energy development and mining.

The House of Representatives quickly responded by passing a bill that would negate the rule.

"America's public lands are our national treasures and need to be managed and made resilient for future generations of Americans," said John Podesta, Senior Advisor to the President for International Climate Policy. "Today's final rule from the Department of the Interior is a huge win for ensuring balance on our public lands, helping them withstand the challenges of climate change and environmental threats like invasive species, and making sure they continue to provide services to the American people for decades to come."

The House legislation—the *Western Economic Security Today (WEST) Act*—passed by a bipartisan vote of 212 - 202.

"The rule the BLM recently finalized undermines the very people who rely on our federal lands for ranching, grazing, recreation, and beyond," said Rep. John Curtis (R-UTAH), the bill's sponsor. "I am pleased that the House voted in a bipartisan manner to pass my bill revoking its implementation."

### Concerns of Western Producers

Critics of the rule claim the rule finalized last month would broadly allow the BLM to lease lands under new and vaguely defined restoration and mitigation leases and change standards around multiple use decisions.

Resource managers are concerned that these conservation leases, or mitigation and restoration leases, could potentially prevent access to federal land for current and future BLM permittees.

"The work ranchers and permittees do every day is conservation and crucial to landscape health across the West," said Public Lands Council (PLC) President Mark Roeber. "Our priority continues to be defending grazing across the West, and despite our repeated warnings to the BLM, the agency is forging ahead with a rule that threatens their ability

to make sure even the most basic of functions can be delivered in a timely way."

Western Republicans and resource managers are concerned that if the Biden Administration determines other uses, such as grazing, energy production, mining or recreation, are incompatible with a lease, those uses would not be allowed and could be prohibited indefinitely from those lands, even after the expiration of a conservation lease.

This would effectively lock up those lands indefinitely from multiple use, including potential historic uses of the land.

### Administration Defense of the Rule

The Administration says the final rule clarifies and refines concepts first proposed in April 2023 and that it does not prioritize conservation over other uses but aims to balance various land uses, including recreation and grazing, with environmental preservation.

"Our public lands provide wildlife habitat and clean water, the energy that lights our homes, the wood we build with, and the places where we make family memories," said BLM Director Tracy Stone-Manning. "This rule honors our obligation to current and future genera-

tions to help ensure our public lands and waters remain healthy amid growing pressures and change."

### Reaction from Westerners in Congress

Senate Republicans, led by Sen. Barrasso (R-WYOMING), introduced a bill one year ago to block the rule, which would require the BLM Director to withdraw the draft rule, which is currently open for public comment, and forbid BLM from taking "any action to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed rule."

The House Committee on Natural Resources in June 2023 held a hearing on Rep. Curtis' companion bill, H.R. 3397, introduced shortly after BLM issued the proposed rule.

The hearing featured South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem and Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon, who testified on how



*BLM Director Tracy Stone Manning (third from right) spent a day touring Battle Creek and other areas of the Little Snake River watershed with former Family Farm Alliance President Pat O'Toole, his family, and other local resource managers (June 2023).*

Photo courtesy of Ladder Ranch.

Continued on Page 13

## RCPP Funding Hits Historic High

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack last month announced the availability of an historic \$1.5 billion in fiscal year 2024 to invest in partner-driven conservation and climate solutions through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

"We had unprecedented demand for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program last year, showing the robust interest in conservation from farmers and ranchers," Secretary Vilsack said. "Through the increase in funding from President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act, we're able to invest even more this year in this important program, increasing our impact across the landscape."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting project proposals now through July 2, 2024, that will help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners adopt and expand

conservation strategies that can save farmers money, create new revenue streams, and increase productivity.

This investment is made available through the Farm Bill and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which has been enabled to boost funding for RCPP. Project proposals for RCPP are being accepted through the [RCPP portal](#). Details on the [RCPP Classic](#) and [RCPP AFA](#) funding opportunities are available on [Grants.gov](#).

RCPP is a partner-driven approach to conservation that funds solutions to natural resource challenges on agricultural land. By leveraging collective resources and collaborating on common goals, RCPP has the potential to demonstrate the

*Continued on Page 12*

## House Conservation Bill Passes Committee *Alliance Concerns with Offsets Addressed in Amended Bill*

The House Natural Resources Committee last month marked up a controversial Republican bill, H.R. 7408, titled "*America's Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act*," introduced by Committee Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.). important to Family Farm Alliance members, the spending offsets in the bill have been changed and would not include rescissions from Bureau of Reclamation aging infrastructure loan or aquatic ecosystem restoration funds as initially proposed.

The bill would make investments of \$320 million in grant funding and give states the opportunity and support to enact their congressionally mandated wildlife action plans.

"We're putting the power of species management back in the hands of those who know it best, the states and tribes who steward the areas where critical species live," said Committee Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.). "This historic investment in America's wildlife habitat supports proven solutions to recover species populations and improve the habitat that is critical to their survival."

The initial version of H.R. 7408 that was introduced in March proposed new spending programs that would be offset by Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds for Reclamation that the Family Farm Alliance and a coalition of over 230 organizations helped secure in 2022-23.

"We engaged with the committee to raise our concerns, and they were open to our input," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen. "The bill that was passed by the committee was amended to strip out those offsets, so the bill does not include rescissions from Reclamation aging infrastructure loan or aquatic ecosystem restoration funds as initially proposed."

The bill still includes language rescinding nearly \$1 billion from the IRA, of which \$30 million is currently directed toward the offices responsible for environmental permitting.

Other provisions in the bill that passed the committee

would give congressional backing to private, voluntary conservation efforts and provide a solution to the detrimental *Cottonwood vs. U.S. Forest Service* 9th Circuit Court decision. The bill also authorizes Good Neighbor Authority for the FWS, allowing the agency to partner with states, tribes and counties to better manage their lands, placing it on par with other federal land management agencies.

Critics of H.R. 7408 argue the bill would weaken the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and may create more funding uncertainty and hinder long-term conservation efforts.

"Chair Westerman and extreme House Republicans are again waging war on wildlife by cutting funding and deliberately hamstringing the Endangered Species Act," said Stephanie Kurose, deputy director of government affairs at the left-leaning, litigious Center for Biological Diversity. "This insidious bill is completely out of touch with the American public, who care deeply about saving our most imperiled animals and plants and want to see more funding, not less."

Committee Democrats and Biden administration officials argue that the bill may create more funding uncertainty and hinder long-term conservation efforts.

California Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CALIFORNIA), slammed Chairman Westerman's bill for making grants available through the appropriations process rather than permanent funding. He derided the GOP funding move as "Bruce bucks" and "monopoly money" that may never actually get appropriated (*E&E News by POLITICO*).

Chairman Westerman said his bill makes "much-needed reforms to the Endangered Species Act to address the program's wildly unsuccessful 3 percent recovery rate." In addition to H.R. 7408, the committee marked up several bills promoting geothermal energy development on federal lands, including H.R. 7370 and H.R. 7409, aimed at reducing regulatory burdens and expediting project approvals.

## Yakima Basin Water Supplies Plummet (Cont'd from Pg 2)

ington's Yakima Basin and the news was grim, even at that time.

The adopted Total Water Supply Available forecast indicates the water supply that junior water right holders will receive is estimated to be at 63% of entitlement for this irrigation season. Reclamation just one month earlier predicted allotments would be 72% of normal. The updated forecast is due May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) started its water beginning at Lake Easton on April 12. KRD will be hard-pressed to stretch the water supply past August, district manager Urban Eberhart said.

"September is going to be tough," he told the *Capital Press*. "There's a big difference between 72% and 63%."

Mr. Eberhart told *The Monthly Briefing* last week that the new forecast very well may dip below 60%. He also had some "rare good news" to report on the kick-off meeting for a new surface water storage reservoir planned in the Yakima Basin.

The public meeting – attended by over 80 people – included representatives from the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Yakama Nation, KRD, and state and county government. Officials stressed the reservoir would be developed and managed to support the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan, which joins state, federal, tribal, business, and other entities to work on water, fish, habitat and climate challenges.

"We did not hear any opposition to the new reservoir at the meeting," said Mr. Eberhart. "The attendees didn't need convincing that we need more water storage, and we didn't receive any negative comments on it at the meeting."

## RCPP Funding (Cont'd from Page 10)

power of public-private partnerships in delivering results for agriculture and conservation.

This program morphed out of the Agricultural Watershed Enhancement Program, a proposal advanced by the Family Farm Alliance and its partners in the Western Agriculture and Conservation Alliance (WACC) and was ultimately included in the 2008 Farm Bill.

"One of our priorities engaging in the current farm bill negotiations is finding ways to reduce the administrative burdens and increase the effectiveness of the RCPP," said Jeff Eisenberg, WACC coordinator. "We must find ways to simplify eligibility and expedite fund delivery to projects. Congress should also prioritize conservation innovation, including projects using outcome-based payments to producers and projects enhancing drought resilience."

USDA leadership has heard similar concerns from others and appears to be geared up to address it.

"We're looking forward to seeing what the more streamlined and customer-oriented Regional Conservation Partnership Program can do to get more conservation on the ground in the coming months and years," said Secretary Vilsack.

Based on partner listening sessions and employee and partner surveys, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) identified seven key focus areas for improvement, including 1) Simplifying and Reducing the Number of Agreements; 2) Reducing Lengthy RCPP Easement Transactions; 3) Consistent Guidance and Training for Employees and Partners; 4) Simplifying the Technical Assistance Structure; and 5) Simplifying the Partner Reimbursement Process.

"These are consistent with the concerns that the Family Farm Alliance and its partners in the WACC have raised with NRCS over the past three years," said Dan Keppen Alliance Executive Director.

## Committees Preview 2024 Farm Bill (Cont'd from Page 6)

after markup and before the floor vote."

The Alliance and many of its members are strong supporters of the NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program (WFPO, often referred to as the "PL-566" Program).

"The House summary of its 2024 farm bill suggests that provisions will be included that streamline and improve program administration for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, the Technical Service Provider Program, and P.L.566," said Mr. Keppen. "These were all priorities for us."

The Alliance and its allies last year worked with the office of Senator Michael Bennet (D-COLORADO) on legislation intended to streamline PL-566.

Last August, Senator Bennet, along with Senators Deb Fischer (R-NEBRASKA) and Jeff Merkley (D-OREGON) introduced S.2636, *The Healthy Watersheds and Healthy Communities Act*.

It appears that this legislation will be included in the Senate's version of the 2024 farm bill.

Last month, Senator Bennet and 30 other lawmakers signed on to a letter urging USDA to invest more in drought relief in the Western U.S.

"Drought remains a severe risk for American farmers and ranchers and threatens farmland and local economies that rely on dwindling water resources, especially in states West of the 100th meridian," the Members wrote. "We call for the Department to bolster this commitment and use its discretionary authorities to fill gaps or develop new partnerships to improve the efficiency and resilience of the water supply."

The group specifically asked for additional resources for the U.S. Forest Service Water Source Protection Program – a program advocated for by the Alliance – and drought-related multi-benefit projects under the NRCS WFPO program.

## **BLM Finalizes Public Lands Rule (Cont'd from Pg. 10)**

important access to BLM land is to their states and the devastating impacts a final rule would have.

"This proposed rule was rushed forward without material input from Wyoming or other states," Governor Gordon testified. "It did not have the benefit of the views of impacted public land users."

Governor Gordon said the proposed rule mischaracterizes conservation, seeks to preempt wildlife management from the States, and oversteps the Bureau's statutory authority.

"The best solution is to rescind the rule," he testified.

The bill later passed through the House Committee on Natural Resources, before being passed by the full House on April 30.

### **Family Farm Alliance Engagement**

The Family Farm Alliance is on record for supporting this legislation, and in June 2023 signed on to a "partners" letter to BLM, driven by the PLC and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), calling for a reset of BLM's proposed public lands rule.

"We...request the agency withdraw the proposed rule and reset the conversation to ensure appropriate stakeholders are at the table to find durable answers to some of the West's most pressing challenges," the letter urged.

The Alliance joined PLC, NCBA, American Sheep Industry Association, American Mining and Exploration Association, National Association of Counties, Association of National Grasslands, Safari Club International, Western Energy Alliance, American Forest Resource Council, and other diverse organizations on the letter.

Former Alliance President Pat O'Toole and others throughout 2023 raised concerns with BLM's leadership on this matter. Director Stone Manning spent a day last June at O'Toole's Ladder Ranch and the surrounding watershed in Wyoming and Colorado, showing how effective watershed management planning can be developed and implemented using local landowners and resource managers as the drivers.

"That's how we find durable solutions, by working together," Mr. O'Toole said at the time. "Partnership with BLM's permittees is a vital component of working together and is key to effective public lands management."

## **Support Pours in for Patrick O'Toole Young Conservationist Scholarship**

<https://www.familyfarmalliance.org/otoole/>

Patrick "Pat" O'Toole, who served as president of the Family Farm Alliance for 19 years, died February 25, 2024 at age 75 of complications following a stroke at his Ladder Ranch home in Wyoming. Pat dedicated much of his life to advocating for irrigated agriculture and conservation. He was passionate about mentoring the next generation on nurturing healthy landscapes and producing sustainable food and fiber.

At the request of the O'Toole family, the Alliance last month established the Patrick O'Toole Young Conservationist Scholarship in his memory. This account will provide funding for young farmers and ranchers to attend the Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference.

"The response to the Patrick O'Toole Young Conservationist Scholarship has been outstanding and shows in a powerful way that Pat was a beloved friend and colleague to many," said Alliance Executive Director Dan Keppen.

In the first month alone, over \$7,500 has been dedicated to this fund, thanks to these contributors:

Blue Mountain Environmental (CO) Brian Werner (CO) Chris Treese (CO) Christine Arbogast (CO) Clair Natale (AZ) David Haubein (MO) Grant Colvin (CO) Jane Townsend (CA) Jennifer Beck (CO) Jennifer Lahman (CO) Jerry & Loretta Afdahl (TX) Katy Fuentes (TX) Kenneth Harrison (NY) Lane Dickson (MD) Shilpi Talwar (CO) Leslie James (CREDA -AZ) Libby, Peter and Bella Wood (WY) Mark & Cindy Limbaugh (ID) Matthew Kireker (CO) Melinda Kassen (CO) Monique Gilbert (VT) Nature Conservancy of Wyoming Paul Orme (AZ) Tina Dykstra (MD) Potentia Renewables (Toronto, ON) Robert & Pamela Davig (CO) Robert and Martha Hellyer (WY) Sharon Megdal (AZ) The Ferguson Group (DC) Vermillion Ranch (WY) William and Demi Cross (WY)

The O'Toole family will host a gathering of Pat's friends, family and loved ones to celebrate his exceptional life on July 20, 2024 at Ladder Ranch, on the Wyoming-Colorado state line near Savery (WYOMING). As many of you know, Ladder Ranch is "centrally located in the middle of nowhere", so lodging options are limited.

Check the Ladder Ranch website: <http://www.ladderranch.com/memorial> for more information, including lodging options, donation information and tributes.

Your donation to The Patrick O'Toole Young Conservationist Scholarship will help ensure that the legacy of Pat's work will continue for generations to come.

Thank you.

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

**MARCH—APRIL 2024**

**CHAMPION (\$10,000 and Above)**

**Friant Water Authority (CA) San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (CA)**

**ADVOCATE (\$5,000 - \$9,999)**

**Minidoka Irrigation District (ID) Roza Irrigation District (WA)  
San Luis Water District (CA) Water District #1 (ID)**

**DEFENDER (\$1000-\$4999)**

**A & B Irrigation District (ID) Central Oregon Irrigation District (OR) Del Puerto Water District (CA)  
Farwell Irrigation District (NE) Ferguson Farming LLC (CA) Fresno Irrigation District (CA)  
Garrison Diversion (ND) Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (CA) Kings River Conservation District (CA)  
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Orme Ranch, Inc. (AZ) Owyhee Irrigation District (OR) PacifiCorp (OR)  
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**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

**CORRESPONDENCE LIST****MAY 2024**

1. April 13, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the April 17, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
2. April 18, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board for the April 22, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
3. April 16, 2024 – Press Release received from Central Coast Water Authority regarding Appointment of David Beard as Deputy Director of Operations and Engineering
4. April 15, 2024 – Letter from the District to customer regarding water service account payment terms
5. April 19, 2024 – Existing Water Service/Can and Will Serve Letter for APN 141-170-048
6. April 19, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District for the April 24, 2024 Special Meeting and Public Hearing on the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Report
7. April 23, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the April 26, 2024 Technical Subcommittee Meeting
8. April 23, 2024 – Notice received from Central Coast Water Authority regarding State Water Project Contractors No. 24-04 “Increase of State Water Project 2024 Allocation increased to 40%”
9. April 24, 2024 – Submittal from the District of the Annual Government Compensation Report for Calendar Year 2023 to the State Controller’s Office
10. April 26, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the May 6, 2024 Technical Subcommittee Meeting
11. April 29, 2024 – Notice received from County of Santa Barbara Elections Division regarding Notice of Elective Offices to be Filled and Candidate Filing Information
12. April 30, 2024 – Letter from the District to Congressman Salud Carbajal regarding Funding for City of Solvang’s Wastewater Treatment Plant Project
13. April 30, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board for the May 6, 2024 Special Meeting
14. April 30, 2024 – Notice received from the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District regarding date of Basin-wide GSA’s Meeting to be held on June 7, 2024
15. April 30, 2024 – Letter received from California Department of Finance regarding Price Factor and Population Information for 2024/2025
16. May 2, 2024 – Letter from the District to seventeen customers regarding backflow testing requirement
17. May 6, 2024 – Notice received from Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board for the Cancellation of the May 6, 2024 Special Meeting and Notice of the May 20, 2024 Regular Meeting

18. May 6, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the May 10, 2024 Finance Subcommittee Meeting
19. May 6, 2024 – Existing Water Service – Can and Will Serve Letter sent for APN 139-510-005
20. May 6, 2024 – Existing Water Service – Can and Will Serve letter sent for APN 137-650-013
21. May 6, 2024 – Existing Water Service – Can and Will Serve letter sent for APN 137-610-014
22. May 6, 2024 – Existing Water Service – Can and Will Serve letter sent for APN 141-180-028
23. May 6, 2024 – Existing Water Service – Can and Will Serve letter sent for APN 139-520-017
24. May 7, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the May 8, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting
25. May 7, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the May 8, 2024 Wastewater Committee Meeting
26. May 7, 2024 – Letter from the District to seven customers regarding past due water service accounts
27. May 7, 2024 – Memorandum received from the Central Coast Water Authority regarding Monthly Water Deliveries
28. May 7, 2024 – Notice of Meeting Cancellation received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the May 8, 2024 Wastewater Committee Meeting
29. May 9, 2024 – Notice of Meeting Cancellation received from the Central Coast Water Authority for the May 23, 2024 Board Meeting
30. May 10, 2024 – Notice and Agenda received from the Los Olivos Community Services District for the May 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
31. May 10, 2024 Notice and Agenda received from the Santa Ynez Community Services District for the May 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting