

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
Wednesday December 10, 2025 @ 8:00 A.M.

District Headquarters Board Room
12109 Hwy 166, 6.5 miles west of Mettler, CA

Or via GoToMeeting

(Optional Remote Public Participation Only – See NOTICE Below)

Conference Line: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 211-452-397

<https://www.gotomeet.me/WRMWSD>

NOTICE: Members of the public interested in participating remotely via GoToMeeting may do so using the call-in information above or by following this [link](#). Please note that this option is provided as a courtesy and at the participant's own risk. The District cannot guarantee that there will be no loss of connectivity or other technological obstacle to full participation through via GoToMeeting. By participating in this way, participants confirm that they understand this risk and that the Board is not obliged to delay any portion of the meeting due to such technological obstacles and thus via GoToMeeting participants may be unable to participate.

A G E N D A

8:00 **1. Call to Order**

2. Closed Session

Conference with Legal Counsel Re: Existing Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9(a)):

1. *DWR v. All Persons Interested, etc., consolidated CEQA Case and “Complaint for Validation” Re: Delta Program Revenue Bonds, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 34-2020-80003517, 3rd Appellate Dist., Case No. C100552*
2. *CDWR Environmental Impact [WaterFix] Cases, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. JCCP No. 4942, 3rd Appellate Dist., Case No. C100302*
3. *Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District v. Kern County Water Agency, et al., Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-21-100418*
4. *Sierra Club, et al., v. DWR, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 24WM000008, and related cases, challenging DCP EIR*
5. *State Water Resources Control Bd. Administrative Hearing Office (AHO) Proceeding Re Sites Project Authority Water Rights Applications*
6. *DWR v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Authorization of Delta Conveyance Program Bonds, etc., Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 25CV000704*

Conference with Real Property Negotiator: (Gov. Code, § 54956.8)

7. *District's Designated Representative: Engineer-Manager*
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payments
Property: State Water Project Water Supply
Negotiation with: Kern County Water Agency

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: Initiation of Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(4)):

8. *Two Matters*

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: Significant Exposure to Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(2)):

9. *Two Matters*

9:30 **Open Session** Pledge of Allegiance

3. Attorney's Report

Torigiani (10 mins)

1. Report from Closed Session (Gov. Code § 54957.1)
2. Legislative, Executive, Regulatory, and Legal Matters
3. Young Wooldridge LLP Fee Schedule Amendments

4. Minutes

1. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2025

Atkinson (2 mins)

5. Financial Reports

Mettler (10 mins)

1. Filing of Treasurer's Report
2. Approval of Accounts Payable
- 2.1 Director Compensation and Expense

6. Controller's Report

1. Delinquent Accounts Report *Smith* (10 mins)
 - a. File List of Delinquent Tolls & Charges – **Resolution Required**
2. Budget Expenditures Report for November 2025 *Whitby* (5 mins)
3. Consider Establishing Banking Services with Tri Counties Bank *Smith* (10 mins)
– **Resolution Required**

7. President's Report

Atkinson (5 min)

8. Engineer-Manager's Report

1. Filing of the Monthly Report *Nicholas* (5 mins)
2. Water Supply – **2025 SWP Allocation of 50%** *McDaris* (30 mins)
 - a. **2026 SWP Initial Allocation - 10%**
 - b. 2025 Water Supply/Demand Estimate
 - c. 2026 Water Supply/Demand Estimate
 - d. Other Purchases/Exchanges
 - e. 2025-26 San Luis Reservoir Carryover Update
 - f. Consider Approval of Westside 5 Agreement with Exchange Contractors
 - g. Consider Approval of Second Priority Sub-Account Program Agreement
3. Comparison of Crop Water Use Determination Methodologies *Suggs* (20 mins)
4. Consider Approval of Amendment to the Surface Water Surface Area; *McDaris* (10 mins)
Proposed Add/Exclude for Four Queens Ranch – **Resolution Required**
5. State Water Project / Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) *Nicholas* (10 mins)
 - a. Golden Mussel Update
6. Sites Reservoir *Kunde* (15 mins)
 - a. Consider Approval of Agreements to Assign 1000 AF of District/
Booth Ranches LLC Participation to Santa Clara Valley Water District
7. Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA *Staff* (30 mins)
 - a. Discussion on Cost Share Options for Kern Subbasin Expenses

9. Reports

1. Director's Reports on Meetings Attended
2. Kern County Water Agency *McDaris* (5 mins)
3. Kern Water Bank Authority/ Kern Water Bank GSA *Nicholas* (5 mins)
4. South of Kern River GSP *Nicholas* (5 mins)
5. Kern Non-District Lands Authority *Fry* (5 mins)
6. White Wolf Groundwater Sustainability Agency *Nicholas* (5 mins)
7. Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority *Blaine* (5 mins)
8. Committee for Delta Reliability *Nicholas* (5 mins)
9. South Valley Water Resource Authority *Nicholas* (5 mins)

10. Unfinished and New Business

1. Ethics Training – AB1234 *Nicholas* (2 mins)
2. Statement of Economic Interest (SEI/Form 700) FPPC Online Filing
Requirement for GSA Board Members and Executive Directors and
District Public Officials who Manage Public Investments (SB852)

11. Public Comments

12. Adjournment

MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP



DECEMBER 2025

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA/CAPIO INFORMATIVE WEBINAR

ACWA, in partnership with the California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO), will host a webinar on December 10 at 11:00 AM to learn how to build authentic, inclusive messages that reflect the richness of Spanish-speaking communities. Register [here](#).

ACWA FALL 2025 CONFERENCE

ACWA will host its Fall 2025 Conference and Exhibition in San Diego from December 2-4. ACWA Policy Committee meetings will be held in person on Tuesday, December 2 (preliminary schedule below). Registration is required to attend Fall Conference, including the Policy Committee meetings.


9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	Groundwater Committee
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	Water Management Committee
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	Energy Committee
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Agriculture Committee
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Local Government Committee
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM	Water Quality Committee
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Federal Affairs Committee

POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

ACWA's Federal Regulatory Issues chart is accessible [here](#).

WATER MANAGEMENT

<p>PRIORITY Bay-Delta Plan – Sacramento/ Delta Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On September 16, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) announced a Rescinded Notice of the Second Revised Notice of Public Comment and Hearing on Revised Draft Sacramento/Delta Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Bay-Delta Plan). The State Water Board is anticipating a limited recirculation of the draft Staff Report, originally released in fall 2023, and an updated draft Bay-Delta Plan in December 2025. New dates for a public hearing and comment period will be announced upon release. 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p> 
<p>Delta Conveyance Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On November 24, the State Water Board announced a Notice of Special Meeting in Closed Session. The State Water Board may meet to deliberate on procedural and substantive decisions related to the water right petition filed by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to add two new points of diversion and redirection for the State Water Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board meeting: December 16 at 1:00 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p>
<p>Tribal Stewardship Policy</p>	<p>Staff Contact</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The California Natural Resources Agency released the Revised Draft Tribal Stewardship Policy (Policy) and Toolkit for tribal consultation. The Policy supports collaborative stewardship efforts by enhancing tribal access and enabling collaboration of management of public lands and natural resources and enabling collaboration of management of public lands and natural resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual listening session: December 17 at 2:00 pm Public comments due: January 9 	<p>Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p>
<p>Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On November 17, DWR announced a 15-day Public Comment Period on the Public Review Draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Guidebook. UWMPs are prepared by urban water suppliers every five years. These plans support the suppliers' long-term resource planning to ensure that adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written comments due: December 2 at 5:00 pm 2025 UWMPs due: July 1, 2026 	<p>Staff Contact Amber Rossow amberr@acwa.com</p> 
<p>Urban Water Use Objective Reporting Forms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On September 29, the State Water Board released the fiscal year 2024-2025 reporting form for urban water retailers to submit annual urban water use objectives and actual urban water use data to comply with the Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation. The State Water Board also released an updated guidance document. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Water Use Objective Reporting due: January 1, 2026 	<p>Staff Contact Amber Rossow amberr@acwa.com</p>
<p>Water Measurement and Reporting Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On November 24, the State Water Board released a Notice of Document Availability for Proposed Adoption of Water Measurement Regulation Revisions. The State Water Board will consider adopting revisions to the Diversion Measurement Regulation at their next board meeting. The proposed revisions would clarify requirements, standardize measurement data reporting, and align regulations with new water right reporting systems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board meeting: December 2 at 9:00 am On November 25, the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Webinars for organizations and agents to learn about the new California Water Accounting, Tracking, and Reporting System (CalWATRS). The first and second webinar will focus on how organizations and water rights agents interact with CalWATRS, respectively. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public webinar #1: December 9 at 11:00 am Public webinar #2: December 9 at 1:30 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p> 
<p>AGRICULTURE</p>	
<p>Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On November 10, the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Working Group Meetings for the Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel (Panel) for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. The meetings 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p>

will facilitate deliberations on issues relevant to the Panel charge questions.

- Public working group meetings: [December 5](#) and [12](#) at 3:00 pm

GROUNDWATER

Bulletin 118

- On October 20, DWR released a [draft update of Bulletin 118](#) for a 45-day public comment period. The draft update provides a comprehensive assessment of statewide groundwater conditions and incorporates information from annual groundwater sustainability agency reports, California's Groundwater Live, and other groundwater initiatives since 2020.
 - Public comments due: December 5
 - Anticipated final update release: Spring 2026

Staff Contact

Soren Nelson
sorenn@acwa.com



Groundwater Stabilization Conveyance Study

- On November 24, DWR published a new assessment of water conveyance that examines the effects of land subsidence on San Joaquin Valley conveyance facilities. The [San Joaquin Valley Conveyance Study](#) evaluates the need for improved or expanded conveyance throughout the valley and support's California's Water Resilience Portfolio as directed by Governor Gavin Newsom's [Executive Order N-10-19](#).

Staff Contact

Soren Nelson
sorenn@acwa.com

State Intervention: Kaweah Subbasin

- On October 13, the State Water Board released a [Staff Assessment](#) (Assessment) of the 2024 Amended [Kaweah Subbasin](#) groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs). The Assessment determines that the GSPs were amended such that probationary designation of the Kaweah Subbasin is not necessary and recommends returning the Kaweah Subbasin to DWR's jurisdiction for continued evaluation.
 - Board meeting: December 2 at 9:00 am

Staff Contact

Soren Nelson
sorenn@acwa.com

State Intervention: Kern County Subbasin

- On October 29, DWR opened a [public comment period](#) for [Kern County Subbasin's modified GSPs](#) submitted to DWR as required by SGMA.
 - Written comments due: January 8

Staff Contact

Soren Nelson
sorenn@acwa.com

State Intervention: Tulare Lake Subbasin

- On October 31, the State Water Board announced its [extension of the deadline for reporting groundwater extractions in the Tulare Lake Subbasin](#). Information about actions related to Tulare Lake Subbasin's probationary designation and the new extraction reporting period and report submittal deadline can be found [here](#).

Staff Contact

Soren Nelson
sorenn@acwa.com

WATER QUALITY

PRIORITY Proposed General Order – Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

- On November 20, the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water (Division), released a [Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment Proposed General Order DW 2025-00-XX-DDW](#) (Order). The [Draft General Order](#) proposes required monitoring and reporting with the per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) National Primary Drinking Water

Staff Contact

Nick Blair
nickb@acwa.com



Regulation for initial public water systems monitoring and to establish monitoring and reporting requirements for additional PFAS contaminants in preparation for future California-specific PFAS regulations. The Division anticipates issuing a final Order in late 2025.

- Public comments due: December 4 at 12:00 pm

ENERGY

Annual Zero Emission Vehicle Credits Disclosure

- On November 17, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) released their [Annual Zero-Emission Vehicle \(ZEV\) Credits Disclosure](#) which includes regulation information, credits earned, credit balances, and credit transfers for model year 2024 ZEVs. ZEV regulation remains critically important in meeting California's health-based air quality standards and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Staff Contact

Nick Blair

nickb@acwa.com

Clean Transportation Program Investment Update

- The California Energy Commission will consider adoption of the [Clean Transportation Program Investment Update](#), which includes funding for both light duty and medium-and-heavy duty ZEV charging infrastructure, at the next business meeting.
- [Business Meeting](#): December 8 at 10:00 am

Staff Contact

Nick Blair

nickb@acwa.com

ACWA COMMENT LETTERS

- [Draft TVA Scientific Basis Report](#), State Water Resources Control Board, November 6, 2025
- [Call for Contributions in Support of Study on New Models and Approaches to Complement or Replace the Wildfire Fund](#), California Earthquake Authority, November 3, 2025
- [Comments on OEHHA's First Public Review Draft Proposed Public Health Goal for 1,4-Dioxane in Drinking Water](#), Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, November 25, 2025

To receive a monthly email of Regulatory Roundup, please contact [Karla Cardenas](#). Regulatory Roundup is also available on ACWA's [website](#).



Indicates ACWA Working Group



Indicates ACWA Priority Issue



2022 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION



INTRODUCTION

This summary includes legislation enacted in the first year of the 2025-26 Legislative Session that is relevant to ACWA member agencies. The legislation is organized by subject matter. Code sections, along with the bill and chapter numbers, are provided for each measure, and a general index is included at the end of the summary as a reference.

All enacted legislation goes into effect on January 1, 2026, unless otherwise indicated. "Urgency" bills, tax measures, budget appropriations, and legislation calling for an election become effective immediately upon receiving the Governor's signature. Effective dates are provided for any measures becoming law on a date other than January 1, 2026.

This document summarizes the legislation in a concise manner and, for multi-subject bills, may be tailored to address only those issues that are relevant to ACWA members. The complete text of the legislation is available on the California Legislative Counsel's website at www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following ACWA staff prepared this report.

ACWA State Relations Department

Julia Hall, State Legislative Director
Chelsea Haines, State Regulatory Director
Soren Nelson, Senior State Relations Advocate
Nick Blair, Senior State Relations Advocate
Stephen Pang, State Relations Advocate
Kylie Wright, State Relations Advocate
Amber Rossow, State Relations Advocate
Jen Stein, State Relations Analyst
Sonja Eschenburg, State Relations Analyst
Karla Cardenas, State Relations Assistant

ACWA Communications Department

Heather Engel, Communications Director
Katherine Causland, Communications Specialist

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) is pleased to provide member agencies with this "2025 Summary of Legislation" publication. It provides concise information on state legislation signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom that will impact ACWA members. This document is not intended to provide legal advice.

If you have any questions or suggestions for improving this document in future years, please contact ACWA State Relations Analyst Jen Stein at JenS@acwa.com. ACWA looks forward to continuing to provide ACWA member agencies with information and advocacy.

CONTENTS

Administrative / Operational Compliance..... 4

Budget / Investments 5

Climate Change 6

Delta 7

Fish & Wildlife..... 7

Groundwater 8

Local Government 9

Water Quality 10

Water Reuse..... 10

Water Rights 11

Wildfires / Headwaters..... 12



ADMINISTRATIVE / OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE

AB 339 - Local public employee organizations: notice requirements.

Requires public agencies regulated by the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act to give a recognized employee organization (REO) no less than 45 days' written notice before issuing a request for proposals, request for quotes, or renewing or extending an existing contract to perform services that are within the scope of work of the job classifications represented by the REO. Requires written notices to include: (1) the anticipated duration of the contract; (2) scope of work under the contract; (3) anticipated cost of the contract; (4) draft solicitation, or if not yet drafted, information that would normally be included in a solicitation; and (5) reason the public agency believes the contract is necessary.

If an emergency or other exigent circumstance prevents the public agency from providing 45 days' written notice, requires the public agency to provide as much advance notice as is practicable.

Chapter 687, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 339.
Author: Liz Ortega.

[An act to add Section 3504.1 to the Government Code, relating to public employment.]

AB 523 - Metropolitan water districts: proxy vote authorizations.

Authorizes proxy voting for members of Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) board of directors. Until January 1, 2030, allows an MWD member agency entitled to one representative on the board to designate to another representative the ability to vote on their behalf, if they are unable to attend a meeting, for up to six meetings in a calendar year. Requires the proxy vote authorization to be memorialized by a written instrument and filed by the board secretary one business day in advance of the meeting.

Chapter 266, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 523.
Author: Jacqui Irwin.

[An act to amend, repeal, and add Section 52 of the Metropolitan Water District Act (Chapter 209 of the Statutes of 1969), relating to metropolitan water districts.]

AB 580 - Surface mining: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Allows, until January 1, 2041, MWD to continue operating under a single Master Reclamation Plan for Surface Mining and Reclamation Act compliance.

Chapter 270, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 580.
Author: Greg Wallis.

[An act to amend and repeal Section 2715.6 of the Public Resources Code, relating to mining.]

SB 707 - Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

Makes various changes to the rules for local agencies holding public meetings pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act).

Extends indefinitely exceptions to series of communications by a majority of a local agency's legislative body's members through social media platforms by deleting the 2026 sunset date.

Requires a local agency to provide a copy of the Brown Act to members elected or appointed to a legislative body.

Adds a department head or similar administrative officer to the requirement that a legislative body orally report a summary of recommendations for a final action on the salaries or compensation paid as fringe benefits.

Requires a legislative body to permit a member with a disability to participate in any meeting remotely and allows it to count toward the establishment of a quorum, if they (1) participate through audio and visual technology and (2) disclose if any other individuals over the age of 18 are present.

Until January 1, 2030, requires eligible legislative bodies' meetings to allow members of the public to attend via either or both a two-way telephonic service or an audiovisual platform. Requires eligible legislative bodies, by July 1, 2026, to approve a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet service occurring during meetings. Defines "eligible legislative body" as any of the following: a city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more; a county board of supervisors of a county, or city and county, with a population of 30,000 or more; a city council of a city located in a county with a population of 600,000 or more; and the board of directors of a special district that has an internet website and meets any of the following conditions, including: the boundaries of

the special district include the entirety of a county with a population of 600,000 or more and the special district has over 200 full-time employees; the special district has over 1,000 full-time employees; and the special district has annual revenues, based on data published by the California State Controller, that exceed \$400,000,000, adjusted annually for inflation commencing January 1, 2027, and the special district has over 200 full-time employees.

Requires eligible legislative bodies that provide a two-way audiovisual platform to do the following: (1) Publicly post and provide a call-in option and activate caption functions, if available; (2) Provide an opportunity to provide remote public comments with the same amount of time as in-person public comments; and (3) Encourage residents, including those in underrepresented communities and non-English-speaking communities, to participate in public meetings, including, but not limited to, reasonably assisting members of the public who wish to translate public meetings into any language or receive interpretation; translating agendas into all applicable languages, as defined, and posting translations in accordance with specified requirements; and making available a physical location that is freely accessible to the public and in reasonable proximity to where translations are posted.

Requires legislative bodies that hold teleconference meetings to comply with a specified, standardized set of requirements until January 2030.

Expands the teleconferencing flexibility authorized during state-declared emergencies to include local emergencies.

Extends the sunset date for provisions that allow members of legislative bodies to participate in meetings remotely based on "just cause," as defined, and authorizes a new type of just cause for participating remotely due to military service.

Authorizes an eligible subsidiary body, as defined, until January 1, 2030, to teleconference a meeting if it complies with specified requirements. Requires the legislative body that created the subsidiary body to make specified findings by a majority vote before the subsidiary body uses teleconferencing for the first time and every six months thereafter.

Allows an eligible multijurisdictional body, as defined, until January 1, 2030, to teleconference a meeting if it complies with specified requirements.

Chapter 327, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 707. Author: Maria Elena Durazo

[An act to amend Sections 54952.7, 54953, 54953.5, 54953.7, 54954.2, 54954.3, 54956, 54956.5, 54957.6, 54957.9, and 54957.95 of, to amend and repeal Section 54952.2 of, to add Sections 54953.8, 54953.8.1, 54953.8.2, and 54957.96 to, and to add and repeal Sections 54953.4, 54953.8.3, 54953.8.4, 54953.8.5, 54953.8.6, and 54953.8.7 of, the Government Code, relating to local government.]

BUDGET / INVESTMENTS

AB 149 - Public resources trailer bill.

In relevant part, authorizes state agencies to adopt emergency regulations for the purpose of developing and adopting program guidelines and selection criteria for programs under Proposition 4. The bill makes technical changes related to specified state agencies receiving appropriations under Proposition 4.

Appropriates \$20 million from Proposition 4 to address invasive mussel infestations, including the golden mussel. The bill expands the scope of the provisions related to "dreissenid" mussels to "invasive" mussels, such as requiring the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. The bill defines "invasive mussels" as any nonnative, detrimental mussel species that is capable of spreading in freshwater and is listed in a regulation adopted by the Fish and Game Commission (Commission).

Requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with CDFW to implement control plans to eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel. The bill requires all plans to include all invasive mussel species on or before September 30, 2027. The bill requires every invasive mussel species to be addressed in a plan no later than 180 days from the date that the species is listed in a regulation.

Renames the quagga and zebra mussel infestation prevention fee as the invasive mussel infestation prevention fee. The bill increases the fee in specified amounts and requires the amounts to be adjusted for inflation. The bill requires CDFW to collect, from resident and nonresident vessel owners, the invasive mussel infestation prevention fee.

Chapter 106, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 149.
Author: Assembly Budget Committee

[An act to amend Sections 2301 and 2302 of, and to add Section 2303 to, the Fish and Game Code, to add and repeal Section 515 of the Food and Agricultural Code, to amend Sections 675, 676, and 676.1 of, to amend the heading of Article 1.3 (commencing with Section 675) of Chapter 5 of Division 3 of, and to add Section 677.5 to, the Harbors and Navigation Code, to amend Sections 4114.1, 21080, 90135, 92020, and 93520 of, and to add and repeal Section 30612.5 of, the Public Resources Code, and to amend Sections 9853, 9860, and 9863 of the Vehicle Code, relating to public resources, and making an appropriation therefor, to take effect immediately, bill related to the budget.]

CLIMATE CHANGE

AB 43 - Wild and scenic rivers.

Extends indefinitely the date by which the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency is authorized to add a river or segment of a river to the state wild and scenic rivers system if the federal government removes or delists any river or segment of a river in the state that was included in the national wild and scenic rivers system, but not in the state wild and scenic rivers system.

Chapter 431, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 43. Author: Nick Schultz

[An act to amend Section 5093.71 of the Public Resources Code, relating to wild and scenic rivers.]

AB 639 - Dams: exceptions.

Excludes from the definition of a dam, any barrier that does not impound water above the top of a levee where maximum storage behind the barrier has a minimum of three feet of freeboard on the levee and is a weir. Defines "weir" as an agricultural water delivery structure with either mechanically or manually removable flashboards or gates that serves to regulate the flow of water in a stream and that functions as part of a federal flood control system. The bill only applies to Peoples Weir, Reynolds Weir, Last Chance Weir, Lemoore Diversion Weir, Island Weir, Crescent Weir, Stinson Weir, Empire Weir No. 1, and Empire Weir No. 2.

Chapter 617, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 639.
Author: Esmeralda Soria

[An act to amend Section 6003 of the Water Code, relating to dams.]

SB 72 - The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.

Recasts the California Water Plan (Plan) as a comprehensive, strategic plan for the sustainable management and stewardship of California's water resources and requires the plan to include long-term water supply targets and strategies to meet those targets.

Requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR), in consultation with the California Water Commission, to establish an advisory committee, as specified, to assist and provide input to DWR in updating the Plan. The bill requires DWR to expand the membership of the advisory committee to include tribes, labor representatives, and environmental justice interests. The bill also requires DWR to conduct a series of public workshops to allow for public input on updates to the Plan.

Requires each update of the Plan to include: (1) a discussion of environmental needs, urban sector water needs, and agricultural water needs on a regional basis; (2) a summary of sources that could finance project types or actions identified in the Plan; (3) a discussion of the estimated costs, benefits, and impacts of any project type or action identified in the Plan that could help achieve the water supply targets; and (4) a report on the development of regional and local water projects within each hydrologic region of the state undertaken to improve water supplies to meet municipal, agricultural, and environmental water needs and minimize the need to import water from other hydrologic regions.

Adds to the list of strategies that DWR is required to discuss when updating the Plan to include groundwater recharge, conveyance, stormwater capture, water transfers, and demand management activities. The bill requires DWR to incorporate opportunities for demand management and current and future needs of disadvantaged communities into its preliminary draft of assumptions and other estimates upon which updates to the Plan are to be based.

Requires DWR to include an interim planning target for 2040 of nine million acre-feet of additional water, water conservation, or water storage capacity in the 2028 update to the Plan, which can be achieved through a variety of strategies. The bill requires DWR to update that target for 2050 as part of the 2033 update to the Plan and requires the target to consider the identified and future needs for all beneficial uses of water. The bill requires subsequent updates to the California Water Plan to include a range of water supply targets that consider future scenarios with a 50-year planning horizon.

Chapter 210, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 72. Author: Anna Caballero

[An act to amend Sections 10004.5 and 10004.6 of, to repeal Section 10013 of, and to repeal and add Section 10004 of, the Water Code, relating to water.]

SB 695 - Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance.

Defines “project of statewide and regional significance” as a high-priority highway project on the state highway system that would benefit two or more counties and that satisfies specified requirements.

Requires the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the California Transportation Agency and California Transportation Commission, on or before July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, to create a list of projects of statewide and regional significance to better prepare California for extreme weather-related events. Requires the prioritization of projects that enhance specified cobenefits, with greater priority given to projects that include multiple cobenefits.

Chapter 781, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 695. Author: Dave Cortese.

[An act to add Section 14053 to the Government Code, relating to transportation.]

DELTA

SB 650 - The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.

Updates the Delta Reform Act. Defines the term “person” in the appeals process, consistent with the Delta Stewardship Council’s current practice and interpretation. Establishes a 90-day statute of limitations to challenge a Council action to create more certainty for projects that align with the goals of the Delta Plan. Clarifies that the provisions of the Delta Plan are severable to ensure that the Delta Plan can continue to protect the Delta even if part of the plan is challenged in court.

Chapter 324, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 650. Author: Christopher Cabaldon

[An act to amend Sections 85202 and 85225.10 of, to add Section 85310 to, and to add Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 85360) to Part 4 of Division 35 of, the Water Code, relating to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.]

FISH & WILDLIFE

AB 1319 - Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.

Makes it unlawful for a person in this state to import, cause to be imported, export, cause to be exported, transport, sell, offer for sale, possess with the intent to sell, receive, acquire, or purchase any fish, wildlife, or plant that was taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of any law, regulation, or statute of any state or of any law, regulation, treaty, or statute of the United States with regard to fish, wildlife, or plants in effect on January 19, 2025.

Requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to monitor certain federal actions that could result in a decrease in endangered or threatened species protections by the federal government. The bill requires CDFW, if it determines these actions will result in a decrease in protection, to determine whether the decrease in federal protections will have a substantial impact on one or more listed or candidate species within California and provisional listing as a candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) could significantly reduce any substantial impact. The bill clarifies that provisional candidate species have the same protections as candidate, threatened, and endangered species under CESA.

Requires CDFW to publish written findings in the California Regulatory Notice Register if it determines that a decrease in federal protection for a listed species could substantially impact the species and that listing as a provisional candidate species under CESA could significantly reduce those impacts. The bill authorizes CDFW to add the species to the Fish and Game Commission’s (Commission) list as a provisional candidate species. The bill requires any species added to the list of provisional candidate species to remain on the list until January 31, 2031, as provided.

Requires CDFW to report any federally listed species that are listed as provisional candidate species at the next public meeting of the Commission following the provisional candidacy determination. The bill also requires CDFW to notify affected or interested persons of any determination to make a federally listed species a provisional candidate species under CESA, as provided. The bill allows the Commission to direct CDFW to prepare a status review and proceed with the process for listing the species as threatened or endangered under CESA.

States that it is the intent of the Legislature that CDFW and the Commission be provided sustainable funding sufficient to fully implement this section and the resulting obligations.

Provides protection from civil and criminal penalties for any entity operating under a federal authorization for take, in effect on or before January 19, 2025, for species listed pursuant to the provisional candidacy, as long as the entities are in full compliance with their federal biological opinion, incidental take permit, incidental take statement, conservation benefit agreement, or certain rules promulgated pursuant to the federal ESA.

Chapter 638, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 1319.
Author: Nick Schultz

[An act to add and repeal Sections 2017 and 2076.7 of the Fish and Game Code, relating to protected species.]

GROUNDWATER

AB 293 - Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.

Requires each groundwater sustainability agency (GSA), by January 1, 2026, to publish on its website or its local agency's website the membership of its board of directors and an electronic link to the location on the Fair Political Practices Commission's website where the statements of economic interests of its board members and executives can be viewed.

Chapter 359, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 293.
Author: Steve Bennett

[An act to add Section 10724.2 to the Water Code, relating to groundwater.]

AB 1466 - Groundwater adjudication.

Requires the court, in managing a comprehensive adjudication, to (1) convene a case management conference (CMC) and (2) in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, manage the case in accordance with Section 10737.2 of the Water Code.

Requires the court, in an initial CMC or as soon as practicable, to consider certain factors, such as determining whether to seek adjustment of the basin boundaries, staying the action, or appointing a special master, among others.

Requires the court, after a plaintiff files a notice of completion of mailing with the court and as soon as practicable, to hold a hearing to determine whether to exempt or treat separately claimants who extract or divert minor quantities of water. Requires the court, if it determines that certain claimants will be exempted or treated separately from other parties, to establish procedures for the registration and administration of the claims.

Requires a party in a comprehensive adjudication to, within six months of appearing in the case, serve the other parties and special master(s), with an initial disclosure that includes specified information and is based on information then reasonably available to it. Requires the court, if a party claims in an initial disclosure to extract not more than 100 acre-feet of water per year, to presume the accuracy of the facts asserted. Puts the burden of proving the inaccuracy of facts asserted in initial disclosures on the party who challenges the facts. Requires a party that has made initial disclosures or responded to another party's discovery request to supplement or correct a disclosure or response in specified situations. Requires a party, to the greatest extent possible, to serve initial disclosures electronically. If electronic service is not possible, requires the party to serve disclosures in an electronic format saved on a portable storage media device. Authorizes a court, on its own motion or the motion of a party, to enforce a party's obligations related to initial disclosures.

Authorizes the court to appoint one or more special masters and to request that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or DWR recommend or review candidate qualifications, and set certain requirements for the special masters' compensation.

Requires the court, in any adjudication in a basin in which one or more GSAs have adopted a GSP that has been approved by DWR, to request that the GSA provide a technical report that meets specified requirements, provided that the GSA is able to do so at a reasonable effort and expense. Authorizes a GSA to provide a report at its own election and to include areas outside of its jurisdictional boundary if another GSA in the basin is unable or unwilling to provide a report. Requires GSAs that provide a report to be paid or reimbursed for the total expense incurred to produce the report and requires the court to apportion the total expenses reimbursable to the GSA among the parties in an amount and in a manner that it deems equitable. Authorizes the court to order interim or partial payments of the expense to be made by the parties. Requires reports provided by GSAs to be considered prima facie evidence of the

physical facts found in the report, but requires courts to hear evidence that may be offered by any party to rebut the report or prima facie evidence.

Chapter 643, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 1466.
Author: Gregg Hart

[An act to amend Sections 833, 840, 842, and 845 of the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to groundwater adjudication.]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

AB 818 - Permit Streamlining Act: local emergencies.

Defines “local agency” as a county, city, or city and county. Defines “utility provider” as an entity that provides a utility service connection and that is subject to Chapter 5 of the Mitigation Fee Act.

Requires a utility provider, if a local agency approves a permit necessary to rebuild or repair an affected property, as specified, to provide a written notice describing the next steps in the approval process for a connection request for a project within 30 days of receipt of a connection request, unless connection is infeasible due to the disaster.

Requires a local agency to approve or deny a completed application for a building permit within 10 business days for a modular home, a prefabricated home, or an accessory dwelling unit that is intended to be used by a person until the rebuilding or repairing of their affected property is complete.

Requires local agencies to update their internet website every four years, starting March 31, 2028, with information regarding: (1) the requirements included in this bill; (2) the conditions that would result in a property being deemed substandard; (3) a notification of a person’s right to obtain a confidential third-party code inspection of their property; and (4) for a city, county, or city and county with a population greater than 30,000 residents, a dashboard that tracks permitting timelines and agency performance.

Chapter 534, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 818.
Author: Anamarie Ávila Fariás

[An act to add Section 65946.1 to the Government Code, relating to housing.]

SB 394 - Water theft: fire hydrants.

Authorizes local agencies to adopt an ordinance with enhanced penalties specifically for water theft from a fire hydrant, allowing them to set fines not to exceed \$2,500 for the first violation and up to \$10,000 for the third and any additional violations. The bill removes the one-year reset on existing penalties for the third and additional violations for water theft committed via meter tampering and other forms of water theft. The bill also authorizes a utility to bring a civil action for damages against any person who, without authorization, tampers with or diverts water from a fire hydrant.

Chapter 540, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 394. Author: Benjamin Allen

[An act to amend Sections 1882.1 and 1882.3 of the Civil Code, and to amend Section 53069.45 of, and to add Section 53069.46 to, the Government Code, relating to water theft.]

SB 499 - Residential projects: fees and charges.

Authorizes local agencies to require payment of impact fees or charges prior to the date the first certificate of occupancy or first temporary certificate of occupancy is issued for a designated residential development project, provided the local agency does both of the following: (1) determines that the fees or charges will be collected for parkland or recreational facilities that are identified for an emergency purpose beyond general recreational or aesthetic use; and (2) identifies the parkland or recreational facility in the safety element or local hazard mitigation plan.

Clarifies that utility service charges related to connections may be collected at the time an application for service is received, provided that those charges do not exceed the costs incurred by the utility provider resulting from the connection activities.

Chapter 543, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 499. Author: Henry Stern

[An act to amend Section 66007 of the Government Code, relating to land use.]

SB 598 - Public contracts: local water infrastructure projects: Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery method.

Authorizes local agencies to use the Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery method for a regional recycled water project or other water

infrastructure project undertaken to alleviate water supply shortages attributable to drought or climate change.

Chapter 655, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 598. Author: Maria Elena Durazo

[An act to add Chapter 4.9 (commencing with Section 22199.5) to Part 3 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code, relating to public contracts.]

WATER QUALITY

AB 1096 - Water: schoolsites: lead testing.

Requires community water systems (CWS), when making outreach attempts to elementary schools and childcare facilities for the purpose of sampling lead in drinking water, to compile and submit to the State Water Board the following information: the number and names of schools and childcare facilities (1) served by the CWS and (2) sampled in the previous year; the numbers and names of elementary schools and childcare facilities that (1) declined sampling or (2) did not respond to outreach attempts for sampling; information pertaining to outreach attempts for sampling that were declined or not responded to by elementary schools or childcare facilities; and sampling results for sampled schools and childcare facilities. Requires CWS to provide elementary schools and childcare facilities that decline lead sampling with an opportunity to provide information about their reasons for declining by allowing them to select from a list of specified options and authorizes the State Water Board to add additional reasons for declining to the list.

Requires the State Water Board, on or before June 30, 2028, to make the outreach information submitted to it by CWS publicly available on its website. Requires the State Water Board to (1) to the extent feasible, present sampling results as a specific value; (2) bold or highlight sampling results above five parts per billion; (3) indicate whether a sampling result exceeds the action level for lead in drinking water under the federal Lead and Copper Rule; and (4) provide information that explains the health harms posed by lead in drinking water.

Exempts a CWS, if it has received a written waiver from the State Water Board exempting it from lead sampling requirements, from completing the outreach requirements outlined in this chapter. Authorizes the State Water Board to issue a statewide written waiver exempting multiple CWS from sampling requirements,

for those CWS that are subject to a statewide sampling law or program, through the adoption of a policy handbook.

Requires a CWS, on or before December 31, 2028, to include in its annual consumer confidence report (1) a written statement that information pertaining to lead testing in schools and childcare facilities is available on the State Water Board's website, and (2) a direct link to the State Water Board's website.

Chapter 290, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 1096. Author: Damon Connolly

[An act to add Section 116277 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to water.]

SB 466 - Drinking water: primary standard for hexavalent chromium: exemption.

Prohibits a public water system (PWS) that meets the total chromium maximum contaminant level (MCL) for drinking water from being determined, held, considered, or otherwise deemed in violation of the primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium while implementing a State Water Board approved compliance plan or while State Water Board action on the proposed and submitted plan is pending.

Chapter 320, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 466. Author: Anna Caballero

[An act to add Section 116341 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to drinking water.]

WATER REUSE

SB 31 - Water quality: recycled water.

Clarifies the definition of "recycled water" to mean wastewater treated as disinfected tertiary 2.2 recycled water or wastewater receiving advanced treatment beyond disinfected tertiary 2.2 recycled water once it has entered a storage tank, pipeline, or canal for conveyance or distribution.

Provides that water discharged from a decorative body of water during storm events shall not be considered an unauthorized discharge if recycled water was used to restore levels due to evaporation. The bill defines "decorative body of water" as an impoundment for aesthetic enjoyment or landscape irrigation in which recycled water is stored or used and is not intended to include public contact.

Provides that incidental amounts of spray, mist, or runoff are permitted to enter outdoor eating areas of parks and open spaces when irrigated with disinfected tertiary treated recycled water that complies with the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.

Provides that outdoor landscape irrigation of common areas that does not enter the boundaries of a residence is not considered part of an individual residence and therefore not considered a dual-plumbed system.

Authorizes the use of recycled water for toilet or urinal flushing or outdoor irrigation in and around food handling or processing facilities, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings, and cafeterias, provided the recycled water does not enter the room where food handling or processing occurs. The bill permits closed piping conveying recycled water to pass through the room where food handling or processing occurs but prohibits outdoor irrigation with recycled water while food is being handled or processed outside.

Chapter 736, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 31. Author: Jerry McNerney

[An act to amend Sections 13529.2, 13551, 13552.4, 13553, and 13554 of the Water Code, relating to water quality.]

WATER RIGHTS

AB 263 – Scott River: Shasta River: watersheds.

Authorizes an emergency regulation adopted by the State Water Board for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds to remain in effect until January 1, 2031, or until permanent rules establishing and implementing long-term instream flow requirements for those watersheds are adopted, whichever occurs first. This bill would require the State Water Board to provide annual public updates, including opportunities for public comment, on its progress toward developing permanent rules for the rivers.

Chapter 130, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 263. Author: Chris Rogers

[An act to amend Section 1058.5 of the Water Code, relating to water.]

SB 697 – Determination of water rights: stream system.

Requires representatives of the State Water Board, in an investigation of a stream system in stream adjudications, to investigate in detail and to consider all pertinent information related to the use of water by each person who has given notice of intent to file a proof of claim and to determine the acreage under irrigation or otherwise define the place and purpose of use, determine the location and capacity of the person's diversion works and conduits conveying water from the stream system, and the amount of water diverted and reasonably required to satisfy the uses being made. Authorizes representatives of the State Water Board, as part of an investigation of a stream system, to conduct a field investigation of a person's water use after providing them with 30 days' written notice, or at the request of that person. Requires that each claimant be present at some point during the field investigation, either in person or by an authorized agent.

Requires each claimant to provide the representatives of the State Water Board with all pertinent information on the extent and nature of their water use and basis of water right. Authorizes the State Water Board, if it determines in writing that the information provided is inadequate, to issue an information order to any person or entity that diverts or uses water or claims a water right to prepare and submit, within 75 days of the date of the order unless an extension of time has been requested and granted, any related technical or monitoring program reports or reports supporting the basis of the claim. Requires the burden of preparing the report(s) to bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the requested information and the benefits to be obtained from the State Water Board receiving it. Requires the State Water Board, in issuing an information order, to (1) provide the person to whom it is directed with a written explanation regarding the need for the information and (2) identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the information. Authorizes the State Water Board, if the preparation of a report would result in duplicative efforts, to order any person or entity subject to the order to pay a reasonable share of the cost of preparing the report. Authorizes the State Water Board to require that the information provided in the report be updated annually while an adjudication is pending.

Requires the claimant or claimant's representative, immediately upon conclusion of the investigation of water use, to be provided, by registered mail, with a blank form of proof of claim and a copy of the factual

determinations of the representatives of the State Water Board for use in preparing the proof of claim.

Requires representatives of the State Water Board, in an investigation of a stream system, to investigate in detail the projects of all known water users who have not filed a notice of intent to file proof of claim. Authorizes the investigation of a stream system to include a field investigation in accordance with specified requirements, except that the water users need not be notified in advance or be present during the field investigation.

Requires water users who do not file a notice of intent to be supplied with a copy of the factual determinations of the representatives of the State Water Board and a blank form of proof of claim. Requires these water users to be provided with an opportunity to file a proof of claim after completion of the detailed investigation on the same basis as persons who were present and who filed timely notices of intent.

Requires the State Water Board, after all investigations of water use have been completed and the time for filing proofs of claims has expired, to prepare a report describing the water supply and abstracting the claim of water right of each applicant.

Chapter 422, Statutes of 2025, Senate Bill 697. Author: John Laird

[An act to amend Sections 1120, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, and 2600 of, and to add Section 2556 to, the Water Code, relating to water.]

WILDFIRES / HEADWATERS

AB 367 – Water: County of Ventura: fire suppression.

Defines “water supplier” as a community water system that supplies water that is used for the suppression of fire in either a high or very high fire hazard severity zone to more than 20 total residential dwellings in those zones in the County of Ventura. The bill specifies that “water supplier” does not include a water wholesaler that does not provide retail water service. The bill also provides that this section does not apply to (1) water delivery systems that are gravity-fed and do not require any backup power to continue to operate during a power shutoff, or (2) nonpotable, recycled, irrigation, or agricultural water systems that are not used for fire suppression.

Requires, beginning July 1, 2030, a water supplier to have access to sufficient backup energy sources to operate critical fire suppression infrastructure needed to supply water for at least 24 hours for the purpose of fire suppression in high or very high fire hazard severity zones in the County of Ventura, or have access to alternative sources of water supplied by a different water supplier that can supply water to critical wells and water pumps for at least 24 hours.

Requires backup energy sources equipped with an automatic or remote transfer switch to provide power within 30 minutes of a loss of power. Requires alternative sources of water supplied by others to be available within 30 minutes of a loss of power. Requires mobile backup energy sources to provide power within 12 hours of a National Weather Service red flag warning for at least 24 hours and within 60 minutes of a loss of power.

A water supplier that has entered into a contract to procure backup energy sources but has not received the backup energy source by July 1, 2030, will be in compliance if the water supplier has access to, or possession of the backup energy source by January 1, 2033.

Requires the water supplier to identify critical fire suppression infrastructure or alternative sources of water and provide that identification to the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services (Ventura County OES) no later than May 1, 2026. The bill provides that nothing in this section changes the confidentiality level of the information shared with the Ventura County OES.

Requires the Ventura County Fire Department, by January 1, 2027, in consultation with water suppliers and local fire departments, to develop minimum fire safety standards for the purpose of fire hardening critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources located in the high or very high fire hazard severity zone. The bill requires the Ventura County Fire Department to annually inspect critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources located in those zones to ensure they meet the fire safety standards and requires the water supplier to annually inspect critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources serving those zones, but not located within the zone, to ensure functionality.

Requires a water supplier, in coordination with the Ventura County OES and the Ventura County Fire Department, to establish an emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings, extreme weather events, and other major power outages or emergencies

that pose a potential threat to providing water service. The bill requires a water supplier to initiate action under the emergency preparedness plan if the National Weather Service alerts the region of a red flag warning.

Requires a water supplier to notify the Ventura County OES within three business days, or as soon as it becomes aware during a fire event, of any reduction in its water delivery capacity that could substantially hinder firefighting operations or significantly delay the replenishment of reservoirs.

Requires the Ventura County Fire Department, in cooperation with the water supplier, to present a report to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors if any fire damages and makes uninhabitable more than 10 residential dwellings within the service area of a water supplier. The bill requires the report to include (1) an assessment of whether water tanks were filled at an appropriate level for fire suppression, as outlined in the emergency preparedness plan; (2) whether disruption of water delivery due to a lack of electricity was timely and appropriately mitigated by the water supplier; and (3) whether critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources met the fire safety standards.

Chapter 690, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 367.
Author: Steve Bennett

[An act to add Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 7080) to Division 4 of the Water Code, relating to water.]

AB 1075 - Fire protection: privately contracted fire prevention resources: public water sources.

Requires the California Office of Emergency Services to develop regulations that prohibit privately contracted private fire prevention resources from hooking up their equipment to public water resources, unless approved by incident command or the authority having jurisdiction over the active fire incident and unless the equipment includes a backflow prevention device. Provides that nothing in this section would alter, impair, or interfere with the authority of a community water system to operate a water distribution system.

Chapter 538, Statutes of 2025, Assembly Bill 1075.
Author: Isaac Bryan

[An act to amend Section 14868 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to fire protection.]



980 9th Street, Ste. 1000
Sacramento, CA 95814
916.441.4545

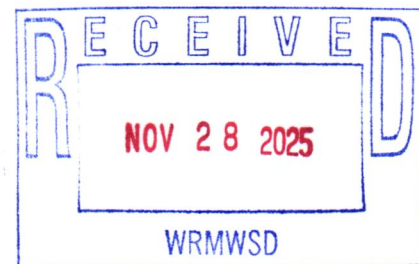
www.acwa.com

THE LAW OFFICES OF
Young Wooldridge
LLP

A Limited Liability Partnership • Est. 1939

November 18, 2025

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
Attn: Sheridan Nicholas, General Manager
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313-9630



Re: Fee Schedule Amendments

Dear Mr. Nicholas:

We have not modified our fee schedule for three (3) years. In light of increased costs of doing business, we find it necessary to now review our current fee schedule and propose a new schedule.

Our existing hourly fee schedule and proposed new schedule are as follows:

<u>Public Agency/District Rate Schedule</u>	<u>Existing:</u>	<u>New:</u>
Partner (Partner or 10 or more years' experience)	\$325	\$370
Senior Associate (5 or more years' experience)	\$295	\$330
Associate (Less than 5 years' experience)	\$265	\$295
Law Clerks	\$175	\$200
Legal Assistants/Paralegals	\$130	\$150
Of Counsel (Scott Kuney/40 or more years' experience)	\$400	\$410


The remainder of our schedule would remain unchanged, namely, photocopies at .10¢ per page for black and white and .25¢ per page for color, mileage at the then current IRS rate, and other costs and expenses incurred while performing legal services, including, consultant and expert fees, long distance telephone, computerized legal research charges, out-of-town travel expenses, court costs, filing fees and similar items, at rates not exceeding the actual costs incurred by the law firm.

The new fee schedule would take effect January 1, 2026.

We believe that these adjustments are very competitive with fees currently charged in the area to most other districts for similar services. Your favorable consideration will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,


Steven M. Torigiani


Alan F. Doud


Brett A. Stroud


Mark R. Bateman

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District and
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Convened at 8:00 A.M., November 12, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Groundwater Sustainability Agency was held at the District's office, with optional public participation made available through teleconference via GoToMeeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at the hour of 8:00 A.M. President Atkinson declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Directors Present in Person. Atkinson, Blaine, Fry, Marin, Martin, Mettler, Reiter, Richardson, Valpredo.

Directors Absent. None.

Others Present at 8:00 A.M. Engineer-Manager Sheridan Nicholas, Director of Water Resources Eric McDaris, Executive Assistant Danyel Ruth, and Attorney for the District Steve Torigiani.

Others Present at 9:30 A.M. Engineer-Manager Sheridan Nicholas, Attorney for the District Steve Torigiani, Director of Water Resources Eric McDaris, Staff Engineer Tom Suggs, Contract Administrator Flower Duenas, Assistant Controller Jennifer Whitby, Executive Assistant Danyel Ruth, Trey Irwin with Tejon Ranch, and Ben Johnson with Pacific Legal Foundation.

8:00 A.M. Closed Session. The Board convened in Closed Session to consider the following matters:

Conference with Legal Counsel Re: Existing Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9(a)):

1. *DWR v. All Persons Interested, etc., consolidated CEQA Case and "Complaint for Validation" Re: Delta Program Revenue Bonds, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 34-2020-80003517, 3rd Appellate Dist., Case No. C100552*
2. *CDWR Environmental Impact [WaterFix] Cases, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. JCCP No. 4942, 3rd Appellate Dist., Case No. C100302*
3. *Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District v. Kern County Water Agency, et al., Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-21-100418*
4. *Sierra Club, et al., v. DWR, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 24WM000008, and related cases, challenging DCP EIR*
5. *State Water Resources Control Bd. Administrative Hearing Office (AHO) Proceeding Re Sites Project Authority Water Rights Applications*
6. *DWR v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Authorization of Delta Conveyance Program Bonds, etc., Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 25CV000704*

Conference with Real Property Negotiator: (Gov. Code, § 54956.8)

7. *District's Designated Representative: Engineer-Manager Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payments Property: State Water Project Water Supply Negotiation with: Kern County Water Agency*

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: Initiation of Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(4)):

8. *Two Matters*

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: Significant Exposure to Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(2)):

9. *Two Matters*

9:30 A.M. Open Session. Mr. Torigiani reported there was no reportable action taken in Closed Session.

Legislative, Executive, Regulatory and Legal Matters. Mr. Torigiani reviewed some of the recent legislation that has since been signed into law by the Governor, including - SB 707, which updates the Brown Act; SB 852, which requires electronic filing of Form 700s by public officials who manage public investments; and SB 827 which updates ethics requirements for local agency public officials. Mr. Torigiani also reviewed some of the latest regulatory issues that may be of interest to the District and its

Water Users, including CalWATERS, the new water rights reporting system at the State Water Resources Control Board. He also reviewed the recent decision of the Fifth Appellate District Court of Appeal in the Kings County Farm Bureau v. SWRCB case regarding the Tulare Lake Subbasin probationary designation. He also noted that both the most recent ACWA Regulatory Roundup and the Valley Ag Water Coalition bill report were included in the Board packet.

Pacific Legal Foundation - Western Water Law Project Presentation. Ben Johnson and Charles Yates with the Pacific Legal Foundation spoke with the Board about the recent work of the Foundation. They expressed their gratitude for the years of support from the District, and noted the Western Water Law Project has now been folded into the Environment and Natural Resources practice group. Mr. Yates also asked the Board about areas of concern in and around Kern County that the Project may be able to work on.

Minutes. Upon motion from Director Reiter, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried with no abstentions, *The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Directors ... Convened October 8, 2025* and *The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of Directors ... Convened October 9, 2025*, were approved and filed.

Filing of the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Mettler presented and reviewed the *Treasurer's Report for the Month of October 2025*. Upon motion from Director Mettler, seconded by Director Marin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the *Treasurer's Report for the Month of October 2025* was approved and filed.

Approve Payment of Accounts Payable. Treasurer Mettler presented and reviewed the *Accounts Payable for the month of October 2025*, and the *Reimbursements and Transfers for the month of October 2025*. Upon motion from Director Mettler, seconded by Director Reiter and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the *Accounts Payable for the Month of October 2025*, and the *Reimbursements and Transfers for the Month of October 2025* were approved and filed.

Delinquent Accounts Report. Mr. Smith reviewed the varying Contract/Non-Contract and GWSC delinquencies with the Board, noting the portion of the E-M Report detailing this information.

File List of Delinquent Tolls & Charges. Mr. Smith reviewed his November 12, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Resolution Ordering the Filing of List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges for November 2025 Contract & Groundwater Service Charges (GWSC)*. The Board had specific questions regarding the process, Mr. Nicholas noted that staff would bring this item back for further discussion and review at the December Board meeting if and as necessary.

Upon motion by Director Martin, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried upon roll call vote with no abstentions, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2025-13 in the matter of:

**ORDERING THE FILING OF LIST OF DELINQUENT TOLLS AND CHARGES
(CALENDAR YEAR 2025) (WATER CODE SECTION 47183)**

Roll Call- AYES: Atkinson, Blaine, Fry, Marin, Martin, Mettler, Reiter, Richardson, Valpredo. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Upon motion by Director Martin, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried upon roll call vote with no abstentions, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2025-14 in the matter of:

**ORDERING THE FILING OF LIST OF DELINQUENT TOLLS AND CHARGES NOT
ESTABLISHED BY CONTRACT (NOVEMBER 2025) (WATER CODE SECTION 47183)**

Roll Call- AYES: Atkinson, Blaine, Fry, Marin, Martin, Mettler, Reiter, Richardson, Valpredo. NAYS:

None. ABSENT: None.

Budget Expenditures Report for October 2025. Ms. Whitby reviewed the Budget Expenditure Report for October 2025.

Approval of Budget, Water Rates, & Cash Forecast for 2026. Mr. Smith reviewed the 2026 Budget with the Board. Upon motion by Director Mettler, seconded by Marin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved the *Budget, Water Rates, & Cash Forecast for 2026*.

Consider Approval of Audit Engagement Letter. Mr. Smith reviewed his November 10, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of 2025 Audit Engagement Letter*. Upon motion by Director Valpredo, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved the continued use of BHK as its auditors for the 2025 audit.

President's Report. Nothing to report.

Engineer-Manager's Report. Mr. Nicholas reported the former Engineer-Manager and current Retired Annuitant Rob Kunde received the Water Legacy Award from the Water Association of Kern County.

2025 Water/Supply Demand Estimate. Mr. McDaris reviewed the 2025 Water/Supply Demand Estimate.

Other Purchases and Exchanges. Mr. McDaris reviewed his October 6, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Other Purchases and Exchanges*.

2025-26 San Luis Reservoir Carryover Update. Mr. McDaris gave an update on his October 6, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *2025-26 San Luis Reservoir Carryover Update*.

Second Amendment to the WS5-Palmdale Long Term Water Transfer Agreement. Mr. McDaris reviewed his October 6, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Second Amendment to the WS5-Palmdale Long Term Water Transfer Agreement*. Upon motion by Director Valpredo, seconded by Director Mettler and unanimously carried with no abstentions the Board approved the Second Amendment to the Agreement for Purchase of Water Supplies, which among other changes, would extend the term of the Agreement through 2030, allowing for the transfer of State Water Project supplies subject to the annual State Water Project allocation at those rates per acre-foot identified, and authorized the Engineer-Manager to execute said Second Amendment subject to review by legal counsel as to form and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

Consider Approval of Potential Long-Term Water Purchase Agreement. Mr. McDaris reviewed his October 6, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of Potential Long-Term Water Purchase Agreement*. Upon motion by Director Reiter, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried with no abstentions the Board authorized the Engineer-Manager to execute the attached Water Purchase Agreement and its associated Exhibit A, for the purchase of up to 1,000 acre-feet of water subject to availability, all subject to review by legal counsel as to form and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

Future Participation in Pioneer Project Replacement Wells. Mr. McDaris reviewed his November 5, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Future Participation in Pioneer Project Replacement Wells*. The general consensus of the Board was to not participate in the referenced Pioneer Replacement wells.

State Water Project / Delta Conveyance Project. Mr. Nicholas noted there is still no funding agreement for the next DCP planning funding period. He also noted the upcoming Member Unit meetings at the Kern County Water Agency.

Sites Reservoir. Mr. Nicholas stated all updates on the Sites Project are available for review in the

Engineer-Manager's Report.

Consider Approval of Proposal for Water Accounting & Billing Software. This item was tabled until next month.

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA. Mr. Nicholas reported the Kern County Subbasin is still waiting for the formal letter from the SWRCB returning the Kern Subbasin to DWR. He also updated the Board on the significant work that continues as the Subbasin implements the GSP.

Consider Approval of Updated Publicly Available Pay Schedule. Mr. Nicholas reviewed his November 10, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of Updated Publicly Available Pay Schedule*. Upon motion by Director Valpredo, seconded by Director Marin and unanimously carried with no abstentions with Director Martin absent the Board adopted the Publicly Available Pay Schedule effective September 28, 2025.

EKI Report: Three-dimensional Geologic Model and Recharge Suitability Assessment for the WRMWSD Service Area. Mr. Nicholas reviewed the October 28, 2025 EKI memorandum to Sheridan Nicholas and the District entitled *Three-dimensional Geologic Model and Recharge Suitability Assessment for the WRMWSD Service Area* with the Board regarding a previously approved task order with EKI.

WRMGSA - Consider Approval of Kern Subbasin GSP Cost Sharing Agreement. Mr. Nicholas reviewed his November 10, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of Kern Subbasin GSP Cost Sharing Agreement*. Upon motion by Director Martin, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved, and if necessary, authorized the Board President to execute the Kern Subbasin GSP Cost Sharing Agreement at a total cost not to exceed \$721,925 (WRMGSA's share \$32,815) and subject to final approval of the Engineer-Manager and District legal counsel.

WRMGSA - Consider Approval of EKI Task Order for SOKR GSP Implementation Support. Mr. Nicholas reviewed his November 10, 2025 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of EKI Task Order for SOKR GSP Implementation Support*. Upon motion by Director Reiter, seconded by Director Marin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved the attached proposal entitled *South of Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation Support July through December 2024* with EKI at a total cost of \$205,700.

Directors Meeting Attended. Nothing to report.

Kern County Water Agency. Mr. McDaris reported that Eric Averett, the former President of the KCWA Board of Directors, had resigned as a KCWA Board member on October 8, and was hired as the KCWA General Manager on October 23.

Kern Water Bank Authority/KWBGSA. Mr. Nicholas reported on the October and November Kern Water Bank Authority and Kern Water Bank GSA meetings.

South of Kern River GSP. Mr. Nicholas noted the next meeting of the SOKR Executive Committee would be November 20.

Kern Non-District Lands Authority. Director Fry noted there was nothing to report.

Kern Coordination Committee. Nothing to report.

White Wolf Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Mr. Nicholas reviewed the EKI presentation from the WWGSA November 4, 2025 meeting, covering items such as Updates on GSP implementation, Periodic

Evaluation and GSP Amendments, and updates on Projects and Management Actions (P/MAs).

Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority. Director Blaine stated that audits were completed for years 2019-2024. The Authority is now up to date on their audits and audits will be timely completed annually going forward.

Committee for Delta Reliability. Mr. Nicholas reported on the following items - Fall X2, noting the suspension of this requirement was for 2025 only; an update on the possible ESA listing of the White Sturgeon; ESA Amendments Act (H.R. 1897); and the failure of the Striped Bass petition regarding the proposed amendment limiting the maximum size in recreational fishing.

South Valley Water Resource Authority. Mr. Nicholas noted the Authority approved their 2026 budget, and the detailed the financial impact to the District (\$2.08 per acre-foot of Table A Entitlement).

Unfinished and New Business. Mr. Nicholas mentioned the ACWA Fall Conference would be held in San Diego on December 2-4, 2025, and asked for Board members to let the Executive Assistant know if they wished to attend.

Public Comments. None.

Adjournment. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
[Seal]

Secretary of the Board

List of Abbreviations:

ACWA	Association of California Water Agencies
ADM SSC	Administrative Service Charge, for basic administrative costs, non-project in nature, benefitting both SWSA and groundwater service area
AECA	Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
Agency	Kern County Water Agency
AWMP	Agricultural Water Management Plan
BDCP	Bay Delta Conservation Plan
BDS	Bond Debt Service
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAW	Contract Amount of Water totaling 200,818 acre-feet between the District & Water Users
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFWC	California Farm Water Coalition
COBRA	Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
CVC	Cross Valley Canal
CVP	Central Valley Project (operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation)
CWF	California WaterFix delta conveyance program (previously DHCCP)
DCA	Delta Conveyance Authority
DCF	Delta Conveyance Facility
DCP	Delta Conveyance Project
DFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
DHCCP	Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Program - the conveyance element of the BDCP - renamed the California
District	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
DOG	California Division of Oil & Gas
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
DYTP	Dry Year Transfer Program
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
FAA	Final Accounting Adjustment
FO	Fixed Obligation water rate
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
GEN	GSC General Service charge, for recovery of Bond Debt for general purposes in the District
GL	General Ledger
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GPS	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
GWSC	Groundwater Service Charge
ILRP	Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
IRWMP	Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
ITRC	Irrigation Training and Research Center
JPIA	Joint Powers Insurance Authority
KCWA	Kern County Water Agency or Agency
KFMC	Kern Fan Monitoring Committee
KGA	Kern Groundwater Authority
KNDLA	Kern Non-Districted Lands Authority
KRGSA	Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Agency
KRWCA	Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority
KWB	Kern Water Bank
KWBA	Kern Water Bank Authority
KWBGSA	Kern Water Bank Groundwater Sustainability Agency
ITP	Incidental Take Permit
MO	Measurable Objective
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Minimum Threshold
MWD	Metropolitan Water District
NoD	North of the Delta
NonC	Non-Contract Charges
OMR	Operations, Maintenance and Repair, not to be confused with OMR of Old Middle Rivers
OMR	Old and Middle Rivers in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEF	Pastoria Energy Facility
P/MA	Projects and Management Actions
PoE	Probability of Exceedance
PROJ	SSC Project Service Charge, for project costs related to, but not specific to a particular system
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SLR	San Luis Reservoir
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
SoD	South of the Delta
SOKR	South of Kern River
SSC	Special Service Charge, consists of ADM SSC, GEN SSC and PRO SSC
SSJVWQC	Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition
SVWRA	South Valley Water Resources Authority
SWC	State Water Contractors
SWP	State Water Project (operated by DWR)
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
SWSA	Surface Water Service Area or contracted acreages
WAC	Water Availability Charge, consists of BDS, OMR & FO
Water User	A landowner holding a Water Service Contract with the District
WD	Water District
WRMWS	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
WS5	Westside 5 Water Districts - Belridge, Berrenda Mesa, Dudley Ridge, Lost Hills & Wheeler Ridge
WSC	Water Service Contract
WSD	Water Storage District
WUC	Water Use Charge, consists of State Pumping/Variable and District Pumping/Variable
WWGSA	White Wolf Groundwater Sustainability Agency

**WHEELER RIDGE - MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025**

FUNDS ON DEPOSIT:

12/10/2025 Board Packet
GENERAL FUND

BALANCE AS OF:	10/31/2025	73,051,901.81
PLUS CASH RECEIVED FOR: (cash receipts/interest)	11/2025	485,850.44
LESS CASH EXPENDED DURING MONTH FOR:	11/2025	(4,295,391.27)
(KCWA, pr, ap, cdr, ach, mnl, fees, pr burdens, ee net, taxes, inv)		

FUNDS ON RECONCILED DEPOSIT AT END OF MONTH:

69,242,360.98

THE ABOVE FUNDS ARE ON DEPOSIT AS FOLLOWS:

WELLS FARGO BANK NA - (GL) CASH BALANCE	387,652.47
KCT-POOLED INVESTMENTS - (G/L) CASH BALANCE	28,497,218.74
LAIF-POOLED INVESTMENTS - (GL) CASH BALANCE	2,151.58
CAMP-POOLED INVESTMENTS - (GL) CASH BALANCE	40,355,338.19
	69,242,360.98

CAMP BALANCE AS OF:	10/31/2025	38,639,477.46
TRANSFERS FROM WELLS FARGO BANK	11/2025	1,581,344.97
INTEREST INCOME	11/2025	134,515.76
ENDING CAMP BALANCE:		40,355,338.19

INTEREST APPORTIONMENT PERCENTAGE (ANNUALIZED)

MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2025	-----	CAMP	4.10%
MONTH ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2025	-----		4.26%
MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025	-----		4.36%
MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31, 2025	-----		4.40%

INTEREST APPORTIONMENT PERCENTAGE (ANNUALIZED)

QUARTER ENDING DEC 31, 2024	-----	KCT	3.56%
QUARTER ENDING SEP 30, 2024	-----		3.53%
QUARTER ENDING JUN 30, 2024	-----		3.46%
QUARTER ENDING MAR 31, 2024	-----		3.37%

ALL FUNDS ARE PLACED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DISTRICT'S INVESTMENT POLICY AND GUIDELINES. SUFFICIENT CASH FLOW EXISTS TO MEET BUDGETED OBLIGATIONS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

CASH RECEIVED (KERN COUNTY TREASURER/LAIF/WELLS FARGO/CAMP) DURING MONTH AS FOLLOWS:

GROUND WATER SERVICE CHARGES	151,655.11
MANUAL INVOICES	145,615.37
CAMP INTEREST	134,515.76
CONTRACT WATER PAYMENTS	49,646.79
WELLS FARGO SWEEP INTEREST	4,417.41
INTEREST APPORTIONMENT - kern county auditor controller	-
LAIF INTEREST	-
SPECIAL SERVICE CHARGES ADMINISTRATION - kern county auditor/controller	-
SPECIAL SERVICE CHARGES GENERAL - kern county auditor/controller	-
WRM GSA	-

Cash Receipts Summary	485,850.44
------------------------------	-------------------

OPERATING RESERVE FUND BALANCE: audited 12/31/2024	24,903,002
---	-------------------

WHEELER RIDGE - MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
DRAFT AUDITED RESERVE FUND BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024 PLUS ESTIMATED ADJUSTMENTS

12/10/2025 Board Packet

<u>INTERNALLY CONSTRAINED RESERVES</u>	<u>AUDIT</u> <u>12/31/2024</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Adjusted</u> <u>12/31/2025</u>
OPERATING RESERVE FUND	24,903,002		24,903,002
EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND	3,602,282		3,602,282
GROUND WATER REPLENISHMENT RESERVE FUND	12,429,594		12,429,594
CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUND	11,171,205	(47,669) (1)	11,123,536
WATER BANKING CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	5,791,997	(1,760,464) (2)	4,031,533
WATER BANKING REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND	0		0
WELL REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND	11,486		11,486
DOMESTIC WELL MITIGATION RESERVE FUND	100,445		100,445
 TOTAL RESERVE FUNDS INTERNALLY CONSTRAINED	 58,010,011	 (1,808,133)	 56,201,878
THIS AMOUNT IS SHOWN AS AN UNCONSTRAINED RESERVE. THIS IS MISLEADING AS THE BOARD HAS NOT DESIGNATED SUCH A RESERVE, AND IT IS NOT A CASH ASSET (COMPARE THE \$117.9 MILLION OF TOTAL RESERVES TO THE \$60.3 MILLION OF CASH EQUIVALENTS ON PAGE 10 OF THE 2024 AUDIT).	59,963,391	1,808,133	61,771,524
 UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	 117,973,402	 0	 117,973,402

(1) 2024 adjustment for litigation expenses

(2) KWB Facilities 2025 Assessment

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
NOVEMBER 2025

5.2

NAME	DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
ROBERT CLAFFY	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	25.00	WATER TREATMENT - NOV 2025	
MARK DELEON	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	462.00	TRANSPORTATION	
KEVIN EATON	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	252.00	TRANSPORTATION	
ALEXANDRA H ZAVALA	11/17/2025	11.17.25	200.21	BOOTS - ZAVALA	
ERIC MCDARIS	11/10/2025	11.10.25	50.00	EXEMPTION NOTICE WTR XFR	
COREY WILKERSON	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	25.00	SAFETY MEETING - NOV 2025	
HYDRAULIC CONTROLS, INC. CORP. ADMIN	11/21/2025	02930838	286.99	HOSE, ENDS	
AFTW HOLDINGS, LLC	11/14/2025	"AFTW"10-2025	67,130.83	WHEELER #1 SOLAR CHARGES	67,130.83
ASG SUPPLY	11/19/2025	007120	1,528.49	PACKING	
ASG SUPPLY	11/19/2025	007121	163.28	HYDRATION PACKS, GLOVES	
ASG SUPPLY	11/21/2025	007134	164.38	WRENCHES (4), FLASHLIGHT	
ASG SUPPLY	11/26/2025	007151	214.88	NITRILE GLOVES	
ASG SUPPLY	12/5/2025	007175	1,885.91	IMPACT WRENCH, BATTERY PACKS	
ARVIN EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT	11/12/2025	25-41	1,569.23	SOKR GSP LEGAL/CONSULT SEP/OCT	
AT&T	12/7/2025	N/A	318.89	FIRE ALARM LINES	
AVADINE	11/30/2025	116045	1,250.00	SCADA SUPPORT	
AVADINE	12/1/2025	116028	1,000.00	LATIS MAINTENANCE & SUPPORT	
BSE RENTS	11/22/2025	405500	726.34	CONCRETE FOR NEW TURNOUT	
BAKERSFIELD PAINT AND WALLPAPER	11/21/2025	CWCA5	98.72	PAINT THINNER, SOLVENT	
B & B SURPLUS INC	12/4/2025	1271051	97.64	FLANGES (4)	
B & R SUPPLY, INC.	11/24/2025	1901020158	102.09	MISC HARDWARE / TOOLS #171	
BOOT BARN INC.	12/4/2025	INV00547970	180.23	BOOTS - COLVIN	
S A CAMP PUMP CO	11/21/2025	PSINV-102094	19,717.64	REBUILD PUMP WRM 9 #2	
S A CAMP PUMP CO	12/2/2025	PSINV-102164	2,432.00	INSPECT BOOSTER STATION PANEL	22,149.64
CANON	12/12/2025	N/A	857.47	LEASE 2 CANON COPIERS	
CLEROU TIRE COMPANY	12/3/2025	T44848	742.88	TIRES (4) FOR #35	
COASTLINE EQUIPMENT	11/13/2025	1297247	1,369.36	EXCAVATOR BUCKET	
CONEXUS SG	11/15/2025	251115WHEESU	150.00	GREAT PLAINS SUPPORT	
CORE & MAIN LP	11/10/2025	Y002008	1,411.58	PIPE FOR NEW TURNOUT	
CORE & MAIN LP	11/17/2025	Y114535	2,987.70	BUTTERFLY VALVES (3)	
CRANE SERVICE INDUSTRIES	11/21/2025	8848	860.00	ANNUAL INSPECTION CRANE #366A	
DANIELS TIRE SERVICE	11/24/2025	240202755	1,231.60	TIRES (8)	
DANIELS TIRE SERVICE	11/24/2025	240203018	675.25	TIRES (4)	
DANIELS TIRE SERVICE	12/4/2025	240203445	1,063.74	TIRES (4) + INSTALL FOR #166	
DANIELS TIRE SERVICE	12/4/2025	240203462	977.92	TIRES (4) FOR #389	
DELL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	11/5/2025	4706930	7,939.26	COMPUTERS (4), PMT 2 & 3 OF 3	7,939.26
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC.	11/13/2025	C20055.11-07	15,273.44	SOKR GSP	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC.	11/13/2025	C20055.13-01	3,812.38	SOKR GSP DEFICIENCY RESPONSE	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC.	12/5/2025	C20055.11-08	15,928.38	SOKR GSP	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC.	12/5/2025	C20055.13-02	11,649.04	SOKR GSP DEFICIENCY RESPONSE	46,663.24
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, INC.	11/30/2025	100294	248.70	PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING	
FARWEST CORROSION CONTROL	10/30/2025	0419731-IN	1,025.34	EPOXY COATING	
FAST UNDERCAR	11/17/2025	08UL1749	186.23	TRUCK BATTERY, TAIL LIGHT BULB	
FAST UNDERCAR	12/3/2025	08UN5647	35.72	OIL FILTERS (12)	
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, INC.	11/10/2025	0047708	5,981.55	COUPLERS (4), BOOSTER PUMPS (2	
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, INC.	11/13/2025	0048455	230.75	VALVE BOX TOPS & LIDS (2)	
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, INC.	11/14/2025	0048534	2,076.71	VALVE BOX TOPS & LIDS (18)	
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, INC.	11/10/2025	0048174	1,501.43	PIPE FITTINGS	
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, INC.	12/4/2025	0032812-2	36,043.20	CHECK VALVES (2) W/O 25-03-01	45,833.64
FLYERS ENERGY, LLC	11/21/2025	25-524848	24,352.33	GASOLINE	24,352.33
GRAINGER	11/20/2025	9719124548	426.51	PHOTOCONTROL (20)	
GRAINGER	11/21/2025	9720461236	59.28	50PK MAILERS	
GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	11/20/2025	3094070	1,145.50	ROCK FOR NEW TURNOUT	
GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	11/21/2025	3095544	1,151.30	ROCK FOR NEW TURNOUT	
GRAPEVINE MSP	11/15/2025	50425	5,110.50	IT SERVICES	5,110.50
GREEN RUBBER-KENNEDY AG	10/29/2025	BF-107044	115.24	COUPLINGS & NOZZLES	
GREEN RUBBER-KENNEDY AG	11/3/2025	BF-107073	71.55	MISC HARDWARE	
GREEN RUBBER-KENNEDY AG	11/12/2025	BF-107155	597.54	DISCHARGE HOSE, CAMLOCKS	
GREG'S PETROLEUM SERVICE, INC.	11/30/2025	589367	923.67	DIESEL FUEL	
JIM'S STEEL SUPPLY	11/21/2025	267887	1,217.81	WELD REDUCER	
JORGENSEN COMPANY	11/21/2025	6223632	80.00	CALIBRATION SERVICES	
KEN'S OPTICAL	11/14/2025	10983	300.00	SAFETY GLASSES - S MEADOWS	

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
NOVEMBER 2025

5.2

NAME	DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY	1/1/2026	43368	32,525.45	CVC COSTS Q1 2026	
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY	12/1/2025	43454	422.00	2023 TABLE A WATER LEASE	
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY	12/1/2025	43568	(9,599.00)	2024 TABLE A WATER LEASE	23,348.45
KERN ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTORS	12/5/2025	609854	424.57	PUTTY TAPE	
KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY	12/15/2025	ASMT 2025-02	2,468,568.00	2025 CAP & DEBT SERV ASSES 2/2	2,468,568.00
KERN WATER BANK GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILIT	1/1/2026	ASMT 2026-01	90,112.50	2026 ASSESSMENT 1 OF 2	90,112.50
KIMBALL MIDWEST	11/13/2025	103934606	706.74	DRILL BITS, PINS, CABLE TIES	
KIMBALL MIDWEST	11/20/2025	103954316	519.60	NUTS & BOLTS	
KMS CENTRAL VALLEY EQUIPMENT LLC	11/30/2025	E111725WRV	4,236.38	LOADER RENTAL	
KMS MECHANICS INC	10/20/2025	9925WAC1	553.42	MOVE EXCAVATOR TO 850 CANAL	
KMS MECHANICS INC	10/23/2025	101425UCC	1,561.49	REPAIR DUMP TRAILER	
KNIGHTS PUMPING SERVICE	10/31/2025	0000253170	245.62	PORTABLE TOILET SERVICES	
KNIGHTS PUMPING SERVICE	11/14/2025	0000254664	270.70	PORTABLE TOILET SERVICES	
KNIGHTS PUMPING SERVICE	11/21/2025	0000255373	270.70	PORTABLE TOILET SERVICES	
LAND IQ	10/13/2025	7254	39,270.56	EVAPOTRANSPIRATION APR-OCT2025	
LAND IQ	11/1/2025	7315	5,610.08	EVAPOTRANSPIRATION NOV 2025	44,880.64
LOWE'S BUSINESS ACCOUNT	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	2,725.28	PLYWOOD, BLK PLASTIC, LADDER	
LUIGI'S	11/17/2025	11.17.25	5,606.88	EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION DINNER	5,606.88
THE MARCOM GROUP	11/15/2025	67965	95.00	WEBSITE HOSTING	
MEH OBSP LLC	11/7/2025	SP-395-000019	28,846.06	850 CANAL SOLAR CHARGES	28,846.06
MADISON ENERGY INVESTMENTS IX LLC	11/7/2025	SP-337-000012	70,648.18	WHEELER #2 SOLAR CHARGES	70,648.18
MONTGOMERY HARDWARE CO	11/19/2025	779800	61.74	BLDG ACCESS - NOV 2025	
MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO.	11/17/2025	74574940	137.61	SMALL TOOLS	
MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO.	12/2/2025	78119330	87.02	DRILL BITS FOR #384	
MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO.	12/2/2025	78129020	125.40	CONDUIT PISTONS	
QUADIENT	11/20/2025	11.20.25	250.00	POSTAGE	
NORTH KERN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT	11/24/2025	0000273	680.36	SUBSIDENCE MITIGATION	
ONE STOP AUTO CARE CENTER	11/14/2025	386361	59.95	SMOG CHECK #369	
ONE STOP AUTO CARE CENTER	10/21/2025	385698	68.20	SMOG #132	
P G & E #1	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	74.66	NOVEMBER POWER	
P G & E #2	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	24,269.47	NOVEMBER POWER	
P G & E #3	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	4,852.51	NOVEMBER POWER	
P G & E #4	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	225.41	NOVEMBER POWER	
P G & E #5	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	2,719.94	NOVEMBER POWER	32,141.99
PETTY CASH	12/5/2025	12.5.25	200.69	RECORDING FEES, COPIES, LUNCH	
PLATINUM EQUIPMENT RENTAL	11/26/2025	R266-1	1,307.66	VACUUM TRUCK RENTAL #8PP2	
POWERSTRIDE BATTERY	11/21/2025	B395057	258.72	JUMP STARTER #159	
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	11/22/2025	53363435	1,107.16	CYLINDER RENTAL	
PRICE DISPOSAL INC	11/30/2025	N4855347578	1,660.05	2 40-YD ROLL OFFS	
PROVOST & PRITCHARD	11/13/2025	125178	506.70	WHITE WOLF IN LIEU BANKING	
PROVOST & PRITCHARD	11/20/2025	125523	1,333.60	WELL FLOWMETER REVIEW PROGRAM	
RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.	11/11/2025	69968	2,770.75	WS5 WATER TRANSFER	
RINGCENTRAL INC.	11/30/2025	CD_001284790	791.85	TELEPHONES	
PRIMO BRANDS	11/29/2025	15K0028964179	1,122.08	DRINKING WATER	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	11/13/2025	1054212	640.07	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	11/20/2025	1055020	640.07	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	10/16/2025	S1049968	133.00	WORK SHIRT - HIGHT	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	11/27/2025	1056185	640.07	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	12/4/2025	1057201	654.85	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SMART & FINAL	11/19/2025	11.19.25	78.71	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SMART & FINAL	11/25/2025	11.25.25	76.73	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SMART & FINAL	11/25/2025	11.25.25-2	36.78	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SMART & FINAL	11/26/2025	11.26.25	98.08	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY	11/25/2025	11.25.25	640.15	NATURAL GAS	
STINSON'S	11/18/2025	357856-0	552.09	TONER, CALENDARS	
THREE WAY CHEVROLET	11/19/2025	117475	136.40	NUTS	
UNIVERSAL URGENT CARE AND OCCUPATIONAL ME	12/2/2025	EM019083	93.00	PREEMPLOYMENT EXAM/DRUG SCREEN	
VANGUARD CLEANING SYSTEMS OF THE SOUTHERN	12/1/2025	84601	1,565.00	JANITORIAL SERVICES	
VAST NETWORKS	12/1/2025	69955	1,450.00	INTERNET	
VERIZON WIRELESS	11/30/2025	6129869768	303.20	IPAD DATA	
VERIZON WIRELESS	11/30/2025	6129869769	197.65	CELL PHONE / SIM CARDS	
VULCAN MATERIALS	11/10/2025	5031630	1,100.32	ROCK FOR NEW TURNOUT	
WELLS FARGO - MCDARIS 8085	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	239.88	ANNUAL SOFTWARE RENEWAL	

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
NOVEMBER 2025

NAME	DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
WELLS FARGO - LOVELESS	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	427.57	ANNUAL TEAMUP RENEW, LUNCH	
WELLS FARGO - OFFICE	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	319.00	ANNUAL TEAMUP RENEWAL, SOFTWARE	
WELLS FARGO - T SUGGS 4566	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	1,106.95	ACWA FALL CONFERENCE - SUGGS	
WELLS FARGO - OFFICE #2	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	2,082.34	IMPACT WRENCHES, BATTERIES	
WELLS FARGO - NICHOLAS	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	909.39	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, ACWA TRAV	
WELLS FARGO - SMITH	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	1,036.87	CPE - SMITH & WHITBY, SOFTWARE	6,122.00
WESTERN EXTERMINATOR COMPANY	11/19/2025	85434157	283.74	PEST CONTROL	
WHITE CAP	11/21/2025	10022781462	326.70	DELINEATORS (20)	
WIENHOFF DRUG TESTING INC	11/15/2025	135566	850.00	ANNUAL DRUG TESTING MEMBERSHIP	
WIENHOFF DRUG TESTING INC	12/4/2025	136104	130.65	SAFETY POCKETBOOKS	
YOUNG WOOLDRIDGE	11/30/2025	NOV 2025	45,004.32	LEGAL SERVICES	45,004.32
ZEP SALES AND SERVICE	11/20/2025	9012087422	1,137.51	CLEANING SUPPLIES	
		SUBTOTAL	3,100,875.44		
		MANUAL CHECKS	963.80		
		VOUCHER TOTAL	3,101,839.24		

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ACH AND MANUAL CHECKS PAYMENTS
NOVEMBER 2025

							5.2
NOVEMBER	NAME	TYPE	DATE	INVOICE #	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
	CANON	EFT	11/25/25	42140518	963.80	COLOR OVERAGES, PROPERTY TAX	
				Total	963.80		

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WSD
FISCAL AGENT FOR COMMITTEE FOR DELTA RELIABILITY
CUSTODIAL FUNDS-REPORT OF EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS
NOVEMBER 2025 FOR THE DECEMBER 10, 2025 BOARD MEETING

5.2

NAME	INVOICE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
------	----------------	-------------	--------

TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED BY WRMWSD BOARD

NOVEMBER 12, 2025 BOARD AUTHORIZATION	NOVEMBER	VOUCHER	8,981.63
VOUCHER TOTAL REQUESTED			8,981.63

EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZED BY COMMITTEE AND PAID BY WRMWSD MANUAL CHECK

Water & Land Solutions, LLC	4866	Representation - October 2025	8,981.63
TOTAL PAID			8,981.63

INVOICES AWAITING COMMITTEE APPROVAL

INVOICES APPROVED BY WRMWSD BOARD @ DECEMBER 10, 2025 BOARD MEETING (VOUCHER)

Center for CA Water Resources	316	Murphy - Aug/Sep 2025, Hamilton - Sep/Oct 2025	22,182.67
Nossaman	584726	ESA/Water Quality Counseling - Sep 2025	47,600.46
Nossaman	585550	ESA/Water Quality Counseling - Oct 2025	41,817.64
Water & Land Solutions, LLC	4913	Representation - November 2025	3,173.41
VOUCHER TOTAL REQUEST			114,774.18

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
Revolving Account Check Listing

NOVEMBER 2025

Check	Date	Payee	Amount	Description
		BALANCE AS OF 10/31/25	7,000.00	
		Deposit		
			7,000.00	

Total Checks Issued	0.00
Ending Balance	7,000.00
Balance Limit	7,000.00
Replenish Amount	0.00

**WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MANAGEMENT BENEFITS BREAKDOWN**

November 2025 for the December 10, 2025 BOARD MEETING

	ACWA BLUE CROSS OF CA			DENTAL-HEALTHEDGE		HARTFORD	
NAME	MED	VISION	LIFE/AD&D	CLAIMS	ADM	DISABILITY	TOTAL
ATKINSON	1,809.40	17.21	9.77	***	18.15	0.00	***
BLAINE	2,397.46	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
FRY	2,397.46	17.21	4.30	***	18.15	0.00	***
LYDA	1,809.40	17.21	9.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
MARIN	2,397.46	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
MARTIN	2,397.46	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
METTLER	1,809.40	17.21	7.10	***	18.15	0.00	***
REITER	904.70	17.21	4.30	***	18.15	0.00	***
RICHARDSON	2,397.46	17.21	3.20	***	18.15	0.00	***
VALPREDO	1,809.40	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
LOVELESS	2,397.46	17.21	36.50	***	18.15	72.50	***
MCDARIS	1,809.40	17.21	14.00	***	18.15	72.50	***
NICHOLAS	2,397.46	17.21	36.50	***	18.15	72.50	***
SMITH	2,397.46	17.21	78.50	***	18.15	72.50	***
SUGGS	2,397.46	17.21	78.50	***	18.15	72.50	***
WHITBY	1,809.40	17.21	36.50	***	18.15	72.50	***
	33,338.24	275.36	340.67	1,123.46	290.40	435.00	
TOTAL BENEFITS							\$35,803.13

*** INDIVIDUAL CLAIM AMOUNTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL PER THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA)

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS/MANAGEMENT *COMPENSATION & EXPENSE* BREAKDOWN
NOVEMBER 2025 for the DECEMBER 10, 2025 BOARD

NAME	DATE	TOTAL	PAYEE	MEMO
Atkinson	11/12/2025	129.00	Atkinson	Regular Board Meeting
Blaine	11/03/2025	125.00	Blaine	Kern Subbasin Meeting
Blaine	11/06/2025	125.00	Blaine	Kern River Watershed Coalition Meeting
Blaine	11/12/2025	128.00	Blaine	Regular Board Meeting
Blaine	11/20/2025	125.00	Blaine	SOKR Executive Meeting
Fry	11/04/2025	125.00	Fry	WWGSA Board Meeting
Fry	11/12/2025	125.00	Fry	Regular Board Meeting
Marin	11/12/2025	125.00	Marin	Regular Board Meeting
Martin	11/12/2025	127.00	Martin	Regular Board Meeting
Mettler	11/04/2025	128.00	Mettler	WWGSA Board Meeting
Mettler	11/12/2025	128.00	Mettler	Regular Board Meeting
Reiter	11/12/2025	139.00	Reiter	Regular Board Meeting
Reiter	11/13/2025	125.00	Reiter	KCWA Member Unit Meeting
Richardson	11/12/2025	128.00	Richardson	Regular Board Meeting
Valpredo	11/12/2025	129.00	Valpredo	Regular Board Meeting
DIRECTORS		1,911.00		

Loveless	10/27-10/29	100.25	Wells Fargo	Meals - JPIA Conference
McDaris				
Nicholas	10/28/2025	30.76	Wells Fargo	Meal - Bank Meeting
Nicholas	11/01/2025	102.25	Verizon	Communication - cell
Smith	10/23/2025	175.00	Wells Fargo	CalCPA Course
Smith	10/28/2025	30.76	Wells Fargo	Meal - Bank Meeting
Suggs				
MANAGEMENT		439.02		

Kunde				
*** note: retired annuitant costs are expense reimbursements not compensation				
RETIRE ANNUITANT		0.00		

Board	10/08/2025	54.27	Wells Fargo	10/8/2025 Board Meeting - refreshments
	10/05/2025	97.53	Wells Fargo	10/8/2025 Board Meeting - burritos
BOARD		151.80		

WHEELER RIDGE - MARICOPA WSD
 PAYROLL FUND
 NOVEMBER 2025
DECEMBER 10, 2025 BOARD MEETING

	EMPLOYEES	DIRECTORS	RETIREES	TOTALS
SALARIES & WAGES Pay Period Ended: (November 8, 2025/ee)-(October 31, 2025/dir)	164,048.28	2,432.00		166,480.28
SALARIES & WAGES Pay Period Ended: (November 22, 2025)	175,525.82			175,525.82
SALARIES & WAGES Pay Period Ended: (, 2025)				-
PAYCHEX Employer taxes: SSI, Medicare, UI	24,606.46	214.90		24,821.36
PERS (EMPLOYER PORTION) RETIREMENT	39,982.44			39,982.44
ACWA-HEALTH BENEFITS Medical/Vision Insurance Premium (+cobra)	92,874.23	18,525.76	24,870.10	136,270.09
HEALTH EDGE ADMINISTRATORS INC Dental Insurance Administrative Fees (+cobra)	744.15	163.35	508.20	1,415.70
HEALTH EDGE ADMINISTRATORS INC Dental Insurance Claims	4,222.79	138.00	1,069.40	5,430.19
THE HARTFORD GROUP Long Term Disability Insurance	3,040.72			3,040.72
PAYCHEX P/R Processing Fees, monthly and W-2 fees	1,263.10	150.35		1,413.45
TOTAL PAYROLL FUND:	506,307.99	21,624.36	26,447.70	554,380.05

**WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
REIMBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS
DECEMBER 10, 2025 BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025**

GENERAL/REVOLVING ACCOUNT:

FUND #				
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK GENERAL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR: November 2025 Accounts Payable	<div>1</div>	\$	3,101,839.24
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK GENERAL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR: Accounts Payable	<div>1.1</div>	\$	0.00
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK GENERAL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR: November 2025 Accounts Payable		3,101,839.24 \$	
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK GENERAL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR: Committee for Delta Reliability	<div>2</div>	\$	114,774.18
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK REVOLVING ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR: November 2025 Revolving Account	<div>3</div>	\$	
	TOTAL GENERAL/REVOLVING ACCOUNT:		\$	3,216,613.42

PAYROLL ACCOUNT:

FUND #				
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK PAYROLL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PPE: December 20, 2025	<div>4</div>	216,000.00	
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK PAYROLL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PPE: January 3, 2026	<div>5</div>	360,000.00	
60710	WRM-WSD WELLS FARGO BANK PAYROLL ACCOUNT TRANSFER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PPE: , 2026	<div>6</div>		
	TOTAL PAYROLL ACCOUNT:		\$ 576,000.00	576,000.00

COUNTY TRANSFERS: 2026 SWP Payment 1 of 2 due January 5, 2026 **16,380,590.00**

COUNTY TRANSFERS: Transfer to CAMP **8,224,015.00**

TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS: \$ **28,397,218.42**

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Consider Adoption of Resolution Ordering the Filing of List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges for Delinquent Groundwater Service Charges

Last month, staff presented Resolution No. 25-13 for the Board's consideration regarding authorization to file a List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges for delinquencies related to the District's Water Service Contract (WSC) charges. This is an annual item, taken up for any delinquent accounts following the delinquency date of the final WSC installment 8/8. Staff presented a concurrent resolution (Resolution 25-14) requesting authorization to file a second List of Tolls and Charges for those Water Users who were also delinquent on the District's Groundwater Service Charge (GWSC).

There followed considerable discussion surrounding the GWSC delinquency process, and questions as to whether this was consistent with those procedures approved in December of 2024. These procedures direct staff to present GWSC delinquencies after installment 7/8 has become delinquent (installment 7/8 reflects groundwater use for September of the current year), or when the aggregate GWSC delinquent balance is above \$100,000, or at any other time due to urgent or extenuating circumstances such as a pending land sale, etc.

Notwithstanding the procedures approved by the Board in 2024, California Water Code section 47183 provides in part that the Board may file the list of tolls and charges at any time after a charge has become delinquent (unpaid for a period of 30 days). While staff were premature in presenting some of the GWSC delinquencies under said procedures, it was not inconsistent with what is allowed under the Water Code. At that time, staff felt it pertinent to include those Water Users who were delinquent on both WSC charges and the GWSC as (a) the lands generating the GWSC are those same lands which would be filed on under the WSC List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges and (b) because those individual Water Users delinquent on both GWSC and WSC represented approximately 90% of the total GWSC delinquent balance. Staff intended to bring the remaining GWSC delinquencies to the Board for consideration, following the delinquency date of invoice 7/8 covering groundwater use for the September period.

All GWSC delinquencies, including those Water Users who were included in the November filing of the List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges are summarized below. It should be noted that, because the next delinquency date is December 10th and coincides with the date of the regular Board meeting, additional Water Users may become delinquent if payment is not received by close of business.

Agenda Item 6.1.a

Ground Water Service Charges

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Customer</u>	<u>Billing</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>	
2180	Almond Blossom Ranch, LLC	83,776.00	8,377.61	1,550.77	93,704.38	(2)
1010	Biane JP Living Trust	8,808.20	880.83	39.13	9,728.16	
1060	K & B Inv Fund (JIECHUN WU)	2,420.25	242.03	27.08	2,689.36	
2150	Old River Farm, Inc. et. al.	47,229.82	6,492.51	571.51	54,293.84	(2)
1080	LNZ Prosperity, LLC	19,829.25	1,982.93	71.18	21,883.36	
1090	New Sunny International, LLC	3,610.84	298.40	38.52	3,947.76	
1090	New Sunny International, LLC	989.50	161.64	481.40	1,632.54	
2175	Santa Paula Hay & Grain & Ranch	2,280.25	228.03		2,508.28	
Total		168,944.11	18,663.98	2,779.59	190,387.68	

Ground Water Service Charges

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Customer</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>2025 Pmts</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
1130	Westland Farms, LLC	175,079.58	(96,451.30)	78,628.28	(1)

(1) Lien filed last year. Landowner has paid as agreed.

(2) Included in the November Delinquency filing.

Recommendation. In order to preserve the District's lien security on those lands which are currently delinquent on any of the Groundwater Service Charge invoices 1-5, reflecting groundwater use in January through July 2025, staff make the following recommendations subject to review by Counsel as to form and final approval of the Engineer-Manager:

- a) The Board of Directors adopt the attached Resolution, ordering that a List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges for January-July groundwater use be filed with the office of the Kern County Recorder, and;
- b) Authorize staff to file subsequent List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges should any Water Users become delinquent on the remaining GWSC invoices covering groundwater use for the 2025 calendar year (invoices 6 of 8, 7 of 8, and/or invoice 8 of 8 with delinquency dates of December 10th, January 10th and April 10th respectively), and;
- c) The Board extends discretionary authority to the Engineer-Manager to initiate the Certificate of Sale processes.

Attachments: List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges Exhibits
 Filename: 6.1.a Consider Adoption of Resolution Ordering the Filing of List of Delinquent Tolls and Charges for Groundwater Service Charges

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-XX

IN THE MATTER OF:

**ORDERING THE FILING OF LIST OF DELINQUENT TOLLS AND CHARGES NOT
ESTABLISHED BY CONTRACT
(DECEMBER 2025) (WATER CODE SECTION 47183)**

WHEREAS, Water Code section 43006 authorizes the District to “fix tolls or charges for the use of water, including the use of groundwater”; and

WHEREAS, on July 07, 2023, the District’s Board of Directors passed Resolution 2023-07, declaring the results of a Proposition 218 majority protest process and adopted as ordinance provisions to District Rules and Regulations, authorizing the Groundwater Service Charge be collected on each acre-foot of groundwater consumptively used on each parcel in the District; and

WHEREAS, Section 47182 of the Water Code provides that: "In case any toll or charge remains unpaid for a period of thirty (30) days after it becomes payable, it becomes delinquent and a penalty of 10% shall be added thereto, and shall bear interest at the rate of 12% per year"; and

WHEREAS, Section 47183 of the Water Code provides in part that "After any toll or charge becomes delinquent, the Board may file in the office of the County Recorder of the county in which is situated the land as to which such tolls or charges are delinquent”, a list setting forth the particulars therein mentioned and further provides that “upon the filing of the list, the tolls and charges so listed, together with the penalties and interest thereon, shall become a lien upon the land as to which such tolls and charges are delinquent in the same manner and of the same character as the lien of a district assessment"; and

WHEREAS, Section 47184 of the Water Code provides an alternative procedure for the collection of delinquent tolls and charges, namely that a suit may be brought in the name of the District against the delinquent to enforce collection of the delinquent tolls or charges, together with penalties, interest and costs of suit; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 46759.5 of the Water Code, the Board is authorized to file a resolution with the County Treasurer, on or before the time of sale, ordering the Treasurer to sell all property to the District for the amount due; and

WHEREAS, it is found that the matters mentioned in the said List of Delinquent Tolls and

Charges (December 2025) are true and correct; that it is to the best interest of the District to order that the procedure established by Section 47183 of the Water Code be followed in collecting the delinquent charges mentioned in the List of Delinquencies attached hereto and that no order be filed pursuant to said Section 46759.5 of the Water Code.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of Directors as follows:

1. That the foregoing recitals and findings are true and correct.-
2. It is ordered that on or after December 10, 2025, the List Of Delinquent Tolls And Charges Not Established By Contract in the form attached hereto be filed and that a lien thereby be established upon the land(s) as provided in Section 47183, and be enforced as provided in Sections 46730 through 46761, all of the Water Code;
3. That the District, its officers, agents, employees, attorney and the County Treasurer, and each of them, are hereby ordered and authorized to do all things necessary and proper to collect said delinquency (and each of them) in accordance with law and the terms hereof.

ALL THE FOREGOING being on motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of said District as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on the 10th day of December 2025.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Board of Directors this 10th day of December 2025.

Benjamin (Jose) Melendrez-Marin
Secretary of the Board of Directors

(SEAL)

Recorded at the Request of and
For the Benefit of:
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT,
A California Water Storage District
As Official Business.

When recorded mail to:
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313-9630

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
LIST OF DELINQUENT GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGES
(DECEMBER 2025)
(Water Code, Section 47183)

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 47183 of the Water Code of the State of California, the Board of Directors of Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District has ordered filed in the office of the County Recorder of Kern County, with respect to tolls and charges for the December 2025, this delinquent list showing the names of the owners of the land with respect to which a delinquency exists, a description of such lands and a statement of the amount of tolls and charges which constitute each such delinquency, which matters are set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, incorporated herein by this reference the same as if set forth herein in full.

Dated: December 10, 2025

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

(SEAL)

By: _____
Benjamin (Jose) Melendrez-Marin
Secretary of the Board of Directors

No. 1010

BIANE JP LIVING TRUST

EXHIBIT A TO LIST OF DELINQUENT
GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGES (DECEMBER 2025)

District Parcel No. 2025-01

In accordance with Section 6 of the District's Rules and Regulations and pursuant to Section 47183 of the Water Code, Water User BIANE JP LIVING TRUST, is delinquent with respect to the following described real property, and said Water Users constituting the ones to whom the tolls and charges mentioned herein are assessed, namely:

- **Parcel No. 23801134002:** Section 01, Township 11, Range 19
- **Parcel No. 23834027001:** Section 07, Township 11, Range 18

in payment of water tolls and charges, in the total of the following amounts, namely:

(A)	Delinquent tolls and charges in the sum of:	\$8,808.20
(B)	Plus penalties of 10% in the sum of:	\$880.83
(C)	Plus interest at 12% per annum on the monthly installments due August 10, 2025, through November 10, 2025, or any of them, as of December 10, 2025, in the sum of	\$39.13
(D)	Plus interest thereafter at the rate of 12% per annum on the delinquent tolls and charges until paid.	

No. 1060
JIECHUN WU

EXHIBIT A TO LIST OF DELINQUENT
GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGES (December 2025)

District Parcel No. 2025-02

In accordance with Section 6 of the District's Rules and Regulations and pursuant to Section 47183 of the Water Code, Water User JIECHUN WU, is delinquent with respect to the following described real property, and said Water Users constituting the ones to whom the tolls and charges mentioned herein are assessed, namely:

- **Parcel No. 29510020007:** Section 20, Township 32, Range 27
- **Parcel No. 29510038000:** Section 20, Township 32, Range 27

in payment of water tolls and charges, in the total of the following amounts, namely:

(A)	Delinquent tolls and charges in the sum of:	\$2,420.25
(B)	Plus penalties of 10% in the sum of:	\$242.03
(C)	Plus interest at 12% per annum on the monthly installments due August 10, 2025, through November 10, 2025, or any of them, as of December 10, 2025, in the sum of:	\$27.08
(D)	Plus interest thereafter at the rate of 12% per annum on the delinquent tolls and charges until paid.	

No. 1080
LNZ PROSPERITY LLC

EXHIBIT A TO LIST OF DELINQUENT
GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGES (DECEMBER 2025)

District Parcel No. 2025-03

In accordance with Section 6 of the District's Rules and Regulations and pursuant to Section 47183 of the Water Code, Water User LNZ PROSPERITY, LLC, is delinquent with respect to the following described real property, and said Water Users constituting the ones to whom the tolls and charges mentioned herein are assessed, namely:

- **Parcel No. 29504045003:** Section 18, Township 32, Range 26
- **Parcel No. 29504004004:** Section 18, Township 32, Range 26

in payment of water tolls and charges, in the total of the following amounts, namely:

(B)	Delinquent tolls and charges in the sum of:	\$19,829.25
(B)	Plus penalties of 10% in the sum of:	\$1,982.93
(C)	Plus interest at 12% per annum on the monthly installments due July 10, 2025, through November 10, 2025, or any of them, as of December 10, 2025, in the sum of	\$71.18
(D)	Plus interest thereafter at the rate of 12% per annum on the delinquent tolls and charges until paid.	

No. 1090

NEW SUNNY INTERNATIONAL, LLC

EXHIBIT A TO LIST OF DELINQUENT
GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGES (DECEMBER 2025)

District Parcel No. 2025-04

In accordance with Section 6 of the District's Rules and Regulations and pursuant to Section 47183 of the Water Code, Water User NEW SUNNY INTERNATIONAL, LLC, is delinquent with respect to the following described real property, and said Water Users constituting the ones to whom the tolls and charges mentioned herein are assessed, namely:

- **Parcel No. 29510039003:** Section 20, Township 32, Range 27
- **Parcel No. 29510040005:** Section 20, Township 32, Range 27

in payment of water tolls and charges, in the total of the following amounts, namely:

(A)	Delinquent tolls and charges in the sum of:	\$989.50
(B)	Plus penalties of 10% in the sum of:	\$161.64
(C)	Plus interest at 12% per annum on the monthly installments due June 10, 2025, through November 10, 2025, or any of them, as of December 10, 2025, in the sum of	\$481.40
(D)	Plus interest thereafter at the rate of 12% per annum on the delinquent tolls and charges until paid.	

No. 2175

SANTA PAULA HAY & GRAIN & RANCHES

**EXHIBIT A TO LIST OF DELINQUENT
GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGES (DECEMBER 2025)**

District Parcel No. 2025-05

In accordance with Section 6 of the District's Rules and Regulations and pursuant to Section 47183 of the Water Code, Water User SANTA PAULA HAY & GRAIN & RANCHES, is delinquent with respect to the following described real property, and said Water Users constituting the ones to whom the tolls and charges mentioned herein are assessed, namely:

- **Parcel No. 22023108002:** Section 32, Township 32, Range 25

in payment of water tolls and charges, in the total of the following amounts, namely:

(B)	Delinquent tolls and charges in the sum of:	\$2,280.25
(B)	Plus penalties of 10% in the sum of:	\$228.03
(C)	Plus interest at 12% per annum on the monthly installments due November 10, 2025, through December 10, 2025, or any of them, as of December 10, 2025, in the sum of	\$0.00
(D)	Plus interest thereafter at the rate of 12% per annum on the delinquent tolls and charges until paid.	

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
BUDGET EXPENDITURES REPORT
PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 2025
(UNAUDITED)

BUDGET CLASS	ANNUAL BUDGET	ANTICIPATED TO DATE	ACTUAL SPENT TO DATE	UNDER/(OVER) BUDGET TO ACTUAL DIFFERENCE	% OF ANTICIPATED TO DATE
PAYROLL SALARIES	4,282,249	3,952,845	3,813,985	138,860	96.49%
PAYROLL TAX	321,974	297,207	292,909	4,298	98.55%
PAYROLL PERS	539,334	497,847	456,190	41,657	91.63%
PAYROLL HEALTH	1,205,000	1,104,583	1,108,236 (a)	(3,653)	100.33%
TOTAL PAYROLL & BENEFITS	6,348,557	5,852,482	5,671,320	181,162	96.90%
FUEL & OIL	494,800	453,567	294,632	158,935	64.96%
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	1,248,300	1,144,275	974,419	169,856	85.16%
SMALL TOOLS & INSTRUMENTS	50,100	45,925	17,311	28,614	37.69%
WELL MAINTENANCE STANDBY POWER	30,000	27,500	7,904	19,596	28.74%
COMMUNICATIONS	65,860	60,372	48,582	11,790	80.47%
DIRECTORS PAYROLL & EXPENSES	36,000	33,000	31,700	1,300	96.06%
DIRECTORS HEALTH	228,000	209,000	211,446 (a)	(2,446)	101.17%
RETIREEES-OPEB	322,400	295,533	295,482 (a)	51	99.98%
INSURANCE & BONDS	241,600	221,467	259,702	(38,235)	117.26%
MEMBERSHIPS	118,400	90,298	90,298	-	100.00%
MISC SERVICES & SUPPLIES	152,300	139,608	60,508	79,100	43.34%
OFFICE SERVICES & SUPPLIES	54,300	49,775	21,890	27,885	43.98%
COMPUTER SUPPLIES	150,200	137,683	50,569	87,114	36.73%
MAINT. & REPAIR BY OTHERS	211,500	193,875	212,436	(18,561)	109.57%
PROFESSIONAL & SPECIALIZED-LEGAL	125,000	114,583	115,480	(897)	100.78%
PROFESSIONAL & SPECIALIZED-ACCT: AUDIT	50,900	50,900	52,100	(1,200)	102.36%
WELLS FARGO FEES	-	-	-	-	-
PROFESSIONAL & SPECIALIZED-OTHER	198,600	182,050	131,305	50,745	72.13%
SGMA - SOKR/KERN GW AUTHORITY	190,000	174,167	389,013	(214,846)	223.36%
SGMA - WHITE WOLF GSA	150,000	137,500	244	137,256	0.18%
LEGAL NOTICES & PUBLICATIONS	22,200	20,350	10,506	9,844	51.63%
RENTED EQUIPMENT	65,400	59,950	40,550	19,400	67.64%
SPECIAL DEPARTMENT EXPENSE	33,300	30,525	23,031	7,494	75.45%
TRANSP & TRAVEL EXPENSE	56,300	51,608	34,807	16,801	67.44%
UTILITIES	124,900	114,492	125,419	(10,927)	109.54%
JUDGEMENTS & CLAIMS EXPENSE	6,600	-	-	-	0.00%
CALPERS UNFUNDED LIABILITY	2,145,000	18,958	18,958	-	100.00%
CURRENTLY FUNDED ASSETS	1,161,500	690,866	690,866	-	100.00%
RESERVE FUNDED ASSETS	10,340,000	336,884	336,884	-	100.00%
TOTAL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES	18,073,460	5,084,711	4,546,042	538,669	89.41%
KCWA F.O.	58,151,438	51,835,169	51,835,169	-	100.00%
KCWA VARIABLE	8,218,376	7,363,408	7,363,408	-	100.00%
DISTRICT POWER-PUMPS	13,978,134	12,831,961	12,831,961	-	100.00%
TOTAL WATER COSTS	80,347,948	72,030,538	72,030,538	-	100.00%
GRAND TOTAL	104,769,965	82,967,731	82,247,900	719,831	99.13%
(a) Health Insurance combined	1,755,400	1,609,117	1,615,164	(6,047)	100.38%

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES BUDGET - PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 2025											
		BUDGET				ACTUAL (net of trade or sale)					
		BGT COST	TOTAL	CURRENT	RESERVE		TOTAL	CURRENT	RESERVE	%	
QTY	DESCRIPTION	PER ITEM	BUDGET	FUNDED	FUNDED	2025	TO DATE	FUNDED	FUNDED	OF BGT.	
ENGINEERING:											
2	Drill Two Replacement Supply Wells A3/C4	2,100,000	4,200,000		4,200,000	-	118,537		118,537	3%	
8	Motor Control Center	500,000	4,000,000		4,000,000	-	-		-	0%	
8	WRM10 Large Pump Units, 17 & 44 CFS	210,000	1,680,000		1,680,000	-	-		-	0%	
1	Portion of 6P Lateral Pipeline Replacement	600,000	600,000	600,000		183,029	183,029	183,029		31%	
1	A5X/B5X Intertie Facilities	460,000	460,000		460,000	190,322	218,347		218,347	47%	
1	EM Inspection of 10P Lateral	61,500	61,500	61,500		49,250	49,250	49,250		80%	
	SUBTOTAL		11,001,500	661,500	10,340,000	422,601	569,163	232,279	336,884		
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:											
2	1/2 Ton Crew Cab 4x4 Pickup	45,000	90,000	90,000		83,160	83,160	83,160		92%	
1	3/4 Ton Ext Cab 4x4 Pickup	50,000	50,000	50,000		44,265	44,265	44,265		89%	
2	1/2 Ton Reg Cab Pickup	25,000	50,000	50,000		48,855	48,855	48,855		98%	
2	1/2 Ton Reg Cab Pickup w/o Trade-in	35,000	70,000	70,000		72,553	72,553	72,553		104%	
1	1 Ton Cab / Chassis Utility	50,000	50,000	50,000		50,699	50,699	50,699		101%	
1	1/2 Ton Crew Cab Pickup	40,000	40,000	40,000		22,555	22,555	22,555		56%	
1	SCADA System (carryover balance)	135,000	135,000	135,000		136,500	N/A	136,500		101%	
1	SCADA Firmware Updates & Support	15,000	15,000	15,000		16,258	16,258	16,258		108%	
	SUBTOTAL		500,000	500,000	-	458,587	322,087	458,587	-	92%	
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES											
			11,501,500	1,161,500	10,340,000	881,188	891,250	690,866	336,884		

◀ WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ▶

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: James Smith, Controller

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Consider Establishing Banking Services with Tri Counties Bank

Background. The District has used Wells Fargo as its commercial bank since 2004. Staff have had ongoing issues with customer service for several years. Wells Fargo had a local client relationship manager, but now the manager is remote and is switched regularly. The primary reason staff have not recommended changing banks previously is that Wells Fargo facilitated daily deposit transfers to the District's Kern County Treasurer-Tax Collector fund. At its September 8, 2025, meeting, the Board authorized utilizing CAMP rather than KCTTC as its primary investment account for incoming deposits, thus ending our reliance on Wells Fargo.

Staff met with five banks and, after several follow-up meetings, decided on Tri Counties Bank. A few of the factors in reaching this decision include (1) a dedicated public agency relationship manager, (2) a robust online platform, (3) positive feedback from local water districts, (4) three local branches, including a treasury management team, and (5) in-house credit card issuance. It is also worth noting that staff wanted a bank with a strong presence in Bakersfield. While Tri Counties is not a national bank, it still holds \$10 billion in assets, while some of the other banks' staff met with were more in the \$1-3 billion range. It was described to staff by another banker as "not too big and not too small".

Recommendation. Staff recommends that the Board approve and adopt the attached resolutions "Establishing Commercial Bank Accounts and Authorizing Signatures" with Tri Counties Bank for its Operating, Payroll, Revolving, and Sweep accounts, subject to review by Counsel as to form, and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- XX

**ESTABLISHING COMMERCIAL BANK ACCOUNTS AND AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES FOR
COMMERCIAL BANK ACCOUNT NOS. 103218263, 103218238, 103218251, AND 103218275 WITH TRI
COUNTIES BANK AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM AND CLOSURE OF WELLS FARGO
ACCOUNTS**

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2004, Resolution Nos. 2004-14, 2004-15, and 2004-16 were passed by the Board of Directors of this District, establishing depository accounts for District funds in commercial accounts with Wells Fargo, and establishing the officers' signature requirements for withdrawal of funds from said accounts; and

WHEREAS, District staff, after considering several banks, is recommending that the District establish the above-numbered operating, payroll, revolving, and sweep accounts with Tri Counties Bank and transfer all funds existing in its corresponding Wells Fargo accounts to the accounts established at Tri Counties Bank.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this Board of Directors as follows:

1. The undersigned hereby certifies that he is the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the **WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT**, a public agency, formed under California Water Storage District Law (the "District"), that the following are true and correct resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors, at a duly authorized board meeting, noticed under the Brown Act held on December 10, 2025, throughout which a quorum of such directors was present in accordance with applicable law, and that these resolutions have not been in any way altered, amended or rescinded and are now in full force and effect.
2. Resolution No. 2004-14, 2004-15, and 2004-16 are hereby modified as necessary to implement the actions authorized by this resolution and shall have no force and effect once the Wells Fargo accounts are closed.
3. This resolution does hereby authorize and establish one or more deposit accounts as identified above (the "Accounts") with Tri Counties Bank ("Tri Counties") into which Tri Counties may accept for deposit checks or other items unendorsed or endorsed in writing or by stamp.
4. The President and Secretary are hereby authorized Board officers to establish such Accounts for the benefit of the District, including execution of any and all agreements and documents as may be necessary to establish such Accounts; and the District's President and Secretary are authorized to transfer the District's funds from the District's existing Wells Fargo corresponding accounts to the Accounts established at Tri Counties Bank and close said Wells Fargo accounts once all funds have been transferred, including execution of any and all agreements and documents as may be necessary for such purposes.
5. That Sheridan G. Nicholas, as Engineer-Manager or Assistant Secretary, and/or James D. Smith, as Controller or Assistant-Treasurer or Assistant Secretary, and/or Dennis J. Atkinson, President, and/or Mark B. Valpredo, Vice-President, and/or Benjamin Melendrez-Marin, Secretary, and/or Michael P. Blaine, Assistant Secretary and/or Jeffrey R. Mettler, Treasurer, and/or Colby D. Fry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or Jonathan N. Reiter, Director, and/or Kyle G. Richardson, Director, and/or Juana Angelica Martin Magana, Director, and/or Eric L. McDaris, Director of Water Resources, and/or Thomas R. Suggs, Staff Engineer are authorized to draw checks on the Accounts, signed as provided on the "Business Signer Form" provided to Tri Counties hereto and made a part hereof and are further authorized to:

(A) sign checks and other items, withdrawing funds from the Accounts, excepting those payable to cash or to persons who sign them; (B) request funds transfers by Tri Counties to and from the Accounts, (C) enter into arrangements for the processing of automated clearing house ("ACH") debit entries and/or ACH credit entries to and from the Accounts; (D) endorse on behalf of this District, and otherwise negotiate, checks and other items payable to this District; and (E) close any or all of the Accounts.
6. That this District is authorized to invest such funds as are in the Accounts, as allowed by the District's annually authorized investment policy in accordance with applicable provisions of law, including the California Government Code section 53601.

7. That each of these resolutions shall continue in full force and effect until Tri Counties has received express written notice of its rescission or modification by a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Directors of this District and certified by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary of this District, and has had a reasonable time to act on such notice.

I further certify that I am unaware of any provision in District formation documents limiting the power of the Board of Directors of this District to pass the foregoing resolutions, and that such resolutions are in conformity with the California Water Code.

ALL THE FOREGOING BEING on motion of Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, was authorized by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of the resolution of the Board of Directors of the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District as fully passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on this 10th day of December, 2025.

Secretary of the Board of Directors



ENGINEER-MANAGER'S REPORT

NOVEMBER
2025



WHEELER RIDGE – MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

12109 Highway 166, Bakersfield, CA 93313-9630, 661-858-2281

MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: SHERIDAN NICHOLAS

DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2025

SUBJECT: ENGINEER-MANAGER’S MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2025

During the months of November, the District delivered 2,717 acre-feet consisting of the water types described below. Of the total quantity delivered, 269 acre-feet was delivered for industrial use, with the remainder being delivered for agricultural use. This compares to the projected deliveries of approximately 4,500 acre-feet, based on the “typical average surface water demand” estimated in September 2025. The total quantities of water delivered during the month as well as the year-to-date water supply by source and type of water delivery are summarized in the following tabulation:

<u>Quantities (Acre- Feet)</u>			
Source of Supply- 2025	Jan-Oct	Nov	YTD
2025 SWP Entitlement (a)	63,932	7,526	71,458
2024 Carryover (estimate) (b)	21,019	-	21,019
Pastoria/TRC	2,335	122	2,458
Granite/TRC	83	5	88
Supplemental Supplies	49,802	-	49,802
Kern Water Bank (Recharge)/Recovery (c)	(4,725)	(3,159)	(7,884)
Kern Water Bank - 2nd Priority (Recharge)/Recovery	(4,198)	(1,650)	(5,848)
Deliveries to AEWSA CA AQ Turnout	(8,075)	-	(8,075)
Landowner Water Transfer	5,836	-	5,836
User Input-District Wells	7	-	7
User Input-Private	-	-	-
Type of Delivery			
Irrigation	122,567	2,717	125,284
Industrial Contract	2,418	127	2,546
Other Industrial	50	1	51
Deliveries Total	125,036	2,845	127,880

(a) Assumes a 2025 allocation of 197,088 acre-feet (100%)

(b) This carryover volume reflects the 2024-2025 balance available following the adjustment due to 2023 carryover spill per KCWA. These figures are subject to further reconciliation as additional information becomes available.

(c) Estimates based on KCWA daily Summary of Deliveries

ENGINEER-MANAGER’S REPORT – S. NICHOLAS

District Battery Project. The District has been working with White Pine Renewables on a battery project at six pumping plants to utilize stored power to lower demand charges. Because of a number of factors, White Pine has notified the District and PG&E that it wishes to only pursue three pumping plants: WRM5, WRM7 and WRM8. The District is also working on liability and insurance requirements with DWR.

White Wolf GSA. The December 2 Board meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is January 6.

South of Kern River GSP.

Coordination between SOKR GSA’s

The Executive Committee met on November 20.

- Technical Update
- Modified to Quarterly Schedule
- Recommended/Ratified:
 - Funding for Kern Subbasin Task Orders
 - Contracting with LandIQ for ET Data Services
 - Funding for EKI GSP Implementation Support (Oct 2025 thru December 2026)
- Next scheduled Executive Committee Meeting is in February

Kern Subbasin Coordination

- Weekly Managers Meetings
- Weekly Subbasin Meetings
- Weekly Meetings between SWRCB staff and Subbasin Technical group

Subbasin/SWRCB Timeline

- May 16 - Submittal of Draft Kern Subbasin GSP
- July 25 - Release of SWRCB Draft Staff Report on Kern Subbasin
- Dec 16 - Submittal of Adopted Kern Subbasin GSP to SWRCB
- Jan 21 - Release of SWRCB Final Staff Report on Kern Subbasin
- Feb 20 - Probationary Hearing. Hearing continued to September
- June 20 - Draft Revised Kern Subbasin GSP due to SWRCB
- August - Final Revised Kern Subbasin GSPs to be approved by GSAs
- Sep 05 - Release of SWRCB Final Staff Report on Kern Subbasin
- Sep 17 - Resumed Probationary Hearing - SWRCB Passed Resolution
- ??? - SWRCB Letter Sending Subbasin to DWR
- DWR Review of Kern Subbasin Plan (potentially 2 years)

ACWA/JPIA President’s Special Recognition Awards. At the 2025 Fall Conference, the District received three “President’s Special Recognition Awards” for a Loss Ratios of 20% or less in the Liability, Property, and Workers Compensation Programs for the 2021-2024 period. I commend the hard work of District staff in recognizing and maintaining a safe working environment.

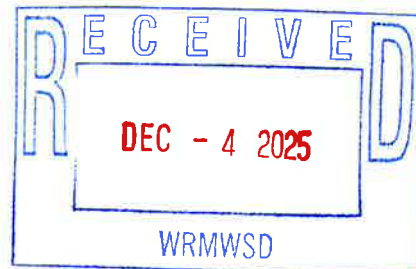
Water Legacy Award from Water Association of Kern County. At its November 5 annual meeting, the Water Association of Kern County honored retired Engineer-Manager Robert Kunde with its Water Legacy Award. Among others, three District Directors, a former Board President, and several District staff were in attendance.

Meetings in addition to weekly Member Unit and Westside 5 calls, (held either in person or via teleconference):

Nov 03	ACWA Special Board of Directors	Nov 05	SOKR Managers	Nov 13	Member Unit Managers
Nov 03	ACWA Region Chair & Vice Chair Orientation	Nov 05	WAKC Annual Dinner	Nov 19	KCWA Board
Nov 03	Kern Subbasin Coordination Committee	Nov 06	CVC Discussion	Nov 19	ACWA Region 6&7 Pre-Board
Nov 04	White Wolf GSA Board	Nov 07	Kern Subbasin Managers	Nov 20	SOKR Executive Committee
Nov 04	CAMP	Nov 10	CVC Settlement Discussion	Nov 21	Kern Subbasin Managers
Nov 04	KWBGSA/KWB Board	Nov 11	Kern Subbasin Subsidence Subcommittee	Nov 21	ACWA Board of Directors
Nov 05	Landowner Meeting	Nov 12	WRMWSD Board	Nov 24	Gilkey and Gianquinto
Nov 05	ACWA KPI Committee	Nov 13	Pioneer Participants	Nov 25	Kern Subbasin Subsidence Subcommittee



12/3/2025



ACWA JPIA

P. O. Box 619082
Roseville, CA
95661-9082

phone
916.786.5742
800.231.5742

www.acwajpia.com

Core Values

- People
- Service
- Integrity
- Innovation

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (W005)
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313-9630

General Manager:

Each year at Fall Conference, the JPIA recognizes members that have a Loss Ratio of 20% or less in either of the Liability, Property, or Workers' Compensation programs (loss ratio = total losses / total premiums).

The members with this distinction receive the **"President's Special Recognition Award"** certificate for each Program that they qualify in.

The JPIA is extremely pleased to present Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa with this special recognition and commends the District on the hard work in reducing claims.

Congratulations to you, your staff, Board, and District. Keep up the good work!

The JPIA wishes you the best in 2026.

Sincerely,

Melody McDonald
President

Enclosure: President's Special Recognition Award(s)

President's Special Recognition Award

*The President of the
ACWA JPIA
hereby presents Special Recognition Award to*

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

In recognition of outstanding performance in the Liability program, demonstrated by maintaining exceptionally low claim costs relative to contributions during the period 10/01/2021 - 09/30/2024 announced at the ACWA JPIA Board of Director's meeting held in San Diego, California.

Melody McDonald

Melody McDonald, President



December 01, 2025

President's Special Recognition Award

*The President of the
ACWA JPIA
Hereby presents Special Recognition Award to*

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

In recognition of outstanding performance in the Property program, demonstrated by maintaining exceptionally low claim costs relative to contributions during the period 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2024 announced at the ACWA JPIA Board of Director's meeting held in San Diego, California.

Melody McDonald

Melody McDonald, President



December 01, 2025

President's Special Recognition Award

*The President of the
ACWA JPIA
Hereby presents this Special Recognition Award to*

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

In recognition of outstanding performance in the Workers' Compensation program, demonstrated by maintaining exceptionally low claim costs relative to contributions during the period 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2024 announced at the ACWA JPIA Board of Directors' meeting held in San Diego, California.

Melody McDonald

Melody McDonald, President



December 01, 2025

RETIRED ANNUITANT REPORT – R. KUNDE

Delta Conveyance Project - Submittal to Delta Stewardship Council. On October 17, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) submitted a Certification of Consistency with the Delta Plan for the Delta Conveyance Project. Subsequently, at least ten parties filed appeals with the DSC. The DSC then scheduled a public hearing for February 26 and 27, 2026, regarding the appeals.

Delta Conveyance Project - Water Right Hearing and Schedule. *Unchanged from October).* The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Administrative Hearing Officer (AHO) conducted Hearings on DWR's Petition (Change in Point of Diversion - CPOD) for the DCP. The current Hearing schedule through Summer 2026 is as follows: *Hearing continues with remaining parties' (State Water Contractors, Bureau of Reclamation and Protestants) cases in-chief.*

October 23, 27, 28, & 29, November 10 & 17

Deadline for Protestants to submit written offer of exhibits into the evidentiary record.

November 3, 2025.

Deadline for evidentiary objections to Protestants' offer of exhibits.

November 17, 2025.

Deadline for replies to evidentiary objections to Protestants' offer of exhibits.

December 1, 2025.

Petitioner's rebuttal portion of the Public Hearing will begin on

February 20, 2026, and continue on

February 23, 24, & 25 and March 2, 5, & 6, 2026.

Protestants' rebuttal portion of the Public Hearing will begin on

June 1, 2026, and continue on June 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 15, 18, 23, 24, & 26, 2026.

If necessary, Petitioner's surrebuttal portion of the Public Hearing will begin on

August 20, 2026, and continue on August 21 & 24, 2026

(New) On December 1, the AHO issued procedural rulings addressing numerous objections to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) case-in-chief evidence as submitted by four of the Protestants. These objections were submitted by North Delta Water Agency et al., Local Agencies of the North Delta et al, County of Sacramento et al., and Dierdre Des Jardins. The AHO rulings overruled or sustained in part the various objections.

Delta Conveyance Project – Local Activity. *(Unchanged from October).* Although most Member Units have conditionally approved funding for planning and permitting for 2026 and 2027, KCWA and DWR have not executed the DCP Funding Agreement. The Member Unit conditions are not fully resolved, and there are concerns on whether Aqueduct subsidence impacts resulting in reduced conveyance capacity will even allow Kern to take advantage of DCP wet year supplies.

KCWA and certain Member Units are working to address some of the Member Unit conditions for DCP Funding.

Sites Reservoir - Water Right Hearing Schedule. The current schedule is as follows:

January to May 2025	Rebuttal Testimony with additional dates to be added as necessary
June 26, 2025	Closing Briefs Replies concluded. No further Hearings on the Sites Water Right Application are scheduled or expected.
August 2025**	**Hearing Officer recommendation to SWRCB**
September 2025**	**SWRCB Decision**

** These dates are not official. They are the decision timeframe advocated by Sites in order to complete Phase 2 work and proceed with Phase 3 financing by June 2026; and are not binding on the SWRCB.

(NEW) On October 20, the AHO issued a directive that the Sites Project submit its CALSIM 3 modeling results to the AHO by November 3 with Protestant submittals thereon due on November 21. The Project timely provided the submittal. Several Protestants filed requests to re-open the hearings (which the Sites Project opposed) to consider the “new information”. The AHO has not ruled whether to allow or require testimony related to the additional evidence. It seems likely this will cause further delay in the proceedings.

No updated decision schedule was released by month’s end, and no Hearing Officer recommendation (the draft Decision) was issued by month’s end.

The original schedule proposed a February 2025 decision on the water right application, but the Administrative Hearing Officer revised the schedule in May 2024 resulting in a significant delay to the Project.

Sites Reservoir – November Joint Meeting of Sites Project Authority (SPA) and Reservoir Project Committee (RPC). At its November 21, 2025 meeting, the SPA and/or RPC approved the usual consent agenda (minutes, treasurer’s report, accounts payable). Also approved on the consent agenda were the Third Quarter 2025 Budget Financial Report, purchase of Public Official Bonds for the Board Treasurer, Executive Director, and Finance Manager, and 2026 membership dues for Sites Project Authority members and associate members.

Prior to the consent agenda, there was a period for public comment. A closed session item “Public Employee Appointment - CMAR Contractor” generated a large turnout of over 130 members of the public. The purpose of the closed session item was to brief Directors on the scoring/ranking of the three finalists for the Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR) - Reservoirs and Roads in preparation for considering a selection of one in December. Several construction unions were interested in this. The Sites Project has worked cooperatively with local unions to generate support for the Project and in recognition that the Project had adopted a requirement for its CMARs to enter into Project Labor Agreements. The closed session item was removed from the Agenda and deferred until December. Nonetheless, 23 public comments were made of which approximately 18 were union members and 5 were contractors. The comments were articulate, professional and concise with only 3 commenters reaching the 3 minute comment limit.

Action items were as follows.

1. Approval was made to adjust the 2026 contract authority for the Sites agents as independent contractors to align with the 2026 Budget, and to extend the related contracts through December 31, 2026.
2. Resolution 2025-02 was approved authorizing (a) the Executive Director to execute all real property documents necessary to acquire a critical path 85 acre parcel at the Stone Corral Creek and Sites Dam site from Cody Arnold, and to take such other actions necessary to effectuate the close of escrow by the end of 2025, and (b) a 2025 budget transfer of \$195,000 from the Engineering subject area to the Real Estate subject area to cover all Arnold property acquisition costs. The property acquisition will be the fourth to close escrow. The resulting 2025 Engineering and Real Estate budgets were \$6,701,293 and \$4,588,138, respectively.

Discussion items were as follows.

3. Staff requested Board input on the ongoing development of the Program Baseline Report (PBR). The PBR will have an updated detailed description of Project costs and benefits (including yield) including financing and cash flow information important for making investment decisions. Scheduled for finalization in March 2026 (assuming a draft water right decision is released in December 2025), it would mark the beginning of a six month “escrow process” wherein Participants will decide their level of Project participation and execute the Benefits and Obligations Contract (B&O Contract), along with execution of related State and Federal contracts. An extensive Table of Contents was provided and generated several comments from Participants. The Retired Annuitant subsequently submitted additional written comments.
4. Staff provided a description of the key terms of the anticipated Water Infrastructure and Finance Act (WIFIA) loan and other aspects of the anticipated Authority provided financing structure, and requested Board input. If obtained today, interest would be 4.5-4.75% based on the 30 year Treasury rate. Two WIFIA loans - one for design, one for construction - are anticipated. The federal WIFIA funds are already appropriated. Staff recommended interim non-WIFIA funding during the first few years of construction based on capitalized interest;

the Retired Annuitant opposed this recommendation in the interest of lower overall costs. These early costs would then be rolled into a WIFIA loan. Other key terms of the WIFIA loan were described and feedback provided from Directors.

5. General Counsel provided an overview of various laws concerning conflicts of interest applicable to public officials.
6. Staff reviewed the key conclusions of the 100 page Draft Risk and Construction Insurance Feasibility Study. Four options were considered. Feedback from Directors including the Retired Annuitant supported the conclusion to pursue an umbrella liability policy (including fire liability and other terms not included in many general liability policies) obtained by the Sites Authority to cover all construction activities, with workers compensation insurance to be required by each contractor. The Retired Annuitant subsequently provided additional written comments.

Closed session considered several important items.

The next regular joint Sites Project Authority/Reservoir Project Committee Meeting will be held on December 19, 2025.

Sites Reservoir - District Participation Changes. In September, one grower with 1000 acre-feet of Sites participation (out of the total District participation of 3050 acre-feet) decided to accept the terms of an offer from Santa Clara Valley Water District. An *Assumption and Assignment Agreement* was developed and executed by Santa Clara on November 17. District Counsel subsequently identified a few items in need of clarification and these were under discussion with Santa Clara at month's end. Counsel also developed a draft corresponding agreement between the District and affected grower.

The Sites Project Authority (SPA) and Reservoir Project Committee (RPC) intend to consider this Assignment at its December meeting. The Retired Annuitant submitted draft documents for Sites' consideration at a scheduled December 5 ad hoc meeting. Subsequent effort will be required to obtain written permission from all 22 Reservoir Committee members since the Assignment modifies the participation levels for Santa Clara and the District in the 2019 Reservoir Project Agreement as amended in 2022, and all members are signatory to that Agreement.

The Retired Annuitant remotely attended the Reclamation District 108 Board meeting on November 20. RD108 is a Sites participant and held a substantial discussion on its future level of Sites participation. Its current participation is 4000 acre-feet (WRM is 3050 acre-feet) and the intent of the Board was to initiate a Proposition 218 election to fund its future participation based on 250 acre-feet of participation. RD108 is primarily a rice growing district for which the Sites costs would be significant. Since the Bureau of Reclamation would likely be assigned the RD108 reduction, the Sacramento Valley would still benefit from the Sites Project.

Other Items. The Retired Annuitant (a) worked with the Executive Assistant to ensure some older computer files were properly backed up, and (b) provided large pressure reducing valve information from the Sites Project to the Staff Engineer.

Meetings. The Retired Annuitant attended the following meetings:

- Nov 13 Delta Conveyance Project - Policy Briefing
- Nov 13 Sites Reservoir - Prepare for Secretary Crowfoot Meeting
- Nov 17 Sites Reservoir - Meeting with Natural Resources Secretary Crowfoot and staff
- Nov 20 Reclamation District 108 - Board of Directors
- Nov 21 Sites Reservoir - Joint Authority Board/Reservoir Committee Board of Directors
- Nov 14 Sites Reservoir - Budget and Finance Committee
- Nov 10 Sites Reservoir - Chairperson's Meeting
- Nov 07 Sites Reservoir - Conveyance Ad Hoc Subcommittee
- Nov 12 Sites Reservoir - Coordination Committee
- Nov 13 Sites Reservoir - Environmental Planning and Permitting Work Group
- Nov 07 Sites Reservoir - Operations and Engineering Work Group Agenda Planning
- Nov 12 Sites Reservoir - Operations and Engineering Work Group
- Nov 12 Sites Reservoir - WIFIA Ad Hoc Subcommittee
- Nov 12 WRMWSD - Board of Directors

DIRECTOR OF WATER RESOURCES REPORT – E. MCDARIS

2025 State Water Project Allocation – 50%

On December 2nd, 2024, DWR announced the initial 2025 State Water Project allocation of 5%. On April 29th, 2025, DWR announced an increase to the 2025 SWP allocation, raising it to 50%, where it remains at this time.

Initial 2026 State Water Project Allocation – 10%

On December 1st, 2025, DWR announced the initial 2026 State Water Project allocation of 10%. DWR’s allocation analysis considered several factors including existing storage in SWP conservation reservoirs, SWP operational constraints such as the conditions of the Biological Opinions for Delta Smelt and Salmonids, and the Longfin Smelt Incidental Take Permit, and the 2026 contractor demands. DWR may revise the initial and subsequent allocations if warranted by the year’s developing hydrologic and water supply conditions.

The 10% allocation is consistent with the 90% probability of exceedance (P.O.E.) study with moderate Old and Middle River (OMR) restrictions in DWR’s most recent “*Allocation Analysis for 2026*” (Analysis). All studies for the December analysis assume hydrology conditions in the 90% P.O.E., (*i.e.* 9 in 10 chance conditions will be wetter than assumed) and do not include Fall X2 actions due to the dry hydrology assumptions.

The *Analysis* includes different ranges of impacts from the Delta Smelt and Salmon Biological Opinions as well as the Longfin Incidental Take Permit (the *Analysis* uses existing Delta Smelt Biological Opinion standards).

The December 1st DWR analysis results for 2026 are as follows (values in acre-feet).

Source/SVI	Dry	Dry	Above Normal	Wet
SWP Allocation	10%	26%	45%	45%
OMR Restriction [a]	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Prob. Of Exceedance [b]	90%	75%	50%	25%
District Supply	19,709	51,243	88,690	88,690

[a] Average Old and Middle River reverse flow restrictions (cfs) from December 2024 to July 2025.

[b] Example: a 90% Probability of Exceedance means there is a 9 in 10 chance conditions will be wetter than assumed, and 1 in 10 chance conditions will be conditions will be drier than assumed.

Note that precipitation is not runoff, and runoff is not Delta export pumping for the State Water Project. State Water Project allocations are highly variable, and an average precipitation year does not translate directly to an average SWP allocation (the current long-term average SWP allocation is 53% per DWR’s Delivery Capability report 2023). Allocations vary considerably based on precipitation severity, proportions of snow and rain, timing, and the location of where the precipitation events occur. While the health of the Feather River watershed and its annual snowpack remains the largest factor in SWP allocations, Delta export restrictions have made south of Delta flows, specifically those on the San Joaquin River, vital to achieving average or above average SWP allocations.

Water and Snowpack Conditions.

The “*Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Tabulation*” index of rain and snow water content for the Sacramento, Feather, Yuba and American River Basins in November was 7.7 inches, 145% of the monthly average of 5.3 inches. *Accumulation* for the season is as follows:

Current Amount – October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026,	10.7”
Seasonal Average to Date	8.1”
Seasonal Percent of Average to Date	132%
Average (historic) for the entire Water Year (Oct. 1 through Sep. 30)	53.2”

The “*San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Tabulation*” index for the month of November was 6.7 inches, which is 186% of historical average (3.6 inches). *Accumulation* for the season is 9.3 inches, which is 163% of the seasonal average of 5.7 inches.

Carryover and Spill Conditions.

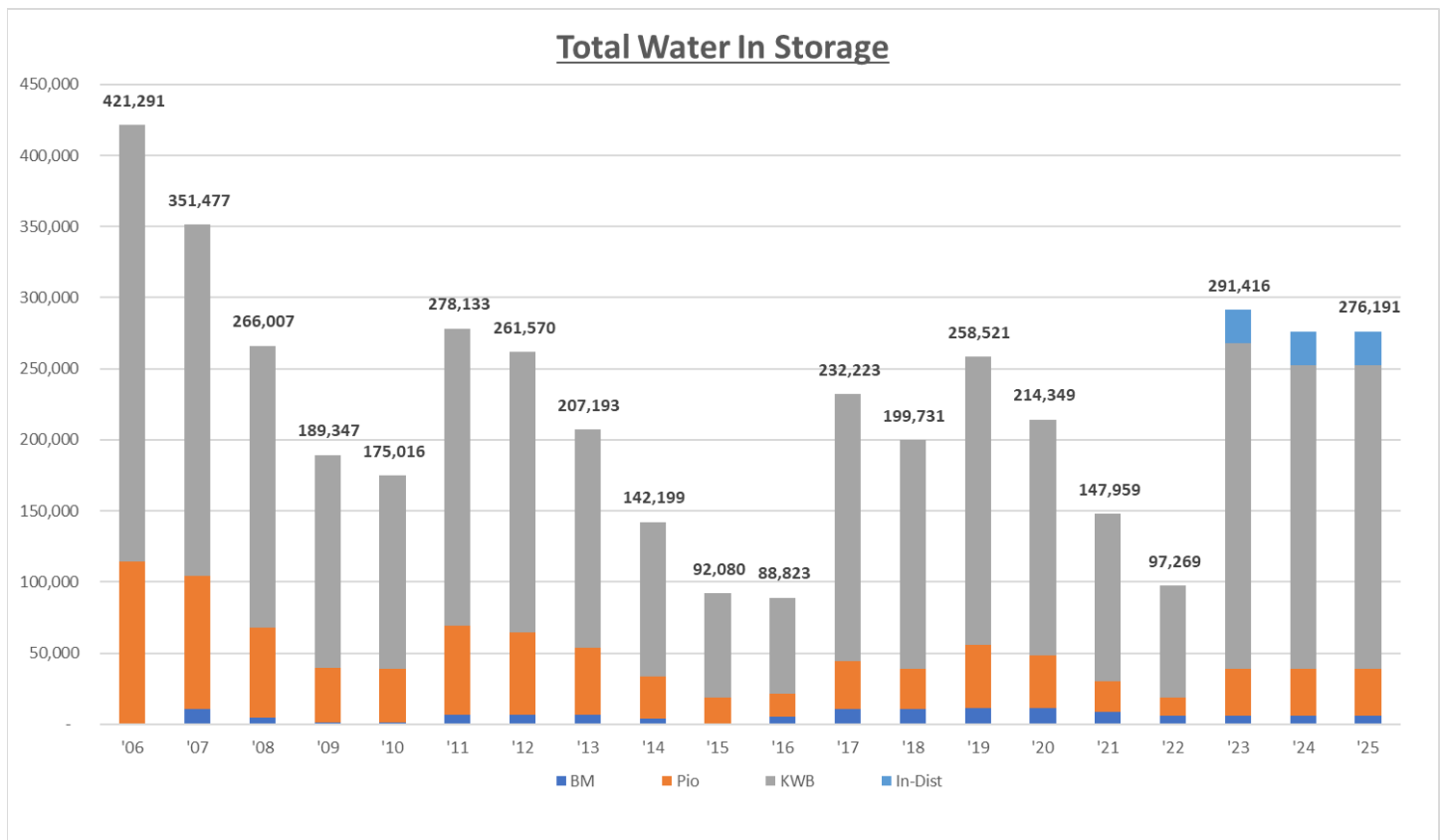
The District continually reviews current San Luis Reservoir (SLR) storage levels (November 30, 2025: 63% capacity, 122% of average) to determine optimum carryover amounts. End of month San Luis Reservoir conditions were as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Million Acre-feet (MAF)</u>
SLR Capacity	
SWP Share	1.062
CVP Share	<u>0.966</u>
SWP + CVP subtotal	2.028
Actual December 31, 2015 storage	0.436
Actual December 31, 2016 storage	1.259
Actual December 31, 2017 storage	1.638
Actual December 31, 2018 storage	1.503
Actual December 31, 2019 storage	1.286
Actual December 31, 2020 storage	0.955
Actual December 31, 2021 storage	0.616
Actual December 31, 2022 storage	0.688
Actual December 31, 2023 storage	1.147
Actual December 31, 2024 storage	1.408
November 30, 2025, storage	
SWP Share	0.905
CVP Share	<u>0.378</u>
SWP + CVP subtotal	1.283

The amount of State Water Project water stored during the month of November increased approximately 96,971 acre-feet, going from 812,595 acre-feet at the end of October to 904,566 acre-feet at the end of November. On November 30, 2025, SLR overall storage was approximately 745,232 acre-feet from full.

Meetings. The Water Resources Manager attended the following meetings in-person or remotely during the month:

- 11/4, 11/18 — KCWA ops call
- 11/5, 11/12, 11/14, 11/21, 11/24, 11/25 — WS5 Weekly Call and Water Supply Meetings (various)
- 11/4, 11/5, 11/14, 11/12, 11/21 — WWGSA & SOKR Board, Coordination Committee, and technical committee meetings
- 11/21 — Sites Reservoir BOD meeting
- 11/3, 11/6 — EKI Subsidence Meeting
- 11/4 — KWB Board & KWBGSA meeting
- 11/6, 11/12, 11/13, 11/17, 11/19 — KCWA MU Mgr & Board, CVC Advisory, Pioneer, Berrenda Mesa, DCP MU Yield Committee, SWC Operations



The Contract Administrator's Work Included:

Contract/ Water Allocation Work.

- Contract(s): 14
 - Property closed escrow, received a copy of the Grant Deed
 - Review/verify APNs and land descriptions
- Contract(s): 124A18A
 - Review/verify APNs and land descriptions
- Contract(s): 69NA1A • Received agreement back from the Landowner
 - Pending Board Notarized Signatures
- Contract(s): 121
 - Received Board Notarized signatures
 - Pending Recording at Kern County's Recorder's Office
- Contract(s): 69L & 131
 - Pending recording at the Kern County Recorder's Office
- Contract(s): 14, 26, 51, 54A, 69.11, 69K, 70, 83A, 124A06, 124A18
 - Received back from the Kern County Recorder's Office
 - Working through Post-Recording Procedures
- Contract(s): 2, 5, 20E1, 20F, 20H, 20J, 21, 46, 54, 55A, 69.04, 69.07, 69.11A, 69.14, 92, 121A, 12109A, 12109B, 124A02, 124A06A, 124A07C, 124A15, 124A23, 162A
 - Working through Post-Recording Procedures
- Contract(s): 5A, 20E3, 20E5, 49, 74, & 127
 - Completed Post-Recording Procedures

Landowner Assistance.

- Assisted Water Users with information regarding water ledger—YTD use, acre-feet remaining, carryover, user input agreement questions/balances, water allocations/costs, water returns, etc.
- Assisted **11** Water User(s) with 2025/2026 SWP Allocation/Supp/Return Water questions.
- Assisted **09** Water User(s) with 2025 Carryover/Water/Usage
- Assisted **10** Water User(s) with 2025/2026 Water Costs/Allocation/Other questions.
- Assisted **05** Water User(s) with APN District verification (Appraiser Requests)
- Assisted **08** Non-contract User(s) with general allocation/cost associated with The District.
- Assisted **02** Water User(s) with Farming Unit Operation changes/questions.
- Assisted **08** Water User(s) with Second Priority Sub-Account Program
- Assisted **06** Water User(s) with GWSC Questions/Information
- Assisted **05** Potential Water User(s) with Water District Information/Water Allocations/Costs
- Processed **02** Water Transfer(s)
- Processed **01** Water Return(s)
- Processed **05** Second Priority KWB Sub-Account Request(s)

Other Tasks.

- Important Notices via email to Landowners/Water Users
- Completed weekly water schedule updates, reconciling variances with Dispatch and Controller.
 - Low Water Balance Notices
 - 11/3/25, 11/10/25, 11/24/25
 - Worked with Controller & Operations on End of Month Water Reports & Non-Contract Accounts.
 - Worked with Dispatch/Accounting to resolve low/negative Water User Accounts
- 2025 GWSC (Nov. 2025) & WSC Delinquencies
 - Worked with the Accounting Department on delinquent accounts/payment collection calls/letters
 - Track and review scheduled payments from Delinquent account(s) with a Forbearance Agreement
 - Mailed Certified Letters to GWSC/WSC Delinquent Landowners after the Board approved two Board Resolutions Ordering the filing of the List of Delinquent Charges
 - 11/21/25 One Landowner paid their WSC Delinquency
 - 11/24/25 Delivered the “List of Delinquent Tolls & Charges” to the Kern County Recorder’s Office for recording for both GWSC and WSC.
- 2025 GWSC Delinquencies for December 2025
 - Prepared the following Board Documents for all GWSC Delinquent accounts for the billing period ending December 2025 - Ordering the Filing of List of December 2025 GWSC Delinquent Charges
 - Board Resolution(s)
 - List of Delinquent Charges Cover Page for Recording
 - Tolls & Charges Exhibit A List(s)
 - Assisted Executive Assistant and Accounting Department with Mail Distribution/Cash Receipts/Cash Deposit Scan process
 - Assisted in current/ongoing discussions:
 - District Farming Unit Agreement/Rules & Regs modifications
 - Second Priority Agreement renewal modifications
 - Reviewed the monthly Accounts Payable and distributed Board and Annuitant payables.
 - Managed Petty Cash Fund and EC stamp cash fund
 - Prepared monthly report for Board Meeting packet
 - Meetings/Trainings Attended/Completed:
 - 11/10/25 Board Meeting
 - Landowner In-person/Phone or Other Meetings
 - November 05-07, 10, 17-20, 24

ACCOUNTING ACTIVITIES – J. SMITH

Controller's Report:

2025 Water Allocations, Deliveries, and Billings The October water reports were mailed on November 3. On December 2, 2024, DWR announced an initial SWP allocation of 5% of CAW. The DWR announced a revised allocation of 15% on December 23, 20% on January 28, 35% on February 25, 40% on March 25, and 50% on April 29. The District's Board approved a revised allocation at its May meeting. The current allocation is 50% SWP and 27% Supplemental.

Current allocations and usage are:

	<u>Acre-Feet</u>
• SWP	98,541.06
• SUPPLEMENTAL	53,020.97
• SUBSCRIPTION	7,393.00
• Carry Over	14,232.84
• User Input	187.72
• Transfers In	5,836.00
• Transfers to KWB	-5,848.68
• Temporary Water	2.00
• Returns	<u>- 28,610.38</u>
• Total Supply	144,754.53
• Deliveries (Jan-Aug)	<u>- 125,283.88</u>
• Unused	<u>19,470.65</u>

2025 Contract and Non-Contract Water Billings and Delinquencies.

- The eighth contract water billings were mailed on August 26
- The sixth non-contract water billings were mailed on July 28

Contract Water Delinquencies as of December 5, 2025.

Contract Water Charges							Contract	Delinq.
Acct #	Customer	Billing	Penalties	Interest	Total		Acres	\$/Acre
0038	Almond Blossom Ranch, LLC	139,731.31	13,973.13	3,455.93	157,160.37	✓ (1)	916.00	171.57
3150	Taft Vegetable Farms, Inc	43,133.77	7,050.13	2,382.46	52,566.36	✓ (1)	620.00	84.78
	Total	182,865.08	21,023.26	5,838.39	209,726.73		1,536.00	136.54

2024/2025 Ground Water Service Charge Delinquencies as of December 5, 2025.

Ground Water Service Charges							Field	Delinq.	
Acct #	Customer	Billing	Penalties	Interest	Total		Acres	\$/Acre	
2180	Almond Blossom Ranch, LLC	83,776.00	8,377.61	1,550.77	93,704.38	✓ (1)	279.92	334.75	
1010	Biane JP Living Trust	8,808.20	880.83	39.13	9,728.16		90.00	108.09	disputing
1060	K & B Inv Fund	2,420.25	242.03	27.08	2,689.36		99.11	27.14	
2150	Old River Farm, Inc. et. al.	47,229.82	6,492.51	571.51	54,293.84	✓ (1)	365.69	148.47	
1080	LNZ Prosperity, LLC	19,829.25	1,982.93	71.18	21,883.36		322.32	67.89	
1090	New Sunny International, LLC	3,610.84	298.40	38.52	3,947.76	✓ (1)	61.69	63.99	2024
1090	New Sunny International, LLC	989.50	161.64	481.40	1,632.54		61.69	26.46	2025
2175	Santa Paula Hay & Grain & Ranch	2,280.25	228.03		2,508.28		156.88	15.99	
	Total	168,944.11	18,663.98	2,779.59	190,387.68		1,437.30	132.46	
	Grand Totals	351,809.19	39,687.24	8,617.98	400,114.41		2,973.30	134.57	

Ground Water Service Charges		Forbearance				
Acct #	Customer	Amount	2025 Pmts	Balance		
1130	Westland Farms, LLC	175,079.58	(96,451.30)	78,628.28		(2)
(1) Lien filed						
(2) Lien filed last year. Landowner has paid as agreed.						

Controller Report-Smith:

- 11/14/2025–Tri Counties Bank onsite demonstration
- 11/20/2025-Tri Counties Bank follow-up meeting
- 11/20/2025-ACWA JPIA Property Insurance Review
- 11/24/2025-CPA CPE class
- 11/24/2025-2026 Annual Bills mailed
- 11/26/2025-CPA CPE class
- Assisted Assistant Controller Whitby with 2026 water year database setup and preparation of 2026 Annual Bills

The Assistant Controller's activities included:

- Processed accounts payable
- Completed reports for Board
- Reconciled bank accounts
- Reviewed payroll entries prepared by Junior Accountant and posted to accounting software
- Attended Accounting Department meetings
- Processed checks and completed reports for CDR and SOKR
- Invoiced water users for short run/industrial/miscellaneous water charges
- Updated/prepared GWSC statements
- Distributed water reports to landowners
- Assisted Controller with water orders, returns, and transfers
- Met with Tri Counties Bank 11/14 regarding transfer of accounts
- Met with Tri Counties Bank 11/20 to demo their bill payment portal
- Met with ACWA JPIA property insurance rep regarding asset valuation/reporting
- Set up 2026 water year in Access database
- Generated 2026 billing statements to landowners

The Junior Accountant's activities included:

- Faxed payroll vouchers
- Updated payrates, half sheet and vacation/sick worksheets
- Calculated timesheets
- Compared time sheets to the Paychex system
- Processed and submitted the biweekly payroll
- Reviewed and saved payroll reports
- Reviewed the payroll distribution reports
- Updated the salary schedule
- Updated the November 50k life worksheet
- Updated November cell audit sheet
- Prepared burden checks
- Made online burden payments
- Entered the 11/8 and 11/22 CalPERS data and submitted the payments
- Generated the CalPERS report breakdown for each pay period
- November meetings requested from the directors

- Prepared and submitted the monthly payroll
- Updated the ACWA, HealthEdge Administration and HealthEdge Claims spreadsheets and vouchers for December invoices
- Completed the November burden journal entries
- Completed the CES report for November
- Completed the Expense and Compensation sheet
- Completed the payroll voucher estimates
- Completed daily deposits
- Faxed AP and CDR vouchers
- Completed safe pay for accounts payable and CDR checks
- Requested the November safety incentives
- Filed AP invoices

Employee Committee

- Collected cash from snack stations
- Reviewed November's bank statement
- Made Deposit

Meetings/Training

- Attended accounting department meetings
- Attended the Employee Committee meeting
- Attended two bank meeting/demos

ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES – T. SUGGS

South of Kern River (SOKR) GSP:

- Water levels were recorded in 14 out of 14 monitoring wells and subsequently shared with EKI and AEWSD.
- Recent water levels observed in SGMA monitoring wells were quality checked and approved for incorporation into the 2025 Water Year Report on SGMA implementation on November 21st.

White Wolf Basin GSA:

- Water levels were observed in 10 out of 11 SGMA monitoring wells and shared with EKI as a routine matter; one program well was not sounded because it is known to be collapsed.
- Engineering support was provided to the O&M Department while they constructed two turnouts called CG24A and DG12B. A third turnout, called DG25A, will also be constructed in early 2026 as part of the GSA's Proposition-68-grant-funded in-lieu banking project.

Groundwater Service Charges (GWSCs):

- September 2025 groundwater extraction amounts were computed and GWSC invoices totaling \$348,020 were mailed out to 48 farm operators by November 20th.
- As before, seven different landowners have elected to have their groundwater extraction determined by direct meter readings, and most of those landowners have well meters in various stages certification or recertification. As of this writing, 32 meter applications have been approved and 19 are pending.
- Dimensional data and other notes were collected at several wells and forwarded to Provost & Pritchard to assist them with their reviews of pending meter applications.
- Recently, the Engineer-Manager thought that it would be interesting to compare apparent crop water demand, as determined from Land IQ's computations of evapotranspiration (ET), with the sum of all available water sources, which essentially consists of applied water plus rainfall. This is sensible because growers try to regulate water inputs to match crop water demands, and relevant because the GWSC calculator assumes that groundwater extraction makes up the difference between crop water demands and available water from all other sources. Working in tandem with Joel Kimmelshue of Land IQ, the Staff Engineer tabulated the variables of interest and prepared balance analyses for about 30 groupings of crop fields during November.

Underground Facilities and Turnouts: The following field activities and/or research were conducted related to underground facilities:

- Engineering Department staff responded to 164 underground services alerts (USAs) during November, eventually marking about 1 mile of District pipelines.
- A field meeting was held with a Water User in anticipation of a new 12-inch-diameter PVC irrigation pipeline that will soon be constructed in parallel with the District's 8G-A Lateral. Fortunately, the Water User was willing to make some adjustments to provide a minimum 10-foot offset from the District's pipeline.
- Field meetings were held with various contractors in anticipation of the following planned projects:
 - Crossing of the 6P Lateral with fiber optic cable.
 - Crossing of the 14G-1 Lateral with 3-inch-diameter electrical conduit.
 - Crossing of the 7P-D Lateral with a 3-inch-diameter irrigation pipeline.

Quitclaim Request Concerning 13A-1 and 13A-A Laterals: A letter (copy attached) was received from Tejon Ranchcorp on November 24th requesting that the District quitclaim all of its easements and interests along the subject laterals, which have not been used for several years. There are no other Water Users who take delivery of water from those pipelines, and the District has no need for the pipe materials or the right-of-ways in that area.

Fall 2025 Groundwater Level Survey: About 10 wells that were found pumping in October were revisited during November, concluding the 2025 fall water level survey. By month's end, 161 wells were visited and 153 were successfully sounded.

Crop Surveys:

- Field checks continued for the 2025 fall crop survey, requiring about four man-days of effort.

- About three days were devoted to revising past annual crop survey reports, eventually resulting in recomputed reports for 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Annual Maintenance Inspections: Steel tanks were inspected at the 5P-P2, 5P-P3, WRM 7, 7P-P2, and 7P-P3 pumping plants during annual maintenance in November. Observations will be tabulated and presented in next month's report.

Maps and Records:

- Certain as-built drawings of District pipelines were provided to CivilGrid, a land and utility data firm, pursuant to their request and in anticipation of construction by PG&E in the 850A Service Area.

Meetings Attended:

November 3	Subsidence Check-in with EKI
November 4	White Wolf GSA Board Meeting
November 5	Review Well Meter Applications with Provost & Pritchard
November 6	Subsidence Follow Up with EKI
November 13	SOKR Executive Committee
November 14	Kern Subbasin Managers
November 18	KCWA Operations Conf. Call
November 21	Crop Water Demands Comparison with Land IQ

Rec'd 11/24/2025



November 21, 2025

Via Overnight and Electronic Delivery

Wheeler Ridge – Maricopa Water Storage District (“District”)

Attn: Dennis Atkinson, President

12109 Highway 166

Bakersfield, CA 93313

**RE: Request to Quitclaim District’s Interest in Real Property
In Connection with Final Order of Condemnation (Parcels TA-43-1 and TA-43-2) recorded
in Book 5443 at Pages 1697-1703 of Official Records in the Office of the Kern County
Recorder on March 9, 1982 (the “Condemnation Order”)**

Dear Mr. Atkinson:

Tejon Ranchcorp (“Ranchcorp”) is the fee title owner of the real property described in the Condemnation Order as Parcels TA-43-1 and TA-43-2 (collectively, the “Property”) over, on and under which the District maintains permanent easements as described in the Condemnation Order, including without limitation water lines, laterals and facilities, and related access and other rights (the “Easements”).

We understand that the water lines included in the Easements are no longer in use. In order to assist with Ranchcorp’s development planning activities, we request that the District quitclaim, vacate and abandon to Ranchcorp (or any related underlying fee title owner) all of the District’s right, title and interest in the Easements, specifically as such rights relate to District Turnouts 13A-1, 13A-2 and 13A-3 (the “Turnouts”). This request does not include a request to quitclaim, vacation and abandonment of Turnout 13A.

For your reference, a depiction of the Easements and specific Turnouts applicable to this request are attached hereto.

We hope to expedite this as reasonably soon as possible. Please let us know what additional information is needed to process this request.

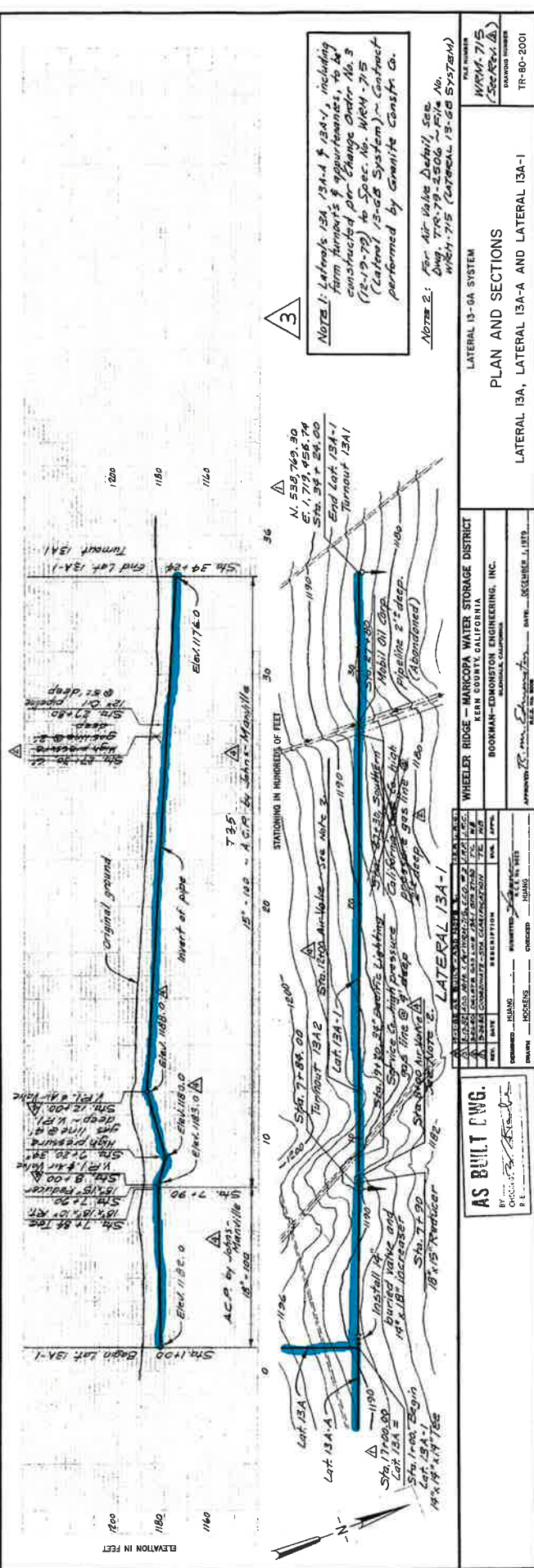
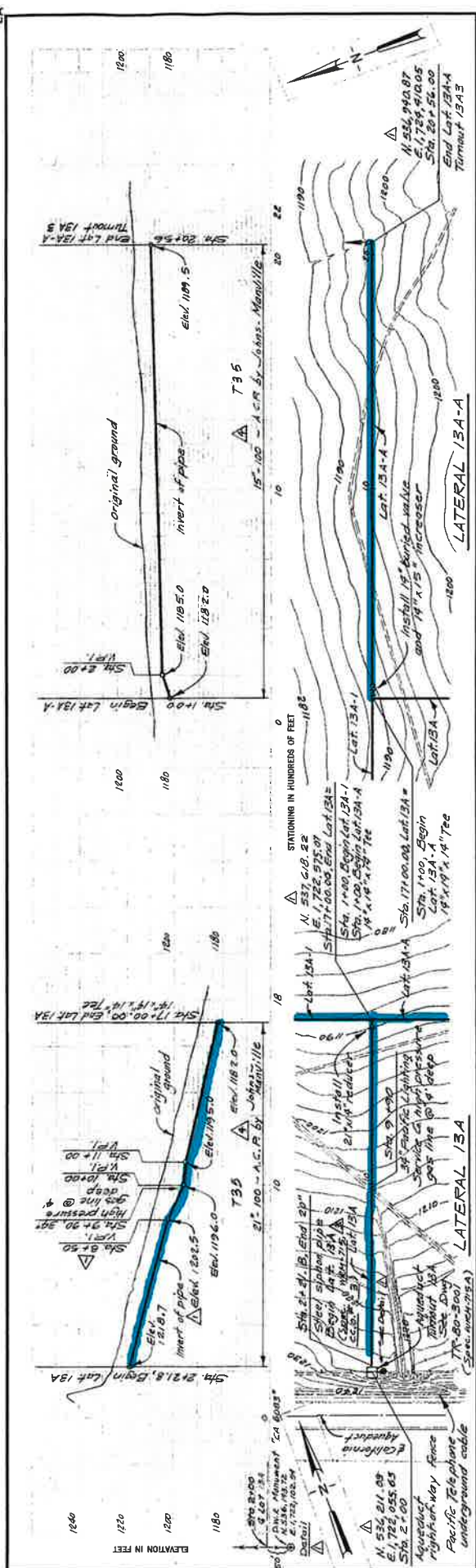
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Derek Abbott", with a large, stylized flourish.

Derek Abbott
Executive Vice President, Real Estate




Attachment: Depiction of Easements/Turnouts

P.O. Box 1000 | 4436 Lebec Road
Tejon Ranch, CA 93243
661 248 3000 O | 661 248 3100 F
www.tejonranch.com












District Well Status Summary

As of November 30, 2025

Well Name	Status / Description of the Problem	Most Recent Activity	Next Planned Activity
Not in Running Condition			
 #A2	A new submersible electric pump/motor unit (Goulds 7CHC, 8-stage pump plus 150-hp, 3600-rpm electric motor) was installed 10/12/2023. Found dead with power to the motor on 5/28/2024. SWL was 637.20' on 10/2/2025.	L.O. Lynch removed the pump/motor for inspection on 10/29/2024. On 12/18/2024, they reported finding a good motor together with a broken pump shaft plus heavy abrasion on the shaft. To the contractor, that was consistent with a sudden start while sand locked.	The failure seems to have been instigated by sand pumping. Accordingly, a video log will be scheduled to help determine whether there is a hole in the casing.
 #C3	Off line for wire theft. L.O. Lynch completed installation of Goulds-made 12CLC, 13-stage pump assembly rated at 775 gpm 10/12/2023. SWL was 574' on 10/1/2025.	Electrical wires were stolen in summer 2023, replaced in October 2023, and stolen again in November 2023. Tested 11/1/2023 and found to run very smoothly, producing 840 gpm with 9' of drawdown at good (71%) pump efficiency.	Because the well is subject to vandalism and wire theft, a decision was made to not replace wires until the well is again scheduled to operate. Wires can be replaced on short notice if needed.
 #C2	Off line for wire theft. SWL was 583' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/5/2024 and found to run at 800 gpm with 18' of drawdown at 65% efficiency.	Because the well is subject to vandalism and wire theft, a decision was made to not replace wires until the well is again scheduled to operate. Wires can be replaced on short notice if needed.
Currently in Running Condition			
 WRM7	Currently off. SWL was 581' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/20/2025 and found to produce 1040 gpm with 305' of drawdown at 69% efficiency. Redeveloped in Feb 2023. FPI completed installing a new Flowise-made pump unit rated 950 gpm at 910' TDH 3/17/2023.	
 PA-1	Currently off. SWL was 711' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/5/2025; found to produce 960 gpm with 24' of drawdown at good efficiency. New pump assembly rated 1007 gpm at 887' TDH was installed 6/28/2021.	
 #A1	Currently off. SWL was 673' on 10/1/2025.	New wires were pulled in May 2024 after being stolen sometime in early 2024. Tested 3/3/2025 and found to produce 1490 gpm with 66' of drawdown at 78% efficiency.	
 #A4	Currently off. SWL was 591' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/3/2025; found to produce 605 gpm at 48' of drawdown but at relatively low (51%) efficiency. New bowl assembly rated 800 gpm was installed 2/22/2021. Placed back in service 4/13/2021.	
 #B1	Currently off. SWL was 735' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/4/2025 and found to produce 920 gpm with 25' of drawdown at 70% efficiency. New pump assembly (rated 1005 gpm at 868') installed 6/17/2021.	
 #B2	Currently off. SWL was 770' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/10/2025 and found to produce 1080 gpm with 90' of drawdown at 71% efficiency. Redevelopment was completed 2/2/2023. On 3/2/2023 FPI completed installing a new Simflo-made pump unit rated at 950 gpm at 900' TDH.	

District Well Status Summary

As of November 30, 2025

Well Name	Status / Description of the Problem	Most Recent Activity	Next Planned Activity
Currently in Running Condition			
 #C1	Currently off. SWL was 619' on 10/1/2025.	Air line was found to be leaking 5/28/2024. Tested 3/19/2025 and found to produce 1530 gpm with 24' of drawdown at 64% efficiency. Shock treated with chlorine 7/25/2022.	
 #C5	Currently off. SWL was 564' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/11/2025; found to produce 1600 gpm with 48' of drawdown at excellent (75%) overall plant efficiency. PG&E energized the transformer 9/2/2022.	
 #C6	Currently off. SWL was 720' on 10/1/2025.	Tested 3/10/2025; found to produce 1680 gpm with 108' of drawdown at excellent (77%) efficiency. A long-standing phase imbalance issue (i.e., low amperage on one leg) was partly resolved by PG&E in late July 2021.	
Out of Service			
 6P-P2	Off line for excessive drawdown. Appears to be even more clogged than in 2018. Has a new Simflo SR10C-20-stage pump ass'bly, but drew down to 1000' at 100-200 gpm 3/15/2021. SWL was 478' on 10/14/2024.	Listed in the SOKR GSP as a SGMA water level monitoring well.	Should probably remain idle until a substitute monitoring well can be found. It is likely that any viable option to improve the well will involve significant expense for little water.
 7P-P2	Currently unequipped. Shut down 7/9/2018 for vibration and low PWL (926') and a sudden loss of flow rate. Pump removed 8/13/2018. Upon inspection, impellers showed clear signs of cavitation. SWL was 594' on 11/18/2023.	Listed in the SOKR GSP as a SGMA water level monitoring well.	Should probably remain unequipped until a substitute monitoring well can be found.
 PB-1	All of the old column pipe was removed 3/23/2022. Part of the old pump assembly was also removed, but the bottom eight pump stages broke off and the hole remains full of sand fill below 785' of depth. SWL was 687' on 4/27/22.	Kaweah Pump air lifted approx. 2-3 feet of sand on 10/22/2022 before encountering a hard obstruction at 785'. Video logged in 2022 and 2025, revealing only a sandy bottom; nothing could be seen sticking up.	Staff are working to obtain cost estimates to properly abandon the hole by grouting in 2026. The site location is very favorable and it is recommended that a replacement well be drilled.
 #A3	Began pumping sand and gravel on 4/21/2016. Video logged on 7/27/2016 and again 11/2/2016. A large casing split measuring up to 5" wide x 20' long was seen at 613' of depth together with 240' of sand fill.	Per advice of the GW Committee, staff began pursuing replacement of this well in June 2021. GEI Consultants was retained to assist in August 2021 and provided draft specifications and well designs in 2024.	It is recommended that this well be converted to a monitoring well and that a replacement well be drilled in 2024.
 #C4	Failed 4/17/04. Equipment stuck down hole. Suspect collapsed casing at about 120'.	Same as above.	The hole should be properly abandoned by grouting. It is believed that it may not be economic to replace this well due to the limited pumping season in C Reach of the 850 Canal. Moreover, the site is located within one half mile of two active District wells.
 #WRM6	Non-operational since 2000. Always produced < 1,000 gpm. Probably never properly developed. SWL was 458' on 10/14/2024.		

CLIMATALOGICAL DATA FOR GREENLEE'S PASTURE

Parameter	November 2025	Since 10/01/2025	Days Occurred in November
Maximum Temperature	85°	92°	4th, 9th
Minimum Temperature	41°	48°	24th
No. Days at or over 100° F	0	0	N/A
No. Days at or under 32° F	0	0	N/A
Precipitation (inches)	4.23	4.91	6th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 21st
Evaporation (inches)	2.83	8.26	----
Wind Run	OOS	OOS	----

STORAGE IN MAJOR RESERVOIRS (Acre-Feet)

Reservoir	Capacity	Storage at End of November	
		2024	2025
Shasta	4,552,000	2,769,771	2,681,432
Oroville	3,538,000	1,901,608	1,761,235
San Luis (Total)	2,028,000	1,171,931	1,282,603
San Luis (State Share)	1,062,000 (a)	757,173	901,777
Folsom	977,000	332,127	455,874
Isabella	170,000 (b)	154,111	184,550
Millerton	520,000	207,249	309,039
TOTALS	11,785,000	6,536,797	6,674,733

(a) The San Luis (State Share) is included in San Luis (Total) but not included in total capacity or storage.

(b) US Army Corps Of Engineers' authorized capacity Isabella = 568,075 AF on May 1, 170,000 AF November 1 - January 1
Feb 1-28 = 245,000 AF, Mar 1-30 = 245-361,250 AF, Apr 1 = 361,250 AF

NR Not reported as of this publication

OOS Out Of Service

OPERATION & MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES – G. LOVELESS

Safety/Administrative Training

Safety meeting on *Code of Safe Practices, General Safety Guidelines*.

Field/System Maintenance

- Removed tumbleweeds and debris from 850 Canal.
- Installed new turnouts CG24A and DG12B.
- Pumped out 5P-P2, 7P-P2, 7P-P3, and 8P-P2 stand tanks with vacuum truck.
- Hauled equipment and materials to 6P lateral for upcoming replacement project. Removed trees and graded excavation area.
- Exposed 8G-A lateral at turnout 8G8 for Water User.

Annual Maintenance

- 11/02/25, 5 system began / completed 11/07/25.
- 11/08/25, 8 system began / completed 11/13/25.
- 11/16/25, 7 system began / completed 11/21/25.

Pipeline Repair

No reported leaks in November.

Power Outage

- 11/3/25, 0800 hours – Scheduled power disconnect at WRM-5 to inspect and perform maintenance on incoming bussing. Work was completed and power restored 11/5/25, 1200 hours.
- 11/12/25, 1159 hours – Phase imbalance on incoming power WRM-9A. PG&E was contacted, and service resumed 11/13/25, 1535 hours.
- 11/20/25, 0145 hours – Power outage WRM-3, WRM-4. Service restored 0400 hours.

Other Service Interruptions

- 11/03/25, 0900 hours - CG-3 lateral isolated for new turnout installation. Work was completed and service resumed 11/06/25, 1000 hours.
- 11/19/25, 1345 hours - D-6 lateral isolated for new turnout installation. Work was completed and service resumed 11/24/25, 1300 hours.
- 11/30/25, 6 system drained for first phase of 6P lateral replacement. Service is scheduled to resume in January.

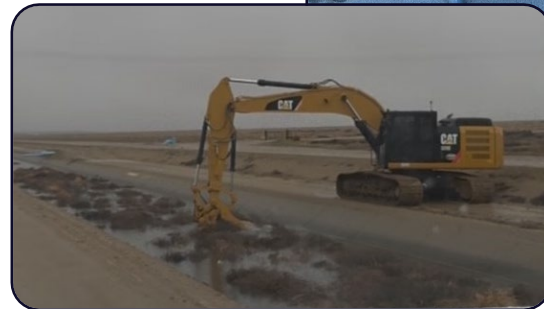
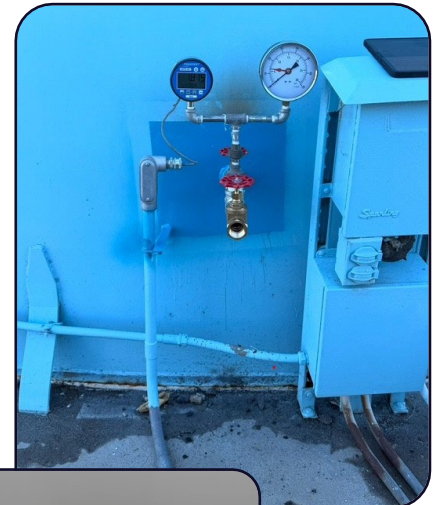
Pump/Electrical

- Replaced the PLC at WRM-3.
- WRM-7 unit #1, replaced cap and gasket on swing check valve. Replaced lights in MCC.
- PB-1, replaced photocells in yard lights.
- Installed new gearbox for gate at Spill Basin.

Equipment Maintenance

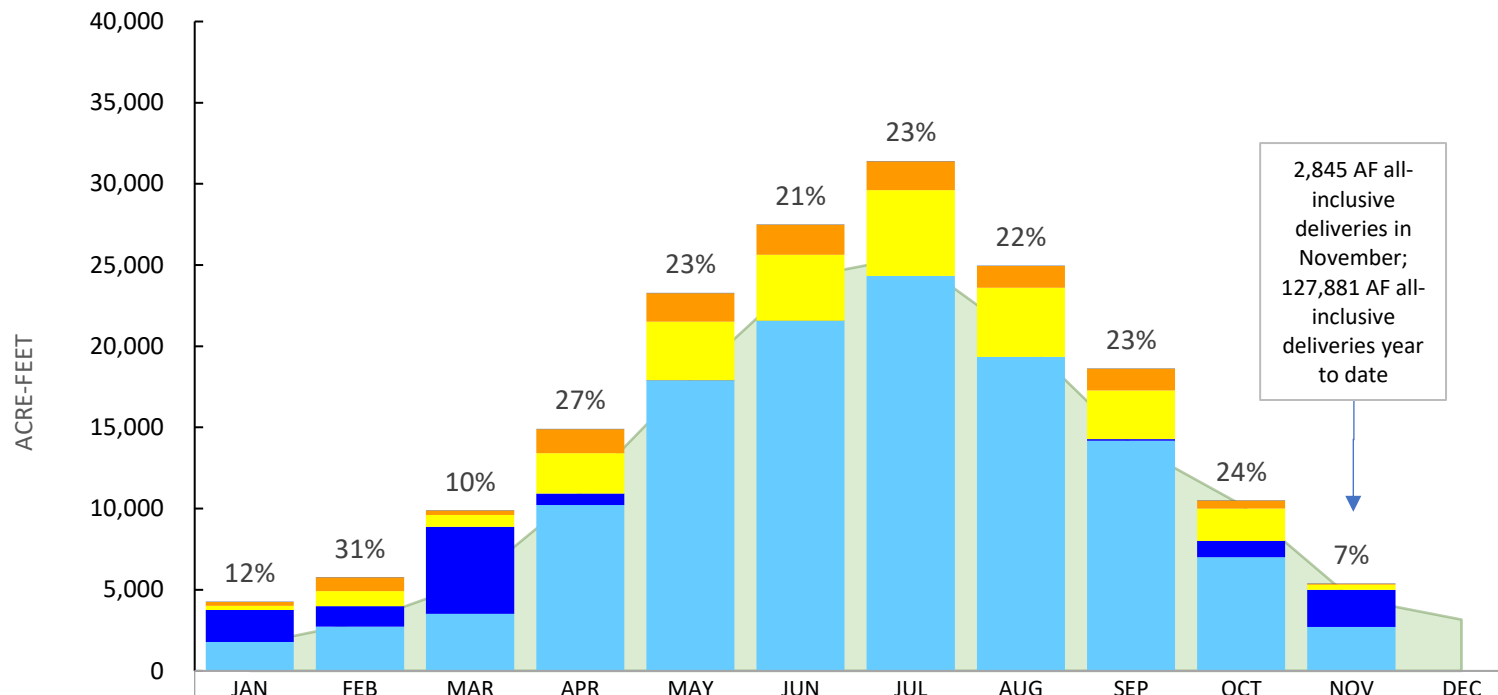
6 regular vehicle services.

- Unit #146 had 4 tires replaced.
- Unit #164 had 4 tires replaced
- Unit #390 had the battery replaced.
- Unit #366A passed annual crane inspection.



**Current gasoline bulk purchase prices for the District are:
\$3.71 per gallon for gasoline and \$3.74 per gallon for diesel.**

IN-DISTRICT WATER DEMANDS AND SURFACE WATER DELIVERIES THROUGH November 2025



Typical Avg. SW Demand (AF)	1,603	2,988	5,399	10,979	17,960	24,219	25,509	20,589	13,976	10,232	4,473	3,162
Est. % of Available Water from GW	12%	31%	10%	27%	23%	21%	23%	22%	23%	24%	7%	
Est. White Wolf GW Pumping (AF)	238	847	265	1,488	1,759	1,849	1,787	1,340	1,325	500	60	
Estimated Kern Subbasin GW Pumping (AF)	260	920	739	2,490	3,615	4,058	5,278	4,258	3,009	2,000	300	
User Input GW Applied (AF)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calc'd Effective Precip. (AF)	1,978	1,255	5,359	698	2	4	0	0	100	989	2,283	
District Non-indust. Deliveries (AF)	1,771	2,733	3,510	10,222	17,898	21,569	24,327	19,351	14,174	7,011	2,717	0

Notes and Assumptions:

- November crop water use was estimated, because Land IQ shapefiles were not available as of this writing.
- It was assumed that the following percentages of rainfall were lost to evaporation or deep percolation (Jan 20%, Feb 30%, Mar 50%, Apr 70%, May 80%, Jun 80%, Jul 80%, Aug 80%, Sep 80%, Oct 80%, Nov 50%)

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Monthly Deliveries in Acre-Feet

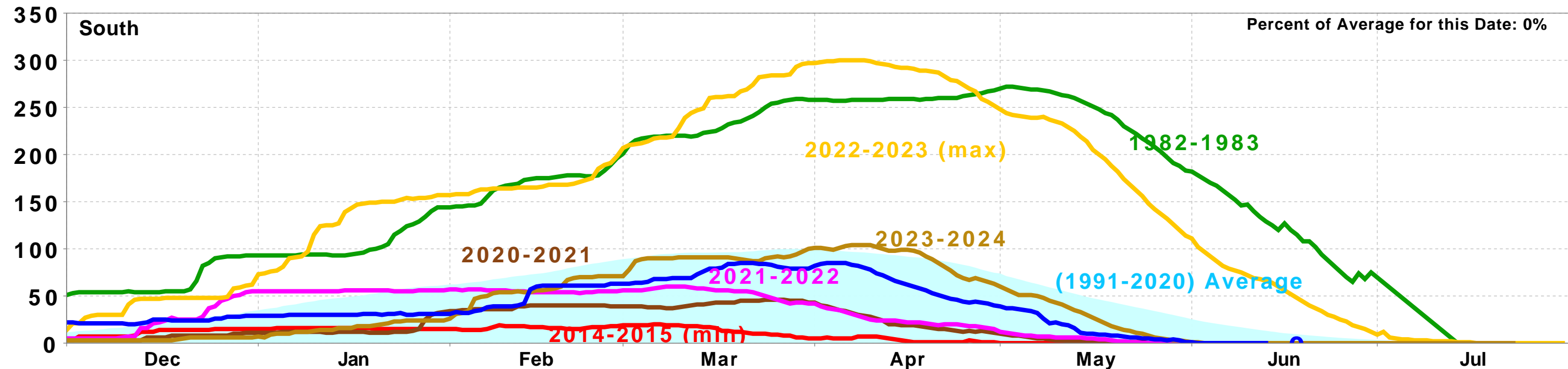
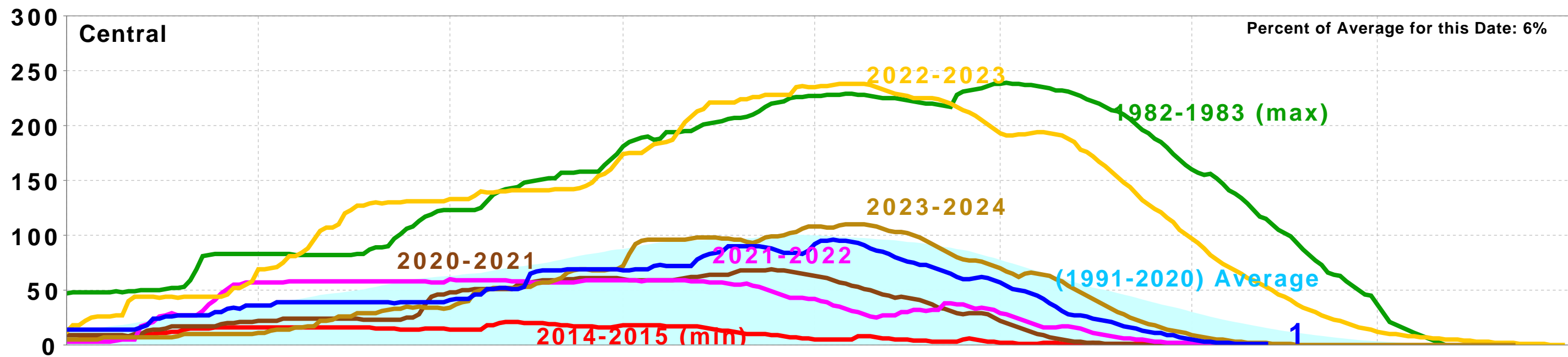
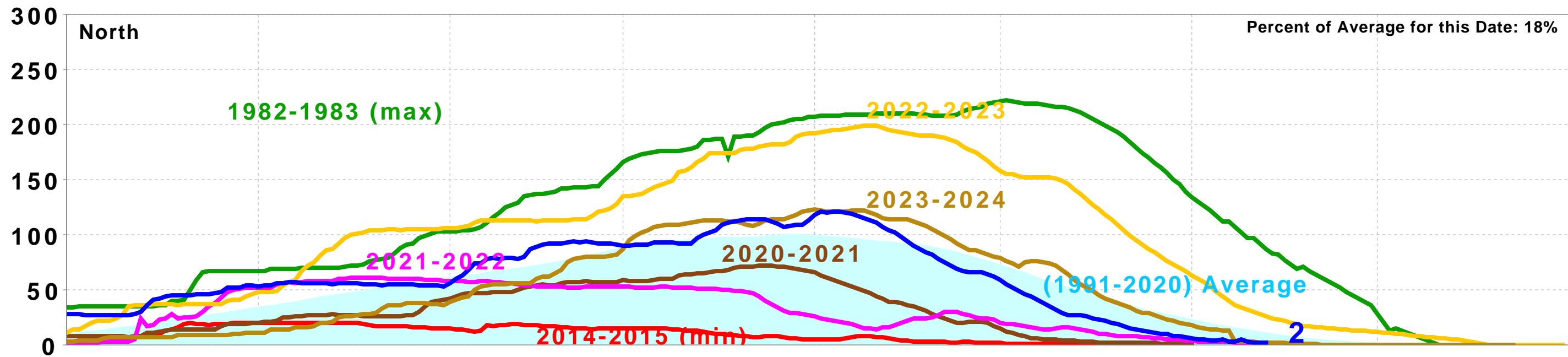
(Includes water from the State Water Project, banking projects, District wells, and User input.)

Month	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	1,962	5,258	1,615	1,265	894	1,613	6,108	2,213	3,367	2,210	1,223	2,425	1,785	3,055	1,386	1,785	1,094	1,357	1,277	2,009
February	7,588	7,269	6,933	2,952	3,440	5,333	8,128	6,387	6,380	4,666	3,077	1,454	7,704	1,667	4,641	4,188	4,131	2,204	1,243	2,892
March	9,315	12,557	12,392	10,151	8,440	7,938	10,696	10,695	9,627	10,157	10,218	8,184	3,174	5,494	5,170	6,838	6,387	2,572	4,377	3,600
April	10,572	15,665	17,770	17,717	12,966	13,935	10,521	16,999	13,994	17,102	13,133	14,731	13,500	14,824	7,084	13,797	11,546	8,606	9,555	10,416
May	20,700	25,488	24,384	24,151	20,664	21,545	23,320	25,754	23,317	20,936	21,496	25,759	21,858	16,441	20,278	19,202	17,606	21,338	17,654	18,116
June	26,542	29,940	27,348	26,379	29,411	27,534	29,261	29,894	25,128	24,540	29,390	32,629	28,802	27,146	24,279	26,995	23,445	25,453	25,050	21,822
July	29,107	28,394	29,661	30,156	32,124	29,719	28,259	28,599	23,476	21,401	29,546	33,290	28,233	30,633	26,042	26,560	23,709	32,167	28,953	24,654
August	25,078	21,817	22,680	22,153	23,873	24,461	25,027	24,554	17,490	18,220	26,948	26,639	26,029	27,793	22,464	18,539	17,855	23,440	20,612	19,779
September	16,897	13,924	16,050	17,453	18,335	17,923	16,678	17,090	15,244	14,908	15,452	17,376	17,705	18,343	15,043	13,169	12,837	16,813	13,794	14,467
October	9,033	9,385	10,797	11,953	8,156	12,343	13,075	13,440	13,394	10,715	11,135	14,974	13,896	12,444	10,551	7,351	7,179	11,992	11,298	7,280
November	5,438	5,609	6,093	5,669	5,872	4,699	4,895	6,485	5,412	4,862	4,957	5,351	5,867	6,300	5,171	2,689	3,190	6,035	4,149	2,845
December	4,788	7,424	3,245	2,739	2,515	6,315	3,354	6,615	4,231	3,055	2,520	4,449	4,626	5,266	3,796	1,569	1,557	5,155	3,347	

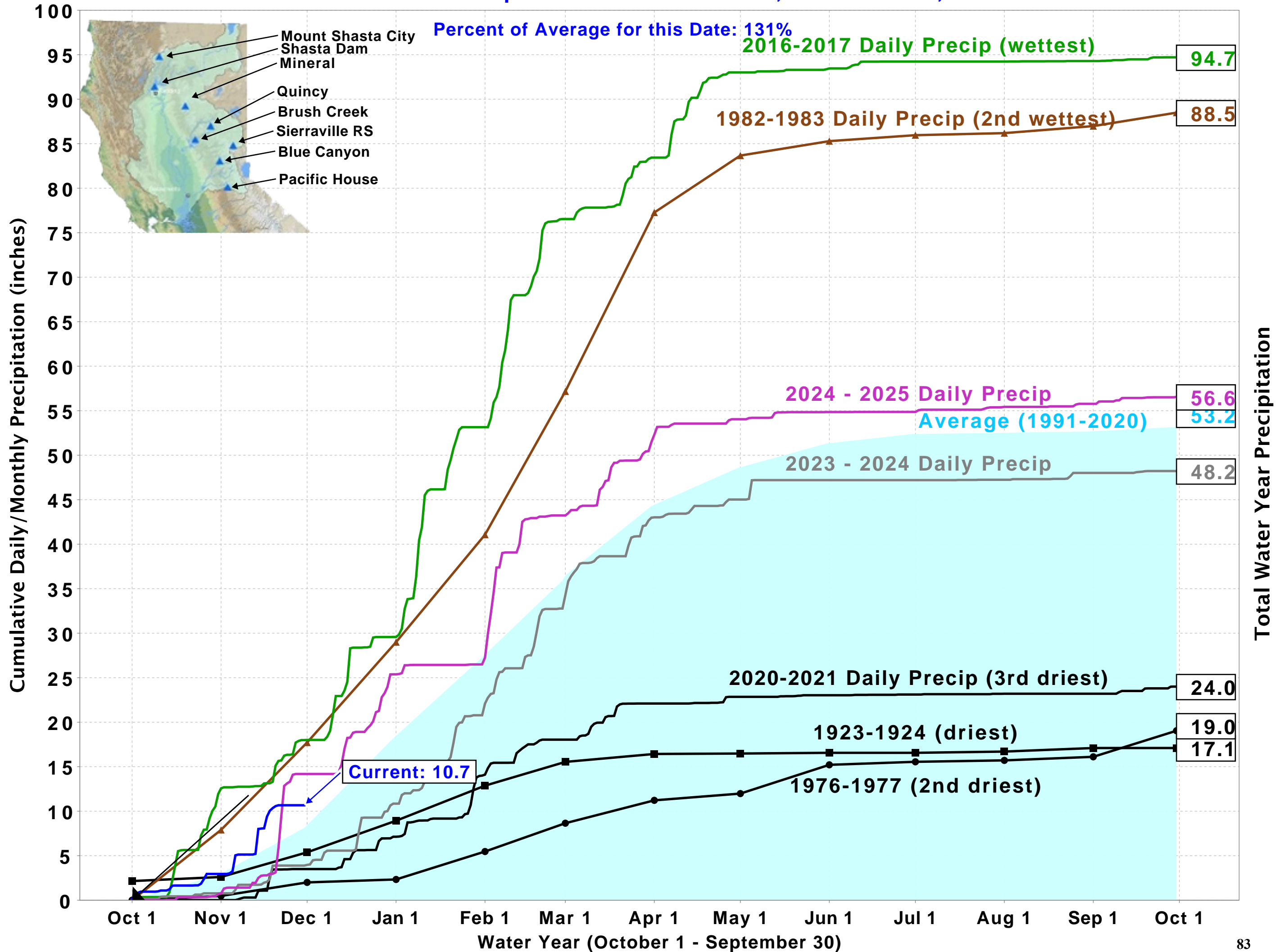
Accumulated Monthly Deliveries in Acre-Feet

Month	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	1,962	5,258	1,615	1,265	894	1,613	6,108	2,213	3,367	2,210	1,223	2,534	1,785	3,055	1,386	1,785	1,094	1,357	1,277	2,009
February	9,550	12,527	8,548	4,217	4,334	6,946	14,236	8,600	9,747	6,876	4,300	3,879	9,489	4,722	6,027	5,973	5,225	3,561	2,520	4,901
March	18,865	25,084	20,940	14,368	12,774	14,884	24,932	19,295	19,373	18,191	14,518	12,063	12,663	10,216	11,197	12,811	11,612	6,132	6,897	8,501
April	29,437	40,749	38,710	32,085	25,740	28,819	35,453	36,294	33,367	35,293	27,651	26,794	26,163	25,040	18,281	26,608	23,158	14,738	16,452	18,917
May	50,137	66,237	63,094	56,236	46,404	50,364	58,773	62,048	56,684	55,071	49,147	52,553	48,021	41,481	38,559	45,810	40,764	36,076	34,106	37,033
June	76,679	96,177	90,442	82,615	75,815	63,014	88,034	91,942	81,812	79,611	78,537	85,182	76,823	68,627	62,838	72,805	64,209	61,529	59,156	58,855
July	105,786	124,571	120,103	112,771	107,939	107,617	116,293	120,541	105,288	101,012	108,082	118,472	105,056	99,260	88,880	99,365	87,918	93,696	88,110	83,509
August	130,864	146,388	142,783	134,924	131,812	132,078	141,320	145,096	122,778	119,232	135,030	145,111	131,085	127,053	111,344	117,904	105,773	117,136	108,722	103,288
September	147,761	160,312	158,833	152,377	150,147	150,001	157,998	162,186	138,022	134,140	150,482	162,487	148,790	145,396	126,387	131,073	118,610	133,950	122,516	117,755
October	156,794	169,697	169,630	164,330	158,303	162,344	171,073	175,626	151,416	144,855	161,617	177,461	162,686	157,840	136,938	138,424	125,789	145,941	133,814	125,035
November	162,232	175,306	175,723	169,999	164,175	167,043	175,968	182,111	156,828	149,717	166,574	182,812	168,553	164,140	142,109	141,113	128,979	151,976	137,963	127,880
December	167,020	182,730	178,968	172,738	166,690	173,358	179,322	188,726	161,059	152,772	169,094	187,261	173,179	169,406	145,905	142,682	130,536	157,131	141,310	
SWP Allocation%	100%	60%	35%	40%	50%	80%	65%	35%	5%	20%	60%	85%	35%	75%	20%	5%	5%	100%	40%	50%
SWP Allocation (AF)	197,088	118,253	68,981	78,835	98,544	157,670	128,107	68,981	9,854	39,418	118,253	167,525	68,981	147,816	39,418	9,854	9,854	197,088	78,835	98,544

California Snow Water Content, June 13, 2025, Percent of April 1 Average



Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, November 30, 2025



State of California

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
CALIFORNIA STATE WATER PROJECT

California Natural Resources Agency

NOTICE TO STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS**Date: December 1, 2025****Number: 25-06****Subject: State Water Project Initial 2026 Allocation of 10 Percent****From:**

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

Water year 2025 closed with above average water supplies in California and the 2026 water year has begun with above average rainfall while Lake Oroville's storage level is currently near average for this time of year. To make the initial 2026 allocation, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) used the November 1 runoff forecast data, observed conditions through mid-November, and an assumption of dry conditions for 2026. As a result, DWR is initially allocating 10 percent of most State Water Project (SWP) contractors' requested Annual Table A Amounts for 2026, as shown in Attachment A – 2026 SWP Allocation. DWR will reassess the SWP allocation if water supply conditions change.

To determine the available SWP water supplies, DWR considers various factors including SWP contractors' anticipated carryover supplies into 2026, projected 2026 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.

To schedule SWP water deliveries under this allocation, DWR will utilize the 10-percent water delivery schedules submitted by the contractors in October 2025 (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.

State of California

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
CALIFORNIA STATE WATER PROJECT

California Natural Resources Agency

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at
John.Yarbrough@water.ca.gov.

Attachment A: 2026 State Water Project Allocation - Initial

Attachment A
2026 STATE WATER PROJECT ALLOCATION

Initial
December 1, 2025

SWP Contractors	Annual Table A Amount (Acre-Feet)	Approved Table A Allocation (Acre-Feet)	Approved Allocation as a Percentage of Annual Table A Amount (3) = (2)/(1)
	(1)	(2)	
<u>FEATHER RIVER</u>			
County of Butte	27,500	4,000	~15%
Plumas County FC&WCD	2,700	270	10%
City of Yuba City	9,600	1,920	20%
Subtotal	39,800	6,190	
<u>NORTH BAY</u>			
Napa County FC&WCD	29,025	5,805	20%
Solano County WA	47,756	9,552	20%
Subtotal	76,781	15,357	
<u>SOUTH BAY</u>			
Alameda County FC&WCD, Zone 7	80,619	8,062	10%
Alameda County WD	42,000	4,200	10%
Santa Clara Valley WD	100,000	10,000	10%
Subtotal	222,619	22,262	
<u>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</u>			
Oak Flat WD	5,700	570	10%
County of Kings	9,305	931	10%
Dudley Ridge WD	41,350	4,135	10%
Empire West Side ID	3,617	362	10%
Kern County WA	982,730	98,273	10%
Tulare Lake Basin WSD	86,854	8,686	10%
Subtotal	1,129,556	112,957	
<u>CENTRAL COASTAL</u>			
San Luis Obispo County FC&WCD	25,000	2,500	10%
Santa Barbara County FC&WCD	45,486	4,549	10%
Subtotal	70,486	7,049	
<u>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</u>			
Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	144,844	14,485	10%
Santa Clarita Valley WA	95,200	9,520	10%
Coachella Valley WD	138,350	13,835	10%
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead WA	5,800	580	10%
Desert WA	55,750	5,575	10%
Littlerock Creek ID	2,300	230	10%
Metropolitan WDSC	1,911,500	191,150	10%
Mojave WA	89,800	8,980	10%
Palmdale WD	21,300	2,130	10%
San Bernardino Valley MWD	102,600	10,260	10%
San Gabriel Valley MWD	28,800	2,880	10%
San Geronio Pass WA	17,300	1,730	10%
Ventura County WPD	20,000	2,000	10%
Subtotal	2,633,544	263,355	
TOTAL	4,172,786	427,170	~10%

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT 2025 WATER SUPPLY/DEMAND ESTIMATE As of November 30, 2025		50% SWP ALLOCATION	
Capacity Values in acre-feet		Supply	Shortage or (Excess)
[1] Sacramento Valley Water Year Index (40-30-30)		Above Normal	
[2] <i>Probability of Exceedance</i>		90%	P.O.E.
[3] Assumptions		50% Allocation	
[4] <i>Total Estimated Demand</i>		141,050	
[5] Surface Supplies			
[6] SWP Table A Entitlement	197,088	98,544	42,506
[7] Article 21 In-district deliveries	-	-	42,506
[8] KR Lower River Water	-	-	42,506
[9] DWR Turnback Pool A	-	-	42,506
[10] DWR Turnback Pool B	varies	-	42,506
[11] SWP Supply		80,544	40.11%
[12] Lyndal Water	-	-	42,506
[13] Transfers out of WRMWSD	(10,000)	(10,000)	52,506
[14] Recharge Deliveries	(8,000)	(8,000)	60,506
[15] Lower River Water Banking deliveries	-	-	60,506
[16] Article 21 Banking deliveries	-	-	60,506
[17] Supplemental 1 Supplies - <u>Subscription</u>			
[18] District Carryover (estimate) (a)	6,787	6,787	53,719
[19] Long Term- Butte County **	6,451	2,128	51,591
[20] Long Term- Western Hills Water District**	-	-	51,591
[21] Long Term- Mojave Water Agency**	25,000	6,743	44,849
[22] Long Term- Palmdale Water District **	-	-	44,849
[23] Two Year- Exchange Contractors**	7,000	3,500	41,349
[24] MET**	100,000	27,883	13,466
[25] PALMDALE**	4,000	4,000	9,466
[26] ZONE 7**	8,000	1,079	8,387
[27] NAPA**	6,000	1,618	6,769
[28] SOLANO Co. Water Agency**	9,650	2,603	4,166
[29] PLUMAS Co. FCWCD**	925	249	3,916
[30] AVEK**	25,000	6,743	(2,826)
[31] SLOCFCWCD**	4,000	1,079	(3,905)
[40] Supplemental 1 Water Capacity	173,813	56,590	
[41] DISTRICT ALLOCATION		151,562	75.47%
[42] Additional Supplemental Supplies		2.10	AF/Ac
[52] Water User - Carryover from 2024 (estimate)	14,232	14,232	(18,137)
[53] Kern Water Bank Second Priority - estimate to date (Recharge)/Recover	(4,199)	(4,199)	(13,938)
[54] Kern Water Bank Second Priority - estimated through EOY	-	-	(18,137)
[55] User Input - actual	-	-	(18,137)
[56] User Input - estimated through EOY	-	-	(18,137)
[57] Landowner Transfer	5,836	5,836	(23,973)
[58] Available Supply		153,003	
[59] Estimated Demand		-132,220	
[60] Shortage (Excess)		20,783	

[62] ** WS5 Deal

(a) Includes 2023 Carryover Spill; subject to change based on ongoing discussions & reconciliations with KCWA.

(b) Based upon average deliveries 2015-2024.

(c) Based on KCWA daily Summary of Water Supply Rights

WATER IN STORAGE @	5-Dec-25
LOCATION	AF
Kern Water Bank	
District	173,258
Water User 2nd Priority	42,235
KWB Tot	215,493
KCWA	38,885
In-District	23,568
Semitropic	7,500
TOTAL KERN FAN	285,446
PRELIMINARY- SUBJECT TO REVISION	

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
2026 WATER SUPPLY/DEMAND ESTIMATE
As of November 30, 2025

		Max Recovery									
		10% SWP ALLOCATION		10% SWP ALLOCATION		26% SWP ALLOCATION		45% SWP ALLOCATION		45% SWP ALLOCATION	
		Supply	Shortage or (Excess)	Supply	Shortage or (Excess)	Supply	Shortage or (Excess)	Supply	Shortage or (Excess)	Supply	Shortage or (Excess)
Capacity Values in acre-feet											
[1]	Sacramento Valley Water Year Index (40-30-30)	Dry		Dry		Dry		Above Normal		Wet	
[2]	Probability of Exceedance	90%	P.O.E.	90%	P.O.E.	75%	P.O.E.	50%	P.O.E.	25%	P.O.E.
[3]	Assumptions	10% Allocation		10% Allocation		26% Allocation		45% Allocation		45% Allocation	
[4]	Total Estimated Demand	141,050		141,050		141,050		141,050		141,050	
[5]	Surface Supplies										
[6]	SWP Table A Entitlement	197,088	19,709 121,341	19,709 121,341	51,243 89,807	88,690 52,360	88,690 52,360	88,690 52,360	88,690 52,360	88,690 52,360	88,690 52,360
[7]	Article 21 In-district deliveries	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[8]	KR Lower River Water	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[9]	DWR Turnback Pool A	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[10]	DWR Turnback Pool B	varies	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[11]	SWP Supply		19,709 9.81%	19,709 9.81%	51,243 26%	88,690 45%	88,690 45%	88,690 45%	88,690 45%	88,690 45%	88,690 45%
[12]	Lyndal Water	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[13]	Transfers out of WRMWSD	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[14]	Recharge Deliveries	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[15]	Lower River Water Banking deliveries	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[16]	Article 21 Banking deliveries	-	- 121,341	- 121,341	- 89,807	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360	- 52,360
[17]	Supplemental 1 Supplies										
[18]	District Carryover (estimate)	12,505	12,505 108,836	12,505 108,836	12,505 77,302	12,505 39,855	12,505 39,855	12,505 39,855	12,505 39,855	12,505 39,855	12,505 39,855
[19]	Long Term- Butte County **	15,761	2,059 106,777	2,059 106,777	4,188 73,114	7,236 32,619	7,236 32,619	7,236 32,619	7,236 32,619	7,236 32,619	7,236 32,619
[20]	Long Term- Mojave Water Agency**	-	- 106,777	- 106,777	- 73,114	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619
[21]	Long Term- Palmdale Water District **	8,000	- 106,777	- 106,777	- 73,114	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619	- 32,619
[22]	Two Year- Exchange Contractors**	10,000	2,697 104,080	2,697 104,080	2,697 70,417	2,697 29,922	2,697 29,922	2,697 29,922	2,697 29,922	2,697 29,922	2,697 29,922
[23]	Kern Water Bank - estimate to date (c)	-	- 104,080	- 104,080	- 70,417	- 29,922	- 29,922	- 29,922	- 29,922	- 29,922	- 29,922
[24]	Kern Water Bank - estimated through end of year	50,703	50,703 53,377	12,739 91,341	10,610 59,807	7,562 22,360	7,562 22,360	7,562 22,360	7,562 22,360	7,562 22,360	7,562 22,360
[25]	Pioneer Project - estimate to date (c)	-	- 53,377	- 91,341	- 59,807	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360
[26]	Pioneer Project - estimated through end of year	12,750	12,750 40,627	- 91,341	- 59,807	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360	- 22,360
[31]	Supplemental 1 Water Capacity	114,719	80,714	30,000	81,243 40.46%	30,000 1.671	118,690 59.10%	30,000 1.671	118,690 59.10%	30,000 1.671	118,690 59.10%
[32]	DISTRICT ALLOCATION		100,423 1.41 AF/Ac	49,709 0.70 AF/Ac	81,243 1.144 AF/Ac	118,690 1.671 AF/Ac	118,690 1.671 AF/Ac	118,690 1.671 AF/Ac	118,690 1.671 AF/Ac	118,690 1.671 AF/Ac	118,690 1.671 AF/Ac
[33]	Additional Supplemental Supplies										
[40]	Additional Supplemental Water Capacity	-	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%	- 0.00%
[41]	Supplemental Supplies - Water User										
[42]	Water User - Carryover from 2025 (estimate)	10,040	10,040 30,587	10,040 81,301	10,040 49,767	10,040 12,320	10,040 12,320	10,040 12,320	10,040 12,320	10,040 12,320	10,040 12,320
[43]	KWB 2nd Priority - estimate to date (Recharge)/Recovery	-	- 30,587	- 81,301	- 49,767	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320
[44]	KWB 2nd Priority - estimated through EOY	-	- 30,587	- 81,301	- 49,767	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320
[45]	User Input - actual	-	- 30,587	- 81,301	- 49,767	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320
[46]	User Input - estimated through EOY	-	- 30,587	- 81,301	- 49,767	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320
[47]	Landowner Transfer	-	- 30,587	- 81,301	- 49,767	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320	- 12,320
[48]	Available Supply		110,463	59,749	91,283	128,730	128,730	128,730	128,730	128,730	128,730
[49]	Estimated Demand		141,050	141,050	141,050	141,050	141,050	141,050	141,050	141,050	141,050
[50]	Shortage (Excess)		30,587	81,301	49,767	12,320	12,320	12,320	12,320	12,320	12,320

** WS5 Deal

(b) Based upon average deliveries 2015-2024.

(c) Based on KCWA daily Summary of Water Supply Rights

WATER IN STORAGE @ 8-Dec-25	
LOCATION	AF
Kern Water Bank	
District	173,258
Water User 2nd Priority	42,235
KWB Tot	215,493
KCWA	38,885
In-District	23,568
Semitropic	7,500
TOTAL KERN FAN	285,446
PRELIMINARY- SUBJECT TO REVISION	

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Eric McDaris
DATE: December 5th, 2025
SUBJECT: **2025-26 San Luis Reservoir Conditions and Carryover Update**

The final 2025 State Water Contractor Operations Committee Meeting occurred December 1st where DWR provided updated allocation studies for both the 2025 and 2026 allocations. Also provided were updated position analysis which indicates there is now about a 30% chance of San Luis Reservoir filling in December (down from approximately 42% in the last position analysis). However, DWR does anticipate a reduction in exports for the month of December to adhere to water quality standards in the Delta. In addition to these, there were model runs for January, February, and March of 2026, showing respective 71%, 88%, and 93% chances of SLR filling. All probability of exceedance studies in DWR's most recent *Allocation Analysis* indicate that San Luis Reservoir levels will be at +90% of capacity on December 31st, 2025, with SLR filling in the 50% fall hydrology study.

Staff currently estimate that total District carryover will be approximately 22,000 acre-feet and KCWA has indicated that they do not anticipate any carryover constraints for 2025-2026 supplies at this time. Of the District total, approximately 11,800 acre-feet is estimated to be Water User carryover. Water User carryover has been limited to 5% of total CAW, or 10,040 acre-feet. Consistent with District carryover policy, any supplies held by Water Users in excess of the 5% CAW carryover limit may be lost on December 31st 2025.

On October 6th, the District initiated recharge of Water User supplies into their respective Kern Water Bank sub-accounts. These operations concluded October 16th and segued into District recharge operations which concluded on November 11th. Recharge of additional Water User supplies has since been reinitiated. These supplies are being recharged into Pioneer and Water Users will be provided with an equal supply in KWB from the District's banked supply. Staff will continue to provide information and updates to the Board (and Water Users as appropriate) regarding recharge operations and San Luis Reservoir conditions.

Recommendation: None. This item is for information only.

Attachments: DWR Position Analysis
Filename: 8.2.e 2025-26 San Luis Reservoir Carryover Update

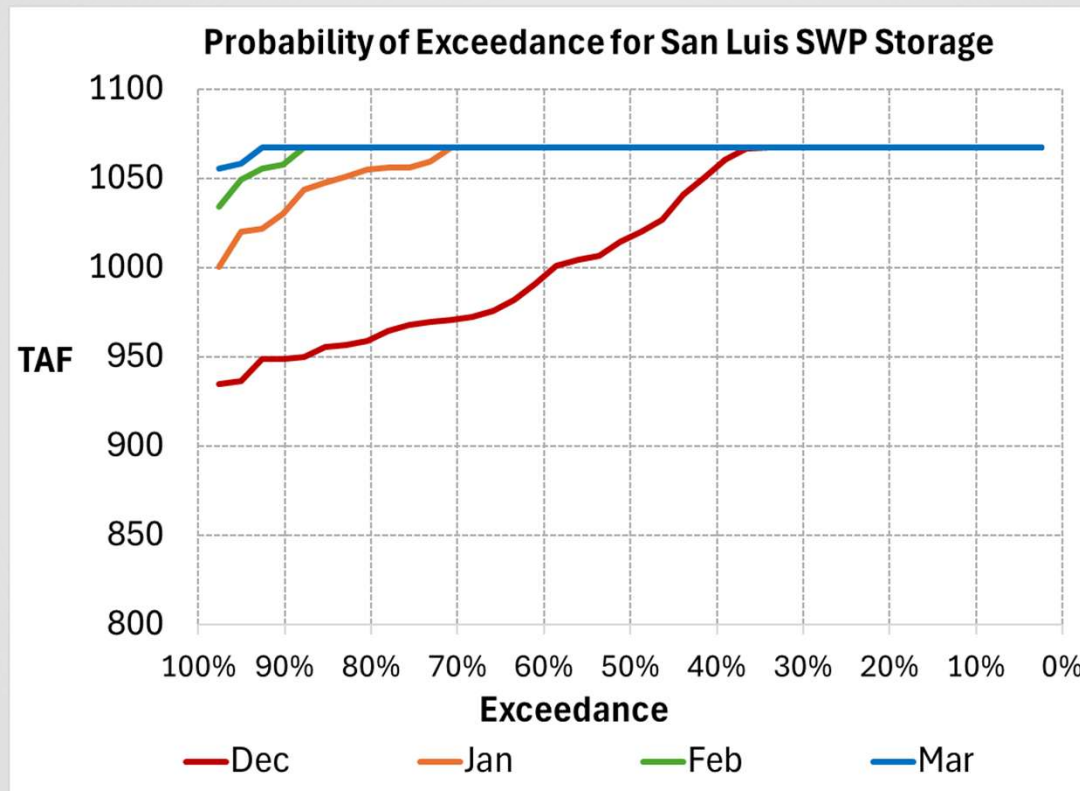
WY 2026 Position Analysis

December 1, 2025



SWP Water Operations Planning

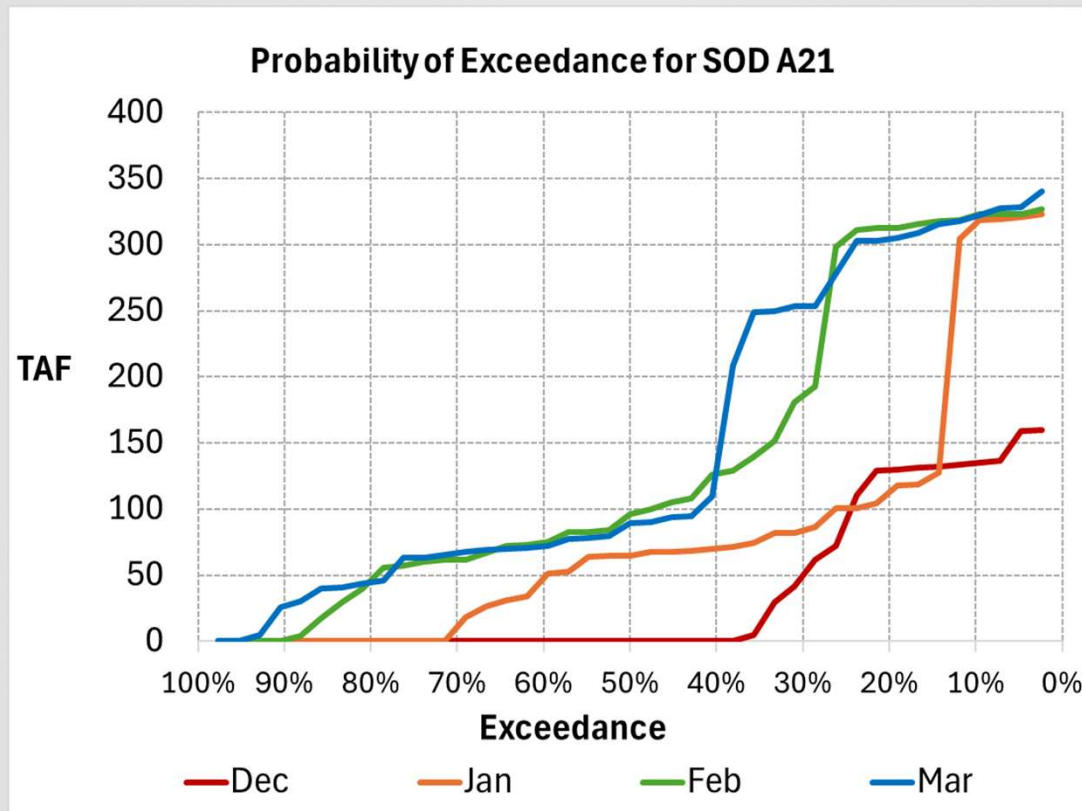
PA: San Luis SWP Storage, RFC



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

*Results are preliminary and subject to change

PA: SOD A21, RFC



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

*Results are preliminary and subject to change

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Westside 5 Agreement with Exchange Contractors

In February 2024, the Westside 5 districts entered into a two-year water purchase agreement with the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors (Exchange Contractors) for the purchase of up to 7,000 acre-feet of Central Valley Project (CVP) water. Over the course of the program, the Exchange Contracts made 7,000 acre-feet available to the Westside in both 2024 and 2025, at a melded price of \$340.25/AF.

The Exchange Contractors have proposed what is essentially a five-year extension of the existing program, with a new proposed term ending in 2030. The annual volume available is again contingent on the annual CVP SOD allocation being a non-critical year. In any non-critical year, the Exchange Contractors will make available to the Westside 5 Districts 10,000 acre-feet, an increase in the previous maximum volume of 7,000 acre-feet.

The table below outlines the pricing scale as it relates to the CVP SOD allocation. These prices are generally consistent with the District's other long-term water transfer agreements. The Point of Delivery under the proposed term sheet remains O'Neill Forebay at San Luis Reservoir. Supplies delivered from the Exchange Contractors would be restricted to those District lands within the CVP Place of Use.

CVP SOD AG ALLOC.	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
0%-25%	\$ 619.50	\$ 696.23	\$ 717.12	\$ 738.63	\$ 760.79	\$ 783.61
SWP \$3264.92		12%	3%	3%	3%	3%
26%-50%	\$ 467.00	\$ 471.23	\$ 485.37	\$ 499.93	\$ 514.93	\$ 530.37
SWP \$584.58		1%	3%	3%	3%	3%
51%-75%	\$ 288.40	\$ 331.23	\$ 341.17	\$ 351.40	\$ 361.94	\$ 372.80
SWP \$344.08		15%	3%	3%	3%	3%
76%-100%	\$ 172.33	\$ 156.23	\$ 160.92	\$ 165.74	\$ 170.72	\$ 175.84
SWP \$244.72		-9%	3%	3%	3%	3%

Recommendation. Staff recommends the Board authorize the Engineer-Manager to execute the Term Sheet for Transfer of Exchange Contractors Water to Westside District, a draft of which is attached to this memorandum, subject to review by Counsel as to form and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

Attachments: Draft 1 November 2025 Term Sheet for Transfer of Exchange Contractors Water to Westside Districts
 Filename: 8.2.f Consider Approval of Westside 5 Agreement with Exchange Contractors

DRAFT (1 November 2025)
**Term Sheet for Transfer of Exchange Contractors Water
to Westside Districts¹**

1. **Term:**

- Five-year term – January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030.
- Water to be made available by Exchange Contractors (EC) during the five-year term will be during Calendar Water Years (CWY) (January through December).
- Delivery schedule during each of the CWY periods to be determined by both parties.

2. **Water Quantity:**

- EC shall make up to 10,000 acre feet (AF) annually of Central Valley Project (CVP) water available for purchase by Westside Districts.
- Westside Districts shall take delivery of up to 10,000 AF on a mutually agreed upon schedule.

3. **Pricing:**

- Exhibit A contains matrix of the \$/AF payable to the EC for the water transferred.
- The floating scale will be based on the June 1st CVP allocation for that year.

4. **Conveyance of the Transfer Water:**

- The Point of Delivery (POD) shall be at O'Neill Forebay. EC shall be responsible for San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) operations and maintenance costs to the POD. Westside Districts shall be responsible for all costs downstream of the POD to their diversion facilities.
- If the water is made available to the Westside Districts by exchange through a third party, EC and the Westside Districts shall cooperate with exchange partner(s), including any limitations and/or schedules.

5. **Payments to EC:** Westside Districts shall pay EC monthly balances within 45 days net of the EC billing. Those monthly billings will be reflective of the current updated monthly south of Delta CVP Ag-Service allocation in effect. EC will true up charges based on the June 1st CVP forecast; any credits owed to the Westside Districts resulting from overpayment will be refunded in the calendar year.

6. **Cooperation:** EC and Westside Districts shall work cooperatively with each other, exchange partner(s), if any, and all approval agencies to secure delivery of the water to the Westside Districts.

7. **Approvals:**

- Immediately upon agreement on this Term Sheet, EC and Westside Districts shall initiate the necessary requests for approval to transfer up to 10,000 AF from the EC to the Westside Districts.

¹ Westside Districts is comprised of Berrenda Mesa Water District, Belridge Water Storage District, Dudley Ridge Water District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

- EC shall be responsible for obtaining approval from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for conveying the water to the POD, including NEPA compliance, if needed.
- Westside Districts shall be responsible for obtaining approvals with Kern County Water Agency and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), including CEQA compliance, if needed.

Exhibit A

See Attached Proposed Price Matrix

EXHIBIT A

CVP SOD Ag Allocation	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
		Esc. 3%	Esc. 3%	Esc. 3%	Esc. 3%
0% to 25%	\$ 696.23	\$ 717.12	\$ 738.63	\$ 760.79	\$ 783.61
26% to 50%	\$ 471.23	\$ 485.37	\$ 499.93	\$ 514.93	\$ 530.37
51% to 75%	\$ 331.23	\$ 341.17	\$ 351.40	\$ 361.94	\$ 372.80
76% to 100%	\$ 156.23	\$ 160.92	\$ 165.74	\$ 170.72	\$ 175.84

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris

DATE: December 7, 2025

SUBJECT: **Consider Approval of Second Priority Sub-Account Program Agreement**

At its December 13, 2017 regular board meeting, the Board adopted Resolution 2017-16 codifying Rule 12 which was subsequently ratified and included as Attachment A to the Resolution now known as Rule 12 of the District's recorded Rules and Regulations. Subsequently, at its November 13, 2019 meeting, the Board authorized the implementation of the Second Priority Sub-Account Agreement (Agreement).

The Agreement was drafted with an Initial Term expiring December 31, 2020. In January 2021, the Board elected to extend the term of the initial Agreement for an additional five-years, with the current term set to expire December 31st, 2025.

Per Section 8 of the Agreement, the Agreement can be renewed for five-year terms upon request of the Water User and concurrence by the District in its discretion. Should the Board approve an extension to the term of the Agreement, staff will work with General Counsel on a standard written request template to be provided to Sub-Account program Participants. Participants will be required to submit said written request to the District to effectuate extension of the existing Agreement on file. Any new participants will enter into the Agreements with a term expiring December 31, 2030.

The District reserves the right to modify the Agreement for any renewal period; however, at this time, staff find no reason to modify the language of the existing Agreement.

Recommendation. Staff recommended that the Board approve an extension to the term of the Second Priority Sub-Account Program Agreement for an additional five years, through December 31st, 2030, subject to review by Counsel as to form, and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

Attachments: Second Priority Sub-Account Participation Agreement- *Draft*
Filename: 8.2.g Consider Approval of Second Priority Sub-Account Program Agreement

SECOND PRIORITY SUB-ACCOUNT PROGRAM AGREEMENT

This agreement (“Agreement”) concerning the Kern Water Bank Second Priority Sub-Account Program is dated _____ and is between _____, a _____ (“Water User”) and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District, a California water storage district (“WRMWSD” or “District”). Water User and District may be jointly referred to herein as the “Parties” and referred to in the singular as a “Party.”

RECITALS

WHEREAS, a primary water management objective of the Kern Water Bank (“KWB”), which is owned and operated by the Kern Water Bank Authority (“KWBA”), is to enhance water supplies of its Member Entities (“Members”). The District is a Member of the KWBA, and KWBA Members have rights to use the KWB for recharge and recovery on a first priority basis. In general, the KWB is used to store water in the aquifer underlying the KWB during times of surplus and recover therefrom previously stored water during times of shortage. Water from numerous sources are recharged in the KWB in cooperation with water rights holders and the approval of necessary authorities. Such sources include, but may not be limited to, the Kern River, the State Water Project, the Central Valley Project including the Friant-Kern Canal, flood water and other sources that may be available from time to time.

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the District to manage the KWB for the benefit of all Water Users on a first priority basis. As provided in Resolution No. 2017-16 adopted by the District’s Board of Directors (“Board”) on December 13, 2017, including Exhibit “A” thereto as revised and ratified by the Board at meeting on January 10, 2018, and the District’s Rules and Regulations for Distribution of Water (as amended) (“Rules and Regulations”), to the extent the District is not using available KWB capacity for recharge or recovery, the District’s rights and access to the KWB may be used by District Water Users as defined in Water Service Contracts executed by the District and its landowners (“Water Users”), on an interruptible and non-dependable second priority basis, to recharge and recover supplies for use upon land within the District for agricultural purposes, provided that each such Water User enters into an agreement in a form acceptable to the District (“Second Priority Sub-Account Program” or “Program”). This Agreement represents such agreement for the Program.

WHEREAS, the Program is addressed in Rule 12 of the current Rules. While the Rules are subject to change and modification from time to time, Exhibit “A” to Attachment A hereto is intended to set forth both the current language of Rule 12 plus *italic text* that, although not part of said rule, for convenience further discusses and explains portions of Rule 12’s language based on circumstances existing when that language was adopted by the Board as provided above. In the event of a conflict between the *italic text*, and anything in this Agreement or the Rules, then the provisions of this Agreement or the Rules, as applicable, shall control.

WHEREAS, the District’s Board approved the Second Priority Sub-Account Program in order to immediately optimize opportunity for Water Users participation therein.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Second Priority Sub-Account Program to make available banking capacity via Second Priority Bank Accounts to conserve for beneficial uses other water supplies Water Users may have available and to help mitigate shortages.

WHEREAS, on or about December 27, 2017, in light of then-prevailing surplus water condition in lieu of an impending agreement as referenced above which was being developed at the time, a written

interim acknowledgement and acceptance of terms including Exhibit A to Attachment A thereto (“Acknowledgement and Acceptance”) was provided to all interested Second Priority Sub-Account Program participants, and Water User executed or otherwise agreed to be bound by the same. This Agreement is to formalize and supersede each such Acknowledgement and Acceptance.

Now, Therefore, District and Water User agree as follows:

1. USE AND SCHEDULING OF SECOND PRIORITY

Water User’s priority to use of the KWB is at all times subject and secondary to the District’s rights to use the KWB on a first priority basis, including, but not limited to, the District’s first priority rights as they are defined in the First Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for the Kern Water Bank Authority (as amended) (“JPA”) and the KWBA’s Operating Rules and Regulations. Use of the KWB by Water User may be superseded by the District at any time in its discretion.

Water User may request to recharge and recover supplies, at District’s discretion, within the KWB for subsequent delivery to and use in-District only. It is Water User’s sole responsibility to determine whether and when to request use of the KWB, and that Water User is not entitled to receive from the District, and may not rely upon, any notice or advice that the District may in its discretion chose to provide regarding possible use of the KWB on a second priority basis. District is not obligated to deliver notice of spill risk, Water Users’ opportunity to recharge, recover or convey water to the KWB or District’s own banking plans. All Water User requests to recharge, recover or convey water shall be in writing in a form acceptable to the District and shall be directed to the Water Resources Manager ("WRM"), or his/her Designee, at least five (5) days in advance, unless the WRM can in its discretion accommodate the request with less notice without increasing costs or adversely impacting water schedules for other Water Users. District’s consideration of requests includes its discretion to take into account what is feasible and practical. In certain circumstances, the District may in its discretion deny requests due to reasons beyond the District’s control, including but not limited to, reasons of maintenance of the KWB, or due to scale, e.g. the Water User order is too small for recharge or recovery, or there is not enough time to implement the request. In some cases, in the District’s discretion, it may be possible or desirable to accomplish said request by exchange rather than direct recharge or recovery. Furthermore, requests even though initially accommodated by the District may not be fulfilled in whole or part due to factors beyond the District’s control, including but not limited to, subsequent reduction in capacity in facilities, requests of others, change in circumstances, inaccurate or insufficient information, and inadvertent errors. The District shall bear no responsibility for and reserves the right to make at its discretion reasonable adjustments to account for any such factors,

Water User’s right to use the KWB on a second priority basis is at all times subject to all the same existing and future restrictions, requirements and obligations to which the District and the KWBA, as applicable, are subject, including but not limited to, those in the KWBA JPA, KWB Memorandum Of Understanding, KWBA Operating Rules and Regulations, mitigation requirements applicable to the KWB, and the policies of the KWBA, including without limitation water banking losses and allocation of available capacity.

2. ELIGIBLE SECOND PRIORITY RECHARGE WATER TYPES

Water User may recharge specific water types as established by the Board. However, User Input supplies

may not be banked in the Program, and Water User also may not use the KWB in any given year to recharge supplies that the District recovered from the KWB or other water banking project during that same year. The Board shall from time to time establish which water types and quantities are eligible for second priority recharge to mitigate local groundwater impacts or for other purposes. It is the District's intent to manage second priority use to avoid increasing local groundwater overdraft consistent with the District's Project purposes and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Water Code § 10720 et seq. ("SGMA").

3. TRANSFER OF SECOND PRIORITY BANK ACCOUNT OR CAPACITY

A Second Priority Bank Account participant may request permission to lease or otherwise contract for use of Water Users' capacity provided that the District has no contractual duty or obligation towards such lessees or contracting parties, and Water User may also request transfer of all or part of its Second Priority Bank Account (as defined below) to other Water Users ("Transferred Account"), provided further that the District shall not involve itself with any disputes regarding any such arrangement, including but not limited to the rights of a landowner, Water User or others thereunder, nor any disputes regarding continuation of service thereunder, nor any dispute regarding payment of accounts conveyed or for capacity leased or contracted. Water User and any and all transferees, lessees or contracting parties of Water User desiring to utilize the District's facilities for any such purposes shall defend, indemnify and protect and hold the District, and its officers, directors, employees and agents, harmless from any such dispute including any and all claims, causes of action, debts, demands, obligations, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses arising from or related to any such dispute and as further provided in paragraph 9.5. Said water transfer, lease or contract request must have prior District approval pursuant to a form approved by the District, which may include prior entry into an assumption or other agreement between District, Water User and/or the transferee, lessee or contracting parties, as applicable, regarding the arrangement if requested by District. Water User's transferees, lessees and contracting parties shall be subject to and bound by the terms of this Agreement regardless of whether they have entered into a separate assumption or other agreement with the District. Notwithstanding the terms and conditions of any transfer, lease or contract between Water User and such parties, absent a written release from the District, Water User shall remain jointly and severally responsible along with such parties for full compliance with this Agreement including, but not limited to, the making of payments due District for use of second priority rights hereunder. Second priority rights of transferees, lessees and contracting parties of Water User as provided in this paragraph 3 hereof are subject to, derivative of and no greater than Water User's rights under this Agreement. Thus, for example, water banked in a Transferred Account, or banked in capacity leased or otherwise contracted for, must be still be delivered to and used in-District only.

4. CAPACITY RIGHTS

With respect to the Program, second priority use of recharge and recovery capacity as well as storage capacity (should there be a limitation) of the KWB by Water Users shall be allocated in proportion to Water Users' Contract Amounts of Water ("CAW").

Water User Second Priority Bank Accounts may be limited as established by the Board from time to time. Such Accounts are subject to partial or complete loss in favor of the District due to KWBA policy or restrictions, requirements and obligations applicable to KWBA or the KWB, or because of the District's loss of recharge capability due to Water User(s) second priority recharge. Water User's loss of Second Priority Bank Accounts to the District may receive some compensation at rates established by

the Board which rates may be less than Water User's costs; provided, however, in the absence of the Board establishing such rates Water User shall not be entitled to any compensation or other remedy in the event of such loss. The District shall from time to time notify Water Users of the quantities of water stored in the KWB so Water Users can periodically assess their risk of loss of said Accounts.

5. ACCOUNTING

District shall record all Water User Second Priority use by maintaining an itemized accounting of activities thereof including, but not limited to, adjustments for losses due to conveyance, recharge, recovery, mitigation, overdraft correction, and such other losses as may occur. District will provide such an accounting to Water User from time to time, the results of which are subject to KWB or KCWA reconciliations that may result in more or less water banked than originally requested, estimated, planned or conveyed due to actual conditions during recharge and recovery operations. Such accounting shall identify the quantity of water available to Water User for second priority recovery (the "Second Priority Bank Account" or "SPBA"). Water User understands and agrees that accounting estimates are subject to change pending the final accounting of the District and necessary third parties including the KWBA and KCWA, as applicable. Recovery of supplies in excess of Water User's Second Priority Bank Account balance is not allowed.

6. COSTS

Water User shall pay all costs including, but not limited to, conveyance, recharge, recovery and any mitigation costs, as well as costs incurred for transfers, adjustments and administrative fees, all as they relate to Water User's Second Priority Bank Account (including Transferred Accounts). These costs may include District, KWBA and/or other third-party charges. In addition, the Board may establish and modify from time to time an administrative fee to recover additional costs and staff time the District expends to administer the Program, to be charged at the time water is recharged or recovered.

7. PAYMENT

All costs billed by the District to Water User under this Agreement shall be timely paid. The District may require advance payment of recovery charges.

In the event that any charge hereunder or any obligation of Water User arising from this Agreement remains unpaid for a period of the thirty (30) days after it becomes due and payable, it shall thereupon become delinquent and a penalty of 10% shall be added thereto, and it shall thereafter bear interest at the rate of 12% per annum. The District shall have the same remedies in event of default as provided for under the Water Service Contract(s) affecting the lands that are served with such water under said contract(s) and/or held by Water User within the Surface Water Service Area ("SWSA"), including, but not limited to, initiating suit for collection or sale of the lands. As an additional remedy, upon providing at least 30 days' notice and opportunity to cure, the District may terminate this Agreement and in such event the Water User shall be deemed to have forfeited its SPBA (including Transferred Accounts as provided in paragraph 3 hereof) to the District to cure the delinquency, without compensation of any kind.

Water User's right to use the KWB on a second priority basis, as provided herein, including the rights of others as provided in paragraph 3 hereof, is contingent upon Water User being in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and any Water Service Contract, including not limited to being current and not delinquent in the payment of charges or assessments due under this Agreement and any

Water Service Contract.

In addition to and not as a limitation on the other remedies specified herein, the District shall have the right to suspend Water User's right (and the rights of others as provided in paragraph 3 hereof) to recharge and/or recover water from the KWB on a second priority basis until Water User cures or causes the cure any non-compliance. However, termination of this Agreement or suspension of said rights pursuant to this Agreement shall not relieve Water User of any obligations incurred under the terms of this Agreement.

The remedies available to the District under this Agreement are in addition to and not a limitation upon any other remedies that may be available to the District including pursuant to contract, law and equity.

8. TERM

The Term of this Agreement shall be until December 31, 2030, with five-year renewals thereafter upon request of the Water User and concurrence by the District in its discretion. The District reserves the right to modify this Agreement for any renewal period. If a Water User finds the modified Agreement unacceptable, the Water User has a five-year period to either recover their entire SPBA (including Transferred Account) balance or transfer said account to another Water User. Until such time as that account has been recovered or transferred, the Water User would be subject to the terms of the current Agreement. If the Account has not been transferred or recovered, the account will forfeit to the District, without compensation of any kind, upon the expiration of said five-year period.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

9.1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

This Agreement shall also be subject to all provisions of the District's Rules and Regulations and the District's applicable policies, as they may be amended or modified from time to time.

9.2. NOTICES

Any notice and communication required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement by the Parties shall be given in writing and shall be delivered during working hours by personal delivery, by electronic mail to the parties at the email address specified in this Agreement, by facsimile to the parties' attention specified in this Agreement, by certified mail return receipt requested and/or by commercial overnight courier that provides a receipt, and such notices shall be addressed as follows:

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WSD
ATTN: Water Resources Manager
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313-9630
(661) 858-2643
Email emcdaris@wrmsd.com

WATER USER

or to such other address as either party may from time to time specify in writing to the other party under this Notice provision. Notices shall be effective upon delivery as can be evidenced in all methods hereunder.

9.3. MULTIPLE ORIGINALS

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original.

9.4. TITLES

Section titles are for convenience of reference only and do not form a part of this Agreement.

9.5. INDEMNIFICATION

Water User shall indemnify, defend, protect and hold harmless the District and the Kern Water Bank Authority and its Members, collectively, and their respective directors, officers, agents, employees, and agents, and each of them, from and against any and all claims, causes of action, debts, demands, obligations, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses (collectively a "Claim") and shall assume responsibility for payment of any settlements, judgments, costs and attorney fees, arising out of or resulting from the following:

a) any matter related to the source of the water which Water User acquired to recharge under this Agreement or the manner or place for which any water recovered under this Agreement is used; and

b) any of the activities under the control of the Water User and related to this Agreement, the District, the KWB and/or the Kern Water Bank Authority, including but not limited to the arrangements, disputes and other matters referred to in paragraph 3 hereof.

9.6. SUCCESSORS.

The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to and bind the successors and assigns of the Parties hereto, provided that Water User may not transfer or assign the rights and duties hereunder, except as provided in paragraph 3 hereof. Water User shall provide a copy of this agreement to any and all parties that Water User enters into a transfer, lease, or contract arrangement with as provided in paragraph 3 hereof.

9.7. NO WARRANTY/ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Water User understands and acknowledges that there is the following pending litigation concerning the KWB and other related matters: (1) *Central Delta Water Agency et al. v. California Department of Water Resources et al.* (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2010-80000561; Fifth Appellate District, Case No. C078249); (2) *Central Delta Water Agency et al. v. Kern County Water Agency et al.* (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2010-80000719); (3) *Center for Food Safety et al. v. California Department of Water Resources et al.* (Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2016-80002469; Fifth Appellate District, Case No. C086215); (4) *Buena Vista Water Storage Dist. v. Kern Water Bank Authority, et al.* (Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-19-100122; and (4) proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board with regard to KWBA's and others' applications to appropriate Kern River water and related matters including complaints. The KWBA and in some cases its Members are parties to the above matters, and one or more of such matters, among things, seeks to invalidate KWBA's title to the KWB lands and the transfer thereof in 1996 from the California Department of Water Resources to Kern County Water Agency and then to KWBA.

The District makes no express or implied predictions, representations or warranties as to the outcome of said litigation or proceedings, or otherwise. Water User and its transferees (i.e., those with a Transferred

Account or which have the ability to use the KWB by lease, contract or other arrangement with Water User as provided in paragraph 3 hereof) expressly assume the risk that the outcome of said litigation and proceedings or other actions or circumstances beyond the control of the District may adversely affect or even terminate Water User's and/or said transferees' ability to recharge and/or recover water banked in the KWB and SPBA (including any Transferred Account). In such event, however unlikely, Water User for and on behalf of itself and any such transferee covenants that they will not assert any Claim or otherwise seek any recourse or remedy whatsoever as against or from the District or the KWBA or its Members.

9.8. MODIFICATION AND WAIVER

This Agreement may not be modified or amended, nor may any right or obligation set forth herein be waived, except in a writing by the Parties. A waiver as to any particular term shall not operate as a waiver as to any other term.

9.9. AUTHORSHIP

This Agreement shall be deemed to have been mutually preapproved by the Parties with the advice of counsel and shall not be construed for or against any of them solely by the reason of authorship.

9.10. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

This Agreement shall be governed, enforced and construed under the laws of the State of California, and venue for any disputes or disagreements under this Agreement shall be the County of Kern, State of California.

9.11. SIGNATORIES

Each undersigned representative of the Parties to this Agreement represents and warrants that he/she is fully authorized to enter in this Agreement and to execute and legally bind such Party to it.

DATE _____

DATE _____

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT, a
California Water Storage District

WATER USER

BY: Sheridan Nicholas

BY: _____

ITS: Engineer-Manager

ITS: _____

EXHIBIT A

ATTACHMENT "A"

12. SECOND PRIORITY USE OF KERN WATER BANK

It is the policy of the District to manage the Kern Water Bank (KWB) for the benefit of all Water Users on a first priority basis. To the extent the District is not using KWB recharge or recovery capacity for said benefit, the District's rights and access to the KWB may be used by Water Users, on a second priority basis, to recharge and recover supplies for use upon land within the District for agricultural purposes, provided that Water User(s) enter into an agreement in a form provided by the District which shall include but not be limited to the following provisions:

- a. Water User priority to use of the KWB is secondary to the District. Use of the KWB by Water User may be superseded by the District at any time.

Water User would only be able to utilize the KWB if/when the District is not utilizing its capacity. Water User operations would cease if/when the District wishes to utilize its capacity for any reason.

- b. Water User may request to recharge and recover supplies, at District's discretion, within the KWB for in-District use only. District's consideration of requests shall take into account what is feasible and practical. Such requests shall be in writing in a form acceptable to the District. Recovery of supplies in excess of Water User's Second Priority Bank Account balance are not allowed.

Water User shall submit request for recharge/recovery to District, which has the discretion to refuse such request provided such request shall not be unreasonably refused. In certain circumstances, the District may deny requests due to reasons beyond the District's control, including but not limited to reasons of maintenance of the KWB, or due to scale, e.g. the Water User order is too small for recharge/recovery, or there is not enough time to perform the request. In some cases, it may be possible or desirable to accomplish said request by exchange rather than direct recharge or recovery.

- c. Water User may recharge specific water types as established by the Board. User Input supplies may not be banked. The Board shall from time to time establish which water types and quantities are eligible for second priority recharge to mitigate local groundwater impacts or for other purposes. It is the District's intent to manage second priority use to avoid increasing local groundwater overdraft consistent with the District Project purposes and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

The provision is to preclude Water User from pumping groundwater in-District, and then recharging supplies in the KWB in the same year. This action could increase groundwater overdraft in-District. In addition, the District would not want the same to occur with its own recovery operations; for instance, Water User banking Supplemental supplies that were

procured through District pumping. As a general matter, subject to Board modification, only imported water supplies are expected to be eligible for second priority recharge.

- d. District shall record all second priority use by Water User, maintain an accounting thereof, make adjustments thereto for losses due to conveyance, recharge, recovery, mitigation, overdraft correction, and such other losses as may occur, and provide an accounting to Water User from time to time. Such accounting shall identify the quantity of water available to Water User for second priority recovery (the Second Priority Bank Account).
- e. Water User may transfer all or part of its Second Priority Bank Account to other Water Users; provided such transfer shall not be made until Water User provides written notice thereof to the District on a form provided therefor, and further provided the District shall not involve itself with any disputes regarding the right of a landowner/Water User or others, nor any disputes regarding continuation of such service, nor any dispute regarding payment of accounts conveyed, and any landowner/Water User desiring to utilize the District's facilities for such purposes shall defend, indemnify and hold the District harmless from any such claim. Transferred Accounts must still be delivered in-District.
- f. Water User payment for second priority use of the Kern Water Bank shall include any and all conveyance, mitigation, delivery, recharge and/or recovery costs, plus any additional fees as established by the Board. Payment of all fees and charges due under the agreement, including delinquencies under the agreement, would be on the same terms and conditions, as the Water User Water Service Contract. The Board may establish a procedure for forfeiture of the Second Priority Bank Account to cure delinquency in payments not timely made and due under the agreement.

At its December 2017 meeting, the Board considered 'additional fees established by the Board'. It decided said fees will include an administrative fee established by the Board to recover the District's administrative costs of the Second Priority Bank Account program to be billed and paid when supplies are recharged and/or recovered. It decided said fees will not include a storage charge or a capital charge. It did not decide on (a) specific procedures for billing of costs and fees to Water Users, (b) whether such costs and fees would be subject to a final accounting adjustment, or (c) whether a replacement cost should be charged upon recovery.

- g. Water User is subject to all the same restrictions and obligations to which the District is subject in the KWB Joint Powers Agreement, KWB Memorandum Of Understanding, and the policies of the Kern Water Bank Authority, including but not limited to water banking losses.
- h. Water User Second Priority Bank Accounts may be limited as established by the Board. Such Accounts are subject to partial or complete loss in favor of the District due to Kern Water Bank Authority policy, or because of the District's loss of recharge capability due to Water User(s) second priority recharge. Water User loss of Second Priority Bank Accounts to the District may receive some compensation at rates established by the Board which rates may be less than Water User's costs. The District shall periodically notify Water Users of the quantities of water stored in the KWB so Water Users can periodically assess their risk of loss of said Accounts.

Second priority sub-accounts would ‘spill’ under a prorated basis of CAW of those Water Users who recharge.

Example 1 – recharge capacity: This would occur, for instance, if/when Water User(s) utilize full capacity of the KWB, and then large amounts of supplies become available to the District and/or KWB participants. Under KWB policy, those that recharged just prior to full utilization by KWB Participants could lose some of their banked supplies because their recharge activities impacted the ability of KWB Participants to recharge when supplies became available.

Example 2 – storage capacity: This would occur if Water User second priority use causes the District share of storage to exceed the District’s 24.03% share of KWB storage, and this impacts other KWB participants. The KWB policies would result in a consequent reduction in the District’s recharged quantity and said reduction would be first applied to Water User Second Priority Bank Accounts before any reduction is applied to the District’s first priority account maintained for the benefit of all Water Users.

At its December 2017 meeting, the Board retained the option to limit the volumes of Second Priority Bank Accounts but decided there was no reason at that time to set an upper limit.

- i. Second priority use of recharge and recovery capacity of the Kern Water Bank by Water Users shall be allocated in proportion to Water Users’ Contract Amounts of Water.
- j. The initial term of the agreement shall be until December 31, 2020, with 5-year renewals thereafter. The District reserves the right to modify the agreement during the renewal period. If a Water User finds the modified contract unacceptable, the Water User has a five-year period to either recover their Second Priority Bank Account or transfer said Account to another Water User. Until such time as that Account has been recovered or transferred, the Water User would be subject to the terms of the current agreement. If the Account has not been transferred or recovered, the Account will forfeit to the District.

For instance, Water User “A” recharges 900 acre-feet in 2019 under the terms of the 2017 Agreement. The District decides to modify some of the terms of the Agreement for the period 2021-2025. “A” has the option to either sign the new agreement, or transfer or recover the 900 acre-feet account by December 31, 2025. “A” decides that the terms of the new agreement are not acceptable, but between 2021 and 2025 “A” is still subject to the terms of the new 2021 agreement. If “A” has not recovered/transferred the 900 acre-foot account by December 31, 2025, the 900 acre-feet forfeits to the District with no recompense to “A”.

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris, Flower Dueñas

DATE: December 5th, 2025

SUBJECT: Four Queens Ranch - Request for Water Service Contract Amendments: Exclusions from the SWSA Affecting Contract 14; Additions to the SWSA Affecting Turnouts 5G85B

Landowner Request. Mr. Darren Weinstock, on behalf of DBJKG Ranch One, LLC (Four Queens Ranch), has requested an amendment to Water Service Contract No. 14 that would remove 446.4 acre-feet of contract water entitlement (CAW) from certain lands (the Excluded Land) located in the District's 5G service area, thereby excluding 160.00 acres of Contract Land from the Surface Water Service Area (SWSA). If granted, the contract amendment would add the 160.00 Contract Acres to the SWSA and place the 446.4 acre-feet of entitlement on three non-contract parcels (Added Land) also located in the District's 5G service area.

A copy of this request is attached as Exhibit A. The requested changes are depicted in map form in Exhibit B.

District Policy. This is an "equal-area" contract land transfer. With a few exceptions, "unequal" transfers have only been permitted under a District-wide Water Marketing Program (e.g. 1985, 1988, 1998). Formerly, transfers were permitted subject to identical ownership of the affected lands, but that requirement was removed by Board Resolution 2016-14 (November 2016). Under their current status, the subject noncontract lands may continue to receive surface water deliveries but will incur O&M charges in any year that they are irrigated with surface water.

Rule 3.b. of the District's Rules and Regulations places conditions on exclusions from the SWSA; Rule 3.c. places conditions on additions; and Rule 3.d. places conditions on concurrent additions and exclusions. In keeping with the tenet that individual Water User actions should not harm other Water Users, in the past the Board also required a finding that water deliveries to the added lands would not compete for capacity in the District's distribution system with existing water demands and that return flows to the groundwater basin would not be reduced. The following tables outline Staff's analysis of the requirements as they apply to the requested contract amendments.

Rule 3.b Conditions on All Additions to the SWSA	Analysis
1. The Board finds that the addition is feasible, is in the best interests of the District, and in accordance with the criteria established by the Board in 1968 per Resolution 349 (which establishes a priority system for land additions)	These conditions would be satisfied by adoption of the “Recommendations” in this memorandum together with the provisions contained in the attached Resolution at Paragraph A.8.
2. The concerned landowners execute a Contract or Contract Amendment	This condition would be satisfied by the execution of appropriate Contract documents.
3. The concerned landowner pays a charge equal to the sum of all charges which would have been paid if the land had been included in the original SWSA unless these charges have been paid by another parcel of land	This condition is satisfied, because all Operating Reserve Fund charges attaching to the Added Lands were paid during the first 10 years of water service.
4. The added land becomes subject to special charges in lieu of calls on the Original Project Assessment	This condition would be satisfied by inclusion of language in the Contract documents such as is contained in the attached Resolution at Paragraph B.5.(c)
Additional Rule 3.b Conditions in the Case That the Amount of Added Land is <i>Greater</i> Than the Amount of Excluded Land	Analysis
5. The addition is “not detrimental to other District Water Users”	Does not apply, because this is an equal area transfer, but if this condition did apply, there could be some considerations with respect to system capacity as detailed following this table.
6. “the proposed (contract) change does not unduly reduce the effective return flow to the ground water basin”	Does not apply, because this is an equal area transfer.
7. “the final amount of water will be sufficient for the type of crop involved”	Does not apply, because this is an equal area transfer and retains the original AF/Ac. of 2.79 AF/Ac.
8. “the original acreage shall be the acreage used in determining the allocation of water pursuant to Rule 8 of these Rules and Regulations.”	Does not apply, because this is an equal area transfer. Even if this condition did apply, in years when the District average water supply was less than 2 acre-feet per acre, the Water User’s water supply would be allocated based of the Allocation Acres on the Added Land.

Rule 3.c Conditions on Exclusions From the SWSA	Analysis
9. The exclusion is in the best interests of the District as determined by the Board	This condition would be satisfied by adoption of the language in the attached Resolution at Paragraph A.6.
10. The excluded land contract obligations are assumed by lands added to the SWSA	This condition would be satisfied by inclusion in the Contract documents of language as shown in the attached Resolution at Paragraphs B.4. and B.5.
11. The obligations are assumed under terms and conditions which will result in no financial loss to the District	Same as above.
Rule 3.d Conditions on Concurrent Additions/Exclusions	Analysis
12. OM&R rates for other Water Users will not be negatively affected by the removal of the excluded lands from the SWSA and the addition of the Added Land	Both the Excluded Land and the Added Land are assigned the same 2401 'South Lake' category of service for determining OM&R Charges, therefore Rule 3.d would be satisfied with no impact to OM&R rates.

Distribution System Capacity Considerations. Approval of this proposed Add/Exclude would not result in any increases to the total CAW assigned to the 5G system. Much of this ground has historically been irrigated with non-contract deliveries, and there would be no new irrigation demand introduced on the system. In addition, Operations and Maintenance staff have indicated that the 5G system does not historically have capacity concerns.

Conclusions. Based on the analysis discussed above, it is concluded that all the conditions required by Rules 3.b, 3.c, and 3.d, are either already satisfied, or would be satisfied by execution of a Contract Amendment and Assumption Agreement for the Water Service Contract for the Added Land, together with the adoption of the attached Resolution.

Recommendation. It is therefore recommended that the Board adopt the attached draft Resolution, which would authorize, direct, and find that:

1. the requested addition is feasible and in the best interests of the District;
2. District staff are authorized to prepare a Contract Amendment that reflects the requested addition;
3. said Amendment shall be fully consistent with the requirements of the District Rules and Regulations and District Policy noted above; and,
4. the District's officers are authorized to execute such Amendments after final approval of the Engineer-Manager and Counsel as to form.

Attachments: 1. Exhibit A – Letter request from Four Queens Ranch
2. Exhibit B – Requested additions and exclusions from the SWSA
4. Draft Resolution
Filename: 8.4 Consider Approval of Amendment to SWSA - Add-Exclude Four Queens Ranch

DBJKG RANCH ONE, LLC (FOUR QUEENS RANCH)

To: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
c/o Eric McDaris/Thomas Suggs

From: DBJKG Ranch One, LLC (Four Queens Ranch)

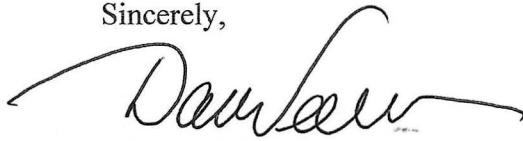
Date: December 1, 2025

Subject: Water Contract Transfers

DBJKG Ranch One, LLC (Four Queens Ranch) recently purchased an additional parcel of land within the District. Upon reviewing with District Staff, DBJKG Ranch One, LLC (Four Queens Ranch) would like to submit a formal request to the District's Board of Directors to transfer the water supply contracts listed below within our Farming Unit.

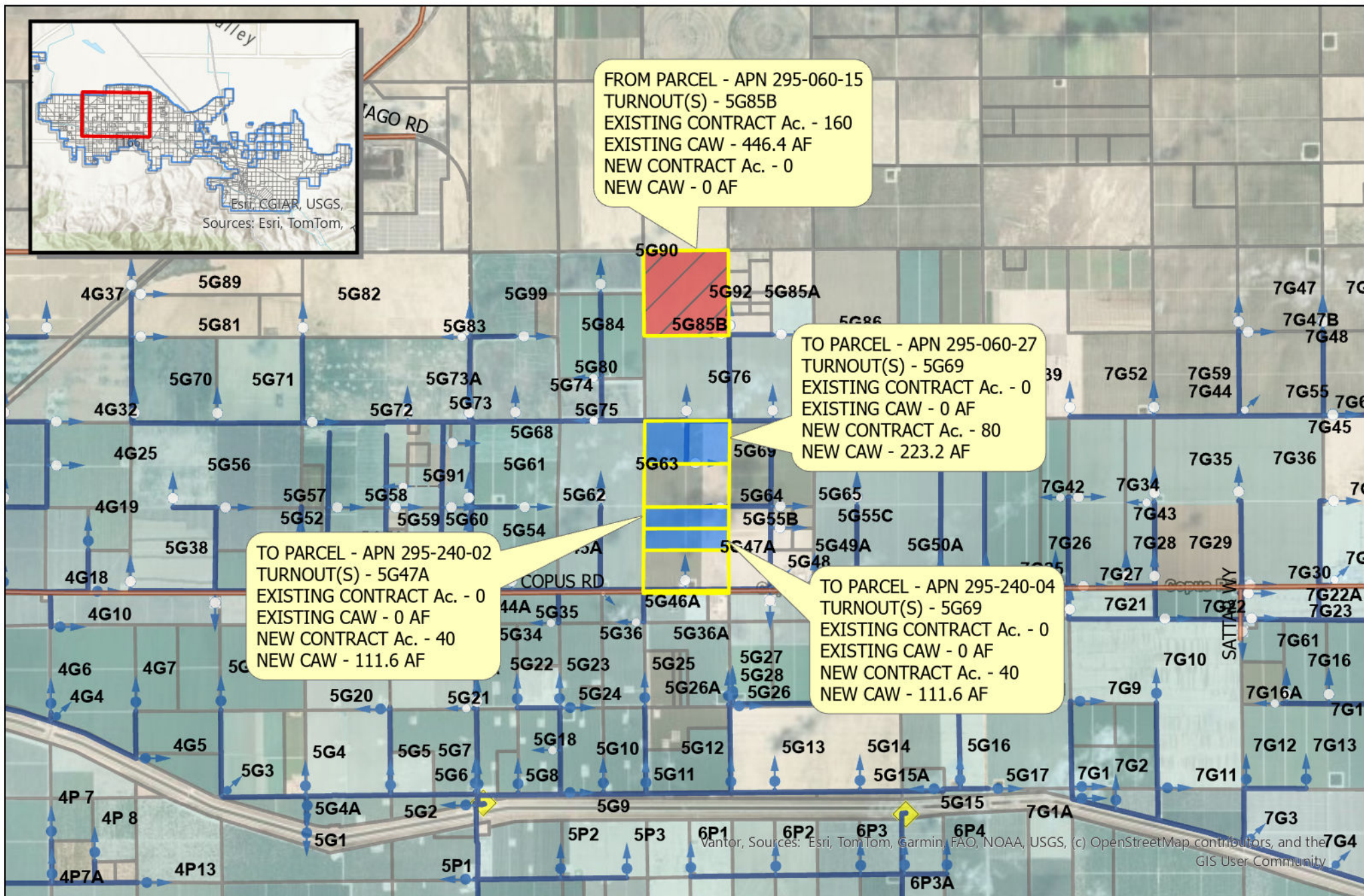
Thank you.

Sincerely,



Darren Weinstock
(310) 748-1998

	"From" Parcel	"To" Parcel
<u>Transfer Request #1</u>		
APN	295-060-15	295-060-27
Owner	East of June, LLC	DBJKG Ranch One, LLC
Charge Code	2401	2401
Contract Acres	160	0 (adding 80)
Non Contract Acres	N/A	N/A
Turnout	5G85B	5G69
<u>Transfer Request #2</u>		
APN	295-060-15	295-240-02
Owner	East of June, LLC	DBJKG Ranch One, LLC
Charge Code	2401	2401
Contract Acres	160	0 (adding 40)
Non Contract Acres	N/A	N/A
Turnout	5G85B	5G47A
<u>Transfer Request #3</u>		
APN	295-060-15	295-240-04
Owner	East of June, LLC	DBJKG Ranch One, LLC
Charge Code	2401	2401
Contract Acres	160	0 (adding 40)
Non Contract Acres	N/A	N/A
Turnout	5G85B	5G47A



BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER
STORAGE DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-XX

IN THE MATTER OF:

**AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO
WATER SERVICE CONTRACT NO. 14
AND CHANGES IN SURFACE WATER SERVICE AREA**

SECTION A. WHEREAS this Board of Directors finds and determines as follows:

1. The District has entered into numerous Water Service Contracts with certain landowners within the District. Said contracts provide at Section 3(b) that water will be delivered through the District's distribution system in accordance with the District's Rules and Regulations for Distribution of Water ("Rules and Regulations").

2. Pursuant to Water Code Section 43003, by Resolution 70-89 adopted July 8, 1970, the District adopted Rules and Regulations for Distribution of Water, which have been amended from time to time. Said Rules and Regulations at Sections 3.b. and 3.c. authorized the Board of Directors to make additions to and/or exclusions from the Surface Water Service Area.

3. This Board of Directors adopted a Surface Water Service Area of the District by Resolution No. 349 on July 2, 1968, which Surface Water Service Area has been amended from time to time by the Board of Directors.

4. The District has received a request from Darren Weinstock, on behalf of DBJRG Ranch One, LLC (Four Queens Ranch), to exclude from the Surface Water Service Area certain lands totaling 160.00 contract acres (hereafter "Excluded Land") comprising the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29, Township 22, Range 26; the land is currently served by turnout 5G85B, per Water Service Contract No. 14.

5. Said request further proposes to add to the Surface Water Service Area the following lands totaling 446.4 acres-feet and 160.00 acres of contract land (hereafter "Added Land"):

- (a) 80.00 acres of contract land comprising the North 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of of Section 32, Township 32, Range 26; the land is currently served by non-contract turnout 5G69.
- (b) 80.00 acres of contract land comprising the North 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of of Section 32, Township 32, Range 26; the land is currently served by non-contract turnout 5G47A.

6. This Board of Directors has considered and evaluated said request as more fully described in the memoranda to the Board dated December 5th, 2025, and entitled "*Four Queens Ranch - Request for Water Service Contract Amendments: Exclusions from the SWSA Affecting Contract 14; Additions to the SWSA Affecting Turnouts 5G85B*". Said memorandum concludes

that all conditions for approval can be met and recommends that DBJKG Ranch One, LLC (Four Queens Ranch) requested equal area addition/exclusion be approved by the Board of Directors.

7. Changing the Surface Water Service Area by excluding the Excluded Land, and substituting an equivalent acreage within the Added Land, is feasible and in the best interests of the District and its landowners. The criteria originally established by Resolution No. 349 is generally applicable to this proposed reallocation of the District's water supplies, except that water will not be reallocated only to those lands for which the owner submitted an application for water service in 1968, recognizing that conditions and the requirements of the District's landowners have changed considerably over time. The proposed changes in the Surface Water Service Area are consistent with the District's project purposes.

SECTION B. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by this Board of Directors as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
2. District staff are authorized to prepare and tender appropriate amendments to the applicable Water Service Contracts after approval of Counsel as to form. The District officers are hereafter authorized to execute such amendments. Upon such execution, the Excluded Land shall be excluded from the Surface Water Service Area and the Added Land shall be added to the same.
3. The amended Water Service Contract shall be in the form approved by Resolution No. 69-60, except as provided below.
4. The following matters shall apply to the Excluded Land which is to be excluded from the Surface Water Service Area:
 - (a) Said lands shall remain subject to the original project assessment until such time as it may be modified by a reassessment.
 - (b) Recognizing that said lands will no longer be entitled to receive surface water from the District and are not developed upon reliance of ground water, said lands shall no longer be subject to the Administrative and General Service Charges levied after said lands are excluded from the Surface Water Service Area; provided, however, there shall be no refunds due upon such charges, including Project Service Charges, levied prior to said exclusion; provided further, however, that if, subsequent to their exclusion from the Surface Water Service Area, said lands receive surface water deliveries or are developed in reliance on groundwater, said lands shall again become subject to the Administrative and General Service Charges.
5. The following matters shall apply to the Added Land which is to be added to the Surface Water Service Area:
 - (a) Charges shall be computed in the same manner as charges for

other lands under contract water service with the District, except that the debt service component and the operation, maintenance, and repair component of the Water Availability Charge shall be equal to said components for the category of service formerly applicable to the excluded land.

(b) While a \$4.00 per acre per year charge would normally be levied on Added Land for the first ten years of water service and applied to the Operating Reserve Fund, in this case the same landowner has equivalent exclusions upon which lands the Operating Reserve Fund charge has already been paid (i.e. the Excluded Land), so no Operating Reserve Fund charge shall apply.

(c) In the event a call were made on the original project assessment and until such time as the project may be reassessed in accordance with law, the water user of the Added Land shall pay a special charge in lieu of a call on the original project assessment on said lands, which charge shall be the same amount as the amount which would have been due if the lands subject hereto had received an original project assessment, as determined by the Board of Directors.

(d) Where appropriate, Exhibit A of the respective Water Service Contracts will differ from the standard format based upon the District's adopted design criteria to provide for delivery at different delivery points and at different rates of flow among other things.

(e) Where appropriate, in order to provide insofar as possible that existing contract water users not be detrimentally affected by deliveries to the Added Land, the Water Service Contract (or amendment thereto) shall contain a provision providing that the service to the Added Land may be reduced or curtailed to the extent that there is insufficient capacity to deliver water to the Added Land.

(f) Because the Added Land shall rely on surface water from the District, said Land shall continue to be subject to the Administrative and General Service Charges as provided in the Water Service Contracts.

6. It is this Board's intent to cause a reassessment of the original project assessment prior to making any call on said assessment.

ALL OF THE FOREGOING being on motion of Director_____, seconded by Director_____, and adopted by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of said District as duly adopted by said Board of Directors on the 10th day of December, 2025.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Board of Directors this 10th day of December, 2025.

Secretary of the Board of Directors

(SEAL)

DRAFT



Bureau of Reclamation News Release

For Release: December 4, 2025

Contact: Office of Communications, 916-978-5100, sha-MPR-PublicAffairs@usbr.gov

Reclamation updates long-term operation plan for the Central Valley Project

Operational updates aim to maximize water deliveries across California

SHASTA DAM, Calif. — The Bureau of Reclamation today signed a Record of Decision adopting an updated long-term operation plan for the Central Valley Project. The decision advances actions designed to maximize water deliveries across California while maintaining protections for endangered fish species.

"With the signing of this Record of Decision, we are delivering on the promise of Executive Order 14181 to strengthen California's water resilience," said **Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum**. "This updated operations plan reflects our commitment to using the best available science to increase water deliveries while safeguarding the environment and honoring the legacy of the Central Valley Project's 90 years of service."

The revised plan responds to [Executive Order 14181](#), issued Jan. 24, 2025, which directs federal agencies to take all available measures to increase water deliveries from the CVP, including issuing a new Record of Decision consistent with federal law.

"Action 5 represents a forward-looking approach to water management that balances the needs of California's communities, agriculture, and ecosystems," said **Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Andrea Travnicek**. "By refining real-time governance and operational flexibility, we are ensuring that every drop of water is managed with precision, accountability, and purpose."

Under the updated approach, the CVP may increase annual water deliveries by between 130 to 180 thousand acre-feet, and the State Water Project by 120 to 220 thousand acre-feet, depending on hydrologic conditions and subject to the State's adoption of Action 5.

The previous long-term operation plan was approved in December 2024. The updates adopted today improve the use of scientific modeling and analysis in operational criteria. Changes remain within the range analyzed in the 2024 Long-Term Operations Final Environmental Impact Statement and consistent with effects analyzed in the 2024 Biological Opinions issued by NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Key operational changes include adjustments to Delta export operations, removal of the Delta Summer and Fall Habitat Action and removal of early export-reduction concepts from the State of California's Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program.

This week also marks 90 years since authorization of the Central Valley Project in 1935.

For additional information, visit:

- [Record of Decision](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project Webpage](#)

#

The Bureau of Reclamation is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of the Interior and is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier and second largest producer of hydroelectric power. Our facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation opportunities, and environmental benefits.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



November 10, 2025

VIA EMAIL: ANickels@usbr.gov

Mr. Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
California Great Basin Region,
United States Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

Subject: Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review for the Central Valley Project
and State Water Project Long-Term Operations Plan – Action 5

Dear Mr. Nickels:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed action to implement the Action 5 Operations Plan for the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP) (Action 5). The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) have a long history and shared interest in working together to maximize California water supplies while also protecting the environment in a legally defensible manner. Especially under climate change and resulting weather extremes, it is imperative that DWR and Reclamation find ways to protect water supply during periods of increased river inflows while at the same time use best available science and new science tools to maintain species protections.

With this larger goal in mind, DWR has reviewed Action 5 and its supporting documentation and has identified potential areas where Action 5 operations could impact SWP water supplies and, in turn, the ability to serve water to California communities. DWR is concerned that Reclamation has not adequately analyzed potential redirected impacts of Action 5 operations on SWP water supply. DWR submits these comments in the spirit of open and continued collaboration with Reclamation and is hopeful our agencies can draw on our history to ensure fair and legally supported coordinated operations this water year. DWR hopes to work with Reclamation on issues that may not be listed here as they arise in the future and remains committed to working through shared governance teams to evaluate scientifically sound modeling to evaluate these impacts.

I. Concerns Regarding SWP Water Supply Impacts

Fundamentally, DWR's concerns relate to the SWP's continued ability to supply and deliver water to 27 million Californians, 750,000 acres of farmland, and businesses throughout California. In carrying out water delivery responsibilities, DWR must operate within the authorizations of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and California Endangered Species Act (CESA), which are currently set forth in the 2024 United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Biological Opinion, the 2024 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Biological Opinion (collectively, BiOps), and the 2024 CESA Incidental Take Permit (ITP). It is imperative for DWR to understand whether Reclamation's operations under Action 5 will result in any impacts to SWP water supply.

Mr. Adam Nickels
 November 10, 2025
 Page 2

Reclamation provided its Action 5 CALSIM modeling to DWR for review. DWR's review indicated that Reclamation's CALSIM modeling for Action 5 assumes the SWP will operate to Action 5. This assumption, which is noted in Exhibit 2 to the Environmental Sufficiency Memo, dated October 10, 2025, is incorrect. Reclamation should update its modeling to accurately reflect SWP's anticipated operations, which will be governed by the then-current ESA and CESA authorizations. DWR and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) work together to consider new science and information as set forth in the adaptive Management Plan, but for the purposes of modeling, Reclamation should assume the SWP will be operated to the current regulatory requirements in the ITP. Reclamation should also further analyze Action 5's potential impacts to the SWP water supplies, consistent with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. This letter includes examples where misalignment between SWP and CVP operations could occur, and evaluates those that are likely to occur during the winter and spring months. SWP and CVP operations and permit requirements are complex, so evaluating an exhaustive list of potential impacts is difficult. The items below do not represent an exhaustive list. Others may include, for example, impacts to the summer-fall habitat action and changes in operations of upstream CVP reservoirs (e.g., Shasta, American River, etc.). It is our hope that by specifically describing potential areas of misalignment and redirected impacts, DWR and Reclamation can work collaboratively to avoid those impacts.

A. Start of Old and Middle River Entrainment Management

Pursuant to the NMFS BiOp analysis and the ITP, the SWP must initiate Old and Middle River (OMR) entrainment management no later than January 1 each year, unless it begins earlier as a result of Winter-Run Chinook Salmon salvage levels. If those loss thresholds are met, DWR and Reclamation must coordinate to adjust total exports, which could occur as early as November 1 or December 1.

In contrast, Action 5 lists several conditions that could initiate OMR entrainment management, but no hard date for commencement is included. (Exhibit 1 to the Sufficiency Memo, 5.3.1, p. 5-8). Thus, it is possible SWP could be operating to OMR for weeks before CVP implements OMR management, creating misalignment. DWR is supporting the development of a winter-run prediction model and other tools that may be useful for assessing when winter-run salmon are vulnerable to entrainment risk. Until these tools are developed and incorporated in an ITP amendment and BiOps, Reclamation's Action 5 start date for OMR management could lead to disruptions as the SWP curtails exports to adjust OMR levels while the CVP continues to operate at a higher pumping rate, particularly if other listed fish (e.g. longfin smelt) are vulnerable to entrainment risk (see below). CVP's higher pumping rate could continue to draw fish to the pumps, making the SWP's export decreases less effective at reducing entrainment.

Mr. Adam Nickels
November 10, 2025
Page 3

B. Winter-Run Chinook Salmon

Action 5 identifies a different, higher annual loss threshold for Winter-Run Chinook Salmon than the proposed action analyzed in the NMFS BiOp and the 2024 ITP. Specifically, under the NMFS BiOp's analysis and consistent with the ITP, the Projects coordinate Delta exports to avoid exceeding a 0.5% juvenile production estimate (JPE) threshold for natural-origin winter-run and 0.12% JPE for hatchery winter-run. Under the BiOp analysis and ITP, if cumulative loss exceeds 50% of the annual threshold, the Projects must adjust exports to maintain a seven-day OMR rate no more negative than -3,500 cfs, and a -2,500 cfs OMR rate, if 75% of the annual loss threshold is exceeded. Action 5 raises the annual loss thresholds to 1% for both natural-run and hatchery winter-run and calls for a determination that reducing exports would increase through-Delta survival before requiring an OMR rate no more negative than -3,500 cfs.

In the meantime, if the CVP were to operate to Action 5's winter-run requirement while the SWP continued to operate to the current regulatory requirements, the SWP could be forced to take action to ramp down its operations separate from, and earlier than, the CVP. The CVP's higher pumping levels could continue to attract and entrain fish, making it challenging for the SWP to avoid exceeding the annual loss triggers and potentially forcing the SWP to reduce exports even further and at an earlier date than would otherwise occur to offset the effects from the CVP's pumping. Such an outcome would unfairly burden the SWP and compromise the SWP's ability to deliver water to its contractors.

Under the Adaptive Management Program described in the BiOps and ITP, DWR supports studies and models that better determine the relative impact of SWP and CVP on population cohort replacement rate or population impacts. Such studies and models may yield different protection thresholds than identified in the 2024 ITP or analyzed by the NMFS BiOp. DWR is committed to working through interagency teams to understand how new science and modeling could inform potentially different thresholds.

C. Longfin Smelt (LFS)

Action 5 eliminates the hard triggers set forth in the USFWS BiOp and the ITP for managing OMR to reduce juvenile LFS entrainment. Specifically, Action 5 would remove the hard triggers in exchange for a "population model that demonstrates a need to reduce entrainment to avoid population decline." To DWR's knowledge, such a population model is yet to be developed for real-time operations. DWR is currently working on a model for real-time application per the Adaptive Management Program described in the BiOps and the ITP, however this effort will not be completed for potential application until 2027. The real-time model will be based on newly published research showing that entrainment impacts are not responsible for variations in LFS fall abundance. In the absence of a peer reviewed real-time

Mr. Adam Nickels
November 10, 2025
Page 4

population model, it is uncertain how the CVP will operate during periods when longfin are being salvaged at the projects.

Like DWR's winter-run concerns, it is possible that the SWP could be forced to reduce water exports to minimize entrainment of the juvenile LFS while the CVP continues to pump at a higher rate. And, again, the CVP's pumping could continue to attract and entrain fish at a higher rate than it would otherwise do under the BiOp. The SWP should not be forced to forego its water exports earlier or more than its fair share to comply with juvenile LFS measures.

D. Spring Run Chinook Salmon

Action 5 identifies an annual loss threshold for Spring-Run Chinook Salmon of one-percent JPE. DWR supports the use of a JPE to manage take based on population level effects, but is unaware of a peer-reviewed JPE for application of spring run entrainment management in 2026. DWR, in collaboration with Reclamation, NMFS, and CDFW, are working on development of the spring-run JPE that should be ready for potential application in WY 2027 or 2028. The spring-run JPE is identified in the Adaptive Management Program described in the BiOps and the ITP with the intent of modifying the spring-run action when it is completed. Until then, the NMFS BiOp and the 2024 ITP rely on surrogate approaches to manage spring-run losses at the pumps. It is uncertain how Reclamation would operate under Action 5 and potential misalignment could occur assuming DWR continues to operate to a surrogate approach. Under Action 5, the CVP could remain at higher pumping levels for a longer period than the SWP before reducing exports to reduce spring-run entrainment risk. DWR recognizes that the Projects have not historically exceeded spring-run loss thresholds, but such a situation is possible and, therefore, creates a concern regarding misalignment. If this misalignment occurs, the CVP's heightened pumping levels could increase the risk of entrainment, triggering the SWP to reduce pumping earlier and more often than would occur if the CVP operated pursuant to the NMFS BiOp.

E. Sharing of Restricted Export Capacity

The export capacity sharing splits set forth in Article 10(i) of the 1986 Coordinated Operation Agreement, as amended in 2018 (COA), could exacerbate Action 5's impacts on SWP water supply. In excess water conditions, when releases from upstream reservoirs plus unregulated flow exceed Sacramento Valley in-basin uses and exports are constrained by non-discretionary requirements, Article 10(i) provides that the CVP may utilize 60% of the applicable export capacity whereas the SWP may only utilize the remaining 40%. In other words, the CVP is able to pump a higher proportion of available water than the SWP. Thus, to the extent the CVP were to pump at a higher level pursuant to Action 5 than the SWP is allowed, the SWP would have to reduce pumping even further to offset the CVP's entrainment impacts because the CVP will have access to a greater proportion of export capacity than the

Mr. Adam Nickels
 November 10, 2025
 Page 5

SWP under the 60/40 COA split. This compounding effect should be evaluated and mitigated as it was not contemplated in, nor is it consistent with, the 2018 COA amendment.

II. Legal Concerns

A. Coordinated Operation Agreement

The Action 5 operations described above could be inconsistent with Reclamation's obligations under COA. COA requires the CVP and SWP to coordinate operations of each system in a cooperative manner "so as to provide the maximum benefits to the people of California and the Nation" (Article 2.) It further requires Reclamation to "use all reasonable means to guard against a condition of shortage in the quantity of water available to the State pursuant to this [COA]." (Exhibit E, paragraph 1(a).) If Reclamation implements Action 5 in a way that harms the SWP's ability to deliver water to its contractors and customers, the CVP export increase would be at the expense of all SWP water contractors, and due to the different water purposes the SWP and CVP serve, disproportionately impact Californians' water supplies.

DWR and Reclamation, through COA, have worked together for almost 40 years to carry out water deliveries to Californians. Action 5's potential SWP water supply impacts, as outlined above, could risk jeopardizing this collaborative operational relationship under COA.

B. National Environmental Policy Act

DWR questions whether Reclamation has carried out the necessary environmental review for the Action 5 operations described in this letter. Under NEPA, federal agencies must evaluate the environmental effects of its actions on the environment. (42 U.S.C. §4332(2)(C), NEPA §102.) This evaluation acts to inform the public of the environmental impacts of the government's action, providing transparency in government relations.

The "Draft Memorandum for Interested Party Review" and supporting documentation do not purport to be official NEPA documents. Neither do they meet the statutory requirements to evaluate the effects of Action 5. The memo asserts that Action 5 falls within the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) issued by Reclamation in November 2024. However, the FEIS did not analyze the removal of the thresholds Reclamation now proposes. Additionally, no document to date analyzes the impacts on the SWP water users, a part of the human environment, as required by 42 U.S.C §4332(2)(A). As noted above, Reclamation's modeling incorrectly assumes the SWP will operate to Action 5 in a manner identical to the CVP. The transparency of a full NEPA review could also add to a greater understanding of how Action 5 fits within other relevant laws, such as the ESA.

Mr. Adam Nickels
November 10, 2025
Page 6

III. Conclusion

Action 5 could have adverse consequences, depending on its implementation, on the SWP and the water users who depend on SWP water supplies. The Action 5 documentation Reclamation has produced, to date, is vague in how it will be implemented in real-time, and neither discloses nor analyzes these impacts. DWR urges Reclamation to continue to strive for consistent real-time operations and invest and collaborate on new science tools and population models to inform operations that protect water supply and species. DWR also asks Reclamation to reconsider Action 5 and to comply with the legal requirements regarding environmental review, endangered species restrictions, and coordinated SWP and CVP operations. We are hopeful that as our shared investments in models and other tools become available for use in the 2027 water year and beyond, and our science-based operations will be realigned to the benefit of water supply and species. In the meantime, we remain ready to work collaboratively to responsibly manage the SWP and CVP water supplies in 2026.

Sincerely,



John Yarbrough
Deputy Director



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Ecosystem Conservation Division
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



November 10, 2025

Adam Nickels
Acting Regional Director
California-Great Basin
United States Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review for the Central Valley Project and State Water Project Long-Term Operations Plan – Action 5

Dear Mr. Nickels:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), along with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), collaborated closely with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) over a four-year period in the development of the 2024 Proposed Action (PA) for the Long-term Operations of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP) and the subsequent Biological Opinions (BiOp) issued by NMFS and USFWS. CDFW has reviewed the Action 5 Operation Plan (Action 5) for the CVP and SWP and associated Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review and appreciates the opportunity to provide comments.

Overall, Action 5 provides less protection for species than the 2019 and 2024 BiOps for the Long-term Operations of the CVP and SWP, issued by the USFWS and NMFS. Many of the protective measures in Action 5 are vague and some are not implementable because they rely on models or metrics that do not exist, or are not based in best available science. Measures related to Old and Middle River (OMR) management contain requirements for triggering that are subjective and potentially set a bar for implementation that is arbitrary and less protective than requirements established in the 2024 PA. Taken together, this renders many of the actions not reasonably certain to occur. In addition, CDFW is concerned that the analysis and assumptions reflected in the Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review and its supporting documents in many cases do not support the conclusions regarding the impacts to species from Action 5. Below we offer more specific comments on aspects of Action 5.

Winter- and Spring-run Chinook Salmon Protections

Real-Time Assessment Thresholds – Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Juveniles: Action 5 includes annual loss thresholds that are substantially greater than the thresholds used

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 2

in the 2024 PA and analyzed in the BiOps. Specifically, thresholds have doubled for natural-origin Sacramento River Winter-run Chinook Salmon (Winter-run) and increased 8-fold for hatchery-origin Winter-run. Action 5 also removes early season protections in November and December and weekly distributed loss thresholds from January through June for Winter-run. Additionally, the 2024 PA included protective measures intended to minimize loss when 50% and 75% of the annual loss threshold is exceeded that were not included in Action 5. CDFW's Effects Analysis, State Water Project Effects on Winter-run and Spring-run Chinook Salmon (Salmon Effects Analysis), prepared for the 2024 SWP Incidental Take Permit (ITP), determined the annual loss threshold used in the 2024 PA, in combination with weekly loss thresholds, would reduce entrainment and protect Winter-run juveniles during periods of peak loss, particularly in years with low juvenile production and high salvage. Action 5 would eliminate the 50%, 75% and weekly loss protections in the 2024 PA, increasing impacts to Winter-run if they are present in the Delta.

Real-Time Assessment Thresholds – Spring-run Chinook Salmon Juveniles: Action 5 states: "If an assessment indicates annual salvage loss is on a trajectory to exceed 1% of the JPE entering the Delta and a reduction in export pumping would materially increase through-Delta survival, Reclamation and DWR will reduce CVP and SWP exports to maintain an average OMR no more negative than -3,500 cfs for 7 days and prepare a subsequent assessment." The loss threshold in Action 5 for Central Valley Spring-run Chinook Salmon (Spring-run) is 4 times greater than the hatchery surrogate loss threshold used in the 2024 PA and analyzed in the BiOps. Additionally, a JPE for Spring-run does not currently exist and it is unclear how this measure would be implemented. Unlike the 2024 PA, Action 5 does not require the development of a Spring-run JPE or life cycle model that could support implementation of the measure at some point in the future. Furthermore, it is not clear how a "material increase in through-Delta survival" would be defined, creating substantial uncertainty in understanding how this measure would be implemented in real time.

The Spring-run measure in Action 5 also states that "The annual salvage loss as a proportion of the spring-run Chinook salmon JPE shall be tracked by surrogates." Action 5 points to Late-fall Chinook production releases as surrogates for yearling life stages and Feather River Hatchery Spring-run production releases as surrogates for young-of-year life stages. However, no information is provided to explain how hatchery production would be used to develop a total estimate of Spring-run juvenile production (Spring-run JPE), including natural origin fish. To our knowledge, this has not been done and there is currently no published, peer-reviewed scientific literature to support this approach.

Start of Entrainment Management and First Flush Conditions: The benefits of minimizing impacts to Winter-run juveniles and Spring-run yearlings during a "First Flush" event have long been recognized. A First Flush Action (COA 8.3.1 in the 2024 SWP ITP), was originally developed as a part of the 2008 USFWS Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) with a focus on Delta Smelt, but was subsequently included

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
 United States Bureau of Reclamation
 November 10, 2025
 Page 3

in the NMFS 2009 BiOp as part of its RPA to reduce the level of mortality for NMFS-trust resources. The 2020 ITP for long-term operations of the State Water Project and the 2019 NMFS BiOp on long-term operations of the SWP and CVP also included the First Flush Action under the name “Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection.” The new name was chosen to acknowledge the multi-species benefits associated with protecting the first large flow pulse event moving out of the Delta for both smelts and salmonids.

Specifically, the high flows triggering the First Flush Action encourage juvenile Winter-run to migrate downstream (del Rosario et al. 2013) where they often rear in non-natal habitats such as the Delta (Phillis et al., 2018). Salmon Delta entry timing is strongly associated with the first high flows of the migration season (del Rosario et al. 2013). DCC Gate operations and OMR management during a “First Flush” event discourage routing of salmon into the central and south Delta (Brandes and McClain 2001; Bureau et al. 2007; Vogel 2008; Henderson et al. 2019), where they would be at higher risk of mortality and entrainment.

Despite the established and understood benefit to salmonid survival of a First Flush Action, however, Action 5 includes an off-ramp to this measure if Reclamation prepares an assessment that determines abiotic factors indicate First Flush is not warranted to avoid exceeding the incidental take of Delta Smelt. That assessment does not consider the effects of a First Flush action on Winter-run and Spring-run, and is inconsistent with Reclamation’s Biological Assessment (2024), which states that the “First Flush and Start of OMR Management” conservation measure would minimize or compensate for effects of the operation of the CVP and SWP on entrainment of Winter-run. Off-ramping or altering implementation of the First Flush Action is expected to result in increased entrainment of juvenile salmon into the central and south Delta, where mortality rates and the risk of entrainment into export facilities are substantially greater.

Exhibit 4 – Endangered Species Act Section 7(a)(2) Compliance: Analyses of historic salmon salvage data (2010-2022) show that implementation of thresholds included in Action 5 would have resulted in an OMR action to protect Winter-run for only three weeks in a single year. In contrast, implementation of thresholds in the 2024 PA would have resulted in 1–5 weeks of protections in 8 years (Exhibit F Attachment F.1-2). This represents a decrease in Winter-run OMR protective actions of 88%, indicating that Action 5 is substantially less responsive to salmon entrainment events. The Salvage Density Model Loss Simulation estimates that these and other changes to OMR management will result in an 8–32% increase in Winter-run salvage at the fish collection facilities under Action 5 compared to the 2024 PA (Alternative 2 without TUCP Delta VA) (Exhibit 4 Attachment I-2).

The Winter-run Chinook Salmon Coded Wire Tag Salvage Model predicts similar increases in hatchery-origin Winter-run salvage for Action 5. The Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review memo claims that the increase in salvage from 0.28–0.34% (Alternative 2 without TUCP without VA) to 0.37% (Action 5) of Winter-run is

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 4

minimal; this is misleading, however, as Action 5 represents a 32% increase in salvage over the 2024 PA (Alternative 2 without TUCP without VA) and increases the risk of exceeding the annual loss threshold of 0.12% of the JPE for hatchery-origin Winter-run in the 2024 PA. Moreover, the largest increase in the estimated proportion of salvage would occur in above normal water years. These years are important for the population because favorable conditions are generally associated with higher survival and stronger year classes (Brandes and McClain 2001). Additionally, out-migration survival of salmonid smolts in the riverine waterway of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers increases with increasing flow (Sacramento, Henderson et al. 2019, Notch et al. 2020, Michel et al. 2021; San Joaquin, Buchanan et al. 2018, Buchanan et al. 2021). A large increase in salvage during these important years might have disproportionate impacts on the population, though a thorough analysis of this impact would require a life cycle model. It is important to note that the simple model used to estimate juvenile salvage is based on changes in Sacramento River flows and exports alone and ignores additional likely changes in routing or rearing behavior due to changes in other hydrologic conditions not included in the model.

CDFW is concerned that project modifications in Action 5 may result in effects to listed species or critical habitat that exceed those considered in Table 184 of the 2024 NMFS BiOp. In addition to the significant change in the numerical thresholds, Action 5 does not require salmon protections to automatically onramp when a threshold is exceeded, but rather calls for an action to be taken only when an assessment indicates annual salvage loss is on a trajectory to exceed the threshold and a reduction in export pumping would materially increase through-Delta survival. This is a cause for concern because, absent a definition of “materially increase,” the implementation of salmon protective measures is subjective, which potentially sets a bar that would prevent these protections from ever being implemented.

Longfin Smelt and Delta Smelt Protections

Start of Entrainment Management – First Flush Conditions: First Flush is a well-established protective measure for adult Delta Smelt that was refined during implementation of the 2008 USFWS BiOp on the coordinated operations of the CVP and SWP in California. It was included in both the 2019 and 2024 PAs. The 2024 PA does not include the ability to modify or off ramp First Flush implementation through governance and real-time decision-making. However, Action 5 includes an offramp to this measure if Reclamation prepares an assessment that determines abiotic factors indicate First Flush is not warranted to avoid exceeding the incidental take of Delta Smelt. Given that the 2024 USFWS BiOp defines the incidental take limit by the abiotic proxies that trigger the First Flush action, it is unclear how an assessment utilizing these same abiotic proxies could credibly make the determination that Delta Smelt incidental take limits will not be exceeded.

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 5

Real-Time Assessment Thresholds – Longfin Smelt Adults: Action 5 includes a new flow criterion to trigger adult Longfin Smelt protections, which requires flow at Jersey Point (JPF) be less than 0 cubic feet per second (cfs), rather than a metric based on salvage. It is unclear how the new flow criterion provides adequate protection because there is no scientific evidence or modeling support for this or any flow threshold at this location that is protective for adult Longfin Smelt. Action 5 evaluated entrainment risk for adult Longfin Smelt using PTM, a model that is only appropriate to analyze effects to larval and juvenile life stages of smelt.

Real-Time Assessment Thresholds – Longfin Smelt and Delta Smelt Larvae and Juveniles: Action 5 decreases protections for larval and juvenile smelt. The larval and juvenile protection triggers for both Longfin Smelt and Delta Smelt require that JPF is less than 0 cfs before a protective action would be considered. As discussed in the State Water Project Effects on Longfin Smelt and Delta Smelt (Smelt Effects Analysis), prepared for the 2024 ITP for the Long-term Operations of the SWP, modeling conducted by CDFW and DWR showed that QWEST of 1,500 cfs is the lower range of flows that could be protective for larval fish, assuming that OMR flows do not become more negative than -5,000 cfs. The definition of JPF in Action 5 is similar to QWEST, and there is no evidence that a flow of 0 cfs at this tidally affected area would prevent larval fish from being entrained into the south Delta by project operations. CDFW is also concerned that a JPF of 0 cfs represents conditions with a high risk of larval and juvenile entrainment in which essentially all flow from the San Joaquin, Cosumnes, Calaveras, and Mokelumne rivers, as well as flow from the Sacramento River through the Delta Cross Channel Gates and Georgianna Slough, is being diverted or exported before reaching the confluence with the Sacramento River. With little to no flow from the San Joaquin River or eastside tributaries, which can be represented by a JPF of 0 cfs, larval smelt are likely to be entrained in the south Delta, with the rate of entrainment in the export facilities being dependent on the rate of exports.

Real-Time Assessment Thresholds – Longfin Smelt Larvae and Juveniles: The larval and juvenile Longfin Smelt protection measure in Action 5 requires that “a population model demonstrates the need to reduce entrainment to avoid population decline” before a protective action would be taken. It is our understanding that a Longfin Smelt population model does not currently exist. As a result, it is unclear how this protective measure could be implemented.

If a Longfin Smelt population model were developed, peer-reviewed, and used in real-time decision making as Action 5 requires, the expectation that any 7-day action would individually result in a change to the population trajectory is misguided (see “Population-Level Effects” comment below). The 2024 USFWS BiOp effects analysis considers take to be minimized by the “broad application of OMR management,” which work together over the season to protect Longfin Smelt. (2024 USFWS BiOp, p. 253.) Modeling results and conclusions regarding species impacts for Action 5 rely on implementing a suite of OMR management actions each year, as all actions for all species were layered

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 6

together before being modeled (Exhibit 2 Attachment F.1-2). This framework assumes that all actions are implemented and together affect the habitat and species in the Delta.

Real-Time Assessment Thresholds – Delta Smelt Larvae and Juveniles: The Action 5 Larval and Juvenile Delta Smelt Protection trigger includes new turbidity and modeling criteria that are inconsistent with best available science.

The south Delta turbidity criterion requires turbidity greater than or equal to 12 FNU (as measured by continuous sensors in the Delta) to initiate a protective action and is inconsistent with the USFWS Delta Smelt Life Cycle Model, which was used to develop the larval and juvenile Delta Smelt protective measure in the 2024 PA. The Delta Smelt Life Cycle Model uses turbidity as measured by Secchi disc surveys to characterize entrainment risk of larval Delta Smelt. Action 5 does not contain adequate supporting information to explain the relationship between these two different turbidity metrics (FNU and Secchi depth) that would facilitate an analysis of impacts using the Delta Smelt Life Cycle Model.

The modeling criterion requires that “PTM modeling indicates that the action would avoid $\geq 5\%$ entrainment of the Delta smelt population at facilities after 30 days” before a protective action would be implemented. It is unclear whether Action 5 refers to an absolute value or a percent difference in entrainment greater than or equal to 5%. This detail is needed to implement the measure during real-time operations. Additionally, the criterion focuses on impacts of entrainment into the export facilities, which is not consistent with the 2024 USFWS BiOp’s definition of entrainment: “the movement of a fraction of the population into the south Delta, where they have little chance of successfully contributing to a subsequent generation.” (2024 USFWS BiOp, p. 88.) Thus, the Action 5 approach appears to ignore the risks and associated impacts of entrainment into the south Delta.

Delta Smelt Summer and Fall Habitat: Action 5 removes Fall X2, a protective measure for Delta Smelt. Scientific research has demonstrated that changes in abiotic conditions encountered by rearing Delta Smelt in the fall have significant overall effects on population size (Bever et al. 2016; Feyrer et al. 2011, IEP-MAST 2015). More recently, a life cycle model by Polansky et al. (2024) found a stronger relationship between summer outflows and Delta Smelt survivorship when compared to the fall. However, outflow in both the summer and the fall were shown to benefit Delta Smelt, even if the relationship is stronger in the summer, by expanding the spatial extent of habitat and augmenting food resources. No summer outflow, fall outflow, or food enhancement actions have been included in Action 5 that would expand habitat availability and augment food resources for Delta Smelt.

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
 United States Bureau of Reclamation
 November 10, 2025
 Page 7

Modeling

Comparison of Action 5 to Baseline: The Action 5 Alternative modeling depicts a potential future condition of increased spring flows from tributaries through Voluntary Agreements (VA flows, now called Healthy Rivers and Landscapes). As Action 5 could result in impacts before the implementation of VA flows, and Action 5 eliminates Reclamation's early implementation of VA flows, the modeling does not allow an evaluation of impacts on a shorter time horizon. The implementation of VA flows in modeling assumptions may obscure or ameliorate adverse impacts of Action 5. To evaluate potential impacts of Action 5, it needs to be compared to a current baseline of Alt 2v1, and all other factors that are not part of the action (VA flows, TUCP, etc.), must remain constant between the two runs. In addition to these issues, the modeling assumes that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) would adhere to Action 5, rather than the 2024 SWP ITP.

Representation of OMR Management in CalSim: The representation of OMR management (Exhibit 2 Attachment F.1-2) in CalSim is inconsistent with the actions described in Action 5. It is inconsistent because specific operating criteria are not accurately reflected in the modeling and because Action 5 includes subjective assessments and other offramps that appear likely to reduce the extent to which protections are implemented. As a result, the effects analysis generally underestimates changes in the impacts on species and their habitats as compared to the 2024 PA. Specific examples from Exhibit 2 Attachment F.1-2 include:

- Modeling for Action 5 assumes implementation of early season Winter-run protections consistent with the 2024 PA (Alternative 2). However, this protection was not included in Action 5.
- Modeling for First Flush under Action 5 assumes an off-ramp of export restrictions when JPF > 0 cfs. However, there is no specific JPF flow criteria for First Flush in Action 5.
- Modeling for the initiation of OMR management season assumes that a restriction to -5,000 cfs OMR would begin no later than January 1. This is not consistent with Action 5 which initiates OMR management only after the First Flush conditions occur, the adult Longfin Smelt salvage condition occurs, or when salvage of Winter-run occurs *after* January 1.
- Larval and juvenile Delta Smelt protections for Action 5 were modeled as a continuation of adult Delta Smelt protections and do not include any adjustments for the additional modeling criterion required to initiate this action under Action 5, i.e. that PTM modeling indicates that the action would avoid $\geq 5\%$ entrainment of the population into export facilities. This modeling criterion is expected to prevent or reduce implementation of protections as compared to the 2024 PA.
- Winter-run protections for Action 5 were modeled by assuming the action is triggered when observed loss exceeds the annual loss threshold. This assumes a greater

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
 United States Bureau of Reclamation
 November 10, 2025
 Page 8

level of protectiveness than is afforded by the criteria in Action 5, which requires that both (a) annual loss is on a trajectory to exceed the threshold, *and* (b) reducing exports would materially increase through-Delta survival. These criteria introduce additional subjective assessments into the action that may reduce the extent to which it is implemented.

- Modeling for Action 5 assumes that juvenile Steelhead protections would trigger when rolling cumulative 7-day loss exceeds 120 fish. If the action is triggered, each additional Steelhead in salvage is assumed to trigger a new 7-day action. These modeling assumptions are inconsistent with the Steelhead measure in Action 5, which is based on similar criteria to juvenile Winter-run protections (see bullet above) and relies on a Steelhead JPE that does not currently exist. Action 5 CalSim modeling assumes that juvenile Steelhead protection would result in OMR of -3,500 cfs for 10 weeks in 2010, 6 weeks in 2011, 8 weeks in 2013, and 9 weeks in 2018. This has an outsized contribution to the “combined coverage” historical OMR percentage calculations, as it assumes that OMR would be no more negative than -3,500 cfs 25–100% of April–June for four of the thirteen (13%) years included in the analysis. When sorted by water year type, this underestimates exports and impacts on all Delta species and their habitats during below normal and dry water years, and wet water years if OMR is controlling exports.
- Storm-Flex for Action 5 was modeled assuming operations would be limited to an OMR of -6,250 cfs, while Action 5 allows operations up to an OMR of -6,500 cfs.

Modeling of OMR management layers all actions for all species together for inclusion in CalSim 3, which is then used as the foundation for the various hydrologic, water quality, and species-specific models characterizing impacts of Action 5. In this way, any less negative OMR implemented in response to a specific measure is modeled as providing protections to all Delta species and their habitats, not solely the species and life stage associated with the triggered action. Therefore, any OMR action that is offramped, reduced, or not modeled appropriately would change the effects on all species present in the Delta in ways that are not evaluated or quantified in the Action 5 analyses. CDFW is concerned that the increase in species-specific offramp criteria in Action 5’s approach to OMR management would have cascading effects to all species that have not been fully analyzed.

Conclusions Regarding Population-Level Effects

Action 5 refers to several metrics (e.g., change in loss or salvage) to support the claim that proposed changes will not lead to population-level effects. However, in most cases, the use of such metrics does not clearly provide population-level insights or support conclusions regarding population-level effects. Population-level effects are changes to the population characteristics of a group of organisms (i.e., not individual members of the population) associated with a stressor or environmental change. These population characteristics could be population abundance, population size- or age-structure, or population vital rates (i.e., births, deaths, fertility, maturation, or growth). Estimating

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 9

these metrics requires vast amounts of sampling data, a lifecycle modeling framework, or, usually, both. CDFW is concerned that conclusions regarding a supposed lack of population-level effect are used in Exhibit 4, Endangered Species Act Section 7(a)(2) Compliance, to dismiss documented increases in impacts to species and the elimination or weakening of important protective measures.

Given that water operations modeling, real-time action assessments, and the analysis used to support Action 5 are often evaluating current or future conditions (i.e., conditions not often observed in historical data), historical data alone are not sufficient to assess population-level effects. Instead, a lifecycle modeling framework that facilitates simulation would be required. Traditionally, ecologists refer to this type of analysis as a population viability analysis. A population viability analysis uses stochastic population models to assess the probability of population growth or decline (or even extinction) over a specific time horizon. Without such a model, claiming a population-level effect (or lack thereof) is questionable at best. In fact, the conclusions drawn from all biological modeling described in the Action 5 documentation range from highly inadequate to assess population-level effects (e.g., simply stating salvage numbers, absent of south Delta entrainment effects, does not equate to an assessment of the population), to falling just short of an effective population viability analysis (e.g., the life cycle models reporting either arbitrary metrics such as “terminal lambda” or neglecting to assess long-term trajectories or changes in population extinction risk).

Moreover, estimates of loss and salvage alone are not sufficient metrics to draw conclusions regarding population-level effects resulting from project operations. The modeling tools used to estimate loss and salvage, such as the *Salvage Density Model*, *Loss Simulation* and *Negative Binomial Estimated Total Salvage*, are primarily based on historical hydrologic, salvage, and loss data, which do not explicitly include or produce population-level information. Currently, the changes in loss and salvage between Action 5 and the 2024 PA are compared using either a difference in numbers of fish or a percentage change, and these estimates can vary between water years. A population-level impact due to changes in loss and salvage will depend on numerous factors, such as the population status (e.g., the current population growth rate relative to a stable growth rate of 1), frequency of water year types, and the relative importance of juvenile survival to population dynamics. In the absence of a comprehensive life cycle model, the estimated changes in loss or salvage (in numbers of fish or percentage change) should at least be reflected in the context of the population status or size. For example, an 8% increase in predicted loss of winter-run from 940 fish (2024 PA) to 1,018 fish (Action 5) would have greater population-level impacts for a population of 10,000 individuals than a population of 100,000 individuals. However, this information alone will not provide an adequate understanding of population-level effects that occur under future conditions, as changes in larval and juvenile abundance due to loss or salvage can affect future reproductive potential, which is not captured in the example above.

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 10

Arguably, the analyses using the Delta Smelt Life Cycle Model are best suited to derive population-level effects. According to Table F.4-6 (Exhibit 4 Attachment F.4), the No Action Alternative resulted in a 5.6% greater population growth rate from 1995-2015 relative to Action 5 and an 8.3% greater population growth rate for wet and above normal water years during this period. Similarly, the empirical model (i.e., historical data) resulted in a 6.7% greater population growth rate from 1995-2015 than Action 5 and a 37.5% greater population growth rate for wet and above normal water years during this period. It is our understanding that the empirical model run analyzes observed historical data from 1995-2015. These changes to the population growth rates will likely lead to measurable population-level effects, but this was not explicitly evaluated. That is, the analysis should have included an assessment of differences in extinction potential or potential to fall below a specific threshold (e.g., the historic mean or the mean in the most recent five-years) while accounting for uncertainty (i.e., stochasticity).

In considering population-level effects, CDFW appreciates the inclusion of results from the CVPIA SIT DSM life cycle models in the analysis of operational changes of Action 5. However, CDFW suggests caution when inferring population-level effects based on these modeling results because specific demographic rates described by the model lack sensitivity to the flow and temperature changes associated with Action 5. Specifically, Reclamation provides an incomplete list of modeled demographic rates that have not been constructed to vary as a function of changing flow and temperature inputs which include adult salmon arrival and spawn timing, salmon egg-to-fry survival, and juvenile salmon growth rates. Given that the only life cycle modeling result provided by Reclamation estimates critical demographic rates that are, by Reclamation's own account (Exhibit 4 Attachment F.2), insensitive to the flow and temperature changes described by Action 5, CDFW further cautions that it is nigh impossible to assess a population-level effect without further life cycle modeling.

Other Activities

The 2024 NMFS BiOp considered "Other Activities" of the 2024 PA, which include components of the identified action that were not specifically proposed by Reclamation, but that would not occur but for the action, and are reasonably certain to occur. The 2024 NMFS BiOp specifically considered the Winter-Run Action Plan (WRAP) as one such activity. The WRAP included a list of six high-priority actions developed to reduce stressors affecting Winter-run; doing so through a combination of science, fishery actions, infrastructure improvements, and reintroduction to historic habitat. As described in the 2024 NMFS BiOp (Table 170), NMFS considered the effect of implementing the actions of the WRAP when evaluating the magnitude and direction of change caused by the 2024 PA on the Viable Salmonid Population parameters, which inform a salmonid species' extinction risk. Action 5 does not include a clear commitment to the WRAP such that the actions therein are no longer reasonably certain to occur. Given that the actions and effects of the WRAP were considered in the 2024 NMFS BiOp and that they

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 11

were specifically identified as supporting the conclusion that the 2024 PA would not jeopardize the continued existence of Winter-run, it is not clear how Reclamation was able to conclude that Action 5 does not constitute a modification of the identified action that would cause an effect to listed species that was not considered in the 2024 NMFS BiOp.

Shasta Reservoir Operations

In the 2024 PA, Reclamation proposed a new approach to managing Shasta that changed the balance between risks of flood control releases and maintaining water in storage for future drought protection and temperature management. This new Shasta Management Plan Framework created a pivotal role for the Shasta Operations Team (SHOT), a policy-level group called for in the 2024 PA, which discusses water operation actions when implementation may have impacts of tradeoffs relevant to listed fish species, system conditions or water supply. The 2024 PA also described a key role for the SHOT in the WRAP and in making decisions on how Shasta-related VA flow assets would be managed. Action 5 eliminates the SHOT and does not include clear commitments to implement the WRAP. The collaborative governance structure and integrated plan to improve the survival and viability of Winter-run that functions alongside planned operation of Shasta Reservoir called for in the 2024 PA has been replaced by a structure in Action 5 that is not based on biological goals and objectives, nor does it contain any collaborative decision making groups, such as the SHOT.

Governance

The governance structure included in the 2024 PA was founded in six key principles including collaboration. Specifically, the 2024 PA (Section 3.13.1) stated “[T]he leading principle of CVP/SWP Governance is collaborative, science-based decision making. CVP/SWP governance is structured to seek consensus across scientific, technical and policy levels, with elevation and decision making processes in place when consensus cannot be reached.” The technical and management team structure established to support the 2024 PA governance principles included both a multi-agency management team, WOMT, “to discuss and resolve operational questions and technical issues, as requested or elevated from Delta and tributary technical teams, and to elevate unresolved operational issues to the Directors Group” and the Delta Monitoring Workgroup “with technical representatives from federal and state agencies and stakeholders who can provide information to DWR and Reclamation on species abundance, species distribution, life stage transitions, and relevant physical parameters”. This structure supported a clearly described elevation process to Directors of all five agencies (Reclamation, DWR, CDFW, USFWS, and NMFS) where unresolved issues could be discussed and addressed collaboratively. Or, in the absence of consensus, this process would thoroughly document differing opinions that lead to a final decision.

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 12

In contrast, Action 5 eliminates technical, managerial, and Director-level working groups and the collaborative approach to real-time decision-making established in the 2024 PA. Instead, Action 5 emphasizes Reclamation autonomy in implementation of Biological Opinions and decision making. For example: "Reclamation determines whether and how to proceed with its proposed action in light of USFWS' and NMFS' biological opinion, even though the terms and conditions of incidental take statements are non-discretionary." Later, Action 5 states if a reasonable and prudent alternative is issued by NMFS and/or USFWS as part of their biological opinions, Reclamation may choose not to implement USFWS' or NMFS' reasonable and prudent alternative; instead, Reclamation can choose to develop a new Proposed Action. As a result, Action 5 relies on reinitiation and potential litigation as the tools to motivate changes in analyses of impacts to species and potential protective measures in the absence of collaboration.

Conclusion

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the LTO Action 5 Operation Plan for the Central Valley Project and State Water Project and the associated Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review to assist Reclamation in identifying, evaluating, and considering changes in impacts of long-term operations of the CVP and SWP on biological resources. Due to the issues presented in this letter, CDFW is concerned that the Action 5 Operations Plan and Environmental Compliance Sufficiency Review do not adequately identify or provide detailed information to decisionmakers about the Project's significant impacts on biological resources, which in turn hinders Reclamation's capability to take a hard look at the consequences of implementing Action 5.

Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Environmental Program Manager at 916-701-3226 or Kristal.Davis-Fadtke@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

703E59B6647A482...

Joshua Grover, Deputy Director
Ecosystem Conservation Division

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 13

ec: **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Brooke Jacobs, Chief
Water Branch
Brooke.Jacobs@wildlife.ca.gov

Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Environmental Program Manager
Water Branch
Kristal.Davis-Fadtke@wildlife.ca.gov
Paige Uttley, Environmental Program Manager
Water Branch
Paige.Uttley@wildlife.ca.gov

Wendy Bogdan, General Counsel
Office of General Counsel
Wendy.Bogdan@wildlife.ca.gov

Shannon Little, Assistant Chief Counsel
Office of General Counsel
Shannon.Little@wildlife.ca.gov

Kimberley Chow, Attorney IV
Office of General Counsel
Kimberley.Chow@wildlifa.ca.gov

Literature Cited

Bever, A., M. MacWilliams, B. Herbold, L. Brown and F. Feyrer (2016). Linking hydrodynamic complexity to Delta Smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*) distribution in the San Francisco Estuary, USA. San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science **14**(1).

Brandes, P. L. and J. S. McLain (2001). Juvenile Chinook Salmon Abundance, Distribution, and Survival in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Estuary. Fish Bulletin 179(2):39-138.

Buchanan, R. A., P. L. Brandes, and J. L. Skalski (2018). Survival of Juvenile Fall-Run Chinook Salmon through the San Joaquin River Delta, California, 2010-2015. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 38:663-679.

Buchanan, R., E. Buttermore, and J. Israel (2021). Outmigration Survival of a Threatened Steelhead Population through a Tidal Estuary. Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences 78:18 pages.

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
 United States Bureau of Reclamation
 November 10, 2025
 Page 14

CDFW (2024a). State Water Project Effects on Longfin Smelt and Delta Smelt. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Water Branch, West Sacramento, CA.

CDFW (2024b). State Water Project Effects on Winter-run and Spring-run Chinook Salmon. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Water Branch, West Sacramento, CA.

del Rosario, R.B., R.B., Y.J. Redler, K. Newman, P.L. Brandes, T. Sommer, K. Reece, and R. Vincik (2013). Migration patterns of juvenile winter-run-sized Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science **11**(1):1–22.

Dennis, Brian. (2002). Allee Effects in Stochastic Populations. *Oikos*. 96. 389-401.

Dulvy, N.K., Sadovy, Y. and Reynolds, J.D. (2003), Extinction vulnerability in marine populations. *Fish and Fisheries*, 4: 25-64.

Feyrer, F., K. Newman, M. Nobriga and T. Sommer (2011). Modeling the effects of future outflow on the abiotic habitat of an imperiled estuarine fish. *Estuaries and Coasts* **34**: 120-128.

Henderson, M. J., I. S. Iglesias, C. J. Michel, A. J. a. Ammann, and D. D. Huff (2019). Estimating Spatial–Temporal Differences in Chinook Salmon Outmigration Survival with Habitat-and Predation-Related Covariates. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 76:1549-1561 pp.

IEP-MAST (2015). An updated conceptual model of Delta Smelt biology: our evolving understanding of an estuarine fish. Interagency Ecological Program, Management, Analysis, and Synthesis Team (IEP-MAST), Sacramento, CA. Technical Report 90.

Michel, C. J., J. J. Notch, F. Cordoleani, A. J. Ammann, and E. M. Danner (2021). Nonlinear Survival of Imperiled Fish Informs Managed Flows in a Highly Modified River. *Ecosphere* 12(5).

Notch, J. J., A. S. McHuron, C. J. Michel, F. Cordoleani, M. Johnson, M. J. Henderson, and A. J. Ammann (2020). Outmigration Survival of Wild Chinook Salmon Smolts through the Sacramento River during Historic Drought and High Water Conditions. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 103:561-576.

NMFS (2009). Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation and biological opinion: Long-term operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southwest Region, Long Beach, CA.

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 15

NMFS (2019). Biological Opinion on the long-term operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), West Coast Region.

NMFS (2024). Programmatic Biological Opinion on the Long-term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), West Coast Region.

Phillis, C.C., A.M. Sturrock, R.C. Johnson, and P.W. Weber (2018). Endangered winter-run Chinook Salmon rely on diverse rearing habitats in a highly altered landscape. *Biological Conservation* **217**: 358–362.

Polansky, L., L. Mitchell and M. Nobriga (2024). Identifying minimum freshwater habitat conditions for an endangered fish using life cycle analysis. *Conservation Science and Practice* **6**(5).

USBR (2024). Biological Assessment for long-term operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Bay Delta Office, Sacramento, CA.

USBR (2025a). Environmental compliance sufficiency review for the Central Valley Project and State Water Project long-term operations plan – Action 5. Draft memorandum for interested party review. United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Bay Delta Office, Sacramento, CA. Memorandum No. BDO-100 2.2.1.06.

USBR (2025b). LTO Action 5: Exhibit 1, Operation Plan for the Central valley Project and State Water Project. United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Bay Delta Office, Sacramento, CA.

USBR (2025c). LTO Action 5: Exhibit 2, Appendix F, Modeling technical appendix and attachments. United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Bay Delta Office, Sacramento, CA.

USBR (2025d). LTO Action 5: Exhibit 4, Endangered Species Act section 7(a)(2) compliance and attachments. United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Bay Delta Office, Sacramento, CA.

USFWS (2008). Formal Endangered Species Act consultation and Biological Opinion: Proposed coordinated operations of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP). United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California and Nevada Region, Sacramento, CA. Memorandum 81420-2008-F-1418-5.

USFWS (2019). Biological Opinion for the reinitiation of consultation on the coordinated operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. United States Fish and

Adam Nickels, Acting Regional Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
November 10, 2025
Page 16

Wildlife Service (USFWS), San Francisco Bay-Delta Fish and Wildlife Office,
Sacramento, CA. Service File No. 08FBDY00-2019-F-0164.

USFWS (2024). Programmatic Biological Opinion for the reinitiation of consultation of the long-term operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), San Francisco Bay-Delta Fish and Wildlife Office.

Vogel, D.A. (2008). Pilot study to evaluate acoustic-tagged juvenile Chinook salmon smolt migration in the Northern Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta 2006-2007. Report prepared for the California Department of Water Resources, Bay/Delta Office. Natural Resource Scientists, Inc. March. 43 pages.



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR



YANA GARCIA
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

November 10, 2025

Via Email: sha-MPR-BDO@usbr.gov

Adam Nickels
Acting Regional Director
California-Great Basin
United States Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Jo Anna Beck
Natural Resource Specialist
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Bay-Delta Office
801 I Street, Suite 140
Sacramento, CA 95814-2536

Re: Action 5 Assumptions and Environmental Compliance

Dear Mr. Nickels:

The Central Valley Project (CVP), operated by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) lies wholly within the State of California, and its operations uniquely impact California water management and California species. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is the sole California agency with jurisdiction over both water rights and water quality. The State Water Board allocates water rights, develops statewide protection plans, establishes water quality standards, regulates public drinking water systems, enforces the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Water Code, § 10720 et seq.), and acts as the state water pollution control agency for all purposes under the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C., § 1251 et seq.) and state Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne) (Water Code, § 13000 et seq.). Consistent with Clean Water Act and Porter-Cologne requirements and authorities, the State Water Board adopts and implements a Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses.

On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration issued Executive Order 14181 (E.O.), "Emergency Measures to Provide Water Resources in California and Improve Disaster

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

Response in Certain Areas.” Section 2 of the E.O. directs multiple federal agencies to take immediate actions to maximize water deliveries. Consistent with E.O. 14181, Reclamation sent an email on October 7, 2025, to interested parties, including the State Water Board, soliciting comments on “Action 5,” its proposed changes to CVP long-term operations to fulfill E.O. 14181. Reclamation asserts that Action requires no further environmental or biological analysis and is “within the range of impacts analyzed and disclosed in the 2024 Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Coordinated Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project (2024 LTO Final EIS) and the effects analyzed within the 2024 National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued biological opinions” and that “Action 5 is not expected to result in additional significant impacts to the environment nor additional effects to listed species.”¹

The State Water Board submits the following comments regarding Reclamation’s reliance on the 2024 LTO Final EIS and prior biological opinions for a proposed change in CVP LTO. Action 5 was not included in the 2024 LTO Final EIS and removes actions that were included in that analysis. With respect to the CVP LTO biological opinions, the State Water Board notes there is a pattern of the CVP exceeding take limits for listed species and either taking no action or pursuing increased take limits without sufficient analysis as to whether such continued actions are reasonably expected, directly or indirectly, to diminish a species’ numbers, reproduction, or distribution so that the likelihood of both survival and recovery is appreciably reduced.

Finally, the State Water Board previously advised Reclamation that it should not incorporate reliance upon Temporary Urgency Change Petitions (TUCPs) in its analyses as TUCPs are not legally available to Reclamation absent an emergency drought declaration by a California Governor, a subsequent discretionary action by a California Governor to issue an Executive Order that waives compliance with Porter-Cologne under the Emergency Services Act (Government Code, § 8550 et seq.), and a further discretionary approval by the State Water Board, relying upon the hypothetical Executive Order, with findings appropriate to that Executive Order. Such continued speculation appears to be a defective basis for Reclamation’s Action 5 analysis and conclusions.

¹ Draft Memorandum for Interested Party Review from David Mooney to Kristin White, p. 1.

Summary of Possible Issues Related to Federal Executive Order 14181 Action 5 Changes Regarding Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project

The following sections describe the State Water Board's current understanding of the Action 5 changes Reclamation identifies that it will implement and associated concerns with those actions. Overall, action 5 provides less protection for native aquatic species than was proposed with the 2024 LTO operations. However, it is difficult to fully assess the action 5 changes because the measures are vague and subjective; rely on models that are not developed yet; the CalSim modeling does not appear to accurately portray the actions; and it is not possible to compare the No Action with the proposed action because too many assumptions in the modeling were changed among model runs.

Healthy Rivers and Landscapes / Voluntary Agreements

Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (HRL), formerly called "Voluntary Agreements," are water user proposals for providing flows and habitat submitted to the State Water Board as an implementation pathway for updates to the Bay-Delta Plan. The HRL includes various habitat and flow commitments by water users, including flow commitments on CVP operated rivers and for CVP export reductions and bypasses of Delta outflows provided by all HRL parties on top of HRL base conditions that will interact with action 5 measures. As described in the July 2025 draft of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan, the HRL flows are intended to be additive to base flows which include Decision 1641 (D-1641) and flows resulting from implementation of the 2024 LTO (the MOU previously identified the 2019 LTO, but was updated at the request of the HRL parties to 2024). Action 5 assumes regular relaxations of D-1641 and significant changes to CVP 2024 LTO operations (described further below) that were not contemplated in the analyses performed by the State Water Board for the HRL. In addition, these changes would impact the accounting for the HRL in ways that have not been contemplated that would create significant complications. Reclamation should work with the HRL parties, and particularly the California Department of Water Resources, to ensure that Reclamation has sufficiently considered and analyzed these impacts and propose means of addressing any impacts, including relative to the operational changes identified below.

Old and Middle River (OMR) Flow Management and Exports

Action 5 proposes to reduce or remove Old and Middle River (OMR) flow limitations and would result in more negative reverse flows which can lead to greater entrainment of fish into the interior Delta and direct and indirect mortality to California fish species, including possible population level effects. In addition, action 5 OMR changes contain requirements for triggering that lack specificity, are subjective, and establish criteria that may never be met. Action 5 modifies or eliminates several thresholds used to initiate the OMR Flow Management Season, as well as other real-time OMR Management criteria designed to protect native fish populations in the Delta. Effects of these modified or eliminated OMR Management criteria on native fish populations have not been adequately evaluated. Specifically, Action 5: removes the January 1 start date for OMR management; does not include the Adult Delta Smelt Entrainment Protection Action (or

Turbidity Bridge Avoidance) as a condition to initiate the OMR Management Season; adds additional qualifiers to the Real-Time Assessment Thresholds (Exhibit 5.3.2); adds additional pre-requisite Jersey Point flow criteria to initiate OMR protections for Longfin Smelt Adult, Longfin Smelt Larvae and Juveniles, Delta Smelt Adults (Turbidity Bridge Avoidance), and Delta Smelt Larvae and Juveniles.

Action 5 increases the annual salvage loss thresholds for juvenile winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead that would trigger export pumping reductions. Action 5 incorporates the Juvenile Production Estimates (JPEs) for spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead to inform the OMR management and export pumping changes. However, JPEs for spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead populations have not been established in the Delta.

In addition, the Proposed Action (Exhibit 1) states that “Action 5 may reduce mortality by drawing fish into export facilities for salvage instead of exposure to the poor survival conditions in the south Delta.” This statement is listed for Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon, Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon, and Central Valley Steelhead. This is a fundamentally flawed premise because fish mortality at the south Delta Export facilities prior to reaching the fish facility is very high (prescreen loss rates: 15% at CVP and 77% at SWP), and recent studies on the effects of spatial, environmental, and hydrologic parameters on through-Delta survival of juvenile salmonids have demonstrated that survival is correlated with net positive OMR flows.

Modeling indicates that operations under Action 5 would generally cause OMR flows to be more negative in the spring and fall months of most water year types as summarized below. However, as indicated above, this modeling may also significantly underestimate the actual effects of changes to OMR requirements.

Seasonal Differences in OMR (monthly average cfs)

Action 5 (with TUCPs with VAs) minus Preferred Alt (without TUCP with VAs)	Jan-June	July-Dec
<i>All Water Year Type Average</i>	-299 cfs	-372 cfs
Wet Years	-191 cfs	-536 cfs
Above Normal Years	-478 cfs	-566 cfs
Below Normal Years	-372 cfs	-434 cfs
Dry Years	-336 cfs	-268 cfs
Critical Years	-191 cfs	26 cfs

Modeling results show that Action 5 would increase Delta exports on average across all water year types. The seasonal results by water year type are shown below.

Seasonal Differences in Total Delta Export Volumes (total seasonal volume TAF)

Action 5 (with TUCPs with VAs) minus Preferred Alt (without TUCP with VAs)	Jan-June	July-Dec	Total
<i>All Water Year Type Average</i>	<i>114 TAF</i>	<i>146 TAF</i>	<i>260 TAF</i>
Wet Years	73 TAF	196 TAF	270 TAF
Above Normal Years	180 TAF	223 TAF	403 TAF
Below Normal Years	142 TAF	187 TAF	330 TAF
Dry Years	130 TAF	107 TAF	238 TAF
Critical Years	73 TAF	-12 TAF	61 TAF

Delta Outflows

Several aspects of Action 5 could cause impacts to Delta outflows, on both a seasonal and yearly basis. For example, Action 5 proposes to eliminate the fall X2 component of the Delta Smelt Summer and Fall Habitat Action without any alternative action (such as potential summer habitat actions if supported by science). And, as noted above, Action 5 assumes the use and approval of TUCPs on a consistent and prolonged basis. Reclamation is already on notice that assuming TUCPs will be requested and granted is inappropriate and unsupported and the State Water Board has consistently raised legal concerns with this assumption during the LTO processes for the Projects. TUCPs are intended for unforeseen, unplanned, urgent emergency circumstances and assuming a chain of discretionary actions that culminates in a state waiver of its legal authorities is not appropriate for long-term operational planning. Modeling indicates that action 5 would result in a net average reduction of 290 thousand acre-feet (TAF) of Delta outflow annually which would have significant impacts to native fish species, particularly during dry and critical years when species are already stressed by dry conditions. These changes would also likely affect the implementation of the HRL. The seasonal results by water year type are shown below. However, again, this modeling comparison may significantly underestimate the actual changes in Delta outflows.

Seasonal Differences in Delta Outflow Volumes (total seasonal volume TAF)

Action 5 (with TUCPs with VAs) minus Preferred Alt (without TUCP with VAs)	Jan-June	July-Dec	Total
<i>All Water Year Type Average</i>	<i>-62 TAF</i>	<i>-226 TAF</i>	<i>-289 TAF</i>
Wet Years	15 TAF	-504 TAF	-498 TAF
Above Normal Years	11 TAF	-546 TAF	-535 TAF
Below Normal Years	57 TAF	-23 TAF	34 TAF
Dry Years	-109 TAF	17 TAF	-91 TAF
Critical Years	-327 TAF	-23 TAF	-350 TAF

Shasta Operations

Management of Shasta Reservoir for temperature control and other fisheries purposes is critical for the protection of winter-run Chinook salmon and other California salmon runs and native species on the Sacramento River. Action 5 eliminates important elements of Shasta operations that could weaken protections for native fish species. Specifically, Action 5 eliminates Reclamation's commitment to the Winter-run Action Plan, including its science, fishery actions, infrastructure improvements, and reintroduction efforts to benefit Winter-run as well as the operational and biological goals and objectives that were in the 2024 Proposed Action (PA) for Shasta Reservoir temperature management and operations. It also removes the multi-agency Shasta Operations Team (SHOT), which included the State Water Board and fisheries agencies, in favor of a governance framework limited to Reclamation, which would retain sole discretion to determine operations each year. While the 2024 PA described governance as "structured to seek consensus across scientific, technical and policy levels", Action 5 states that its forums for input "do not make decisions nor seek consensus." So, Action 5 replaces the prior collaborative multi-agency governance structure with a less collaborative approach to real-time decision making. These changes will likely result in less protective conditions for listed, as well as non-listed species like fall-run Chinook salmon that multi-agency coordination has historically benefited from. Regardless of these changes, Reclamation will still be required to comply with State Water Board Order 90-5 Sacramento River temperature management requirements, including requirements for coordination.

Effects on Special-Status Species

Action 5 concludes that it will not result in impacts with a "population level effect" on species. However, these conclusions are not supported.

Relative to the 2024 Proposed Action, Reclamation's assessment indicates that predicted salvage losses under Action 5 would increase for the following species, depending on water year type:

- Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (additional loss varies between 8-32%)
- Central Valley spring-run Chinook Salmon (additional loss varies between 1-9%)
- California Central Valley steelhead (additional loss varies between 5-9%, except in dry years)
- Central Valley fall-run Chinook salmon (additional loss up to 5%)

Under Action 5, Reclamation's assessment indicates that mean annual population growth rate for Delta smelt would be reduced in all years and up to 7.5% during wetter water years (Wet and Above Normal) relative to the 2024 Proposed Action (PA). Longfin smelt abundance was predicted to vary, ranging from 1% decrease to 11% increase relative to the 2024 PA, depending on water year type.

Reclamation's analyses indicate that green sturgeon salvage losses are predicted to be largely unchanged in wet, below normal, dry and critical water years. However, green

sturgeon losses under Action 5 in above normal years are estimated to be 20% higher compared to the 2024 PA. Green sturgeon and steelhead are federally listed only, and it is notable that take limits at Project facilities for both species have been recently exceeded. When the take limit for steelhead was exceeded in early 2024, operations were not modified. When the take limit for green sturgeon was exceeded in September 2025, Reclamation proposed an Incidental Take Statement amendment to raise the take limit. These take limit issues further reduce protection for these California species.

Governance, Coordination, and Oversight

The governance structure proposed under Action 5 minimizes meaningful multi-agency feedback and input in decision making through the elimination of technical, managerial, and Director level working groups and instead provides autonomy to Reclamation in decision making rather than collaboration to ensure that decisions are well informed and supported. These changes will likely result in less protective conditions for listed, as well as non-listed species like fall-run Chinook salmon that multi-agency coordination has historically benefited from.

In addition to the issues identified above, Reclamation is currently unilaterally making significant changes to long-standing ecological monitoring activities in the Delta. For over 60 years these efforts have been collaboratively managed between state and federal agencies with significant expertise and regulatory responsibilities. Reclamation's changes create concerns about the availability, reliability, and transparency of data used to inform management decisions, including the action 5 changes.

In summary, relying on the existing 2024 LTO EIS and biological opinions for proposed Action 5 appears legally unsupported as Action 5:

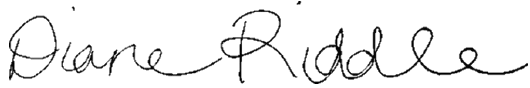
- Speculatively relies on TUCPs that are legally unavailable from the State Water Board absent extraordinary state action.
- Suggests that water supply deliveries under Action 5 are within the range analyzed in the 2024 LTO Final EIS, but water supply deliveries under Action 5 are outside the range of the four versions of Alternative 2, the Preferred Alternative, in the LTO EIS.
- Does not analyze Action 5 as it relates to potential HRL activities.
- Does not analyze or detail potential impacts of inconsistent operations between the SWP and CVP on water quality and species protection.
- Does not adequately analyze the scope or consequences of likely increased adverse impacts on listed species and whether this is reasonably expected, directly or indirectly, to diminish species' numbers, reproduction, or distribution so that the likelihood of both survival and recovery is appreciably reduced.

The concerns identified in this letter are based on staff's initial review of Action 5 and are not necessarily exhaustive.

The State Water Board staff appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the LTO Action 5.

If you would like to discuss these comments further, please contact me at diane.riddle@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Riddle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and "R".

Diane Riddle
Assistant Deputy Director
Division of Water Rights

❖ WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ❖

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
 FROM: Robert Kunde
 DATE: December 8, 2025
 SUBJECT: **Sites Reservoir - Consider Approval of Agreements to Assign 1000 AF of District/Booth Ranches LLC Participation to Santa Clara Valley Water District**

The District and Santa Clara Valley Water District have reached agreement on the terms for the Assignment of 1000 AF of Sites Participation to Santa Clara. This assignment has been developed per the request of Booth Ranches LLC to terminate its participation in the Sites Project, and consistent with prior Board direction. Santa Clara has executed the Assignment and Assumption Agreement (attached). The District is seeking Santa Clara's assent to the clarifications of intent shown in yellow highlights therein which were not part of the executed Assignment Agreement.

The Assignment Agreement terms provide for Santa Clara to pay \$608,500 to the District for cost reimbursement as follows:

- a. \$560,000.00 (1000 AF of Booth Participation X \$560.00/AF). This is all of Water User's Sites Participation Cost payments for Phases 2A, 2B and 2C. This amount, less District costs incurred after December 1, 2025 specific to this Assignment, would be paid to Booth Ranches upon necessary approvals from Sites, and completion of the statute of limitations regarding any possible litigation. It does not include any District administrative costs which were paid by Booth and are not reimbursable.
- b. \$ 48,500.00 (1000 AF of Participation X \$48.50/AF). This is District's payment to the Project for Phase 1 and would be retained by the District.

The Assignment Agreement also provides for:

- c. Reimbursement of District costs to develop the Assignment Agreement - not to exceed \$10,000.
- d. Indemnification by Santa Clara to the District.

District Counsel has prepared a draft Cancellation of Grower Participation Agreement between the District and Booth Ranches LLC (copy attached). It is undergoing review by the Retired Annuitant and Booth Ranches. It is proposed to release Booth Ranches from its 2026 District administration charge and otherwise terminate the Grower Agreement upon distribution of the funds described above.

Recommendation. In order to timely complete the Assignment and Cancellation, it is recommended the Engineer-Manager be authorized to execute both documents in substantially similar form to that shown attached and described herein upon approval of Counsel as to form.

Attachments (2)

**CANCELLATION OF GROWER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT
AND CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT
(DRAFT SMT 11/25/2025)**

This Cancellation of Grower Participation Agreement and Consent to Assignment and Assumption Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and entered into as of _____, 2025 (“Execution Date”), by and between **Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District**, a California water storage district formed and existing pursuant to Water Code section 39000, et seq. (“Assignor” or “District”), and **Booth Ranches LLC** a Water User with in the District (“Water User”), sometimes referred to herein collectively as the “parties” and singularly as a “party,” with reference to the following facts:

WHEREAS, Assignor is a Project Agreement Member under that certain “*SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY - 2019 RESERVOIR PROJECT AGREEMENT DATED AS OF APRIL 1, 2019 BY AND AMONG SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY AND THE PROJECT AGREEMENT MEMBERS LISTED HEREIN*” as amended from time to time (“Project Agreement”), which is attached as **Exhibit A** hereto and incorporated herein by this reference;

WHEREAS, District and Water User have entered into the “Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water District Second Amended 2019 Sites Reservoir Project, Phase 2A and Phase 2B and Phase 2C Grower Participation Agreement,” and “First Amendment to Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water District Second Amended 2019 Sites Reservoir Project, Phase 2A and Phase 2B and Phase 2C Grower Participation Agreement,” attached as “Exhibit A” hereto and collectively referred to hereinafter as the “**Grower Participation Agreement**”;

WHEREAS, the Grower Participation Agreement provides for Water User’s payment of a portion of the District’s Sites Reservoir Project (“Project”) Phase 2A, 2B and 2C funding obligations incurred pursuant to the Project Agreement, in exchange for a percentage of potential future benefits of the Project being passed through by the District to the Water User, subject to the terms and conditions of the Grower Participation Agreement;

WHEREAS, Water User no longer desires to fund the costs of or preserve its ability to participate in the Project, and Water User has requested that the District assign, in return for payment of monetary consideration acceptable to Water User, the Amount of Participation Percentage (as defined below) associated with Water User’s Grower Participation Agreement;

WHEREAS, as requested by Water User, the District is willing to assign to Assignee, Santa Clara Valley Water District, its rights to 6,234 acre-feet (of Assignor’s 19,014 acre-feet) of project storage allocation (Box b of Project Agreement Exhibit, A), 1,000 acre-feet (of Assignor’s current 3,050 acre-feet) of its estimated annualized Project releases or yield (Box a of Project Agreement, Exhibit A), and 0.5902% (of Assignor’s 1.8%) of total project Agreement Member storage (Project Agreement, Exhibit A “Percent”) (hereinafter, collectively, the “Amount of Participation Percentage”) of Assignor’s Participation Percentage (as defined in the Project Agreement), on the terms described in the **Assignment Agreement** attached hereto as **Exhibit B**;

WHEREAS, Assignee is also a Project Agreement Member under said Project Agreement;

WHEREAS, Section 12 of the Project Agreement provides for assignments of Sites Project Participation among Project Agreement Members as follows:

"Section 12 Assignment; Binding on Successors. Except as otherwise provided in this Project Agreement, the rights and duties of the Project Agreement Members may not be assigned or delegated without the written consent of the other Project Agreement Members and the [Sites Project] Authority, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any attempt to assign or delegate such rights or duties in contravention of this Project Agreement shall be null and void. Project Agreement Members may assign and delegate their rights and duties under this Project Agreement to other Project Agreement Members, and they may assign, sell, trade, or exchange all or a fraction of the potential benefits (e.g. acre-feet of water supply, megawatt-hours of power) they expect to receive through their participation in this Project Agreement. Any approved assignment or delegation shall be consistent with the terms of any contracts, resolutions, indemnities and other obligations of the Authority then in effect. This Project Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and assigns of the Authority and the Project Agreement Members."; and

WHEREAS, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the Assignment Agreement (including its implementation), District and Water User agree to cancellation of the Grower Participation Agreement and Water User consents to the District's assignment of the Amount of Participation Percentage associated with said Grower Participation Agreement to Assignee.

NOW, THEREFORE, for valuable consideration received, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Consent to Assignment and Assumption Agreement; Cancellation of Grower Participation Agreement. Water User consents to Assignor executing the Assignment Agreement in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B hereto, and, as provided in the Assignment Agreement, permanently assigning, transferring, conveying and delegating to Assignee all of Assignor's rights, obligations and liabilities in and to Assignor's right to 6,234 AF (of Assignor's 19,014 acre-feet) of project storage allocation (Box b of Project Agreement Exhibit, A), 1,000 acre-feet (of Assignor's current 3,050 acre-feet) of its estimated annualized Project releases or yield (Box a of Project Agreement, Exhibit A), and 0.5902% (of Assignor's 1.8%) of total project Agreement Member storage (Project Agreement, Exhibit A "Percent") ("Amount of Participation Percentage" or "Participation Percentage"). Provided that District receives the payment described in Section 3. below from Assignee, District shall make the payment to Water User as provided in Section 3. below.

(See Kunde suggested changes.) In addition, upon the Assignment Agreement becoming effective and the payment described in Section 3. below being made by Assignee to

District, all as provided in the Assignment Agreement, the Grower Participation Agreement shall be treated as terminated, provided, however, that Water User shall continue to be responsible for all outstanding obligations under the Grower Participation Agreement, if any, and District shall reserve all rights thereunder to enforce those obligations. Grower understands and agrees that, upon termination of the Grower Participation Agreement, any and all rights and claims of rights to participate in the Project shall be considered forever relinquished and waived by Water User.

2. Effective Date. This Agreement shall become effective upon the *latest* of the following events: the Effective Date of the Assignment Agreement; and execution by both parties to this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives.
3. Payment. (See Kunde suggested changes.) Provided the District receives the \$608,500.00 from Assignee pursuant to the Assignment Agreement, District shall promptly make such payment to Water User upon the occurrence of the expiration of 180 days after the later of (a) the Effective Date of the Assignment Agreement and this Agreement and (b) the District's receipt of said payment amount, without the filing of litigation or other legal challenge to this Agreement, the Assignment Agreement, or the legality of the assignment. In the event of such a legal challenge, the District may, in its sole discretion, hold such payment until a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction has been issued upholding the legality of the assignment or some other arrangement has been agreed to by the parties that is protective of the District, but the District shall be under no obligation to continue to pay for any costs or expenses associated with maintenance of said Amount of Grower Participation Percentage. Should any claim or cause of action be brought against the District by another party claiming that said payment was made to the wrong party, then Water User shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the District from and against any such claim or cause of action.
Termination. In the event the Assignment Agreement is terminated, then this Agreement shall be terminated unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.
4. Indemnification. Water User agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless District, and its respective officers, directors, agents, attorneys, contractors and employees from and against any and all threatened and actual claims, demands, liens, losses, injuries, damages, liabilities, causes of action, suits, judgments, expenses and costs (including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' paralegals' and expert witness fees and litigation costs, including pre-litigation and post-litigation costs) (collectively, "Claims") that are or may hereafter be incurred by District that arise out of or otherwise relate (in whole or in part) to any acts or omissions associated with entry into or implementation of this Agreement or the Assignment Agreement, including, without limitation, the assignment and assumption of rights and obligations and liabilities associated with the Participation Percentage to Assignee, including but not limited to any Claims concerning compliance with Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq. ("CEQA"), as may be required in order for Assignor to assign its Participation Percentage for use by Assignee as provided herein. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

5. Environmental Review/Legal Compliance. District and Water User acknowledge that the Sites Project Authority certified its Final Environmental Impact Report ("FEIR") and issued approval for the Sites Project on or about November 17, 2023, and that the certification and approval were upheld in a judgment issued in *Friends of the River, et al. v. Sites Project Authority, et al.*, Yolo County Superior Court, Case No. CV2023-2626, which trial court judgment was affirmed by the Third Appellate District Court of Appeals on September 20, 2024. District makes no representations or warranties and expresses no opinion regarding whether the subject assignment and assumption are covered by the FEIR, exempt from CEQA review, or whether further environmental review may be required for the same. In the event further CEQA review is required, Water User acknowledges and agrees that the Parties to the Assignment Agreement each retain their full and independent discretion under CEQA to consider and adopt mitigation measures and alternatives, including the alternative of not implementing the assignment and assumption of Assignee's Participation Percentage, and that the District's ability to perform under this Agreement may be effected as a result of any such additional CEQA review (including any legal challenge).
6. Costs of Defense of Legal Action. Without limiting District's rights to be indemnified as provided in Section 4. above, in the event of any legal action by a third party to challenge implementation of this Agreement or the Assignment Agreement, District shall cooperate in the defense thereof but shall be fully indemnified, as provided in Section 6 above, and, upon request by District, Water User shall, at its sole discretion, either retain counsel to represent District or instead reimburse District for its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in defending itself in such litigation.
7. No Warranties. District makes no representations or warranties whatsoever regarding the rights being assigned or obligations being assumed in connection with this Agreement or the Assignment Agreement, including, without limitation, whether Assignee will perform under the Assignment Agreement and whether the approvals required to implement the assignment will be given, or what environmental review or approvals or conditions may be required to be obtained or need to be satisfied to enter into or implement this Agreement or the Assignment Agreement or whether it will be possible to obtain such review or approvals or satisfy such conditions.
8. Authority. The undersigned representatives of the Parties hereby represent and warrant that they are authorized to execute this Agreement.
9. Notice. Written notice may be provided by either party to the other by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the following addresses:

Water User: Booth Ranches LLC

Attn:

District: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313
Attn: Sheridan Nicholas, Engineer-Manager

10. Further Assurances. Each of the Parties hereto shall execute and deliver any and all additional papers, documents, and other assurances and shall do any and all acts reasonably necessary in connection with the performance of their obligations hereunder.
11. Binding Effect. All of the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and shall be binding upon, the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns, provided, however, neither party shall assign their rights or obligations under this agreement without the prior written approval of the other party.
12. Governing Law; Venue. This Agreement shall in all respects be governed by the laws of the State of California.
13. Recovery of Litigation Expenses. In the event action be instituted by any Party to enforce any of the terms and provisions contained herein, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and expenses as may be fixed by the Court.
14. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in two or more separate counterparts, each of which, when so executed, shall be deemed to be an original. Such counterparts shall, together, constitute and be one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the Execution Date first above written.

Water User: BOOTH RANCHES LLC

BY: _____

Assignor: WHEELER RIDGE- MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

BY: _____
Sheridan Nicholas, Engineer-Manager

EXHIBIT A

[GROWER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT]

DRAFT

EXHIBIT B

[ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT]

DRAFT

ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT

This Assignment and Assumption Agreement (“Assignment Agreement”) is made and entered into as of _____, 2025 (“Execution Date”), by and between **Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District**, a California water storage district formed and existing pursuant to Water Code section 39000, et seq. (“Assignor” or “District”), and **Santa Clara Valley Water District**, a California special district created by Legislature (“Assignee”), sometimes referred to herein collectively as the “parties” and singularly as a “party,” with reference to the following facts:

WHEREAS, Assignor is a Project Agreement Member under that certain “*SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY - 2019 RESERVOIR PROJECT AGREEMENT DATED AS OF APRIL 1, 2019 BY AND AMONG SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY AND THE PROJECT AGREEMENT MEMBERS LISTED HEREIN*” as amended from time to time (“Project Agreement”), which is attached as **Exhibit A** hereto and incorporated herein by this reference;

WHEREAS, Assignor is willing to assign its rights to 6,234 acre-feet (of Assignor’s 19,014 acre-feet) of project storage allocation (Box b of Project Agreement Exhibit, A), 1,000 acre-feet (of Assignor’s current 3,050 acre-feet) of its estimated annualized Project releases or yield (Box a of Project Agreement, Exhibit A), and 0.5902% (of Assignor’s 1.8%) of total project Agreement Member storage (Project Agreement, Exhibit A “Percent”) (hereinafter, “Amount of Participation Percentage”) of Assignor’s Participation Percentage (as defined in the Project Agreement), on the terms described in this Assignment Agreement;

WHEREAS, Assignee is also a Project Agreement Member under said Project Agreement;

WHEREAS, Section 12 of the Project Agreement provides for assignments of Sites Project Participation among Project Agreement Members as follows:

“Section 12 Assignment; Binding on Successors. Except as otherwise provided in this Project Agreement, the rights and duties of the Project Agreement Members may not be assigned or delegated without the written consent of the other Project Agreement Members and the [Sites Project] Authority, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any attempt to assign or delegate such rights or duties in contravention of this Project Agreement shall be null and void. Project Agreement Members may assign and delegate their rights and duties under this Project Agreement to other Project Agreement Members, and they may assign, sell, trade, or exchange all or a fraction of the potential benefits (e.g. acre-feet of water supply, megawatt-hours of power) they expect to receive through their participation in this Project Agreement. Any approved assignment or delegation shall be consistent with the terms of any contracts, resolutions, indemnities and other obligations of the Authority then in effect. This Project Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and assigns of the Authority and the Project Agreement Members.”; and

WHEREAS, Assignee understands that Assignor is willing to facilitate the assignment and assumption of all rights and obligations associated with the Amount of Assignor's Participation Percentage, provided that Assignor is fully indemnified, defended, and held harmless for any claims including legal challenges arising out of or relating to the assignment and assumption, and Assignor makes no representations or warranties whatsoever regarding the validity of said assignment and assumption or the rights being assigned, or what environmental review or approvals may be required to effectuate the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, for valuable consideration received, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Assignment and Assumption. Subject to Assignee having first obtained all necessary approvals and consents and having satisfied all required conditions precedent pertaining to the effectiveness of the subject assignment and assumption at no cost to Assignor, including, without limitation, having obtained the written consents required by Section 12 of the Project Agreement, Assignor hereby permanently assigns, transfers, conveys and delegates to Assignee all of Assignor's rights, obligations and liabilities in and to Assignor's right to 6,234 AF (of Assignor's 19,014 acre-feet) of project storage allocation (Box b of Project Agreement Exhibit, A), 1,000 acre-feet (of Assignor's current 3,050 acre-feet) of its estimated annualized Project releases or yield (Box a of Project Agreement, Exhibit A), and 0.5902% (of Assignor's 1.8%) of total project Agreement Member storage (Project Agreement, Exhibit A "Percent") (collectively, the "Amount of Participation Percentage" or "Participation Percentage"), and Assignee hereby accepts the foregoing assignment, transfer, conveyance and delegation, and hereby assumes and agrees to perform all of Assignor's obligations and liabilities under the Project Agreement and otherwise relating to the Assignor's Amount of Participation Percentage whether arising from this or any other applicable agreement or approval concerning the Sites Project from and after the Effective Date hereof as defined immediately below.

Without limiting the scope of Assignee's obligation as described above, Assignee shall be responsible for all future Sites Project costs and any past Sites Project cost adjustments based on Amount of Participation associated with the assignment and assumption of this Amount of Participation Percentage, and Assignor shall be relieved of same but only with respect to the assignment and assumption of Assignor's Amount of Participation Percentage that is the subject of this Assignment Agreement.

2. Effective Date. This Assignment Agreement shall become effective upon the *latest* of the following events: written consent to this assignment by the other Project Agreement Members and the Sites Project Authority; and execution by both parties to this Assignment Agreement by their duly authorized representatives.
3. Payment. Assignee shall pay Assignor \$608.50 per acre-foot for the amount of its estimated annualized Project releases or yield assigned (\$608,500) minus its deposit payment within 30 days of the Effective Date. Also, upon billing by Assignor, Assignee shall reimburse Assignor for its staff and attorney costs associated with developing and

executing the Assignment Agreement, which costs shall not exceed \$10,000.

4. Deposit/Time is of the Essence. Assignee shall deposit \$30 per acre-foot of the assigned Participation Percentage (\$30,000) to Assignor within 14 days of execution of this Assignment Agreement. The Deposit shall be applied toward the Payment.

Time is of the essence. The Parties shall diligently pursue the necessary approvals with a target for approval by all Project Agreement Members and by the Sites Project Authority by February 1, 2026. In the event that any Project Agreement Member or the Sites Project Authority refuses to provide a written consent to this assignment by this date, the Deposit shall be refunded in full to Assignee within 30 days thereafter unless both Parties mutually agree in writing to continue this February 1, 2026 deadline to a later date.

5. Termination. Prior to the time Assignee makes the Payment of \$608,500 (less the Deposit) to Assignor as specified in Section 3. above, Assignee or Assignor shall have the right to terminate this Assignment Agreement upon 30 days' notice to the other party. If Assignee gives notice of terminating this Assignment Agreement, the Deposit shall be forfeited. If Assignor terminates this Assignment Agreement, the Deposit shall be refunded to Assignee within 30 days of such notice of termination.
6. Indemnification. Assignee agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Assignor, and its respective officers, directors, agents, attorneys, contractors and employees from and against any and all threatened and actual claims, demands, liens, losses, injuries, damages, liabilities, causes of action, suits, judgments, expenses and costs (including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' paralegals' and expert witness fees and litigation costs, including pre-litigation and post-litigation costs) (collectively, "Claims") that are or may hereafter be incurred by Assignor that arise out of or otherwise relate (in whole or in part) to any acts or omissions associated with entry into or implementation of this Assignment Agreement, including, without limitation, the assignment and assumption of rights and obligations and liabilities associated with the Participation Percentage to Assignee, including but not limited to any Claims concerning compliance with Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq. ("CEQA"), as may be required in order for Assignor to assign its Participation Percentage for use by Assignee as provided herein.
7. Environmental Review/Legal Compliance. Assignor and Assignee acknowledge that the Sites Project Authority certified its Final Environmental Impact Report ("FEIR") and issued approval for the Sites Project on or about November 17, 2023, and that the certification and approval were upheld in a judgment issued in *Friends of the River, et al. v. Sites Project Authority, et al.*, Yolo County Superior Court, Case No. CV2023-2626, which trial court judgment was affirmed by the Third Appellate District Court of Appeals on September 20, 2024. Assignor makes no representations or warranties and expresses no opinion regarding whether the subject assignment and assumption are covered by the FEIR, exempt from CEQA review, or whether further environmental review may be required for the same. Assignee shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with determining whether any further CEQA review is required and conducting any further environmental review as may be necessary in order for the subject assignment and

assumption to comply with CEQA and any other applicable law and regulations and requirements. Assignee shall act as lead agency for any CEQA compliance, if required, unless some other public agency is required by law to act as lead agency. In the event Assignor is required to act as lead or responsible agency for any CEQA review, then Assignee shall reimburse Assignor for all costs of doing so, and, if requested by Assignor, shall enter into a separate agreement in a form acceptable to Assignor for such purpose. In the event further CEQA review is required, the Parties each retain their full and independent discretion under CEQA to consider and adopt mitigation measures and alternatives, including the alternative of not implementing the assignment and assumption of Assignee's Participation Percentage.

8. Costs of Defense of Legal Action. Without limiting Assignor's rights to be indemnified as provided in Section 6 above, in the event of any legal action by a third party to challenge implementation of this Assignment Agreement, Assignor shall cooperate in the defense thereof but shall be fully indemnified, as provided in Section 6 above, and Assignee shall, at its sole discretion, either retain counsel to represent Assignor or instead reimburse Assignor for its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in defending itself in such litigation.
9. No Warranties. Assignor makes no representations or warranties whatsoever regarding the rights being assigned or obligations being assumed in connection with this Assignment Agreement, including, without limitation, the nature, extent or status of the Sites Project or its costs or yield, now or in the future, or what environmental review or approvals or conditions may be required to be obtained or need to be satisfied to enter into or implement this Assignment Agreement or whether it will be possible to obtain such review or approvals or satisfy such conditions.
10. Authority. The undersigned representatives of the Parties hereby represent and warrant that they are authorized to execute this Assignment Agreement.
11. Notice. Written notice may be provided by either party to the other by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the following addresses:

Assignee: Santa Clara Valley Water District,
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118
Attn: Cindy Kao, Imported Water Unit Manager

Assignor: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313
Attn: Sheridan Nicholas, Engineer-Manager

12. Further Assurances. Subject to Assignee reimbursing Assignor for any required costs as specified herein, each of the Parties hereto shall execute and deliver any and all additional

papers, documents, and other assurances and shall do any and all acts reasonably necessary in connection with the performance of their obligations hereunder.

13. Binding Effect. All of the terms and provisions of this Assignment Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and shall be binding upon, the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.
14. Governing Law; Venue. This Assignment Agreement shall in all respects be governed by the laws of the State of California.
15. Recovery of Litigation Expenses. In the event action be instituted by any Party to enforce any of the terms and provisions contained herein, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and expenses as may be fixed by the Court.
16. Execution in Counterparts. This Assignment Agreement may be executed in two or more separate counterparts, each of which, when so executed, shall be deemed to be an original. Such counterparts shall, together, constitute and be one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this and Assumption Agreement as of the **Execution Date first above written.**

Assignee: SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

BY: _____
Melanie Richardson, Interim Chief Executive Officer

Assignor: WHEELER RIDGE- MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

BY: _____
Sheridan Nicholas, Engineer-Manager



KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Stuart T. Pyle Water Resources Center

3200 Rio Mirada Drive
Bakersfield, California 93308

Notice of BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 19, 2025

Conference Line: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122)

Access Code: 863-465-805#

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/863465805>

AGENDA

- I. Call to order – 12:00 p.m.
- II. Report of the General Counsel
 - A. Authorization for Closed Session regarding:
 1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)):
 - a. Applications Filed for Kern River Water
 - b. California Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Contract Extension Amendments
 - c. North Coast Rivers Alliance, et al. v. California Department of Water Resources (COA CEQA)
 - d. California Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Authorization of Delta Program Revenue Bonds
 - e. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, *et al.* v. Kern County Water Agency, *et al.* (CVC Issues)
 - f. Kern Delta Water District, *et al.* v. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Onyx CEQA)
 - g. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District v. Buena Vista Water Storage District, *et al.* (Onyx Water Rights)

- h. California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, *et al.* v. California State Water Resources Control Board, *et al.*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003761 (2021 Order Re Temporary Urgency Change Petition)
- i. California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, *et al.* v. State Water Resources Control Board, *et al.*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003763 (2021 Order Re Shasta Temporary Management Plan)
- j. California Water Impact Network v. Department of Water Resources, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2020-80003492; North Coast Rivers Alliance v. Department of Water Resources, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2020-80003491 (Water Management Tools)
- k. Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations, *et al.* v. Ross,, E.D. Cal., Case No. 1:20-cv-00431 & California Natural Resources Agency, *et al.* v. Ross, *et al.*, E.D. Cal., Case No. 1:20-cv-00426 (Long-term Operations)
- l. State Water Board Cases, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. JCCP 5013 (Water Quality Control Plan Phase 1 Litigation)
- m. Oroville Dam Cases, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. JCCP 4974
- n. Temporary Applications Filed for Kern River Water
- o. Bring Back the Kern, *et al.* v. City of Bakersfield, *et al.*, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-22-103220
- p. Delta Conveyance Project Litigation, Court Case No. 24WM000017
- q. California Sportsfishing Alliance, *et al.* v. California Department of Water Resources and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, *et al.*, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 24WM000181; Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, *et al.* v. California Department of Water Resources and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, *et al.*, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 24WM000183; San Francisco Baykeeper, *et al.* v. California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 24WM000185; and Central Delta Water Agency and South Delta Water Agency v. California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 24WM000186 (2024 Incidental Take Permit Litigation)
- r. Mass X, Inc. v. Kern County Water Agency, *et al.*, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-24-104394

- s. Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of Delta Conveyance Project Program Revenue Bonds etc. (2025 DWR Validation Action), Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 25 CV000704
 - t. America West Lender Services, LLC v. Barrickman, et al., Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-25-102514
 - 2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Significant exposure to litigation: (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2)):
 - a. Three potential suits
 - 3. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code section 54956.8):
 - a. Negotiator: Water Resources Manager
Property: State Water Project Water
Parties: California Department of Water Resources and State Water Project Contractors
Under Negotiation: Price & Terms
 - b. Negotiator: Water Resources Manager
Property: Kern River Lower River Water
Parties: Kern County Water Agency Member Units
Under Negotiation: Price & Terms
- III. Closed Session Report
- IV. Election of Kern County Water Agency Board Officer
- V. Directors' Forum
 - A. Introduction of Appointment of a Director to Fill the Vacancy in Division 4 of the Board of Directors of the Kern County Water Agency
- VI. Public Comment
Anyone may comment on any subject within Agency jurisdiction whether or not it is on the agenda. Time for such comment may be limited.
- VII. Report of the General Manager
- VIII. Advisory Committee Reports
 - A. Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee
 - B. Improvement District No. 3 Advisory Committee
 - C. Urban Bakersfield Advisory Committee

IX. Consent Agenda Items

The following items are routine and will be approved collectively without discussion, unless a Board member or staff member (who has raised that issue with the Board President prior to the start of the meeting) requests that an item be removed for separate consideration:

A. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of Board Meetings and Committee Meetings – Regular Board Meeting October 23, 2025
2. Payment of the Bills
3. Consideration of the Kern County Water Agency Investment Policy
4. Consideration of the Competitive Procurement Policy
5. Authorization to Execute an Amendment to an Article 55 Agreement Between the Department of Water Resources of the State of California and Kern County Water Agency for Conveyance of San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority's 2025 Central Valley Project Water, SWP #25018-A
6. Authorization to Execute an Agreement Among the Department of Water Resources of the State of California, Kern County Water Agency and San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for a Transfer of San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's 2025 State Water Project Table A Water to Kern County Water Agency, SWP #25042
7. Authorization to Execute Amended Long-Term Agreements with the Participating Basic Contract Member Units for the Yuba Dry Year Water Purchase Program
8. Authorization to Execute Amendment No. 7 to the Agreement for the Supply and Conveyance of Water by the Department of Water Resources of the State of California to the Participating State Water Project Contractors Under the Dry Year Water Purchase Program
9. Authorization to Reject All Bids for the Improvement District No. 4 North & East Pipeline Continuity Restoration Project – Contract No. KCWA 2025-07
10. Authorization to Execute a Change Order for the North Pioneer East Basin Turnout Structures Project – Contract No. KCWA 2025-01
11. Authorization to Execute an Agreement for Installation of Fiber Optic Facilities

X. Board Committee Reports

The following items will be discussed in detail at the meeting and may result in appropriate action being taken relating to the subject matter (such action may or may not conform to any staff recommended action):

A. **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Director Cattani, Chair**

1. Report of the Administrative Operations Manager
2. Financial Report
3. Treasury Report
4. Appointment of an Acting Board Secretary

B. **POLICY COMMITTEE – Director Milobar, Chair**

1. Update on Delta Conveyance Activities

C. **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Director Fast, Chair**

1. Report of the Water Resources Manager
2. Report on 2025 State Water Project and Central Valley Project Allocations and Operations
3. Water Delivery Operations
 - a. Report on Kern County Water Agency California Aqueduct Deliveries
 - b. Update on Water Transfers, Exchanges and Purchases
4. Consideration of Providing Advance Credits for Variable Operation, Maintenance, Power and Replacement Charges, for Former Table 1 Surplus Entitlement on the Basic Contract Member Until January 2026 Payments
5. Authorization to Delay Basic Contract Member Unit January 2026 Payments Per the 90 Day Deferral Option
6. Sustainable Groundwater Management
 - a. Update on the Pioneer Groundwater Sustainability Agency
 - b. Report on the Kern Non-Districted Lands Authority Meeting

D. WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Director Kroeker, Chair

1. Report of the Engineering and Groundwater Services Manager
 - a. Update on Groundwater Banking Construction/Maintenance Projects
2. Report on 2025 Water Operations
3. Authorization to Approve the 2026 Pioneer Project Budgets
4. Authorization to Approve the 2026 Berrenda Mesa Joint Water Banking Project Budget
5. Report on Kern Water Bank Activities

E. CROSS VALLEY CANAL COMMITTEE – Director Lundquist, Chair

1. Report of the Water Resources Manager
 - a. Update on Cross Valley Canal Construction/Maintenance Projects
2. Report on Cross Valley Canal Operations and Deliveries
3. Authorization to Approve the 2026 Cross Valley Canal Operations and Maintenance Budget

F. URBAN BAKERSFIELD COMMITTEE – Director Wulff, Chair

1. Report of the Improvement District No. 4 Manager
 - a. Report on the Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Agency Meeting
2. Report on the Improvement District No. 4 2025 Water Supply and Management Plan
3. Report on the Henry C. Garnett Water Purification Plant

XI. Correspondence

XII. Brief Report on Potential New Business

XIII. Adjournment

DECLARATION OF POSTING: I declare under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the Kern County Water Agency and that I posted the foregoing Agenda at the Agency Office on November 14, 2025.


Stephanie N. Prince, Board Secretary

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY



Regular Meeting of Board of Directors of the Kern Water Bank Authority

Tuesday, December 9, 2025, 3:15 PM
Kern Water Bank Authority Conference Room¹
1620 Mill Rock Way, Suite 500, Bakersfield, California

This meeting is held in accordance with the Brown Act pursuant to Section 54950, et seq. of the California Government Code and the Kern Water Bank Authority (KWBA) Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement.

AGENDA

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Appointment of Officers**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
The Board will consider approval of November 4, 2025, Regular Board of Directors' Meeting minutes.
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
The Board will consider approval of the November 2025 Treasurer's Report.
- 5. Authorization to Pay Expenses of Authority**
The Board will consider approval of payment of the November 2025 accounts payable.
- 6. Retirement Plan Amendments**
The Board will consider approval of amendments of to the KWBA's 401(a) retirement plan.
- 7. Reports/Other Action Items**
 - A) Staff Report
Review and possibly act on previously submitted Staff Report and staff recommendations regarding:
 - (1) Water Bank Operations
 - (2) 3rd Party Facilities on Kern Water Bank
 - (3) Adjacent Properties
 - (4) KWBA HCP/NCCP and Land Management
 - (5) Capital Improvements/Maintenance and Funding
 - (6) Data Collection and Automation
 - (7) Loan Refinancing
 - B) Directors, Counsel and Committee Reports
The Board of Directors will hear and possibly act on reports and recommendations:
 - (1) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee

¹ Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

8. Old Business

This portion of the meeting is set aside for the discussion of matters which have been addressed at previous Board meetings.

9. New Business

This portion of the meeting is set aside to provide the Board an opportunity to bring to the attention of the other Board members and the public matters which have come to their attention, subject to certain exceptions. No action can be taken on any matter discussed during this portion of the meeting; however, a Board member may request that a subject be placed on any future agenda.

10. Public Input

This portion of the meeting is set aside to provide the public an opportunity to bring to the attention of the Board members, matters of which the Board may not be aware, subject to certain exceptions. No action can be taken on any matter discussed during this portion of the meeting; however, a Board member may request that a subject be placed on any future agenda.

11. Closed Session

- A) Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation (Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(1)).

(1) Various Applications to appropriate Kern River water, complaint and related proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board.

- B) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Initiation of litigation pursuant to Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(4). Two potential litigations.
- C) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(2). Two potential litigations.
- D) Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Gov. Code section 54956.8.

KWBA Representative: General Manager and Geologist
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
Negotiating Parties: KWBA and Kern County Water Agency
Property: Nord Turnout

- E) Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Gov. Code section 54956.8.

KWBA Representative: General Manager and Geologist
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
Negotiating Parties: KWBA and PG&E
Property: APN#s 160-030-03, 160-030-09, 160-020-05 and 160-020-07

- F) Conference with Real Property Negotiator - Gov. Code section 54956.8.

KWBA Representative: General Manager and Geologist

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
Negotiating Parties: KWBA and Tricor Energy, LLC
Property: Kern Water Bank Lands – Renewal of Various Easement and License Agreements

G) Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Gov. Code section 54956.8.

KWBA Representative: General Manager and Geologist
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
Negotiating Parties: KWBA and Irvine Ranch WD/Rosedale Rio-Bravo WSD
Properties: Kern Water Bank Land - Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project
Conveyance

12. **Reconvene and Report from Closed Session** (Gov't Code section 54957.1)
13. **Adjourn**

KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

To: KWBA Board of Directors; Steve Torigiani

From: KWBA Staff

Date: December 9, 2025

Subject: Monthly Status Report

CALENDAR

The next KWBA January 2026 Regular Board of Directors’ Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2026 (3:15 P.M.).

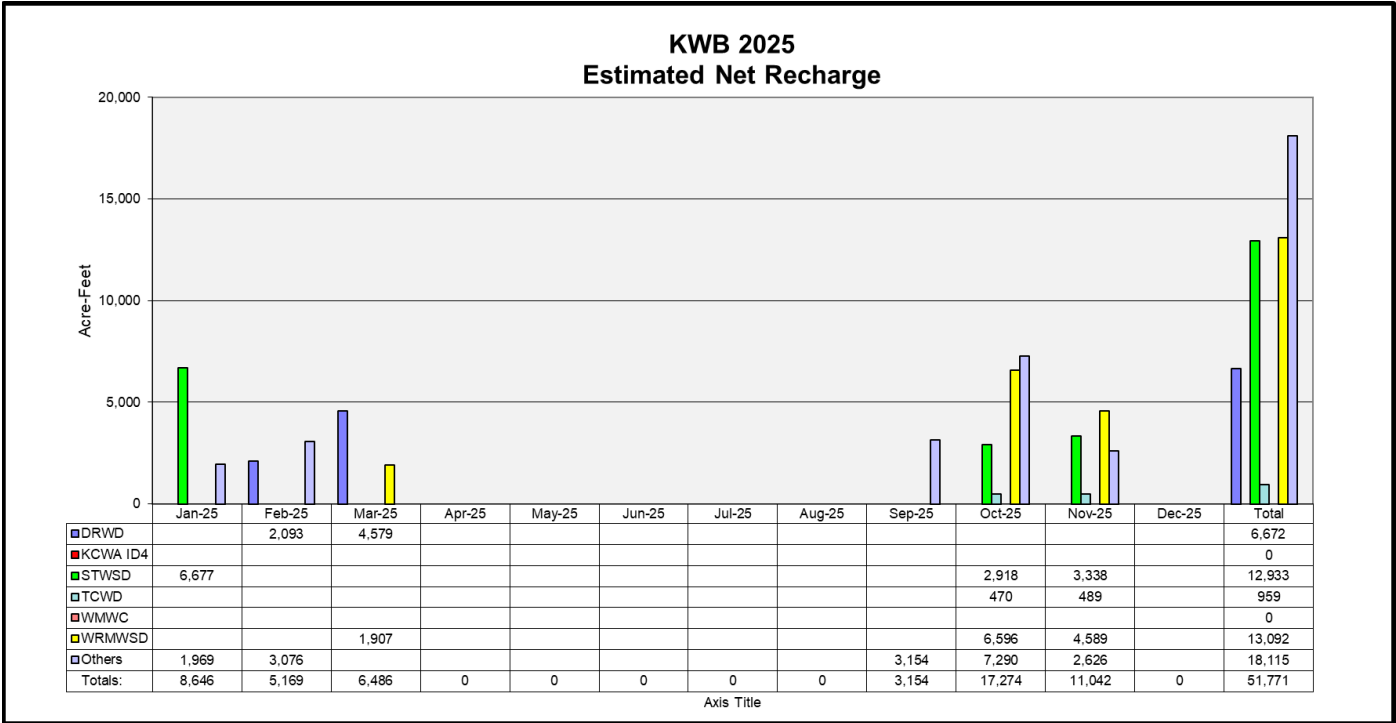
OPERATIONS

Recharge

Recharge activities for WKWD started on September 8, 2025 for a total of 3,154, 7,290, and 2,600 acre-feet for September, October, and November 2025, respectively. Recharge activities for KWB participants started on October 1, 2025. SWSD and DRWD are currently recharging on the KWB through the CVC. Current flow is 80 cfs for the CVC, and the KWB Canal is currently off.

Recovery

No current recovery operations.



FACILITIES

Facilities Maintenance

Routine maintenance continues on roads, water delivery structures, wells, pumping stations, and canals.

Vegetation Management and Grazing

Spraying, tumbleweed removal, mowing along fence lines, structures, and around wells continues. Grazing is occurring throughout all areas of the KWB.

THIRD PARTIES

PG&E has approached KWBA staff regarding an easement along Stockdale Highway, and SoCalGas is working on emergency pipeline repairs in the Conservation Bank Area.

ENVIRONMENTAL – GENERAL AND HCP ISSUES

Conservation Bank

The Bakersfield Gateway Project has expressed an interest in purchasing 62 credits (\$2.17MM), and SoCalGas pipeline repairs in the Conservation Bank Area will require mitigation.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS/REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

Capitalized Maintenance Program

Construction of replacement turnouts is currently in progress. James area maintenance should be completed by the end of this month.

Replacement Wells

No current wells are being replaced.

Well Rehabilitation and Repairs

There are no current well rehabilitation activities underway. Well 30S25E-13J01 was vandalized and will be repaired at a later date. Staff is waiting for a proposal for the repairs.

Basin 11

The joint use of facilities agreement and Basin 11 Turnouts construction agreement with the KCWA have been finalized and executed. The construction agreement between the KWBA and Nicholas Construction is being finalized and should be executed within the next couple of weeks. Construction on the low flow channel has started, but construction of the Basin 11 Turnouts could be delayed by Pioneer recharge operations.

Strand Siphon Replacement and Joint Use of Facilities Agreements

The joint use of facilities agreement with IRWD and RRWSD has been executed and recorded, and the encroachment permit agreement with the same parties has been fully executed. KWBA's operations manager will be ordering the prefabrication of the turnout, but onsite construction and installation will be delayed by recharge activities in the IRWD recharge basin.

Enos Lane Culvert

The KWBA has received approval and a permit from Caltrans for the culvert construction. The KWBA is utilizing the existing Enos Lane culvert for recharge activities so construction will be delayed on the expansion.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Power Update

The KWBA NEM2 application must be submitted to the PG&E CAISO cluster study in October 2026. TotalEnergies is assisting in that process.

Data Management Progress

WH Automation and has completed the installation of the control panels on twenty-nine (29) wells and is progressing at a rate of about two (2) wells a week. Communications Enterprises Inc. (CEI) is continuing installation of the water bank communications backbone and is installing the communication equipment at individual well sites. The KWBA has submitted the PG&E automation incentive application for twenty-six (26) wells and will submit additional applications as wells are completed. Incentive payments have been received from PG&E for twenty-two (22) of the twenty-six (26) applications.

Loan Refinancing

At the request of a Board member, Tri Counties Bank has been contacted and is interested in submitting a proposal for the KWBA refinancing. That increases the number of banks chosen to submit proposals to five. Proposals for the refinancing of the KWBA term debt have been received from two of the five banks.

Kern Water Bank Groundwater Sustainability Agency



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kern Water Bank GSA

Tuesday, December 9, 2025, 3:00 P.M.
Kern Water Bank Authority Conference Room¹
1620 Mill Rock Way, Suite 500, Bakersfield, California

This meeting is held in accordance with the Brown Act pursuant to Section 54950, et seq. of the California Government Code and the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Kern Water Bank Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Appointment of Officers**
3. **Consider Approval of November 4, 2025 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**
4. **Consider Approval of November 2025 Treasurer's Report**
5. **Consider Authorizing Payment of November 2025 Expenses**
6. **Reports and Other Action Items**
 - a. Kern County Subbasin Amended GSP
 - b. SGMA Compliance
 - c. Transition from SWRCB to DWR
 - d. Kern Non-Districted Land Authority (KNDLA)
7. **New Business**
8. **Public Comment**
9. **Closed Session Item Descriptions (Gov. Code, § 54956.8):**
 - a. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Litigation:
 - i. Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(2) [Potential: Significant Exposure to Litigation]: One Item.
 - ii. Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(4) [Potential: Initiation of Litigation]: One Item.

¹ Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

10. Reconvene and Report from Closed Session (Gov't. Code section 54957.1)

11. Adjourn



TEJON-CASTAC
WATER
DISTRICT



South of Kern River Executive Committee Regular Meeting

Thursday, November 20, 2025

2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Information Posted:

www.sokrgsp.com

<http://www.aewsd.org> * <http://www.wrmwsd.com>

<http://www.tejoncastacwd.com> * <https://www.arvincsd.com>

In Person: Arvin-Edison Water Storage District Headquarters
20401 E. Bear Mountain Blvd. Arvin, CA 93203

Via Remote (**Microsoft Teams**): <https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

Click to join the meeting

Meeting Number: **239 793 463 430 52**

Meeting Password: **wd36WM6U**

Phone: **1.213.437.9052**

Phone Meeting Number (access code): **194 992 632#**

NOTICE: Members of the public interested in participating by teleconference may do so using the call-in information above or by following [this link](#). Please note that this teleconference option is provided as a courtesy and at the participant's own risk. The Committee cannot guarantee that there will be no loss of connectivity or other technological obstacle to full participation through teleconferencing. By participating in this way, participants confirm that they understand this risk and that the Committee is not obliged to delay any portion of the meeting due to such technological obstacles and thus that teleconference participants may be unable to participate.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 14, 2025 MEETING MINUTES
6. PUBLIC COMMENT
7. REPORT ITEMS
 - a. GSP Manager Report (*Muhar*)
 - i. Basin Coordination
 - ii. Outreach and Engagement
 - b. Technical Consultant Report (*EKI*)
 - i. SGMA Monitoring Network performance and sustainable management criteria (SMC) compliance
 - c. Finance Report (*Nicholas*)

d. California Aqueduct Subsidence Program (CASP) update (*Nicholas*)

e. Management Area updates (*Muhar, Nicholas, Martin, Barraza*)

8. ACTION ITEMS

a. Discuss and potential action to revert to quarterly SOKR Executive Committee schedule

b. Discuss and consider endorsement of and ratification to GSA home boards for:

i. Funding up to \$32,800 per GSA for Kern Subbasin Task Orders for GSP Implementation into 2026

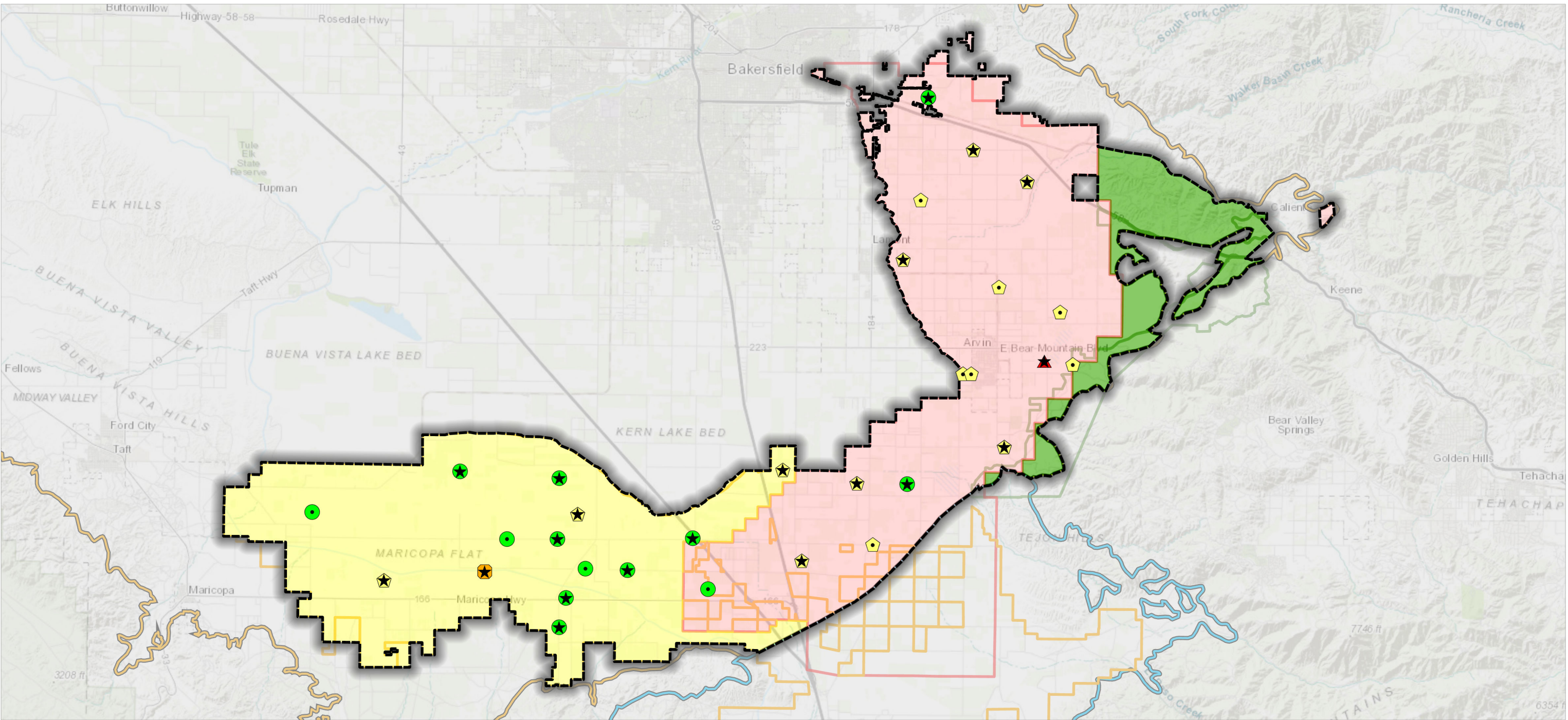
ii. Contracting with Land IQ for Evapotranspiration Data Procurement

iii. Funding the EKI Task Order for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Implementation Support October 2025 Through December 2026

9. CLOSED SESSION

a. Potential Litigation (Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), (e)(1); 1 item).

10. ADJOURNMENT



Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of October 2025

- Water Level Above MO (13 or 42%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (16 or 52%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (1 or 3%)
- Water Level Below MT (1 or 3%)
- No Water Level Measurement (0)

- South of Kern River GSAs
- Arvin GSA
- Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
- Tejon-Castac Water District GSA
- WRMWSA Service Area
- AEWSD Service Area
- TCWD Service Area

- Groundwater Subbasin
- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
 - White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
 - Transducer Installed

Abbreviations

- AEWSD = Arvin-Edison Water Storage District
- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- MO = Measurable Objective
- MT = Minimum Threshold
- RMW = Representative Monitoring Well
- SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SMC = Sustainable Management Criteria
- TCWD = Tejon-Castac Water District
- UR = Undesirable Result
- WRMWSA = Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Notes

- All locations are approximate.
- Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Undesirable Results are deemed to occur if (1) more than 15 drinking water wells within the Subbasin are reported as dry in any given year, or (2) groundwater levels in 25% or more RMWs are below their respective MT over a single year (two consecutive seasonal measurements).

Sources

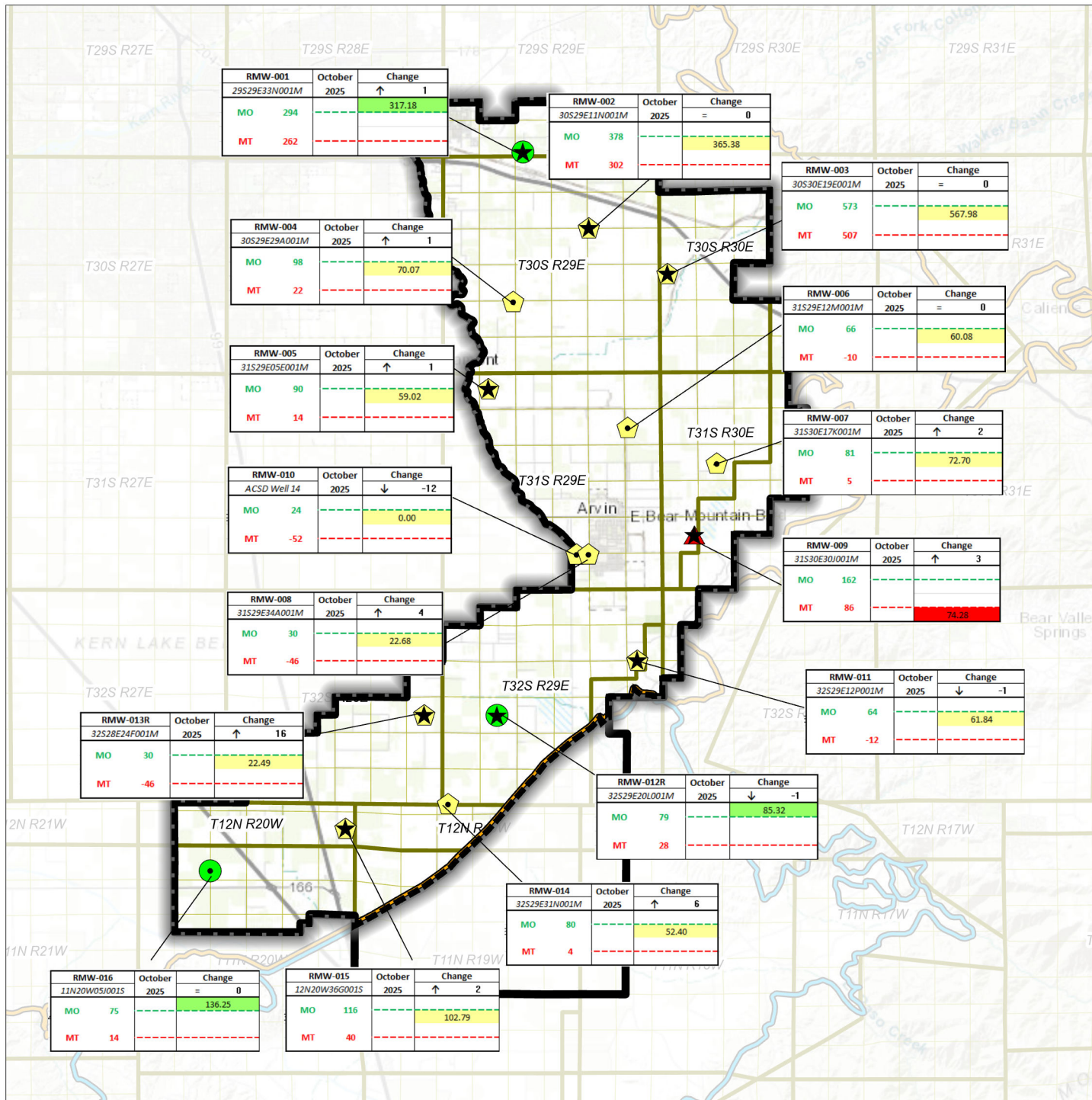
- Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 10 November 2025.
- GSA boundaries obtained from SGMA GSA Map Viewer portal, accessed 6 May 2022.
- DWR groundwater basins are based on the boundaries defined in California's Groundwater Bulletin 118 - 2019 Update.

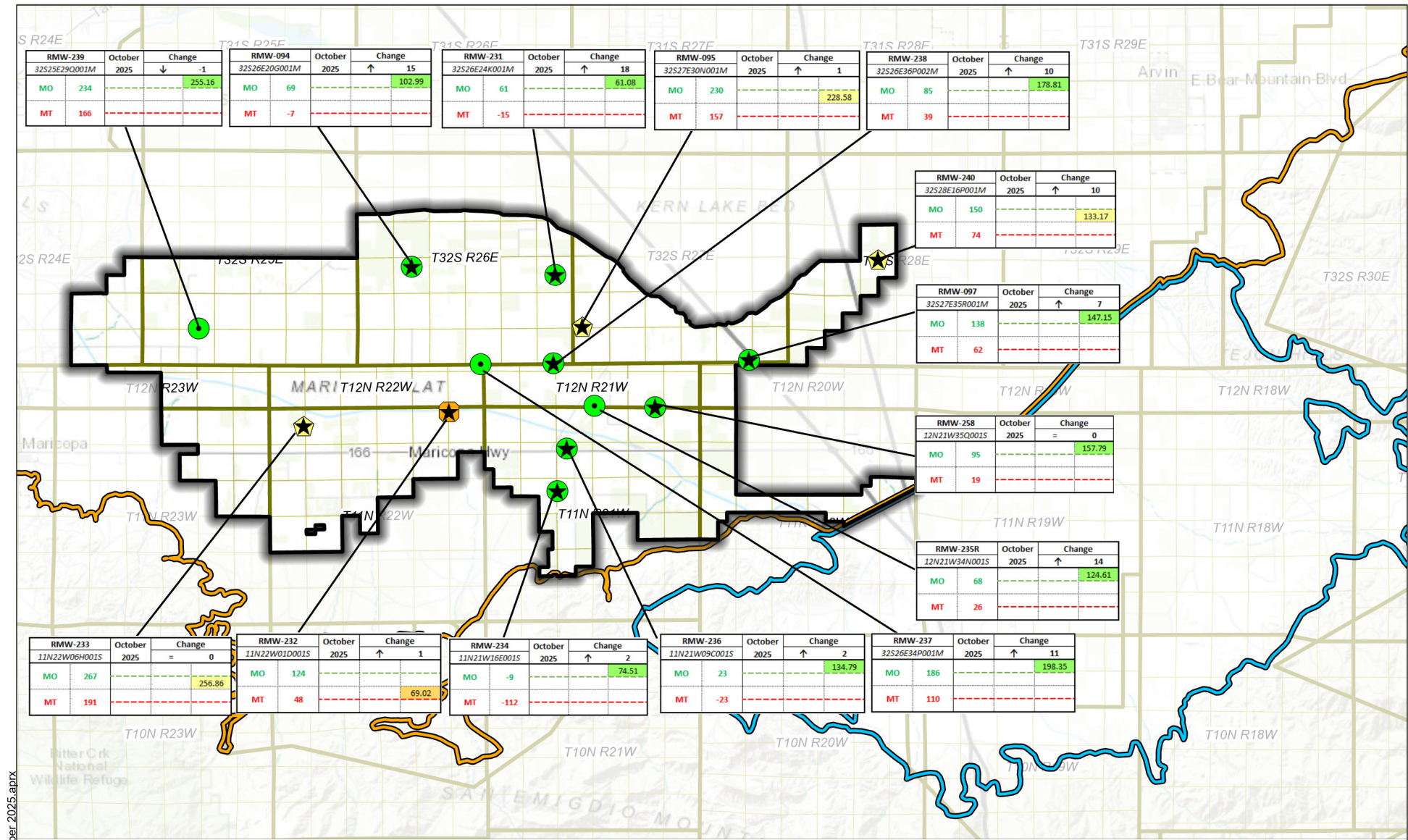


October 2025 Water Levels Relative to SMCs



South of Kern River GSAs
Kern County, CA
October 2025
C20055.00
Figure 1





Path: X:\C20055.00\Maps\2025\10\October_2025.aprx

Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of October 2025

- Water Level Above MO (10 or 71%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (3 or 21%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (1 or 7%)
- Water Level Below MT (0)
- No Water Level Measurement (0)

Groundwater Subbasin

- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
- Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
- Transducer Installed

Notes

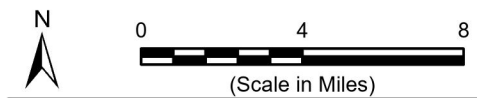
- All locations are approximate.
- Groundwater elevations reported in units of ft msl.
- All water levels collected during October 2025.
- Arrow direction indicates water level change from previous month.
- Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
- Undesirable Results are deemed to occur if (1) more than 15 drinking water wells within the Subbasin are reported as dry in any given year, or (2) groundwater levels in 25% or more RMWs are below their respective MT over a single year (two consecutive seasonal measurements).

Sources

- Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 10 November 2025.

Abbreviations

DWR = California Department of Water Resources
 ft msl = feet above mean sea level
 GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
 MO = Measurable Objective
 MT = Minimum Threshold
 SMC = Sustainable Management Criteria



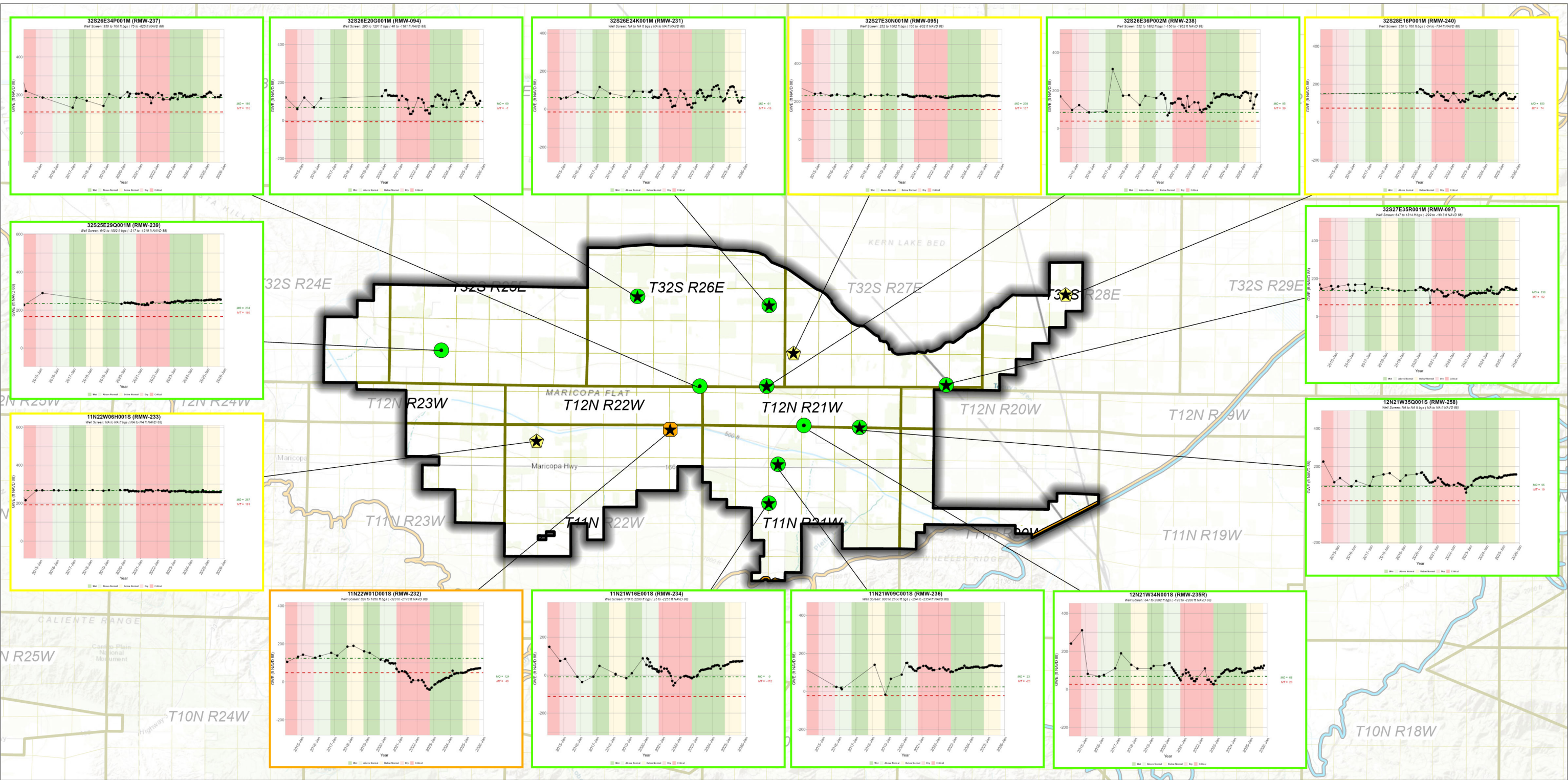
Groundwater Levels Relative to SMCs October 2025

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
 South of Kern River
 Kern County, California
 October 2025
 C20055.00



Figure 9

Path: X:\C20055.00\Maps\2025\10\October_2025.aprx



Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of October 2025

- Water Level Above MO (10 or 64%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (3 or 22%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (1 or 7%)
- Water Level Below MT (0)
- No Water Level Measurement (0)

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA

Groundwater Subbasin

- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)

Transducer Installed

Notes

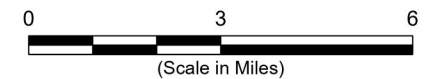
- All locations are approximate.
- Groundwater elevations are in feet mean sea level.
- Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
- Undesirable Results are deemed to occur if (1) more than 15 drinking water wells within the Subbasin are reported as dry in any given year, or (2) groundwater levels in 25% or more RMWs are below their respective MT over a single year (two consecutive seasonal measurements).
- All RMW status based on October 2025 measurements.

Sources

- Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 10 November 2025.
- Groundwater elevation data provided by WRMWSD.

Abbreviations

- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- ft msl = feet above mean sea level
- GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- MO = Measurable Objective
- MT = Minimum Threshold
- RMW = Representative Monitoring Well
- SMCs = Sustainable Management Criteria
- WRMWS D = Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District



Hydrographs in Representative Monitoring Wells (January 2015 - October 2025)

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Kern County, CA

October 2025

C20055.00

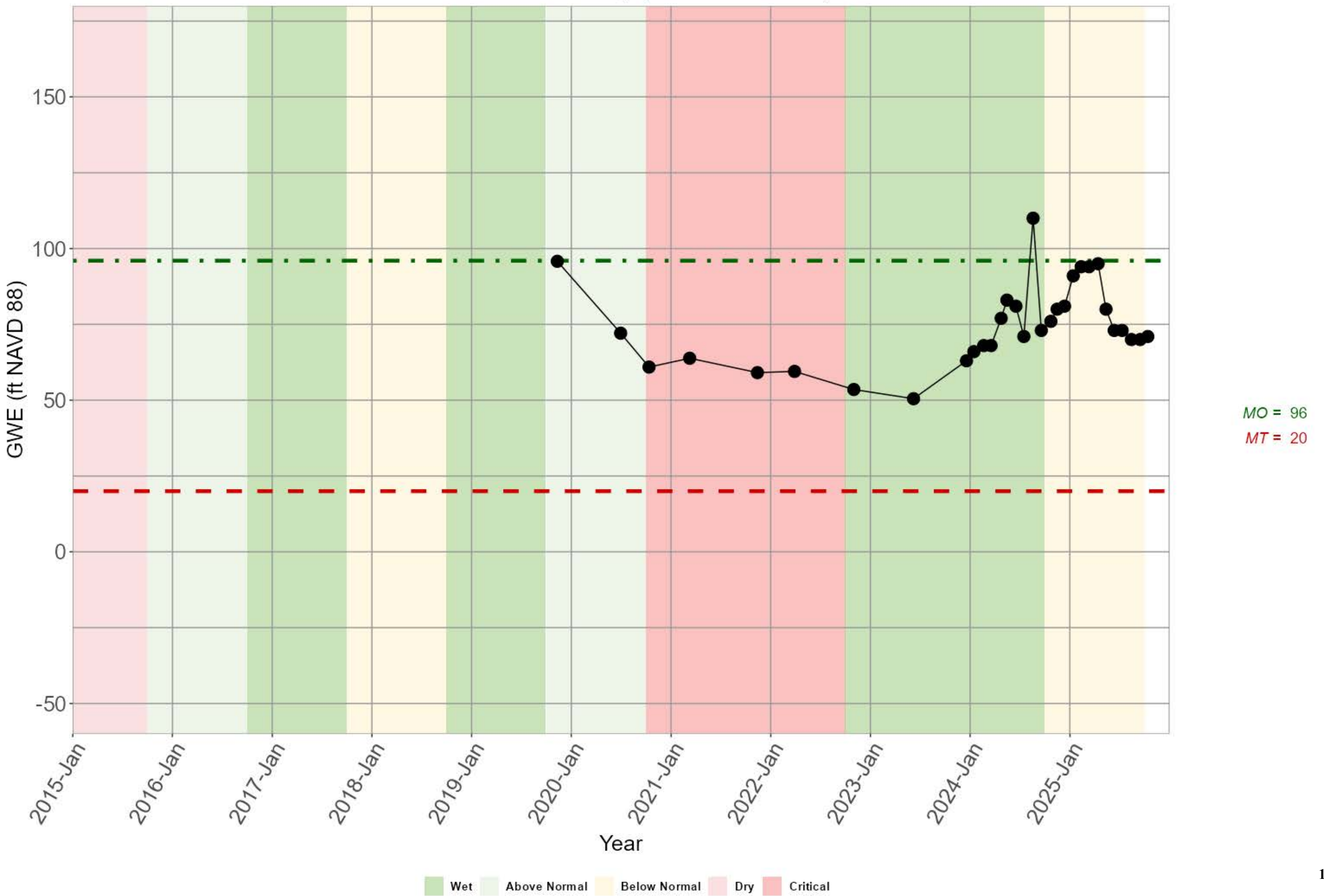
Figure 182

eki environment & water

INTERIM FIGURE - FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

Caratan Well (RMW-070)

Well Screen: NA to NA ft bgs (NA to NA ft NAVD 88)



5 November 2025

Sheridan Nicholas
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
12109 Hwy 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313

Subject: South of Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation Support October 2025 Through December 2026
Kern County Subbasin, Kern County
(EKI C20055.14)

Dear Mr. Nicholas:

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (WRMWSD, District, or Client) has requested that EKI Environment and Water, Inc. (EKI) prepare a scope to support Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation activities for the South of Kern River (SOKR) Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). The Client approved a previous Task Order, dated 7 March 2025, that covered SOKR GSAs GSP Implementation Support through September 2025. This Task Order extends the scope of the previous agreement and covers SOKR GSAs GSP implementation activities from October 2025 through December 2026.

BACKGROUND

In December 2024, Arvin GSA, Arvin Community Services District, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA, and Tejon-Castac Water District (TCWD) GSA (collectively, the SOKR GSAs), amended a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) detailing coordinated GSP implementation. The SOKR GSAs are covered by the 2025 Kern County Subbasin GSP, which was adopted in August 2025. The 2025 Plan, composed of seven GSPs (inclusive of the Kern County Subbasin GSP and six “blue page” GSPs) and one coordination agreement, has been submitted to the SWRCB for their review. The SWRCB Board adopted Resolution 2025-0029 during the 17 September 2025 probationary hearing, directing SWRCB staff to review the adopted 2025 Plan, and if the three priority deficiencies have been satisfactorily resolved, return the Kern County Subbasin (Basin) to California Department of Water Resources (DWR) oversight.

The Sustainable Groundwater management Act (SGMA) requires that GSAs continue to implement an adopted GSP even prior to approval by DWR. Therefore, the SOKR GSAs must continue to implement the adopted 2025 Plan. Key aspects of Plan implementation to occur in the remainder of 2025 and extend through 2026 include: (1) Monitoring, Data Collection and Data Gap Filling; (2) Projects & Management Action (P/MA) Implementation; (3) Intrabasin Coordination; (4) Stakeholder Engagement; (5) Reporting; and (6) Enforcement and Response Actions. As described in the MOA, each of the three GSAs is responsible for implementing the GSP within its respective GSA area, bearing its own costs with respect to activities and responsibilities under the MOA, and no GSA will implement the GSP within any other GSA’s area without consent. Therefore, the Scope of Work below does not address these GSA-specific efforts but is rather focused exclusively on coordinated SOKR work efforts related to GSA administration,

intra-basin coordination, GSP implementation, and coordination with other Subbasin GSAs related to GSP implementation.

SCOPE OF WORK

The tasks listed below are to: (1) facilitate coordination and administration of the SOKR GSAs, (2) provide as-needed GSP implementation support, (3) review compliance against Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs), and (4) provide project management through 31 December 2026.

Task 1 – GSA Coordination and Administration

EKI will support the SOKR GSAs to coordinate, participate in, and manage the following SOKR meetings scheduled through 31 December 2026, including development of meeting agendas, as-needed PowerPoint presentations, meeting minutes, as-needed meeting packet memoranda, and supporting documents:

- Up to 14 SOKR Managers meetings. EKl has assumed virtual attendance of two staff at all SOKR Managers meetings. It is assumed that these meetings will be one hour in length and will include discussion of key technical matters, as well as development of agendas for the SOKR Executive Committee meetings.
- Up to five (5) quarterly SOKR Executive Committee meetings. EKl has assumed virtual attendance of up to three staff at the Executive Committee meetings, and that these meetings will be two hours in length.

EKI assumes that the SOKR GSAs will maintain and post Executive Committee materials to both the SOKR GSP website and their own individual GSA websites. EKl will work with the SOKR GSAs to ensure Executive Committee meeting materials are posted to websites consistent with Brown Act noticing requirements.

Task 2 – As-Needed GSP Implementation Support

Task 2 involves intrabasin coordination and ongoing SOKR-specific technical support with coordinated GSP implementation. Under Task 2, EKl will support the SOKR GSAs' involvement with Subbasin-wide activities that are not eligible for Subbasin cost share, which could include tasks such as:

- Attendance at Subbasin coordination meetings with other Kern Subbasin GSAs, including attendance at Basin Study update meetings and as-needed support and attendance at Kern Subbasin coordination committee meetings and managers meetings. EKl has assumed virtual attendance of up to two staff and/or support at up to 29 meetings, and that these meetings will be two hours in length.
- Review of the Basin Study and associated IWFM-Kern representation of the SOKR GSAs area.
- Review of Water Year 2025 Annual Report.
- Attendance at Subbasin subcommittee meetings in which EKl is not a technical leader. EKl has assumed virtual attendance of up to two staff at up to 14 meetings, and that these meetings will be two hours in length.

- Draft and final review of deliverables from subcommittees in which EKI is not a technical leader. EKI has assumed up to two hours per month for deliverables review.
- Attendance at meetings with DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Office. EKI has assumed virtual attendance of up to two staff at two meetings, and that these meetings will be two hours in length.

Services under this task will be performed on an as-needed and as-requested basis, and will be charged on a time and materials basis.

Task 3 – SMC Compliance Tracking

Task 3 involves ongoing data review collected at the Representative Monitoring Sites (RMS) and tracking against SMCs for the Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels, Degraded Water Quality, and Land Subsidence sustainability indicators. Specifically, under Task 3, EKI will:

- Conduct quality assurance and quality control (QAQC) checks on water level and water quality data collected and provided by the SOKR GSAs, and enter data into the SOKR GSAs Access database.
- Support the SOKR GSAs with entry of data into the Kern Data Management System (DMS), as needed, and confirm the Kern DMS data is consistent with the SOKR GSAs Access database. EKI has assumed support for Fall 2025, Spring 2026, and Fall 2026 upload events.
- Produce monthly groundwater level SMCs compliance maps.
- Produce semi-annual water quality chemographs and SMC compliance tables.
- Produce quarterly land subsidence SMC compliance charts comparing RMS sites against InSAR data, using the SMC compliance chart template produced by the Subbasin Subsidence Subcommittee.
- Develop an SMC Compliance Dashboard, which digitizes the maps, charts, and tables into one centralized interactive repository.

Assumptions

- EKI will present options for Dashboard development, including open source, commercial platforms, or a combination of both. EKI will discuss with the District on licenses needs, if any, for the Dashboard, but will not procure or maintain these licenses for the District. EKI will provide the District with estimates for the expected costs to procure, host, and maintain the Dashboard.
- Once the Dashboard is fully functional, monthly level of effort will be reduced to only QAQC checks and Access database uploads.

Task 4 – Project Management

EKI will provide project management and as-needed consultation services during the GSP implementation process. This task includes coordination and communications with the SOKR GSAs, and project management services by EKI including the preparation of invoices and coordination of staff.

PERSONNEL

EKI's staff members who will lead this project include Anona Dutton, P.G., C.Hg. (Officer) and Christina Lucero, P.G. (Senior 2); grades in parentheses are for purposes of billing in accordance with the attached Schedule of Charges (see attached). Other EKI staff members will be assigned to assist with the performance of the tasks as required to meet project commitments.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All work performed by EKI under this Task Order will be performed pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of our existing Agreement with Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District.

COMPENSATION

Inasmuch as the exact level of effort required to complete the above Scope of Work cannot be known precisely, EKI proposes to perform the work on a time and materials expense reimbursement basis in accordance with our current Schedule of Charges (Attachment A). The estimated budget for this scope of work is \$205,700 (see also Table 1). We will inform you if the level of effort exceeds this anticipated amount.

Table 1. Estimated Budget

TASK	Cost Estimate
Task 1 – GSA Coordination and Administration	\$30,800
Task 2 – As-Needed GSP Implementation Support	\$88,900
Task 3 – SMC Compliance Tracking	\$76,200
Task 4 – Project Management	\$9,800
TOTAL:	\$205,700

SCHEDULE

Upon authorization to proceed, EKI is prepared to start work on the above Scope of Work immediately. This Scope of Work will cover work efforts conducted from 1 October 2025 through 31 December 2026. EKI will inform the SOKR GSAs of any issues that arise that may affect the schedule for completion or impact the anticipated level of effort.

We are happy to discuss the proposed approach and anticipated level of effort for these tasks in more detail with you and look forward to working with you on this important project. If this Task Order meets with your approval, please sign where noted below and return a fully executed copy to our office to confirm authorization to proceed. Please call if you have any questions or wish to discuss this proposal in greater detail.

Sheridan Nicholas
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
5 November 2025
Page 5 of 5

Very truly yours,

EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC.



Anona L. Dutton, P.G., C.Hg.
Vice President / Principal-In-Charge

AUTHORIZATION
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT (CLIENT)

Signed _____

Printed Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

Attachments

Schedule of Charges, dated 1 January 2025

Client/Address: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
12109 Hwy 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313



Proposal/Agreement Date: 11/5/2025

EKI Proposal/Project # C20055.14

SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC.

1 January 2025

<u>Personnel Classification</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Officer and Chief Engineer-Scientist	355
Principal Engineer-Scientist	343
Supervising I, Engineer-Scientist	333
Supervising II, Engineer-Scientist	319
Senior I, Engineer-Scientist	306
Senior II, Engineer-Scientist	295
Associate I, Engineer-Scientist	283
Associate II, Engineer-Scientist	267
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 1	248
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 2	234
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 3	215
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 4	193
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 5	170
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 6	148
Project Assistant	139
Technician	133
Senior GIS / Database Analyst	175
CADD Operator / GIS Analyst	152
Senior Administrative Assistant	167
Administrative Assistant	132
Secretary	111

Direct Expenses

Reimbursement for direct expenses, as listed below, incurred in connection with the work will be at cost plus fifteen percent (15%) for items such as:

- a. Maps, photographs, reproductions, printing, equipment rental, and special supplies related to the work.
- b. Consultants, soils engineers, surveyors, drillers, laboratories, and contractors.
- c. Rented vehicles, local public transportation and taxis, travel, and subsistence.
- d. Special fees, insurance, permits, and licenses applicable to the work.
- e. Outside computer processing, computation, and proprietary programs purchased for the work.

A Communication charge for e-mail access, web conferencing, cellphone calls, messaging and data access, file sharing, local and long distance telephone calls and conferences, facsimile transmittals, standard delivery U.S. postage, and incidental in-house copying will be charged at a rate of 4% of labor charges. Large volume copying of project documents, e.g., bound reports for distribution or project-specific reference files, will be charged as a project expense as described above.

Reimbursement for company-owned automobiles, except trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles, used in connection with the work will be at the rate of sixty cents (\$0.60) per mile. The rate for company-owned trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles will be seventy-five cents (\$0.75) per mile. There will be an additional charge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per day for vehicles used for field work. Reimbursement for use of personal vehicles will be at the federally allowed rate plus fifteen percent (15%).

CADD and other specialized software computer time will be charged at twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour. In-house material and equipment charges will be in accordance with the current rate schedule or special quotation. Excise taxes, if any, will be added as a direct expense.

Rate for professional staff for legal proceedings or as expert witnesses will be at a rate of one and one-half times the Hourly Rates specified above.

The foregoing Schedule of Charges is incorporated into the Agreement for the Services of EKI Environment & Water, Inc. and may be updated annually.

White Wolf Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors

Agenda November 4, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.

Public may attend in-person, via telephone, or Web-based service:

In Person: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District Headquarters
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313

Or Virtual Option:

Go To Meeting: <https://meet.goto.com/911605181>

Call by Phone: (872) 240-3311 Access Code: 911-605-181

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Recognition of Guests**
- 4. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 2, 2025**
- 5. Financial Accounting Report (Robert Velasquez)**
- 6. California Department of Water Resources (DWR) SGMA Implementation Round 2 grant update (Angelica Martin)**
- 7. Updates on actions discussed or authorized on September 2, 2025 (EKI)**
 - a. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation activities
 - i. September and October 2025 groundwater levels
 - ii. Dedicated monitoring wells installation
 - b. Periodic Evaluation and GSP Amendment (“5-year update”)
 - i. Proposed revised Sustainable Management Criteria for RMW-WWB-010
 - ii. Water budget review
 - c. Projects and Management Actions (P/MAs)
 - i. Land use changes
 - ii. 850 Canal-South Canal intertie
 - iii. In-lieu expansion

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Angelica Martin (661) 663-4262.

**White Wolf Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Agenda
November 4, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.**

8. Correspondence

9. Public Comment

At this time, the public may address the Board on any item not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Comments will be limited to three minutes.

10. Consider and provide direction on future agenda items

11. Closed Session – Anticipated litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2))—1 item.

12. Report out of Closed Session

13. Adjourn

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Angelica Martin (661) 663-4262.

EKI TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

WHITE WOLF GSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
4 NOVEMBER 2025



OUTLINE

- Updates on GSP implementation activities:
 - September and October groundwater levels
 - Replacement monitoring wells installation
- Periodic Evaluation and GSP Amendment:
 - Proposed revised Sustainable Management Criteria for RMW-WWVB-010
 - Water budget review
- Updates on Projects and Management Actions (P/MAs)

UPDATES ON GSP IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

RMW-WL HYDROGRAPHS

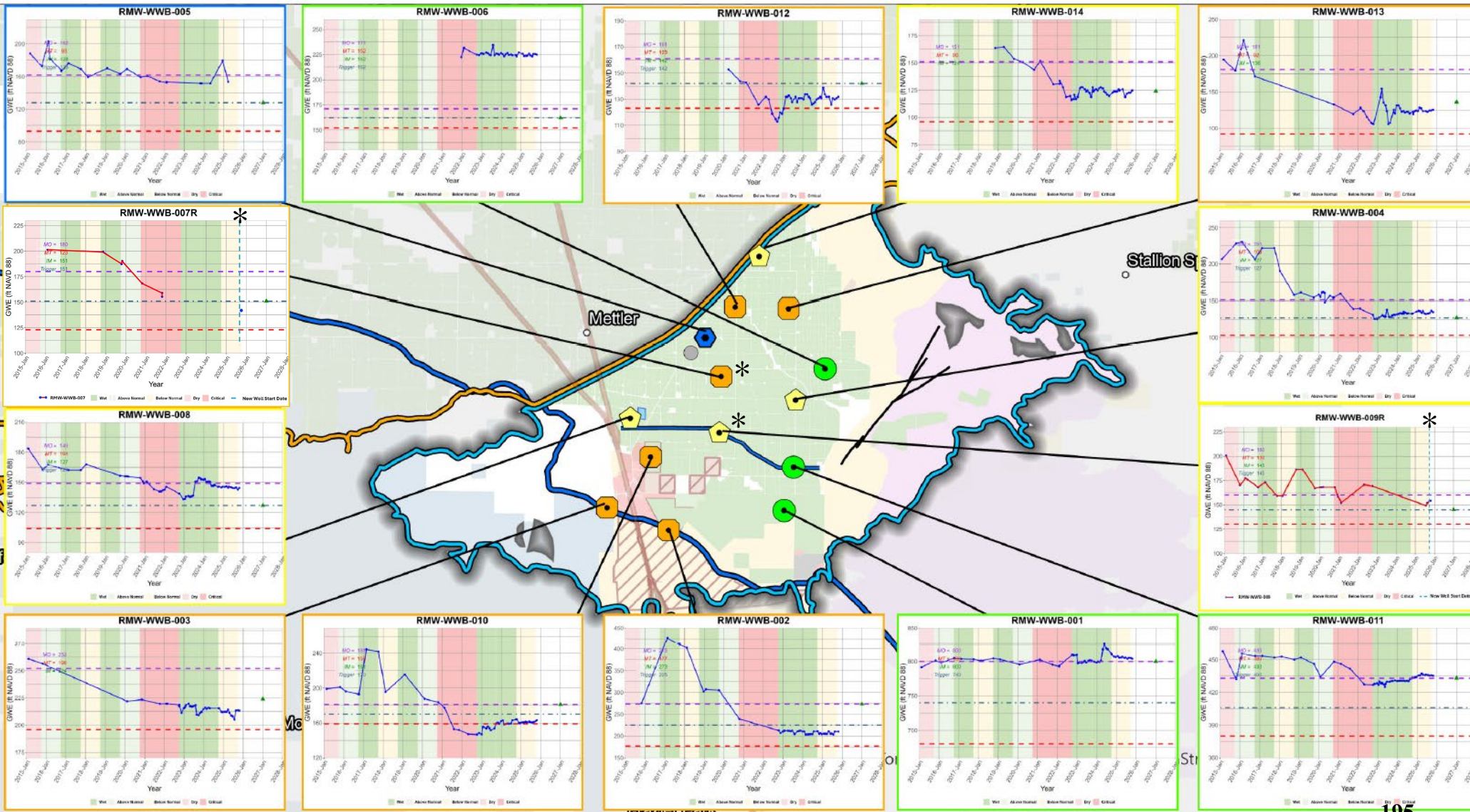
Representative Monitoring Wells and Status as of October

- Water Level Above MO (3 or 21%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but above IM (4 or 28%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but below IM (6 or 42%)
- Water Level Below MT (0)
- No Water Level Measurement (1 or 7%)

- Old RMW-WL
- Mettler Recharge Project
- Groundwater Subbasin
 - White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
 - Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)

* Replacement wells

- UR = MT exceedance in 40% of RMW-WL for 2 consecutive Falls
- URs not occurring



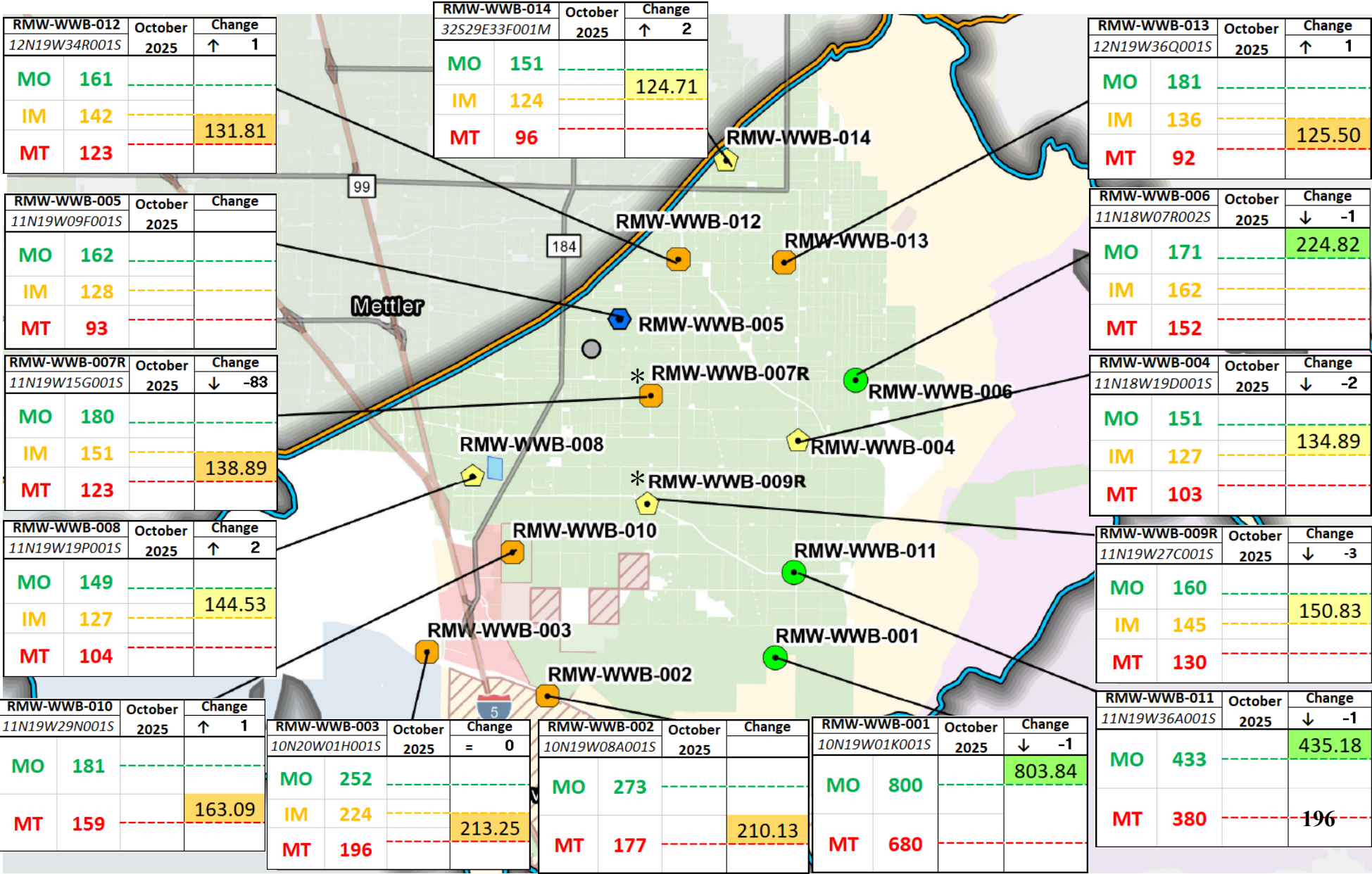
OCTOBER 2025 MEASUREMENTS COMPARED TO SMCs

Representative Monitoring Wells and Status as of October 2025

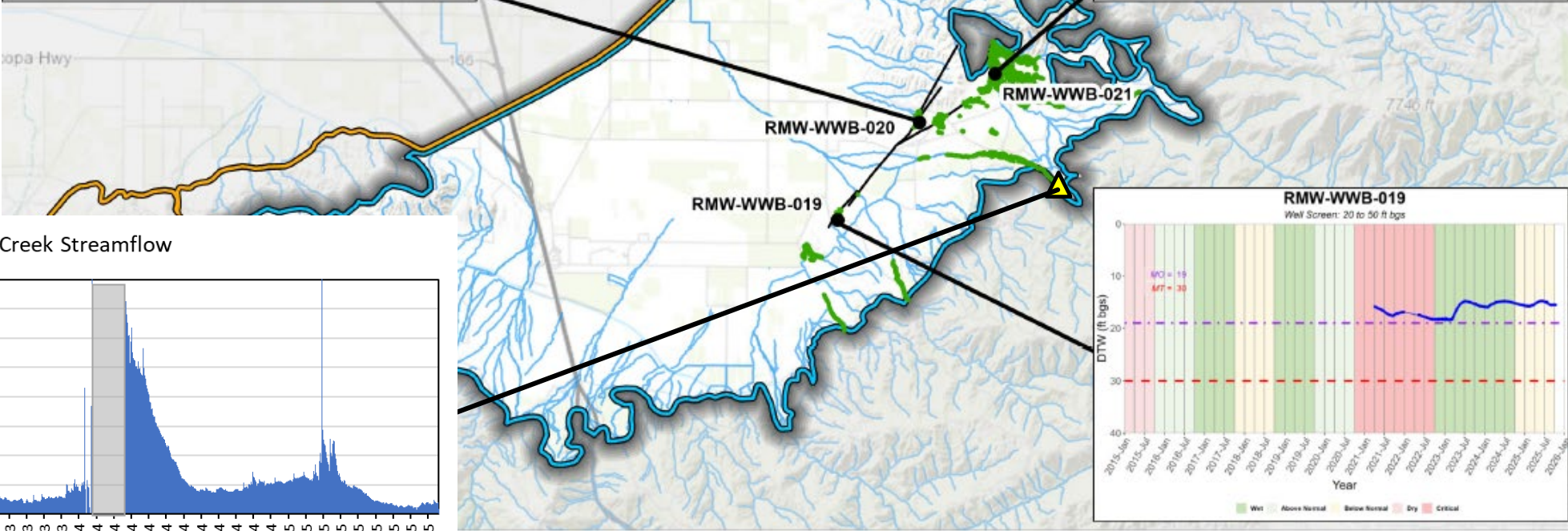
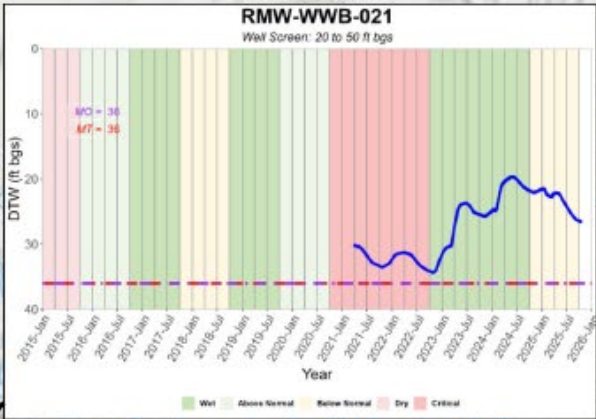
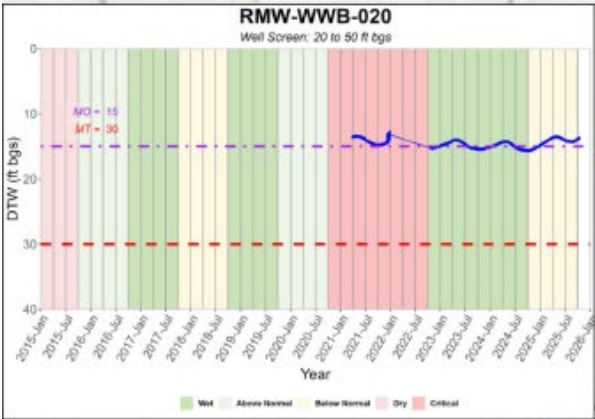
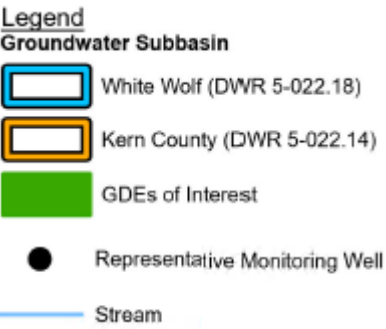
- Water Level Above MO (3 or 21%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but above IM (4 or 28%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but below IM (6 or 42%)
- Water Level Below MT (0)
- No Water Level Measurement (1 or 7%)
- Old RMW-WL
- Mettler Recharge Project
- Groundwater Subbasin
 - White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
 - Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)

* Replacement wells

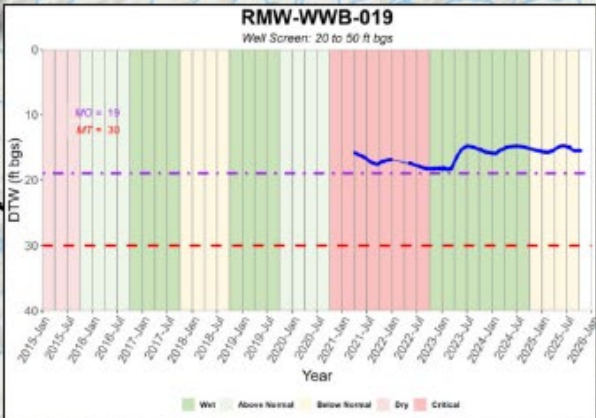
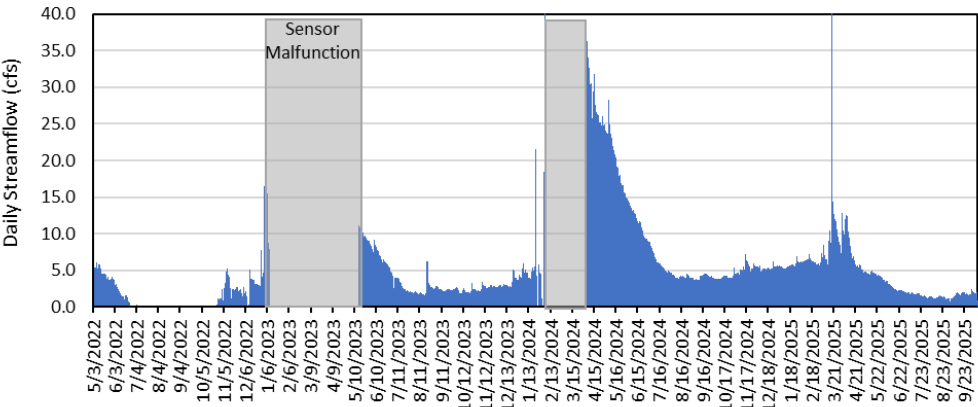
- UR = MT exceedance in 40% of RMW-WL for 2 consecutive Falls
- URs not occurring
- Where IM not shown, IM = MO



ISW-WL HYDROGRAPHS



El Paso Creek Streamflow



5-YEAR UPDATE TO GDE ASSESSMENT

- Field biological survey conducted Oct 20-24th
 - Visually inspected and documented dominant vegetation species, presence of surface water, soil moisture, and field conditions at same locations visited in 2020
- Conducting desktop remote sensing analysis on GDE health
- Results will be documented in appendix to GSP, and support Interconnected Surface Waters sustainability indicator and associated Sustainable Management Criteria definitions

MONITORING WELL UPDATE

- RMW-WWVB-009R developed & completed
- RMW-WWVB-007R developed & completed
- RMW-WWVB-005R borehole abandoned

RMW-WWVB-009R
Flush Mount Completion



RMW-WWVB-007R
Monument Completion



RMW-WWVB-007R
Well Development



Board-approved Budget	\$1,200,000
Total Cost	\$1,063,000
Grant Funds	\$835,000
GSA Cost	\$228,000
Cost per District	\$76,000

RMW-WWB-005R CHALLENGES

- Driller lost circulation at approximately 500 feet below ground surface
- Driller re-mixed a thicker mud with LCM (lost circulation material) but after two days again lost circulation and experienced borehole instability, losing several hundred feet of borehole
- Success of reaching total depth at 700 feet unlikely
- Budget assessment was conducted; abandonment of borehole and re-drilling well in different location would have exceeded Board approved costs
- Borehole was abandoned under Kern County oversight, and permit closed out



RMW-WWB-005R OPTIONS

- Grant agreement that commits to “install and develop one to three monitoring wells” has been fulfilled
- Easement with landowner requires revision – new location or termination
- GSP / Periodic Evaluation / Annual Reports could continue to identify this as a data gap:
 - GSP commits to assessing the monitoring network every 5 years as part of the Periodic Evaluation
 - WY2023 and 2024 Annual Reports state GSA is working to replace defunct wells, with an expected completion in 2025
- DWR TSS grant no longer accepting applications for monitoring well installations; TSS grant could be used to video nearby existing converted monitoring wells, however well integrity & data reliability are questionable
- No other grant funding currently available for installation, however future potential with Prop 4 (anticipated next year)

PERIODIC EVALUATION AND GSP AMENDMENT

REFRESHER ON WATER LEVELS SMC APPROACH

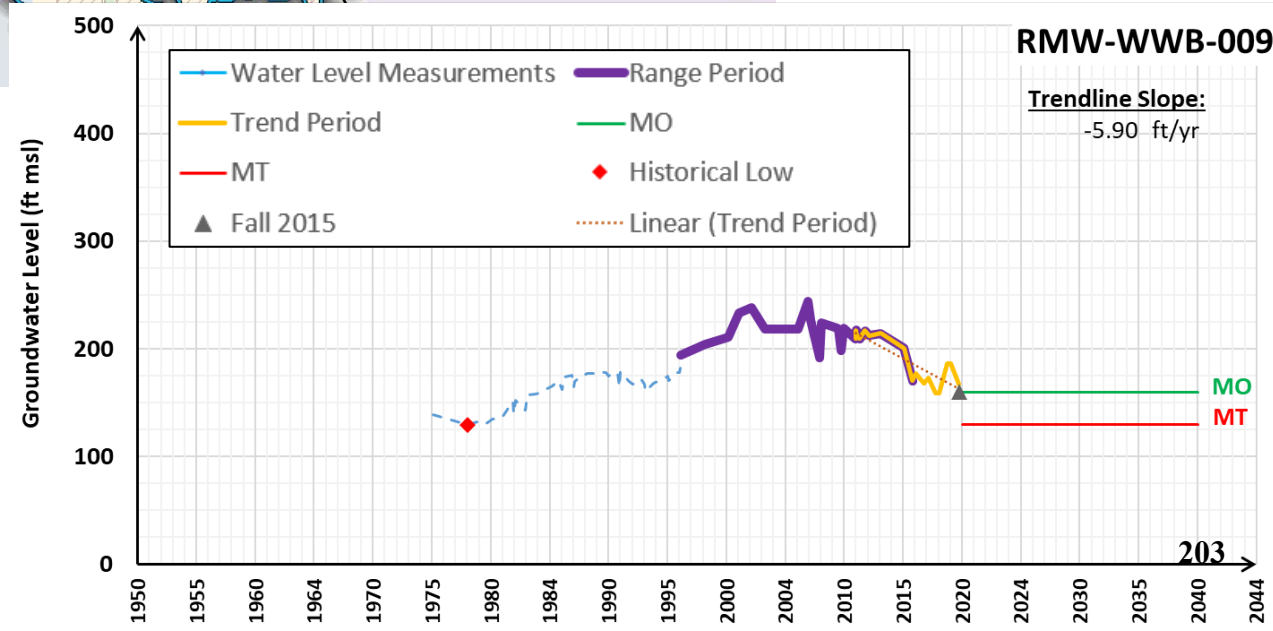
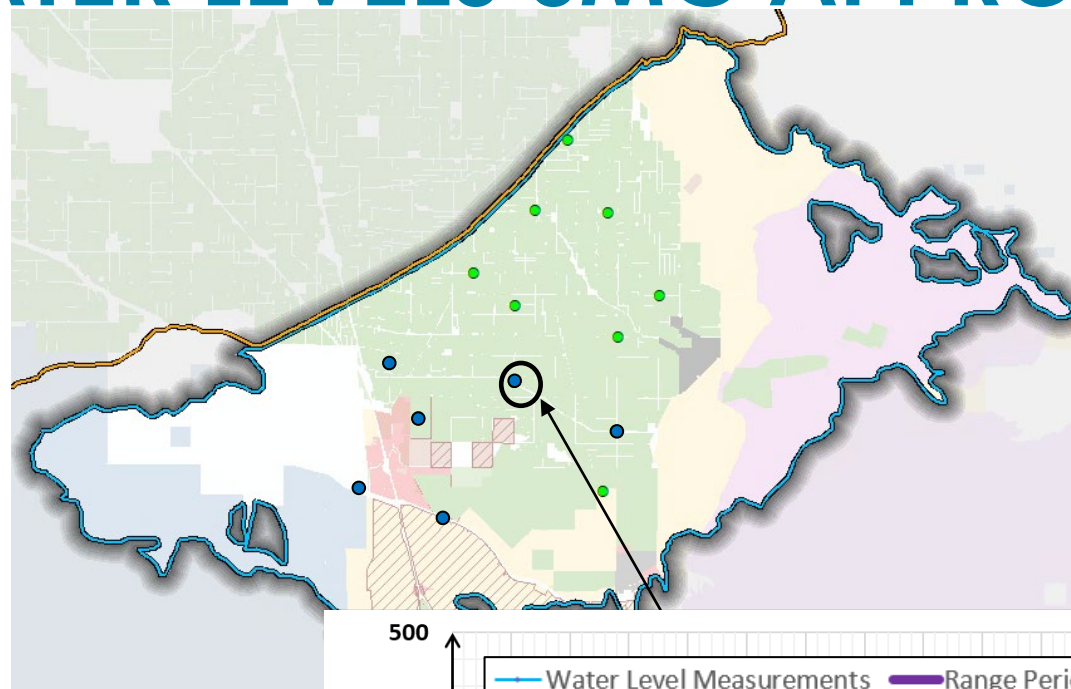
■ Minimum Threshold

- Minimum of:
 - Historical Low minus 25% range
 - Fall 2015 minus the greater of 25% range or 10-yr projected trend (2010-2019)
- 6 RMWs within 1 mile of CA Aqueduct or 850 Canal capped at historical low

■ Measurable Objective

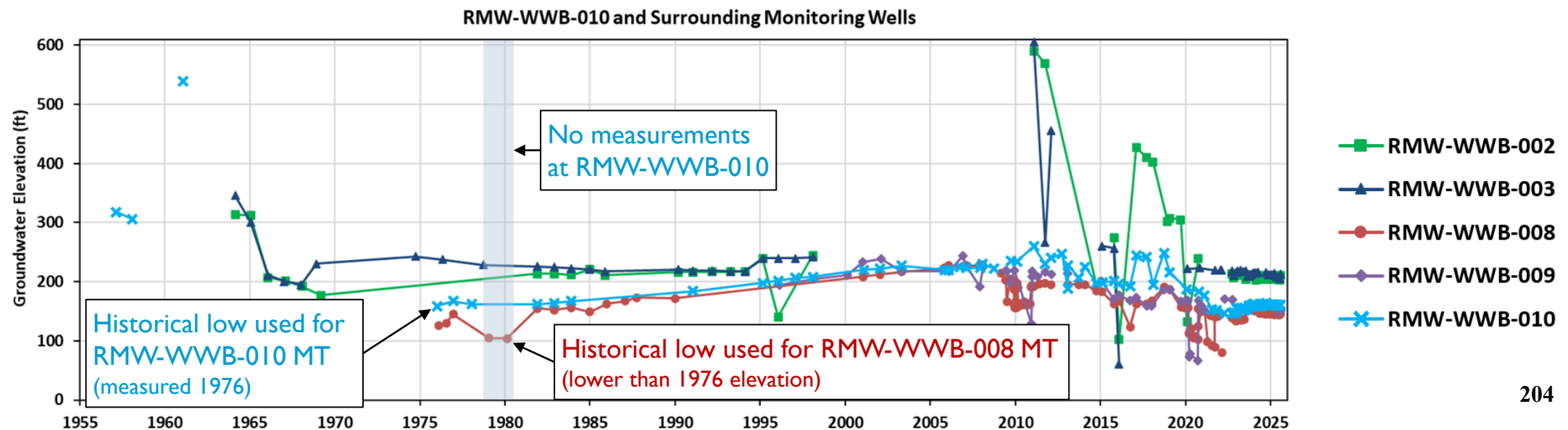
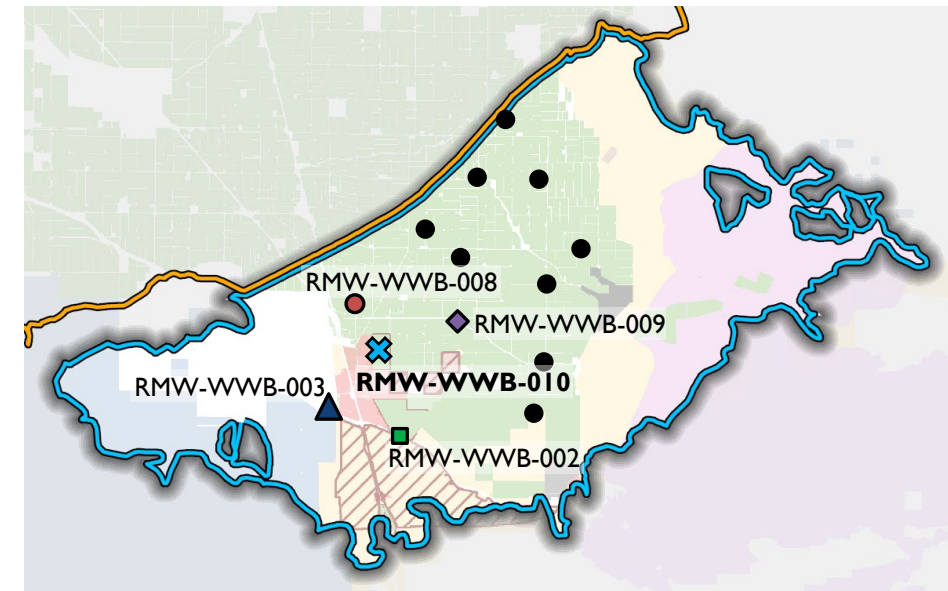
- Lower of Fall 2015 or Fall 2019, measured water levels when available or modeled when unavailable

● MT capped at historical low



RMW-WWB-010 GROUNDWATER LEVEL MT REVIEW

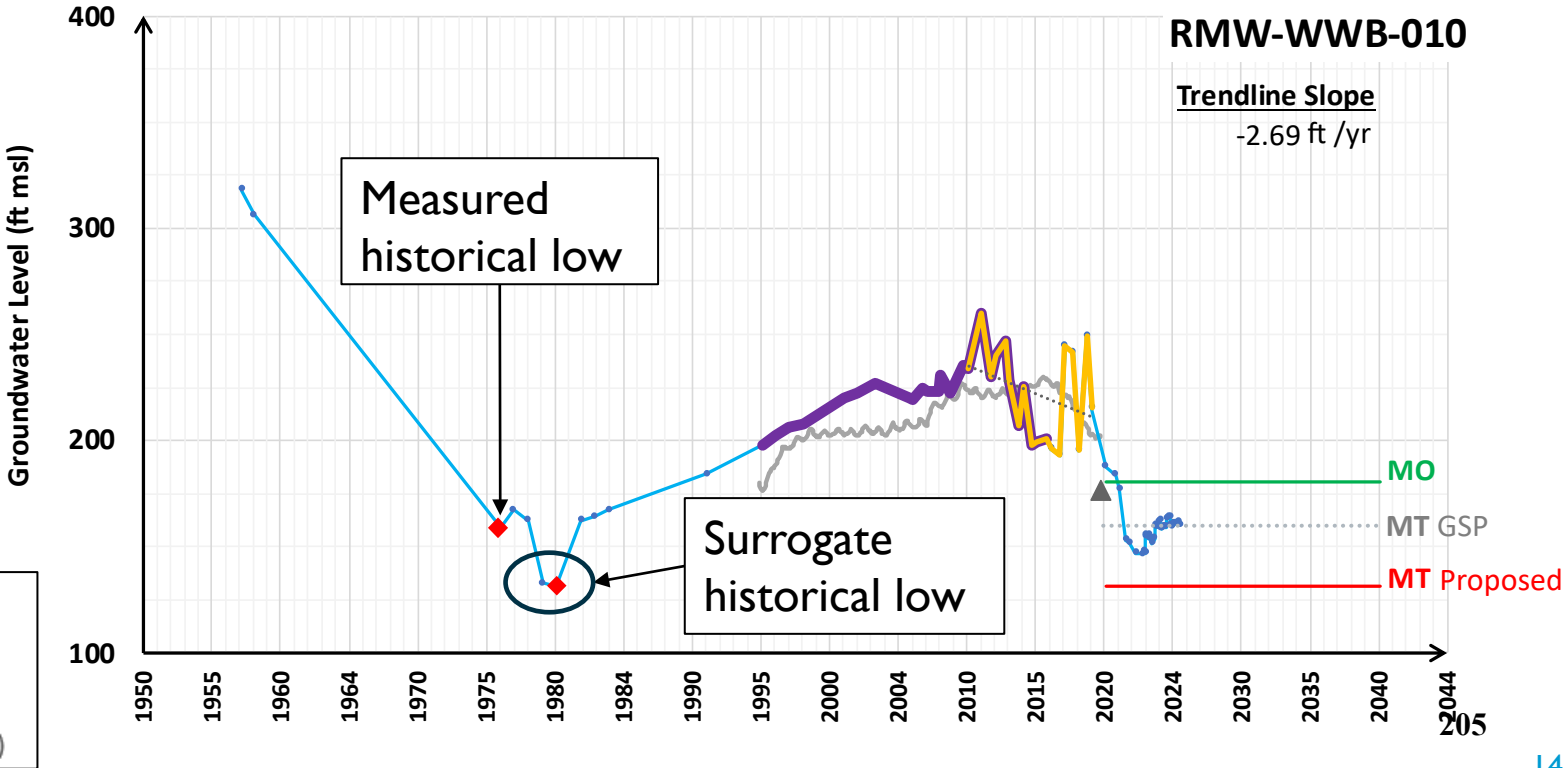
- MT is capped at historical low for subsidence considerations
- Triggered an MT exceedance investigation last year
 - Transects showed MT (historical low) may be slightly higher than adjacent wells
- Stacked hydrograph shows lack of data during historical low period measured in RMW-WWB-008 (1979-1980), although generally consistent trends



PROPOSAL FOR REVISED MT IN RMW-WWB-010

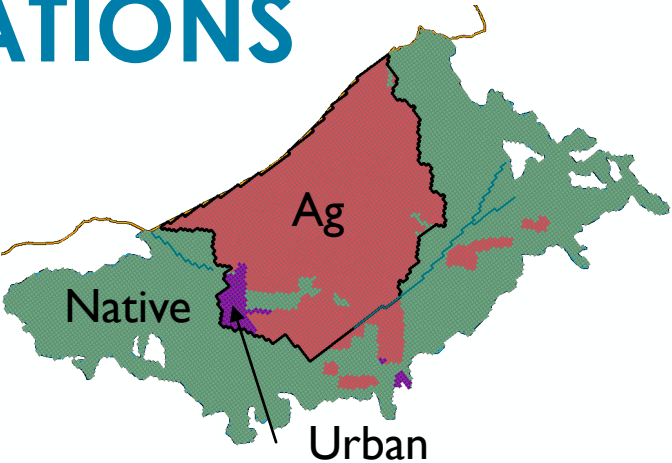
- Update MT calculation to use surrogate historical low value of 132 ft msl informed by nearby RMW-WWB-008
- May need to be revised for consistency with subsidence SMCs (subject to future analysis)

RMW-WWB-010	MT
2021 GSP	159
Proposed Revision	132
Change	-27



SUSTAINABLE YIELD (SY) CONSIDERATIONS

- Examined modeled water budget components in the **irrigated agricultural area** (~39,680 acres) from principal aquifer over various time periods
- Estimated SY from the model based on calculated pumping and modeled groundwater storage change ~ 1.0 AF/acre
- Pumping exceeds estimated SY by ~ 5,000 to 12,700 AFY (0.13 to 0.32 AF/acre)



WY Range	Time Period Relevance	Model Pumping	Model Change in Storage	Estimated Sustainable Yield*		Model Pumping	Model Pumping Exceeds Estimated SY	
		(AFY)	(AFY)	(AFY)	(AF/acre)	(AF/acre)	(AF/acre)	(AFY)
1995-2014	GSP – “Historical”	37,700	-2,300	35,400	0.89	0.95	0.06	2,300
2015-2019	GSP – “Current”	52,400	-12,700	39,600	1.00	1.32	0.32	12,700
1995-2024	Entire Model Period	41,800	-5,000	36,800	0.93	1.05	0.13	5,000
2020-2024	Last 5 Years	47,500	-7,700	39,800	1.00	1.20	0.19	7,700
2015-2024	Last 10 Years	49,900	-10,200	39,700	1.00	1.26	0.26	10,200
2010-2024	Last 15 Years	50,500	-10,500	40,000	1.01	1.27	0.26	10,500
2005-2024	Last 20 Years	47,700	-9,100	38,600	0.97	1.20	0.23	9,100
2000-2024	Last 25 Years	44,600	-6,600	38,000	0.96	1.12	0.17	6,600
2007-2024	Post-Wanger	50,800	-12,400	38,300	0.97	1.28	0.31	12,400

*calculated as +pumping + (+/-)change in storage

PROJECTED SCENARIOS IN GSP (WY 2020-2072)

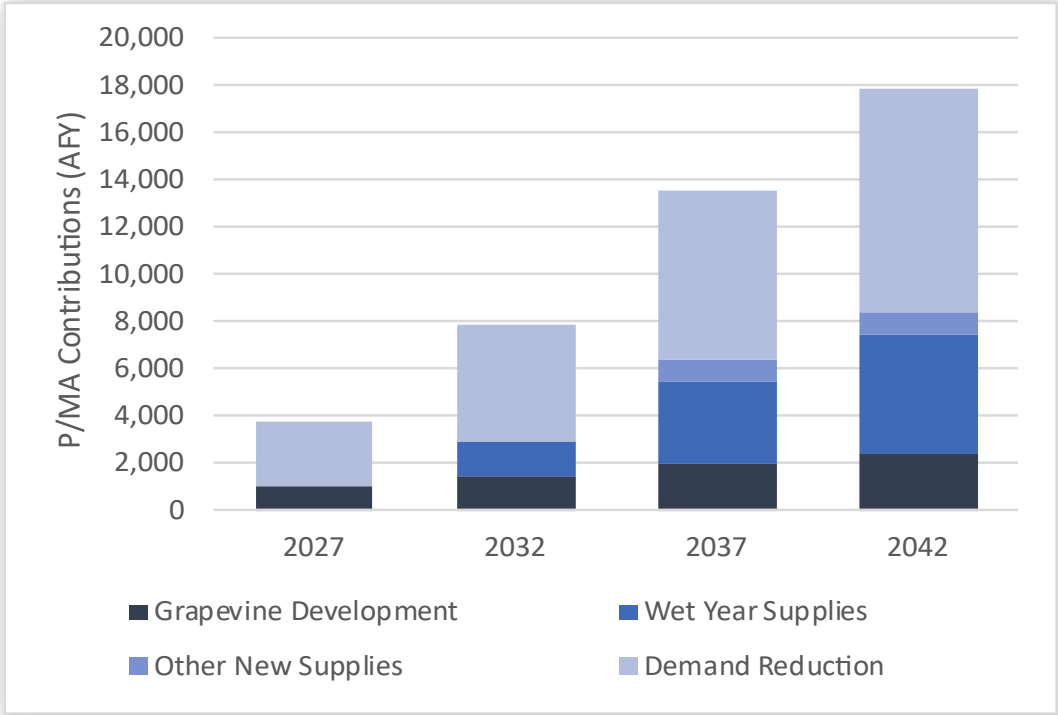
- Multiple future scenarios included in GSP:
 - Baseline
 - 2030 climate change
 - 2070 central tendency climate change
 - 2030 climate change with Grapevine
 - 2030 climate change with Grapevine & combined P/MAs (“Glide Path”)
- Repeat historical hydrology with climate change factors applied to precipitation & ET, and reduced reliability for imported surface water

Water Year	Projected	Actual
2020	Wet	Above Normal
2021	Above Normal	Critical
2022	Below Normal	Critical
2023	Wet	Wet
2024	Wet	Wet

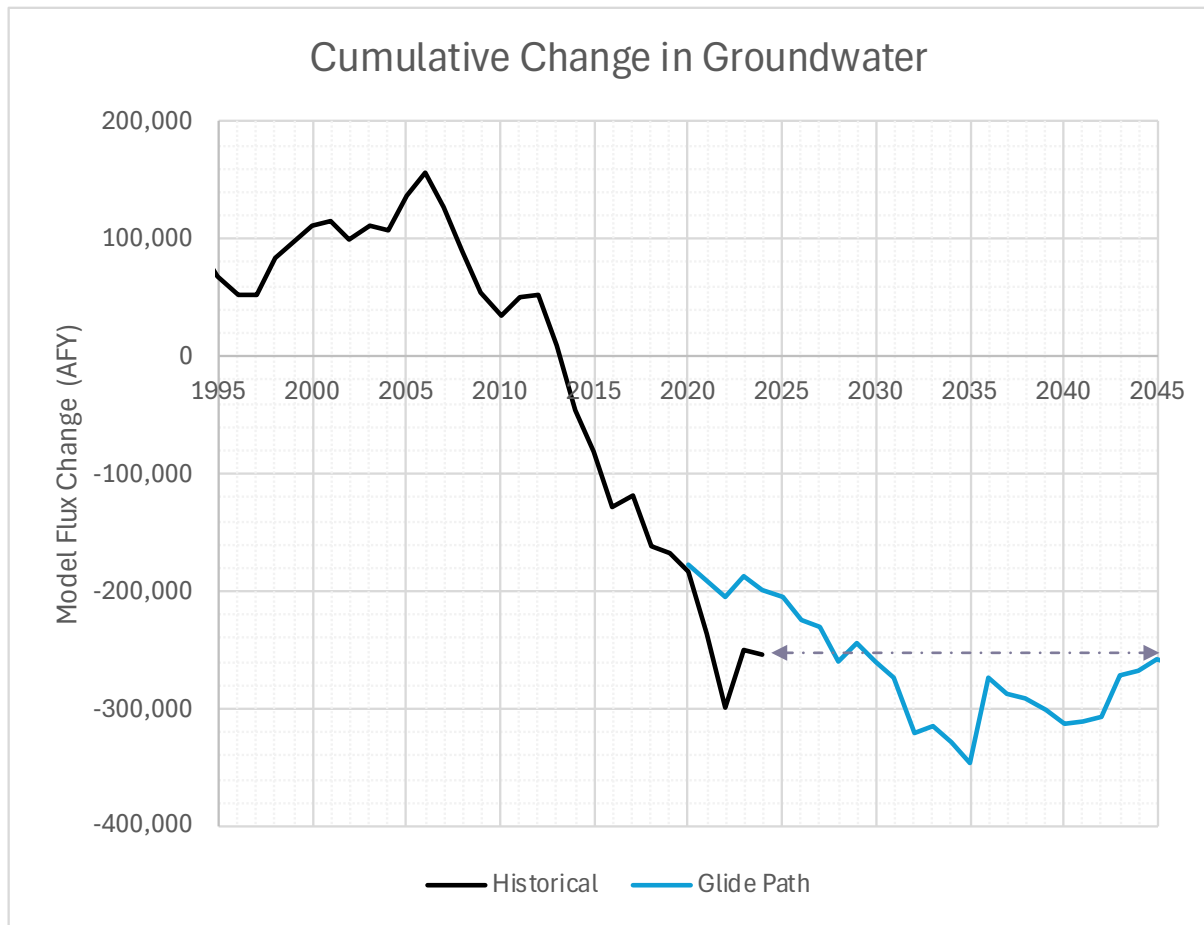
REFRESHER ON P/MAS TIMING - GLIDE PATH

Year	2027	2032	2037	2042
P/MA Contributions (AFY)				
Grapevine Development	1,000	1,400	1,900	2,400
Wet Year Supplies	0	1,500	3,500	5,000
Other New Supplies	0	0	1,000	1,000
Pumping Reduction	2,700	5,000	7,200	9,500
P/MA Total Contributions	3,700	7,900	13,600	17,900

- Designed to close projected groundwater storage deficit by 2042



WATER BUDGET COMPARISONS SUGGEST NEED FOR FASTER P/MA IMPLEMENTATION



- Updated historical model results indicate more storage loss and less recharge compared to the projected model “glide path” scenario (2020-2024)
- ~50,000 AFY storage deficit between 2024 and “glide path”
- 2042 goal can still be met, provided that storage declines do not continue

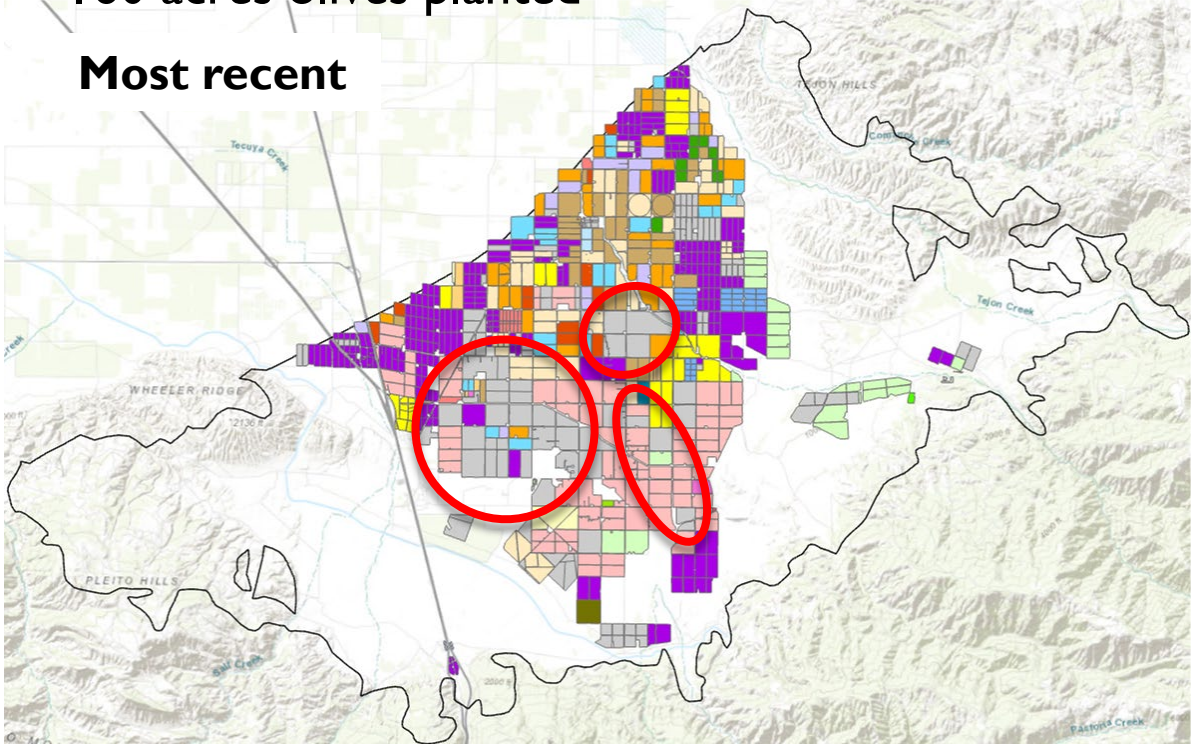
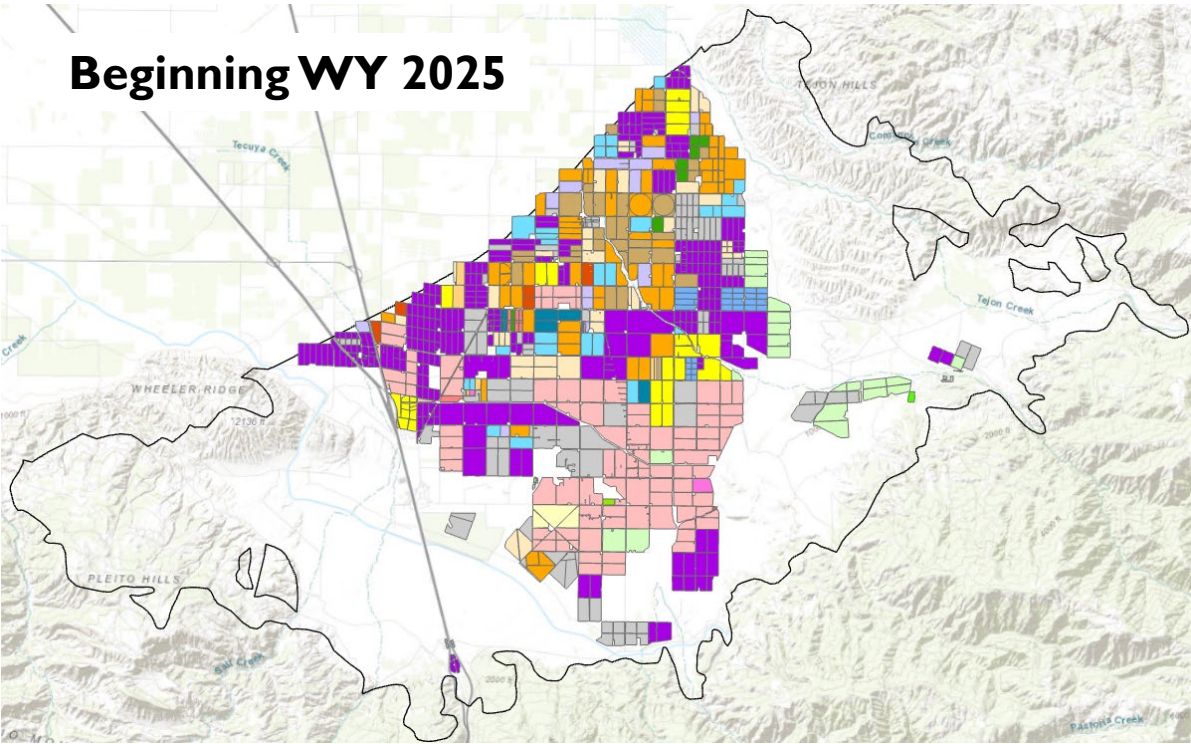
ONGOING UPDATES TO PROJECTED SCENARIOS

- Update land use assumptions and Grapevine development schedule
- Consider incorporation of updated SWP reliability assumptions that project future reliability under climate change and subsidence capacity constraints
 - Indicate 8% reductions currently modeled for 2070 climate change scenario conditions may need to be reduced to 13-22% (no future subsidence) or 18-87% (with future subsidence)
- Will revisit demand management timing assumptions once other updates have been completed

UPDATES ON P/MAS

2,800 ACRES OF PERMANENT CROPLAND FALLOWED

~760 acres almonds & 2,200 acres grapes fallowed
~160 acres olives planted



Land use (LandIQ)

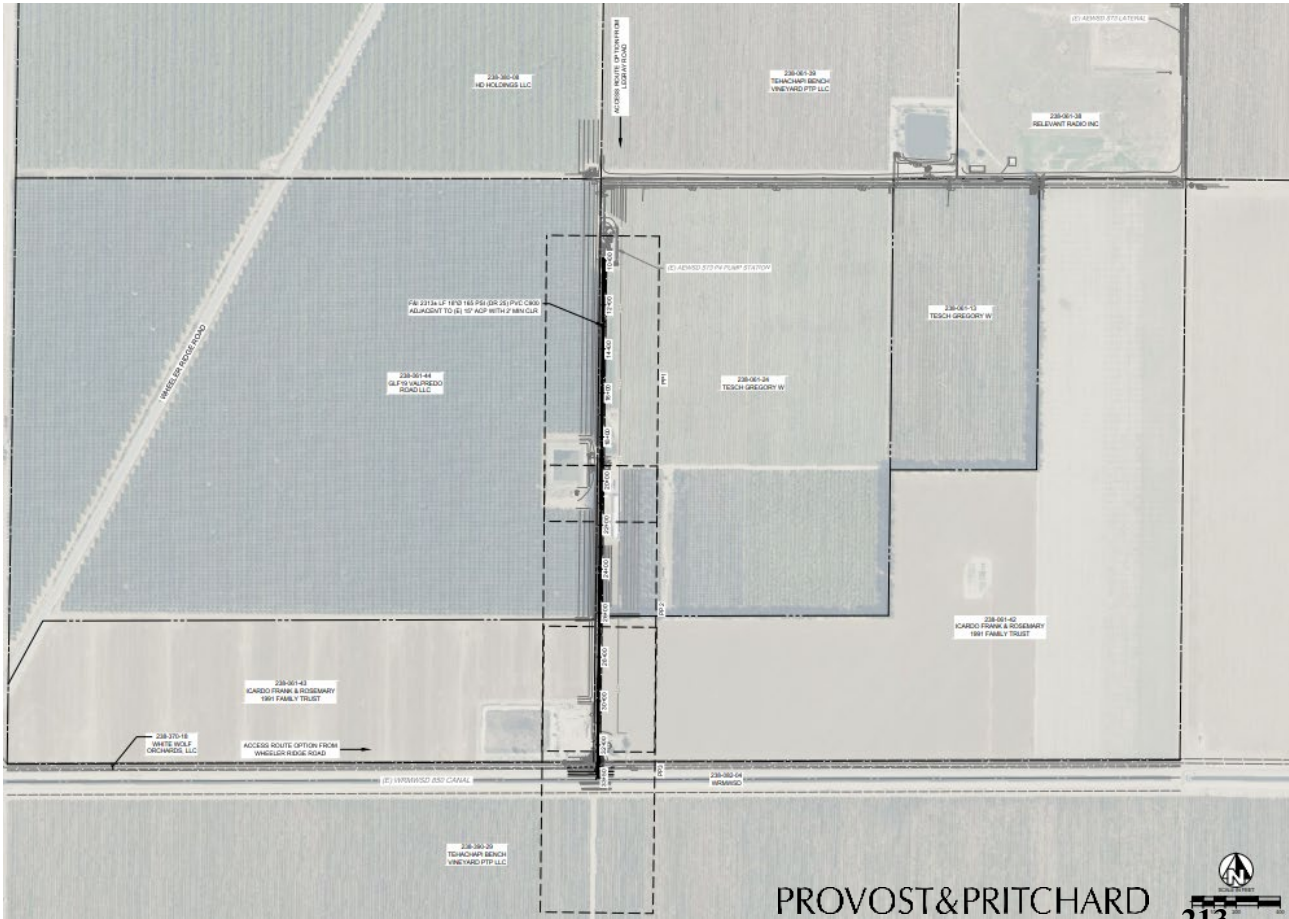
Cotton	Almonds	Cole Crops	Miscellaneous Deciduous	Peaches/Nectarines
Potatoes or Sweet Potatoes	Apples	Eucalyptus	Miscellaneous Grain and Hay	Peppers
Bush Berries	Carrots	Flowers, Nursery and Christmas Tree Farms	Miscellaneous Truck Crops	Pistachios
Cherries	Citrus	Grapes	Mixed Pasture	Tomatoes
		Greenhouse	Olives	Unclassified Fallow
		Lettuce/Leafy Greens	Onions and Garlic	Young Perennials

ET on the recently fallowed parcels averaged ~7,000 AFY in WY 2021- 2024.

850 CANAL-SOUTH CANAL INTERTIE

Project Scope: Connect AEWSD and WRMWSD systems -- Construct approximately 2,350 feet of 18-inch C900 PVC pipe, and discharge into 850 Canal

Contractor:	Laurel-Ag & Water
Contract:	\$645,099
Total Complete to Date:	30%
Construction Start Date:	07/23/2025
Construction End Date:	12/01/2025



850 CANAL-SOUTH CANAL INTERTIE



QUESTIONS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025
Time: 1:30 P.M.
Location: Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD, 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield, CA 93314

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM**
- 3. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 5. BOARD MEETING MINUTES**
 - a. APPROVAL of September 4, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes*
- 6. TREASURER/FINANCIAL REPORT**
 - a. September and October 2025 Accounts Payable/Receivable Ratification and Approval*
 - b. KRWCA 2019-2024 Audited Financial Reports Review*: Danhira Millian and Scott Westall, BHK (Barbich, Hooper, King, Dill, Hoffman, LLP)
- 7. KRWCA MANAGER REPORT/ILRP PROGRAM UPDATE**
 - a. Administrative:
 - i. Enrollment/Payment Update
 - ii. GTM Demand Charge Reimbursement*
 1. 10043, KRWCA00026 & KRWCA00054, \$5,409.65
 - iii. New Lease Options
 - b. Outreach and Education:
 - i. Grower Meetings Scheduled, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM: Zoom January 13, 2026, and In-Person January 15, 2026.
- 8. NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT ZONE**
 - a. Kern Water Collaborative (KWC) Update:
 - i. Application, Well Test and Water Delivery Update

Posted pursuant to Government Code § 54954.2(a) at least 72 hours prior to said meeting.

By: Nicole M. Bell Date: November 3, 2025
Per Govt. Code § 54953.2 and § 54961, requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to attend or participate in this meeting should be made to Nicole Bell (phone 661-616-6500) in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.



ii. Community Outreach and Engagement

1. <https://KWCMZ.org>

b. SGMA Coordination:

- i. NGO/Non-Profit Monthly Coordination Meetings
- ii. KMEC Member

9. REPORT OF PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP

- a. General Program Updates

10. CV-SALTS www.cvsalinity.org

Manager Bell and Land IQ represent KRWCA at the Monthly CV-SALTS Meetings. Information related to CVSALTS is available at www.cvsalinity.org.

11. OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

12. ATTORNEYS REPORT

13. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
 - i. Pacific Coast Federation, etc., et al. v. Karl Stock, et al., U.S. Court of Appeal (9th Circuit), Case No. 23-15599.
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Significant exposure to litigation-Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). One item.

14. RECONVENED and REPORT from CLOSED SESSION - Gov't. Code section 54957.1.

15. KRWCA & KWC MEETING ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS – INFORMATION ITEM

- a. 9/10, MZ Leadership Meeting
- b. 9/10, CVSC Board Meeting
- c. 9/11, CVSALTS Executive Committee/CVSC Board Meetings
- d. 9/12, KWC Board Meeting
- e. 9/15, CVGMC Meeting
- f. 9/15, Kern Subbasin NGO/Non-Profit Monthly Meeting
- g. 9/18, All CV ILRP Coalition's Meeting
- h. 10/3, PEOC Meeting
- i. 10/10, KWC Board Meeting
- j. 10/14, All CV ILRP Coalition's Meeting
- k. 10/14, KMEC Meeting
- l. 10/15, MZ Leadership Meeting
- m. 10/16, CVSALTS Executive Committee/CVSC Board Meetings
- n. 10/20, CVGMC Meeting
- o. 10/21, SWB MZ Briefing
- p. 10/26, All CV ILRP Coalition's Meeting
- q. 10/31, Second Expert Panel Meeting



r. 11/5, SSJV MPEP/CVSALTS Meeting

16. NEXT MEETING*

To Be Determined. Next regularly scheduled meeting is January 1, 2026.

17. ADJOURN

“*” Notates an action item (Approval/Ratification)