

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
Wednesday May 13, 2026 @ 8:00 A.M.

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

Or

Physical Teleconference Location

12 Rayon

Nochistlán, Zac., México 99900

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/WRMWSO>

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.

REVISED AGENDA

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, 54957.7)
2. Legislative, Executive, Regulatory, and Legal Matters
3. Consider Opposing AB 2447 (Bauer-Kahan)

4. Minutes

1. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2026 *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)
 2. Budget Expenditures Report for April 2026 *Whitby* (5 mins)
 3. Consider Intent to Fix Special Service Charge for 2026 *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 – **2026 SWP Allocation of 30%** *McDaris* (30 mins)
 - a. 2026 Water Supply/Demand Estimate
 - b. Other Purchases/Exchanges
 3. Consider Revising 2026 Budget Water Rates and Set District Allocation *McDaris* (10 mins)
 - a. Fixed Obligation Equivalent – SWP and Supplemental
 - b. Supplemental Water Agreement
 - c. Miscellaneous Water Rates (Budget Table 17)
 - d. Groundwater Service Charge
 4. Consider Revising 2026 OM&R Rates Due to Golden Mussel Treatment *McDaris* (5 mins)
 5. Consider Agricultural Energy Consumers Association Contribution Increase *Nicholas* (5 mins)
 6. Consider Approval of Commendation and Expression of Appreciation *Nicholas* (10 mins)
for Jon Kelley ****Resolution Required****
 7. Consider Approval of Amendment #4 for Long Term Yuba Purchase Program *McDaris* (10 mins)
 8. Consider Support for ACWA's *Vision For Our Water Future* *Nicholas* (5 mins)
****Resolution Required****
 9. State Water Project / Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) *Nicholas* (10 mins)
 10. Sites Reservoir *Kunde* (10 mins)
 11. Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA *Nicholas* (10 mins)
 - a. Consider Establishing 2026 WRMGSA Administration Charge ****Resolution Required****
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. Kern Non-District Lands Authority *Fry* (5 mins)
 5. White Wolf Groundwater Sustainability Agency *Nicholas* (5 mins)
 6. Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority *Blaine* (5 mins)
 7. Committee for Delta Reliability *Nicholas* (5 mins)
 8. South Valley Water Resource Authority *Nicholas* (5 mins)
10. **Unfinished and New Business**
1. Ethics Training – AB1234 *Nicholas* (2 mins)
 2. SB-827 Fiscal & Financial Training for Elected Officers of a Local Agency – June 17, 2026
11. **Public Comments**
12. **Adjournment**

Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District - No. F087487

S290840

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA

BRING BACK THE KERN, et al., Plaintiffs and Respondents,

v.

CITY OF BAKERSFIELD, Defendant and Respondent;

NORTH KERN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT, et al., Real Parties in Interest and Appellants.

(And five other cases.)

**SUPREME COURT
FILED**

MAY 4 2026

Jorge Navarrete Clerk

Deputy

The application of Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District for permission to file an amicus curiae brief in support of real parties in interest and appellants is hereby granted. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 8.520(f).)

GUERRERO

Chief Justice

S290840

**IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA**

BRING BACK THE KERN et al.,
Plaintiffs and Respondents,

v.

CITY OF BAKERSFIELD,
Defendant and Respondent.

NORTH KERN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT et al.,
Real Parties in Interest and Appellants.

Review of a Decision by the Fifth District Court of Appeal, Case
No. F087487; Consolidated with Case Nos. F087503, F087549,
F087558, F087560, and F08770

Appeal from Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-22-
103220 (Honorable Gregory A. Pulskamp, Presiding)

**APPLICATION TO FILE AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF IN
SUPPORT OF REAL PARTIES IN INTEREST AND
APPELLANTS; PROPOSED AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF**

COUNSEL CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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**APPLICATION TO FILE AMICUS BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF
REAL PARTIES IN INTEREST AND APPELLANTS**

Under California Rules of Court, rule 8.520(f), Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (the District) requests permission to file the attached brief as amicus curiae in support of the position of the Real Parties in Interest and Appellants in this appeal.

Interest of Amicus District

The District is a public agency with an elected board of directors. Its territory is in Kern County south of the City of Bakersfield. The District serves water for irrigation to approximately 89,000 acres of farmland.

Historically, farmers in the area now encompassed by the District pumped groundwater for irrigation.¹ As groundwater levels in the region dropped, farmers formed the District in 1959 with the aim of supplementing their groundwater with imported surface water from what is now the State Water Project. Currently, the District receives its State Water Project surface water through the Kern County Water Agency, a real party in interest here.

In light of its particular circumstances in the region, the District's proposed brief respectfully requests this Court take into account—under article X, section 2 of the California Constitution—not only the reasonableness of the competing

¹ The District's territory overlies two subbasins within the larger San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin.

demands on the Kern River but also the indirect impact of the Court's decision on intertwined water supplies.

Authorship and Monetary Contribution

No party or counsel for a party authored the attached proposed amicus brief in whole or in part. No party or counsel for any party made any monetary contribution to fund the preparation or submission of the attached brief. The District does wish to note that its general counsel is colleagues (at Young Woolridge, LLP) with counsel for real party in interest North Kern Water Storage District. The District's general counsel provided background information about the District to the author of the proposed amicus brief.

Conclusion

The District respectfully requests the Court accept for filing the attached amicus curiae brief in support of Real Parties in Interest and Appellants.

Dated: May 4, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

FERGUSON CASE ORR
PATERSON LLP



Neal Maguire, Attorneys for
Proposed Amicus Curiae,
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

PROPOSED AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF

A. Article X, Section 2 Compels Case-Specific Reasonableness Determinations Even When The Public Trust Is At Stake

Article X, section 2 limits all water rights to reasonable and beneficial uses. (Cal. Const., art. X, § 2; see also *City of Barstow v. Mojave Water Agency* (2000) 23 Cal.4th 1224, 1241-1242 (*Mojave*)). In a dispute between parties asserting competing water rights, a trial court must first determine whether the parties are reasonably and beneficially using water “giving consideration to all factors involved.” (*Mojave, supra*, 23 Cal.4th at p. 1242.) Because reasonableness “depends on the circumstances of each case, such an inquiry cannot be resolved *in vacuo* isolated from statewide considerations of transcendent importance.” (*Id.*, internal citation and quotation marks omitted.) A reasonableness determination may differ depending on whether there is plenty of water for all or whether there is “an area of great scarcity and great need.” (*Tulare Irrigation Dist. v. Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation Dist.* (1935) 3 Cal.2d 489, 567.)

These same principles apply when there is an effort to enjoin water production on the basis of the public trust doctrine. (See *National Audubon Society v. Superior Court* (1983) 33 Cal.3d 419, 443-447.)

B. A Reasonableness Determination Should Consider Impacts To Intertwined Water Sources

Farmers within the District initially relied solely on groundwater pumping for their irrigation needs. They began

importing surface water to supplement that supply and alleviate impacts associated with excessive groundwater pumping in the area. However, competing demands on the State Water Project and other constraints (e.g., sustained periods of drought and regulatory requirements) have limited the District's ability to import State water as well. So, while surface water comprises the bulk of the District's existing supply, groundwater still contributes to meeting the irrigation needs of those in the District. Many other public and private entities are in the same boat, either directly or indirectly, in that they rely on both surface and groundwater depending on availability.

Unfortunately, groundwater is not a panacea for the region's water ills. Even though the District had the foresight decades ago to expand its water portfolio, surface water supplies are limited. Groundwater is limited, too. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA) (Wat. Code, § 10720 et seq.), requires the sustainable management of many basins. (Wat. Code, §§ 10720.7, 10721, subd. (x).) The groundwater subbasins relied on by the District and its farmers are subject to SGMA and have constrained supplies.

So, while this case is about the Kern River and the instream use of its water, the District highlights the intertwined nature of the region's water supplies to demonstrate the importance of considering, under article X, section 2, not only the reasonableness of the competing uses of Kern River water but also how decisions made about the Kern will reverberate throughout the region. For example, the District neighbors the

Kern Delta Water District (Kern Delta), a real party in interest here. Kern Delta's lands have received Kern River water for over a century, which has significantly benefited groundwater aquifers in the region. Reallocating Kern River surface water from historic places of use, including agricultural uses south of the River, could substantially affect those aquifers. It is critical that a reasonableness analysis grapple with the indirect consequences of reallocating surface water.

C. Conclusion

Of course, to take such consequences into account, the trial court had to engage in a reasonableness analysis in the first instance. Because it did not, the District supports the brief of the Real Parties in Interest and Appellants. The District respectfully requests the Court affirm the opinion of the Court of Appeal in reversing the trial court's grant of a preliminary injunction.

Dated: May 4, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

FERGUSON CASE ORR
PATERSON LLP



Neal Maguire, Attorneys for
Proposed Amicus Curiae,
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

CERTIFICATE OF WORD COUNT

Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 8.520(c) and (f), I certify that this Proposed Amicus Curiae Brief contains 1,287 words, excluding the accompanying application, table of contents, table of authorities, caption page, and this certificate.

Dated: May 4, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

FERGUSON CASE ORR
PATERSON LLP



Neal Maguire, Attorneys for
Proposed Amicus Curiae,
WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

PROOF OF SERVICE

I am employed in the County of Ventura, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is 1050 South Kimball Road, Ventura, California 93004.

On May 4, 2026, I served the foregoing document described as **“APPLICATION TO FILE AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF REAL PARTIES IN INTEREST AND APPELLANTS; PROPOSED AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF”** on the interested parties in the action entitled: *Bring Back the Kern, et al. v. City of Bakersfield*

Supreme Court of California, Case No. S290840;

Court of Appeal of the State of California, Fifth Appellate District, Case No. F087487 (and consolidated cases);

Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-22-103220

SERVED ON:

Clerk
Court of Appeal
Fifth Appellate District
2424 Cesar Chavez Boulevard
Fresno, CA 93721
(via TrueFiling)

The Honorable Gregory Pulskamp
Division J
Kern County Superior Court
Metropolitan Division Justice
Building
1215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

*Additional parties on Attached Service List via TrueFiling

[X] BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE By causing said document(s) to be served on the interested parties via electronic service utilizing the Electronic Filing Service Provider as ordered by this Court. A copy of the filing receipt page will be maintained with the original document(s) in this office.

[X] BY EMAIL VIA PDF FILE I caused a true copy of the foregoing document(s) listed above to be served by transmitting on this date via email a true and correct copy scanned into a electronic file in Adobe .PDF format on the above-listed document to the email address(es) of the person(s) (*shown below on the service list*) the transmission was reported as complete and without error.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on May 4, 2026, at Ventura, California.

Brittany Nesbitt

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MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP



MAY 2026

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA SPRING 2026 CONFERENCE

ACWA will host its Spring 2026 Conference and Exhibition in Sacramento, CA from May 5-7. ACWA Policy Committee Meetings will be held in person on Tuesday, May 5 (schedule below). Click [here](#) to register for the Spring Conference, including the Policy Committee Meetings.

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

POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

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

PROPOSITION 4 IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER

State agencies are in the process of drafting guidelines for Proposition 4 funding allocations. ACWA is maintaining a Proposition 4 Implementation Tracker for informational purposes. ACWA’s Proposition 4 tracker is accessible [here](#).

Staff Contact

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WATER MANAGEMENT

California Water Plan Advisory Committee

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convene the first meetings of the 2028 California Water Plan Advisory Committee to provide recommendations and inform the development of the [2028 California Water Plan](#) (Plan). The Plan, which is updated every five years, is California’s strategic plan for water management. The Water Plan Advisory Committee is appointed, but meetings are open to the public.
 - [Public meetings](#): May 13, May 14

Staff Contact

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Conservation and Mitigation Banking

- The Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Project Delivery Team and Bank Agency Management Team will host a [hybrid public meeting](#) to provide mitigation banking updates and solicit input from stakeholders.
 - [Public meeting](#): May 15 at 1:00 pm
- DFW has updated the Conservation and Mitigation Banking Guidelines (Guidelines). There will be a public [webinar](#) to discuss the changes and address any questions. The updated Guidelines will be posted to DFW’s Conservation and Mitigation Banking [webpage](#) in the future.

Staff Contact

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public webinar: May 27 at 2:00 pm 	
<p>Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On April 27, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced a 45-day comment period for the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program Draft Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation with funding through Proposition 4, the Climate Bond. Up to \$228 million is available through funds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public comment due: June 11 at 5:00 pm ○ Workshop #1: May 27 at 10:00 am ○ Workshop #2: June 2 at 2:00 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com</p>
<p>Delta Conveyance Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 9, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) announced a Tenth Amended Notice of Public Hearing and Procedural Ruling. The hearing will gather evidence that the State Water Board will consider to determine whether to approve change petitions filed by DWR to add two new points of diversion and rediversion for the State Water Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public hearings: June 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 15, 18, 23, 24, and 26 at 9:00 am 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p>
<p>Sites Reservoir</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On March 20, the State Water Board released a Draft Decision and Draft Water Rights Permit on Sites Project Authority – Application 25517X01. The Draft Decision lays out the evidence and arguments received during the water rights hearings and explains the conditions of the Draft Water Rights Permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public comment due: May 22 at 11:59 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com</p>
<p>AGRICULTURE</p>	
<p>Office of Agricultural Resilience and Sustainability Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Office of Agricultural Resilience and Sustainability is accepting Concept Proposal applications for eligible organizations to serve as Healthy Soils Program and State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program Block Grant Recipients. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concept Proposal due: May 15 at 5:00 pm ○ Full proposal notification: June 2026 ○ Full proposal close: August 2026 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p>
<p>Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On April 28, the State Water Board released the Revised Notice of Opportunity to Comment and Staff Workshop - Recommendations of the Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel (Panel) Draft Report (Draft Report). The Draft Report presents independent recommendations of the Panel in response to the Panel charge questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public comment due: May 4 at 12:00 pm • On April 29, the State Water Board released the Notice of Public Working Group Meetings on the Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel. The State Water Board will host two Panel working group meetings to facilitate Panel considerations to public comments received in response to the Draft Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working group meetings: May 18, May 27 at 3:00 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com</p>

GROUNDWATER

<p>Tulare Lake and Tule Subbasin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater pumpers in the Tulare Lake and Tule subbasins must submit their extraction reports on the State Water Board’s Groundwater Extraction Annual Reporting System. Groundwater pumpers who extract no more than 20-acre feet of groundwater per year are exempt from this reporting requirement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report due: May 1 	<p>Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com</p>
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT


<p>SB 254 Natural Catastrophe Resiliency Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 7, the California Earthquake Authority (CEA), as the administrator of the California Wildfire Fund, filed and submitted to the Legislature the SB 254 Natural Catastrophe Resiliency Study (Study). This Study, pursuant to SB 254 (2025), is a comprehensive assessment of new approaches to enhance California’s catastrophe resiliency, with a focus on the electric utility sector. 	<p>Staff Contact Kylie Wright kyliew@acwa.com</p>
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SAFE DRINKING WATER



<p>SAFER Advisory Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 23, the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Meeting of the Second SAFER Advisory Group Meeting. The Advisory Group will discuss the Annual Needs Assessment Dashboard, Fund Expenditure Plan, and hear SAFER program and Advisory Group member updates and announcements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory group meeting: May 28 at 9:30 am 	<p>Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com</p>
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WATER QUALITY

<p>2030 California Integrated Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 10, the State Water Board released the Notice of Solicitation of Water Quality Data and Information for the 2030 California Integrated Report for Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b) (2030 California Integrated Report). Data and information received will be used in the 2030 California Integrated Report, which assesses overall surface water quality conditions and identifies waters of the United States that do not or are not expected to meet water quality standards. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data submissions due: August 10 at 12:00 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Amber Rossow amberr@acwa.com</p>
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<p>Clean Water State Revolving Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 27, the State Water Board released the Notice of Public Release, Board Workshop, and Board Meeting relating to the draft fiscal year 2026-27 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP). The draft Clean Water State Revolving Fund IUP outlines the State Water Board’s plan for administering the fund and identifies available funding and projects eligible for financing. On May 19, the State Water Board will hold a workshop to provide an overview of the IUP and receive public input. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board workshop: May 19 Public comment due: May 27 at 12:00 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com</p> 
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<p>CV-SALTS Surveillance and Monitoring Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning in May, CV-SALTS billing notices will include Surveillance and Monitoring Program (SAMP) fees. The SAMP, as required by the Salt and Nitrate Control Basin Plan Amendments, tracks water quality conditions and 	<p>Staff Contact Amber Rossow amberr@acwa.com</p>
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<p>trends across the Central Valley region using data from existing state and federal monitoring programs.</p>	
<p>State Revolving Fund Environmental Package Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On December 29, the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Webinars relating to Funding Programs Environmental Package (EP) Guidance. The webinars will focus on the EP requirements for the State Water Board’s funding programs, including the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF and DWSRF). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public webinar: May 14 at 1:00 pm 	<p>Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com</p> 
<p>Wastewater Rates Questionnaire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On March 27, the State Water Board announced they are conducting a one-time wastewater user charge survey to collect historical rate and fee data for 2019-2025 with the intent to prioritize future investments to support improvements for wastewater systems. Participation is voluntary, but highly encouraged. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey due: May 15 	<p>Staff Contact Amber Rossow amberr@acwa.com</p>
<p>ENERGY</p>	
<p>PRIORITY Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 2, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) released Proposed Amendments to the Advanced Clean Fleets regulation (ACF Amendments). Following the comment deadline (April 17), the CARB Executive Officer will consider submitted comments, recommend any needed changes, and then direct CARB staff to submit the ACF Amendments to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review and potential adoption. 	<p>Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com</p> 
<p>2026 Integrated Energy Policy Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 17, the California Energy Commission released the Scoping Order for the 2026 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (IEPR). The 2026 IEPR will provide updates on the California Electricity Demand Forecast, California geothermal resources, and energy equity. The IEPR is a biennial report that assesses California’s energy system, with an update in intervening years. 	<p>Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com</p>
<p>California Air Resources Board Study Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 23 and 24, CARB hosted a study session to discuss California’s carbon capture landscape, California’s air toxics program, and clean transportation incentives. 	<p>Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com</p>
<p>ACWA COMMENT LETTERS</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments on CARB’s Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, California Air Resources Board, April 17, 2026 Joint Comments on SWB’s Proposed Emergency Regulations for Electronic Reporting of Drinking Water Quality Data, State Water Resources Control Board, April 29, 2026 	

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



Indicates ACWA Working Group



Indicates ACWA Priority Issue

[AB 35](#) ([Alvarez, D](#)) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

Current Text: 01/14/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 12/02/2024

Last Amended: 01/14/2026

Status: 05/06/2026 - Referred to Com. on N.R. & W.

Location: 05/06/2026 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: Existing law, the Administrative Procedure Act, sets forth the requirements for the adoption, publication, review, and implementation of regulations by state agencies. The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (act), approved by the voters as Proposition 4 at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election, authorized the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. Existing law authorizes certain regulations needed to effectuate or implement programs of the act to be adopted as emergency regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, as provided. Existing law requires the emergency regulations to be filed with the Office of Administrative Law and requires the emergency regulations to remain in effect until repealed or amended by the adopting state agency. This bill, notwithstanding the above, would exempt the adoption of regulations needed to effectuate or implement programs of the act from the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, as provided. The bill would require a state entity that receives funding to administer a competitive grant program established using the Administrative Procedure Act exemption to do certain things, including develop draft project solicitation and evaluation guidelines and to submit those guidelines to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, except as provided. The bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to post an electronic form of the guidelines submitted by a state entity and the subsequent verifications on the Natural Resources Agency's internet website. The bill would authorize the use of certain previously developed program guidelines and selection criteria for these purposes, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 01/14/2026 text)

Is Urgency: Y

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
VAWC	Favor

[AB 1772](#) ([Papan, D](#)) Fish and wildlife: invasive mussels.

Current Text: 04/27/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/09/2026

Last Amended: 04/27/2026

Status: 04/28/2026 - Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Calendar: *05/13/26 A-APPROPRIATIONS 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100 WICKS, BUFFY, Chair*

Location: 04/23/2026 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water in the state, invasive mussels, and authorizes the Director of Fish and Wildlife or the director's designee to engage in various enforcement activities, including ordering the areas in conveyance that contain water be drained, dried, or decontaminated, as provided. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. Existing law requires, if invasive mussels are detected, the operator of a water supply system to, in cooperation with the department, prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system, and eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel. Existing law requires, on or before December

31, 2026, the department to review all approved plans and require all plans that do not specifically address all invasive mussel species known to be present in bodies of water in the state as of January 1, 2026, to be updated or revised appropriately to include all invasive mussel species, on or before September 30, 2027. Existing law 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 certain regulation. Existing law defines “invasive mussel” for these purposes as any nonnative detrimental mussel, as provided. Under existing law, except as otherwise provided, any violation of the Fish and Game Code, or of any rule, regulation, or order made or adopted under the code, is a crime. This bill would prohibit a conveyance from being launched until a specified drying period has completed, as provided. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the department to require water supply system operators to update their plans to address all invasive mussel species present in the operator’s water system as of January 1, 2026, as provided. The bill would require a plan to address every invasive mussel species detected in a water supply system after January 1, 2026, no later than 180 days from the date the species is detected. The bill would require a plan to minimize or eliminate the spread of invasive mussels. The bill would revise the definition of “invasive mussel” to mean any nonnative biofouling mussel, as provided. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 04/27/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[VAWC AB 1772 WPW SA 04082026.edited.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Support/Amend

[AB 1881](#) ([Ramos, D](#)) California Indian Freedom Act of 2026.

Current Text: 04/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/12/2026

Last Amended: 04/16/2026

Status: 05/06/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 05/06/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law establishes various protections for California Native American tribes, including prohibiting a public agency or private party using or occupying public property or operating on public property from interfering with the free expression or exercise of Native American religion as provided in the United States Constitution and the California Constitution. Existing law also requires a local government to provide formal notification to each California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project site as an invitation to consult on the proposed project, as provided. Existing law requires the local government, during the consultation, to give deference to the tribal information, tribal knowledge and customs, and the significance of the resource to the California Native American tribe. Existing law prohibits any information, as described, that is submitted by a California Native American tribe during the environmental review process from being included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed by the lead agency or any other public agency to the public, as specified, without the prior consent of the tribe that provided the information. This bill, the California Indian Freedom Act of 2026, would prohibit a governmental agency from substantially burdening a California Indian or California Native American tribe’s exercise of religious beliefs or spiritual practices on state public lands, including their access to and use of sacred sites and objects, and their ability to perform religious ceremonies and rites, even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability, unless the governmental agency demonstrates that application of the burden is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and is in the least restrictive means of furthering that interest. The bill would authorize a California Indian or tribe to assert a violation of these provisions as a claim or defense in any judicial or administrative proceeding, as specified. The bill would require a governmental agency to allow California Indians access to sacred sites on state public lands, as specified. The bill would require a governmental agency to seek and document free, prior, and informed consent from affected tribes before undertaking any project action on state public lands that may pose a risk to sacred sites, as specified. The bill would require the affirmation of consent from the governing body of the affected tribe to be in writing, as described. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/16/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
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[AB 1894](#) ([Rubio, Blanca, D](#)) Fish and wildlife: invasive mussels: imported water.**Current Text:** 04/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Introduced:** 02/12/2026**Last Amended:** 04/16/2026**Status:** 05/05/2026 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.**Location:** 05/05/2026 - Senate Rules

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels, and authorizes the Director of Fish and Wildlife, or the director's designee, to engage in various enforcement activities with regard to invasive mussels. Existing law, until January 1, 2030, requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the department to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that occurs in a water supply system. Existing law requires any person, or federal, state, or local agency, district, or authority that owns or manages a reservoir, where specified activities are permitted, except as specified, to develop and implement a program designed to prevent the introduction of invasive mussel species, as provided. Existing law requires any entity that discovers invasive mussels within the state to immediately report the discovery to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. This bill would prohibit a public agency from prohibiting imported water deliveries, as defined, for groundwater replenishment due to invasive mussels unless there is substantial, documented evidence of a proven health and safety risk as a result of the invasive mussels. The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities and counties, including charter cities and charter counties. (Based on 04/16/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N**Is Fiscal:** Y**Attachments:**[VAWC AB 1894 OUA AWPW 04072026.edited.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Oppose Unless Amended

[AB 1941](#) ([González, Mark, D](#)) Organized metal theft.**Current Text:** 03/26/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Introduced:** 02/13/2026**Last Amended:** 03/26/2026**Status:** 04/15/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.**Location:** 04/15/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law makes a person who is a dealer in or collector of junk, metals, or secondhand materials, or their agent, employee, or representative, who buys or receives any wire, cable, copper, lead, solder, mercury, iron, or brass that the person knows or reasonably should know is used by or belongs to specified entities, including a railroad, certain utility companies, or a public entity engaged in furnishing public utility service, without using due diligence to ascertain that the person selling or delivering that material has a legal right to do so, guilty of criminally receiving that property and, in addition to imprisonment, makes that act punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000. This bill would prohibit organized metal theft, described as acting in concert with one or more persons to steal metal materials from one or more of specified materials and items with the intent to sell, exchange, or return those metal materials for value, acting in concert with 2 or more persons to receive, purchase, or possess those metal materials knowing or believing it to have been stolen, acting as an agent of another to steal those metal materials as part of an organized plan to commit theft, or recruiting, coordinating, organizing, supervising, directing, managing, or financing another to undertake acts of theft of metal. The bill would make a violation of organized metal theft punishable as either a misdemeanor or a felony. The bill would make related findings and declarations and state the intent of the Legislature. By creating new crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 03/26/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N**Is Fiscal:** Y

Attachments:

[AB 1941 - Organized Metal Theft - Fact Sheet.pdf](#)
[CCVFCA VAWC AB 1941 SUPPORT APS 031826.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Support

[AB 2026](#) ([Aguiar-Curry, D](#)) **Water diversion: groundwater recharge: permit.**

Current Text: 04/22/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/17/2026

Last Amended: 04/22/2026

Status: 04/23/2026 - Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Calendar: *05/13/26 A-APPROPRIATIONS 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100 WICKS, BUFFY, Chair*

Location: 04/21/2026 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Existing law declares that all water within the state is the property of the people of the state, but the right to the use of the water may be acquired by appropriation in the manner provided by law. Existing law requires the appropriation to be for some useful or beneficial purpose. Existing law provides, however, that the diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge does not require an appropriative water right if certain conditions are met, including that a local or regional agency that has adopted a local plan of flood control or has considered flood risks as part of its most recently adopted general plan has given notice, as provided, of imminent risk of flooding and inundation of lands, roads, or structures. Existing law defines "floodflow" for these purposes to include circumstances in which flows would inundate ordinarily dry areas in the bed of a terminal lake to a depth that floods dairies and other ongoing agricultural activities, or areas with substantial residential, commercial, or industrial development. Existing law applies those requirements to diversions commenced before January 1, 2029. Existing law prohibits an entity from substantially diverting or obstructing the natural flow of, or substantially changing or using any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake, or from depositing or disposing of certain material where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake, without first notifying the Department of Fish and Wildlife of that activity, and entering into a lake or streambed alteration agreement if required by the department to protect fish and wildlife resources, except as specified. This bill would revise and recast those conditions required for the appropriative water right exemption for a diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge, would apply the requirements to a diversion commenced before January 1, 2034, and would further exempt those diversions from the requirements of CEQA and requirements relating to lake or streambed alteration agreements, subject to conducting tribal consultation, as provided. The bill would expand the definition of "floodflow" to include flows downstream of a dam that is releasing water for flood control purposes, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/22/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
VAWC	Watch

[AB 2032](#) ([Ransom, D](#)) **Fish and wildlife: golden mussels.**

Current Text: 04/16/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/17/2026

Last Amended: 04/16/2026

Status: 04/20/2026 - Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Calendar: *05/13/26 A-APPROPRIATIONS 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100 WICKS, BUFFY, Chair*

Location: 04/15/2026 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels, as defined. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system, and, if invasive mussels are detected, to prepare and implement a plan, as specified, to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system. Existing law prohibits the importation, transportation,

possession, or live release of specified wild animals, except under a revocable, nontransferable permit, known as a restricted species permit, issued by the department, in cooperation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, and only if certain requirements are met. Existing law authorizes the department to issue permits, commonly known as scientific collecting permits, to take or possess any form of plant or animal life for scientific, educational, or propagation purposes. This bill would exempt from the requirement to obtain a restricted species permit for golden mussels a public or private agency that operates a water supply system and has submitted a control plan to the department for maintenance and operational activities to control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system, as specified. The bill would provide that this exemption remains in effect for a particular public or private agency until the department determines the agency's control plan does not meet the statutory requirements for control plans or approves the control plan. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/16/2026 text)

Is Urgency: Y

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[AB 2032 Golden Mussels Fact Sheet.pdf](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	

[AB 2170](#) ([Boerner, D](#)) California Environmental Quality Act: overburdened communities: notices and hearings: translations.

Current Text: 04/22/2026 - Amended [HTML PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/18/2026

Last Amended: 04/22/2026

Status: 05/06/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 05/06/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. Existing law requires a lead agency to be responsible for determining whether the project is exempt from CEQA and whether an environmental impact report, negative declaration, or mitigated negative declaration is required, as provided. Existing law, for certain projects, establishes a ministerial review process with modified environmental assessment procedures, as provided. This bill, notwithstanding the above-described provisions relating to determinations by a lead agency, would require an environmental impact report, negative declaration, or mitigated negative declaration, as determined by the lead agency, for any project, except as provided, that includes the development, intensification, or substantial expansion of an industrial use if the project is located in or within 1/2 mile of an overburdened community, as defined. The bill would disqualify these projects from receiving a statutory exemption or ministerial review process. Because a lead agency would be required to determine the applicability of this requirement, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/22/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
VAWC	

[AB 2218](#) ([Kalra, D](#)) Water policy: California Native American tribes.

Current Text: 04/16/2026 - Amended [HTML PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/19/2026

Last Amended: 04/16/2026

Status: 05/06/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 05/06/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law establishes the sovereignty of the state. This bill would require the state government to support California Native Americans to maintain cultural and linguistic traditions, practice ecosystem stewardship, and engage in good faith government-to-government consultations with all California Native American tribes regarding policies that may affect tribal communities. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/16/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[AB 2218 \(Kalra\) Fact Sheet.pdf](#)

[AB 2218 Coalition Oppose WPW.pdf](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Oppose

[AB 2447](#) ([Bauer-Kahan, D](#)) **Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act.**

Current Text: 04/06/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/20/2026

Last Amended: 04/06/2026

Status: 05/06/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 05/06/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Under existing law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards are the principal state agencies with authority over matters relating to water quality. The act requires the state board to formulate and adopt state policies for water quality control and requires the regional boards to adopt regional water quality control plans in compliance with the state policies. Under the act, the state board and the regional boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the state. This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to require the regional boards to update the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program in order to reduce nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural areas, as provided. The bill would require the regional boards to adopt revised orders with waste discharge requirements on or before January 1, 2028, that are sufficient to meet certain reductions in nitrogen waste discharges. The bill would require the state board to, on or before July 1, 2027, publish both a list of standardized crop names and categories, and a statewide methodology for calculating, and field-level reporting of, nitrogen balances for croplands, including nitrogen fertilizer applications and nitrogen discharges, that account for available soil nitrogen, to be used by the regional boards and incorporated into the revised orders. The bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2031, and in coordination with the regional boards, to submit a report to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature on progress achieved in implementing these requirements, including data on the extent of progress made toward reducing nitrogen waste discharges, as provided. (Based on 04/06/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[AB 2447 \(Bauer-Kahan\) Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act Fact Sheet.pdf](#)

[AB 2447 Oppose Letter to Asm. ESTM.pdf](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Oppose

[AB 2521](#) ([Papan, D](#)) **California Council on Science and Technology: water availability study: Central Valley.**

Current Text: 04/15/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/20/2026

Last Amended: 04/15/2026

Status: 05/06/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 05/06/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law establishes the Department of Water Resources within the Natural Resources Agency and vests it with various powers and duties related to water. Existing law requires the State Water Resources

Control Board to administer a water rights program pursuant to which the board grants and revokes permits and licenses to appropriate water. Existing law authorizes any person who has an urgent need to divert and use water to apply for, and authorizes the board to issue, a conditional, temporary permit, as prescribed. Existing law finds and declares that the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) was organized as a nonprofit corporation at the request of the Legislature for the specific purpose of offering expert advice to the state government on public policy issues significantly related to science and technology. This bill would, on or before January 1, 2028, require the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to select 2 watersheds that are within, or drain into, the Central Valley to conduct a watershedwide water availability study. The bill would, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, request CCST to, in consultation with the Department of Water Resources and the board, undertake and complete a comprehensive study of water availability in the selected watersheds. The bill would require the study to, among other things, determine daily flow rates in rivers, streams, and creeks in the watersheds over the past 30 years to the extent data is available. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature for the water availability study to serve as the water availability analysis for future applications to the board for standard or temporary permits for diversion of water to underground storage in the selected watersheds. This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the Central Valley. (Based on 04/15/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
VAWC	

AB 2569 (Hart, D) California Environmental Quality Act: natural hazards and adverse environmental conditions.

Current Text: 02/20/2026 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/20/2026

Status: 04/29/2026 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 04/29/2026 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report (EIR) on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. This bill would expand those definitions to include impacts on people, as specified. The bill would additionally require the lead agency to include in the EIR a detailed statement on any significant effects that may result from locating the proposed project near, or attracting people to, existing or reasonably foreseeable natural hazards or adverse environmental conditions. Because the lead agency would be required to undertake this additional consideration, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/20/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[CCVFCA ET AL. AB 2569 OPPOSE ANR 040626.docx](#)

[CCVFCA ET AL. AB 2569 OPPOSE AA 042726.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Not Favor

ACA 11 (Macedo, R) California Water Resiliency Act.

Current Text: 03/24/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 03/24/2025

Status: 03/25/2025 - From printer. May be heard in committee April 24.

Location: 03/24/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: The California Constitution declares that the general welfare requires that the water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable, and that the right to the use of water does not extend to the waste or unreasonable use, method of use, or method of diversion of water. This measure, the California Water Resiliency Act, would require the Treasurer to annually transfer an amount equal to 1% of all state revenues from the General Fund to the Water Conveyance and Capacity Infrastructure Fund, which the measure would create. The measure would continuously appropriate moneys in the fund to the California Water Commission for its actual costs of implementing these provisions and for administering grants for the entitlement, repair, design, and construction of water infrastructure projects that will maintain or expand the availability of clean, safe drinking water for homes and businesses, and water for agricultural uses, consistent with area of origin water rights. (Based on 03/24/2025 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[VAWC ACA 11 Author Support 04082026.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Favor

[SB 872](#) (McNerney, D) Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund.

Current Text: 04/14/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 01/06/2026

Last Amended: 04/14/2026

Status: 04/27/2026 - April 27 hearing: Placed on APPR. suspense file.

Location: 04/27/2026 - Senate APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is a critically important natural resource for California and the nation and it serves as both the hub of the California water system and the most valuable estuary and wetland ecosystem on the west coast of North and South America. Existing law establishes in the Natural Resources Agency the Department of Water Resources. Existing law requires the department and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine the principal options for the Delta and requires the department to evaluate and comparatively rate each option for its ability to do specified things, including, among others, to maintain Delta water quality for Delta users, and to preserve, protect, and improve Delta levees. Existing law establishes in the agency the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy. Existing law requires the conservancy to act as a primary state agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta and to support efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents. Existing law provides for the preservation of specified management areas of the Suisun Marsh, pursuant to a protection plan prepared and adopted by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, as provided. This bill would establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury and, upon appropriation, would make the moneys in the fund available to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency for expenditure consistent with the allocations described below. The bill would authorize the secretary to seek out, and the fund to accept, state moneys from, among other sources, any bond funds, the General Fund, or the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The bill would authorize the fund to accept moneys from nonstate sources, including federal and private moneys, and would continuously appropriate those moneys without regard to fiscal year, for allocation as described below, thereby making an appropriation. The bill would require the secretary to allocate moneys in the fund, through the 2046–47 fiscal year, subject to funding availability, as follows: (1) in the amount of \$150,000,000, annually, to the Department of Water Resources for the purposes of supporting capital improvements to restore the original design water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems, as defined, impacted operationally by land subsidence, and (2) in the amount of \$150,000,000, annually, to the conservancy for projects in the Delta or Suisun Marsh to improve existing levees, as specified. The bill would authorize the conservancy to impose additional requirements on projects to meet the conditions of the funding source, as provided. The bill would require the secretary to proportionally reduce the above-described amounts if there is insufficient moneys in the fund, as provided. The bill would prohibit these moneys from being expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of any additional Delta conveyance facilities, as provided. (Based on 04/14/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Attachments:

[VAWC SB 872 SUPPORT SNRW 032626.EDITED.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Support

[SB 997](#) ([Caballero, D](#)) North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency: lien authority.

Current Text: 04/30/2026 - Amended [HTML PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/09/2026

Status: 04/30/2026 - Read second time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

Calendar: [05/07/26 #59 S-SENATE BILLS -THIRD READING FILE](#)

Location: 04/30/2026 - Senate THIRD READING

Summary: Existing law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans, except as specified. The act authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin. The act deems certain agencies created by statute to manage groundwater the exclusive local agencies within their respective statutory boundaries with powers to comply with the act and authorizes these agencies to opt out of being the exclusive groundwater management agency. Existing law establishes the North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency, requires the agency to be a groundwater sustainability agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act for that portion of the Kings Subbasin that lies within the boundaries of the agency, and requires the agency to develop and implement a groundwater sustainability plan to achieve sustainable groundwater management within the territory of the agency. Existing law generally specifies the powers of the agency, including the power to impose fees, including, but not limited to, permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction or other regulated activity, to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program. This bill would authorize the agency to impose civil penalties on any person who extracts groundwater in excess of the amount that person is authorized to extract under a rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution adopted by the agency. If any charges for water and other services imposed by the agency pursuant to its authority remain unpaid, the bill would authorize the amount of unpaid charges, in the discretion of the agency, to be secured at any time by filing for record in the office of the county recorder of any county a certificate specifying the amount of the charges and the name and address of the person liable for the charges. The bill would require that, from the time of recordation of the certificate, the amount required to be paid together with interest and penalties would constitute a lien upon all real property in the county owned by the person or afterwards, and before the lien expired, acquired by that person. The bill would require that the lien has the force, priority, and effect of a judgment lien, and that the lien shall continue for 10 years from the date of the filing of the certificate unless sooner released or otherwise discharged. The bill would also authorize the lien to be extended, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/30/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: N

Attachments:

[VAWC SB 997 SUPPORT SNRW 032626.edited.docx](#)

Organization	Position
VAWC	Support/Amend

[SB 1108](#) ([Caballero, D](#)) Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy.

Current Text: 04/07/2026 - Amended [HTML PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/17/2026

Last Amended: 04/07/2026

Status: 04/13/2026 - April 13 hearing: Placed on APPR. suspense file.

Location: 04/13/2026 - Senate APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law authorizes various conservancies to acquire, manage, direct the management of, and conserve lands in the state. This bill would establish the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy within the Natural Resources Agency, with jurisdiction over the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area, as defined, for specified purposes, including to protect, conserve, and restore the physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources of the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area and to provide

increased opportunities for tourism and recreation. The bill would require the conservancy to be governed by a board composed of designated voting members, including certain members appointed by certain local agencies, and nonvoting liaison advisers. The bill would set forth the powers, duties, and limitations of the governing board and the conservancy, as provided. The bill would create the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy Fund and would make moneys in the fund available for expenditure by the conservancy, upon appropriation by the Legislature, only for the purposes of these provisions. The bill would require all funds or income received by the conservancy, including proceeds from donations or a lease, rental, sale, exchange, or transfer of an interest or option in real property, to be deposited into the fund. By imposing new duties on local agencies, the bill would create a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 04/07/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
VAWC	Watch

SB 1183 [\(Caballero, D\)](#) **Large-scale solar: Central Valley: study.**

Current Text: 04/28/2026 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Introduced: 02/18/2026

Last Amended: 04/28/2026

Status: 05/04/2026 - Set for hearing May 11.

Calendar: 05/11/26 S-APPROPRIATIONS 10 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 2200 CERVANTES, SABRINA, Chair

Location: 04/22/2026 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Existing law establishes the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation in state government in the Governor's office to serve the Governor and Governor's Cabinet as staff for long-range planning and research, and constitute the comprehensive state planning agency. Existing law provides state goals for the installation of solar energy systems through, among other programs, the California Solar Initiative. This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2029, and upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Office of Land Use and Climate Change to complete a study on the impacts of large-scale solar on the land use planning, environment, and economy of the Central Valley region. The bill would require the Office of Land Use and Climate Change, in conducting the study, to consult interested parties, as specified. The bill would require the study to include an analysis of the impacts of large-scale solar on regional land use planning, the regional environment, and the regional economy. The bill would require the study to include recommendations on how to mitigate impacts of large-scale solar through changes to existing or the adoption of new state, regional, and local policy, as provided. This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the Central Valley region. (Based on 04/28/2026 text)

Is Urgency: N

Is Fiscal: Y

Organization	Position
VAWC	

Total Measures: 17

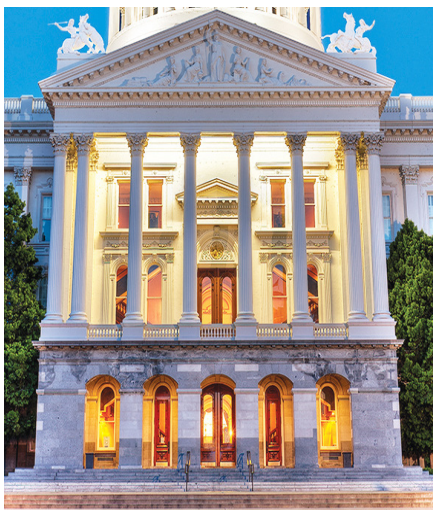
Total Tracking Forms: 17

SACRAMENTO REPORT

April 2026



Volume 21, Issue 4



VAWC Breakfast Returns to ACWA Conference

The Valley Ag Water Coalition (VAWC) will, again, host a Thursday morning breakfast at ACWA's Spring Conference in Sacramento, California.

The "Valley Water Forum" will take place on Thursday, May 7, 2026, 7:00 am – 9:00 am in the Gardenia Ballroom at The Sheraton Grand (1230 J Street). The forum includes a buffet breakfast beginning at 7:00 a.m., followed by the panel discussion at 8:00 a.m. The event will now include water leaders and legislators on a moderated panel to discuss issues related to water and agriculture. The event will provide a valuable opportunity for dialogue between policymakers and water managers from across the San Joaquin Valley.

The Valley Ag Water Coalition (VAWC), which was established under the auspices of the San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Water Committee in 2007, has been tasked with responsibility for breakfast meeting arrangements and programming. VAWC Executive Director Bob Reeb is encouraging San Joaquin Valley ACWA members to attend.

NEWS BRIEFS

State Water Board Adopts SGMA Exclusions in Tulare Lake and Tule Subbasins

The State Water Resources Control Board approved new "minimal impact" exclusions from Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) reporting and fee requirements for certain groundwater pumpers in the Tulare Lake and Tule subbasins. The action applies to well owners who extract no more than 20 acre-feet of groundwater per year and meet additional location-based criteria, reflecting a determination that these

continued on next page

Contractor-Sponsored Legislation Clears Initial Hurdles

Legislation to extend water rights permits for the State Water Project and to secure state investment for canal subsidence repair have received favorable consideration in Senate and Assembly policy committees. Both bills now head to their respective fiscal committees.

As amended last month, AB 2215 by Assembly Member Lisa Calderon (D-Whittier) would require that the time periods for the application of water to beneficial use and for the completion of construction work for specific water right permits held by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the operation of the State Water Project be December 31, 2085. Existing law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to extend the deadline specified in a water rights permit to commence or complete construction work and to put appropriated water to beneficial use for good cause shown.

AB 2215 applies to six water right permits held by DWR for the SWP. Permits 16477 and 16480 are primarily for power generation at the Oroville/Thermalito

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Inside Sacramento Report

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extractions have minimal impact on basin conditions.

The exclusions remove SGMA reporting and state fee requirements for qualifying pumpers, while larger pumpers in the two probationary subbasins remain subject to reporting and fees. Board members emphasized the action is intended to reduce administrative and financial burdens on small farmers and minor extractors, while maintaining accountability for the vast majority of groundwater pumping as the basins continue efforts to achieve long-term sustainability. For more information, visit the [SGMA webpage](#).

USGS Launches AI Tool to Forecast Droughts

The U.S. Geological Survey has released a new artificial intelligence–based tool that provides nationwide forecasts of stream-flow drought conditions up to 90 days in advance. Known as River DroughtCast, the tool uses machine learning models trained on data from thousands of long-running USGS stream gages to predict when rivers and streams may drop below normal levels for extended periods.

The forecasts are designed to give water managers, farmers, and communities earlier warning of potential water shortages that can affect agriculture, municipal supplies, recreation, and ecosystems. Users can select forecast windows from one to 13 weeks, with accuracy highest in the first four to six weeks. The tool currently covers more than 3,000 stream gage locations across the country and aims to help close the gap between short-term weather forecasts and

continued on next page

Legislation, continued from page 1

Complex (non-consumptive uses) and the others (16478, 16479, 16481, and 16482) are primarily for water supply purposes that authorize DWR to divert and redivert water in the Feather River and Delta channels.

State Water Contractors is the sponsor of this bill and asserts that “SWP is the nation’s largest state-owned water and power generator and user-financed water system, and it plays a critical role in addressing climate change, helping California manage its water supply during extremes such as flood and drought.” SWC argues that “DWR has been diligently pursuing the development of its existing SWP water rights. Over several decades, DWR has constructed 36 water storage facilities, 21 pumping plants, five hydroelectric power plants, four pumping-generating plants, and approximately 700 miles of canals, tunnels, and pipelines.” Further, SWC contends “Without the full development of the SWP water rights, rates may increase for 27 million Californians, water supply reliability is less certain, and the SWP risks an investment that cannot be fully realized. Unfortunately, the full development of the SWP’s water rights has been hindered by circumstances outside of DWR’s control, making [this bill] necessary. Giving DWR more time to develop its already approved water rights addresses water availability and affordability for the vast majority of the state and is clearly in the public’s interest.”

The Delta Counties Coalition (Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo) opposes AB 2215 arguing that it is unfair to other water right holders, interferes with the ongoing water rights hearings on the Delta Conveyance Project change petition, and will jeopardize the health of the Delta. The Delta Counties Coalition states: “This change would make SWP water rights subject to a completely different set of rules than any other water rights in the state. While others must show good cause to the State Water Board for their rights to be extended, [DWR] would be allowed to construct and expand its water rights decades after those time periods elapsed (in 2000 and 2009, respectively). This is unfair to other water users and moreover jeopardizes the health of the Bay Delta estuary.”

AB 2215 was approved by the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, with amendments that limit the time extension to 20 years, consistent with the previous petition for time extension granted by the state board. Statements of legislative findings also were added to the bill. San Joaquin Valley legislators Juan Alanis (R-Modesto) and Jasmeet Bains (D-Delano) voted in support of the bill. The bill has been referred next to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 872 by Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) would establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury and, upon appropriation, would make the moneys in the fund available to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency for expenditure. Although the legislation would not appropriate money to the proposed new fund, SB 872 would require the secretary to allocate moneys in the fund, through the 2046–47 fiscal year as follows: (1) in the amount of \$150 million annually, to DWR for the purposes of supporting capital improvements to restore the original design water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems impacted operationally by land subsidence, and (2) in the amount of \$150 million annually, to the conservancy for projects in the Delta or Suisun Marsh to improve existing levees subject to preparation of a spending plan.

According to Senator McNerney:

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Legislation, continued from page 2

“The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the State Water Project (SWP) together make up California’s primary water source, providing freshwater supplies to 27 million people, businesses, and farms in the Central Valley, the Bay Area, and Southern California. But the Delta’s levees and the SWP’s water canals are in desperate need of repair. Many of the Delta’s aging levees are at risk of collapse, threatening the region with catastrophic flooding. And the SWP’s canals are being seriously impacted by sinking land, imperiling up to 80% of the system’s water supplies.

“SB 872 protects CA’s main water system by directing \$300 million annually to essential levee repairs in the Delta and shoring up SWP’s canals impacted by subsidence to prevent interruptions in essential water deliveries. Historically, CA’s longstanding water wars have pitted North against South, the environment versus agriculture. SB 872 provides a pragmatic and peaceful solution by bringing traditional adversaries together to support projects that will benefit the entire state.”

SB 872 passed the Senate Environmental Quality and Natural Resources & Water committees this month without any negative votes. The bill now moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee, where it may face its greatest challenge.

Legislation Expanding Protections for Native Americans Moves in Assembly

Two bills offering expansive religious freedom protection and compensation for Native Americans involving natural resources have passed their initial committee review.

AB 2218 by Assembly Member Ash Kalra (D-San Jose) would declare that it is the established policy of the state to acknowledge and correct the inequities caused by state-sanctioned acts of termination, removal, and assimilation inflicted upon all California Native American tribes through compensation, legal recognition of rights, or replacement of benefits lost. The bill would require all relevant state agencies, including the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board, to consider and incorporate this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing rights, policies, regulations, permits, or grant criteria to address identified inequities.

The legislation, in a rare occurrence, cleared the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee on the morning of April 14, and the Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee in the afternoon. Valley Ag Water Coalition is opposed to the bill, which also is opposed by a broad coalition of local government, water, business, and agricultural organizations. San Joaquin Valley legislators Stan Ellis, Jasmeet Bains, and Juan Alanis all abstained from voting on AB 2218.

According to the Karuk Tribe, the sponsor of the bill:

“AB 2218 would establish a clear statewide policy directive acknowledging and seeking to remedy the inequities inflicted upon Tribes in California through historical state-sanctioned acts of termination, removal, and forced assimilation. The Karuk Tribe is a federally-recognized Native American Tribe with over 1.04 million acres of aboriginal territory in the middle Klamath Basin, which spans large portions of Humboldt and Siskiyou Counties, and extends into Joesphine County, Oregon. The colonization, displacement, and genocide of our people in California contributed to the loss of water resources and watershed management

NEWS BRIEFS *continued*

longer-range seasonal water supply outlooks.

Visit [River DroughtCast](#) webpage for more information.

ILRP Expert Panel Releases Draft Report on On-Farm Nitrogen Regulation

An agriculture expert panel convened by the State Water Resources Control Board has released a draft report evaluating how on-farm nitrogen use is regulated under California’s Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). The report, developed by the Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel, reviews current nitrogen management practices and regulatory approaches aimed at reducing nitrate contamination of groundwater.

The panel’s draft recommendations focus on improving the use of nitrogen budgets—commonly expressed as the applied-over-removed (A/R) ratio—to better assess and manage nitrogen losses from agricultural operations. The report also identifies data gaps, regional differences, and challenges in applying uniform nitrogen standards across California’s diverse cropping systems. The State Water Board is accepting public comments on the draft report as it considers potential changes to ILRP requirements related to groundwater quality protection. The State Water Board will accept written comments on the Draft Panel Report by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on April 30, 2026. The draft report is available [here](#).

First High-Resolution Elevation Map Released for Entire Bay-Delta

A new project, part of the Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program, has produced the first high-resolution elevation map covering the entire San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary, providing the most detailed picture to date of the region's land surface. Developed using airborne lidar technology, the dataset offers sub-ten-centimeter vertical accuracy and creates a consistent, seamless elevation record across the Bay and Delta for the first time.

The map is expected to be a major tool for flood risk assessment, sea level rise planning, habitat restoration, and monitoring land subsidence. Previously, elevation data for the estuary were collected through fragmented, project-specific surveys, resulting in uneven coverage and inconsistent data. By pooling resources and standardizing methods, the new effort delivers a shared foundation for scientists, engineers, land managers, and policymakers working across jurisdictions to plan for climate-driven change in the Bay-Delta. To view the map, please visit the [WRMP webpage](#).

Invasive Rodents Pose Growing Threat to SJV

New research from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) links California's nutria invasion to animals originating from established populations in the Pacific Northwest. Genetic analysis indicates that nutria likely spread south into California through human-assisted movement

continued on next page

Native Americans, continued from page 3

practices that support our traditional food sources and ways of life. California's water rights system, based on the "first in time, first in right" principle, has historically overlooked the true first inhabitants of this land and original water users, California Native Americans. This complete oversight, coupled with the state-sponsored actions that removed Native American from their lands and their waters has systemically excluded Tribal Nations from crucial decision-making processes concerning our state's waterways.

"By requiring state agencies to consider the racial inequities caused by state-sanctioned harm, and to correct those inequities through compensation, legal recognition of rights, or replacement of benefits lost when revising, adopting, or establishing rights, policies, permits, or grant criteria, the bill provides a legal basis and framework for identifying inequities and taking corrective action within existing authorities. This framework equips advocates and decision-makers with a legitimate statutory basis to advance policies that respond to historical harm. As such, the bill represents a foundational step toward addressing and rectifying generations of state-sanctioned injustice, functioning both as a values-based acknowledgment of past harms and as a practical tool to shape more equitable policy outcomes."

AB 2218 opponents are concerned with the vague language of the legislation, how it will be implemented, whether the language aligns with the author's intent, and its expansive scope, which will lead to unintended consequences. The bill could affect every permit, policy, and regulation. Given that broad application, opponents argue that it is crucial to understand how incorporating the policy will affect state agency decisions, including water-right applications, permits and licenses. AB 2218 could affect the adoption of the Bay-Delta plan. Opponents also question how the state board or DWR would compensate Native American tribes for inequities or replace a benefit lost. Opponents argue that the Legislature should not pass a state policy that is not clearly implementable.

Amendments to AB 2218 crafted by the Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee were adopted by the Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee to reduce the broad scope of the bill and avoid unintended consequences that may be disruptive to state water management. Instead of requiring compensation, state agencies would be required to consider providing financial assistance, protect tribal water uses, consult with tribes on water projects, plans, and policies, and incorporate indigenous knowledge to restore and protect ecosystems.

AB 2218 will next be heard by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

The second Assembly measure, AB 1881 by Assembly Member James Ramos (D-San Bernardino), is also opposed by Valley Ag Water Coalition, but VAWC has been working with a coalition of opponents to narrow the provisions of the legislation. AB 1881 would enact the California Indian Freedom Act of 2026, which would prohibit a governmental agency from substantially burdening a California Indian or California Native American tribe's exercise of religious beliefs or spiritual practices on their lands. The legislation was narrowed to apply only to state public lands, including access to and use of sacred sites and objects, and the ability to perform religious ceremonies and rites. The bill would authorize a California Indian or tribe to assert a violation of these provisions as a claim or defense in any judicial or administrative proceeding, as specified. The bill would now require a state governmental agency to allow California Indians access to sacred sites on state public lands. Opponents expressed appreciation to Assembly

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Member Ramos for addressing many of their concerns, but opponents remain concerned that provisions of the legislation, as amended, could still be construed to interfere with the exercise of water rights, including diversions from state waterways, given the jurisdiction of the State Lands Commission over beds of navigable waterways.

AB 1881 will next be considered by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Fourth SJV Groundwater Region Avoids State Enforcement

Earlier this month, the State Water Board approved a resolution to return the Delta-Mendota Groundwater subbasin to the jurisdiction of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

The Delta-Mendota subbasin was among six San Joaquin Valley subbasins that submitted groundwater sustainability plans that DWR deemed “inadequate” in 2023. placed the subbasin under State Water Board jurisdiction and triggered the state intervention process.

After state intervention is triggered in a groundwater basin, the State Water Board considers whether to designate a basin as probationary. Under this designation, the board collects the groundwater extraction information necessary to inform sustainable groundwater management while board staff work with groundwater agencies to address the remaining deficiencies in their plans so intervention is no longer needed. Ninety days after probation, most groundwater pumpers in the subbasin would be required to begin recording their pumping and eventually be required to pay fees.

If deficiencies identified by DWR and the Board are not addressed within a year, the Board then has the discretionary power to move into the second phase of the state intervention process by implementing an interim plan. Under an interim plan, the Board could impose pumping restrictions on basins or issue fines for exceeding water allotments.

According to the State Water Board staff assessment, however, the Delta Mendota subbasin’s 23 groundwater sustainability agencies improved coordination by adopting a single, basin-wide groundwater sustainability plan and strengthened provisions related to groundwater quality and drinking water well mitigation. Specifically, the improvements include: reducing pumping by setting limits for groundwater extractors through allocations in each GSA group; developing proactive response to potential impacts from declining groundwater levels, land subsidence, degradation of groundwater quality via the GSA Group-specific pumping reduction plans; expanding the frequency and scope of constituent sampling in monitoring wells to improve preparedness for addressing potential groundwater quality concerns; establishing a mitigation program for drinking water wells that may be adversely impacted by declining groundwater levels or groundwater quality degradation; and making significant progress in evaluating impacts to interconnected surface waters by incorporating a model-estimated depletion rate and committing to resolve data gaps.

The Delta-Mendota subbasin joins the Kern, Kaweah, and Chowchilla subbasins in successfully avoiding State Water Board jurisdiction and probation under SGMA. The Chowchilla, Kern and Kaweah subbasins were all returned to DWR oversight last year.

See State Enforcement, page 6

rather than natural migration, accelerating their establishment across the Central Valley, including the San Joaquin Valley.

In the San Joaquin Valley, nutria pose a particular threat to water and flood control infrastructure because of their burrowing behavior. According to CDFW, the state currently spends about \$5 million per year on eradication efforts. The work spans hundreds of thousands of acres of wetland and riparian habitat in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Central Valley. The large, semi-aquatic rodents burrow extensively into canal banks, levees, and irrigation embankments, weakening earthen structures that are critical for water conveyance and flood protection. State officials warn that nutria burrows can increase seepage, erosion, and the risk of levee failure, especially during high-flow or storm events.

CDFW researchers note that the valley’s dense network of canals, sloughs, and managed waterways provides ideal habitat for nutria, allowing populations to spread quickly once introduced. The combination of aging infrastructure, climate-driven hydrologic extremes, and persistent burrowing pressure raises concerns about rising maintenance costs, water delivery disruptions, and increased flood risk for agricultural lands and downstream communities.

CA Water Plan Advisory Committee Meeting Scheduled for May

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convene the first California Water Plan Advisory Committee meeting for

continued on next page

NEWS BRIEFS *continued*

the upcoming California Water Plan 2028 on May 13–14, 2026, in Sacramento. The meeting will be held in person at the DoubleTree by Hilton Sacramento and will take place over two half-days, beginning the afternoon of May 13 and concluding late morning on May 14.

The Advisory Committee is an appointed body established under Senate Bill 72 to provide recommendations and guidance as DWR modernizes the state's long-range water planning framework. Meetings are open to the public and are intended to support an open, transparent planning process that reflects California's diverse regions, water systems, and interests. An agenda will be posted ahead of the meeting, and opportunities for public observation and input will be included. More information about the meeting and the California Water Plan process is available on DWR's event page:

[California Water Plan Advisory Committee Meeting – May 13–14](#)

Additional background on the Water Plan and opportunities for public involvement can be found at: [CaliforniaWaterPlan.com](#).

San Joaquin Valley Water Resilience Summit Scheduled for May

Leaders from across California's water management community will gather for the San Joaquin Valley Water Resilience Summit: From Reports to Results, scheduled for May 20–21, 2026, at Califor-

continued on next page

State Enforcement, continued from page 5

Meanwhile, the Tule and Tulare Lake subbasins remain in probation under State Water Board jurisdiction. The Tule subbasin was designated as probationary in September 2024. The Tulare Lake subbasin was initially designated as probationary in April 2024, however, the Kings County Farm Bureau and two landowners filed a lawsuit over the decision, alleging that the Board's plan went beyond its own authority in an act of "state overreach." Due to the ongoing litigation, actions relating to the Tulare Lake probationary designation remain suspended, including reporting requirements. In October 2025, the Fifth District Court of Appeals issued a decision enabling the State Water Board to resume state intervention work related to the probationary designation of the Tulare Lake Subbasin.

For more information, please visit the State Water Board's [Groundwater Basins](#) webpage.

LAO Releases Report on Voluntary Agreements

Last month, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released a report outlining key considerations for legislative oversight as the State Water Resources Control Board advances proposed updates to the Bay-Delta Plan that incorporate voluntary agreements.

The report highlights both the urgency of updating the plan and the uncertainties surrounding the proposed approach, particularly as it relates to protecting native fish and managing water supply impacts. The report does not take a position on whether the voluntary agreement or regulatory pathway is preferable but instead focuses on how the Legislature can support effective implementation should the plan move forward.

Long delays in updating the Bay-Delta Plan have further compromised the health of the watershed and placed continued pressure on native fish populations. The current plan has not adequately protected fish and wildlife beneficial uses, and the report emphasizes that near-term action is needed to address ongoing ecological decline in the Bay-Delta system.

The report notes that the State Water Board has signaled its intent to move forward with voluntary agreements as part of the plan update. The LAO explains that this approach could theoretically provide some advantages by combining flow commitments with habitat restoration projects, which the board cannot directly require through regulation alone. The voluntary agreements are also described as more flexible than traditional regulatory requirements and potentially capable of being implemented more quickly.

At the same time, the LAO identifies significant uncertainties associated with the voluntary agreements. The report raises questions about whether the proposed flow levels will be sufficient to support native fish recovery and whether external factors, such as changes in federal water operations or funding availability, could undermine implementation. The LAO cautions that these uncertainties make close monitoring critical if the agreements are adopted.

According to the LAO, because of the high stakes for both ecosystem health and water users, the Legislature should have some oversight in the implementation of voluntary agreements. The report highlights the State Water Board's authority to modify or terminate the voluntary agreements if they do not achieve intended

See LAO, page 7

outcomes and underscores the need for ongoing evaluation, transparency, and accountability.

“Legislative oversight can help ensure problems are identified and corrective action is taken when needed,” the LAO concludes. “To conduct its oversight, the Legislature could hold informational and/or oversight hearings, require reporting by SWRCB to the Legislature, require independent scientific evaluation of plan implementation and the VA pathway, and review how state funds are being spent. By holding SWRCB accountable to the Bay-Delta Plan’s objectives and shining a light on the successes, challenges, and unintended consequences of the VA program, the Legislature can help ensure the state achieves its environmental and water management goals for this important watershed.”

The full report is available on the LAO’s [website](#).

March Heatwave Wipes Snowpack Gains

After early winter storms boosted Sierra Nevada snowpack, an extended period of record and near-record heat in March erased much of those gains. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the critical April snow survey at Phillips Station and found no measurable snow.

DWR monitoring data showed snowpack declining rapidly through March as persistently high temperatures drove melt even at higher elevations. In multiple survey locations, snow that had accumulated by late February had diminished significantly or disappeared entirely by early April. According to DWR, the seasonal peak in snowpack likely occurred weeks before April 1 this year.

“It feels like we skipped spring this year and dropped straight into a summer heatwave,” said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. “What should be gradual snowmelt happened suddenly weeks ago.”

Storms that arrived in early April delivered widespread rain to lower elevations and periods of snow in the high Sierra, temporarily improving conditions in some areas. Northern California recorded measurable rainfall totals, and higher elevations received localized snowfall. While these systems contributed to short-term runoff and helped support river flows, DWR reported that the late-season precipitation did not come close to offsetting the snowpack losses caused by March heat. Further, much of this winter’s precipitation fell as rain instead of snow, contributing to decreased snowpack levels.

“What makes this year stand out is the disconnect between precipitation and snowpack,” said Andy Reising, manager of DWR’s Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit. “We received near-average precipitation in many parts of the state, but much of it fell as rain instead of snow. That led to one of the lowest April snowpacks on record and one of the earliest peaks we’ve seen in decades — conditions that make forecasting runoff more complex.”

Statewide snow data continue to reflect deficits. According to SnowTrax, the state’s official snow monitoring platform, California’s snow water equivalent remained at roughly 16 percent of the April 1 historical average in early April. SnowTrax data show especially low snowpack levels in Northern Sierra regions,

See [March Heatwave](#), page 8

nia State University, Fresno, hosted by the California Water Institute. The two-day summit will bring together state agencies, water districts, groundwater sustainability agencies, flood managers, agricultural organizations, environmental groups, and policymakers to focus on coordinated strategies for strengthening water resilience in the San Joaquin Valley.

The summit is designed to move from analysis to action by examining key findings from the Unified Water Plan for the San Joaquin Valley and several recent Department of Water Resources studies, including work on State Water Project adaptation, regional conveyance, and Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge. Organizers describe the event as an implementation-focused convening aimed at aligning priorities, identifying shared strategies, and advancing near-term commitments to address climate volatility, groundwater sustainability requirements, infrastructure constraints, and flood risk.

Additional information, including registration details and the event agenda, is available here:

<https://water.ca.gov/News/Events/2026/May-2026/San-Joaquin-Valley-Water-Resilience-Summit>

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Delta Stewardship Council

April 23 – 24, 2026
California Natural Resources
Agency Building
715 P Street, Room 221
Sacramento, CA 95814
[Agenda and Zoom Link](#)

Central Valley Flood Protection Board

April 24, 2026
California Natural Resources
Agency Building
715 P Street, Room 2-201
(2nd Floor)
Sacramento, CA 95814
[Agenda and Zoom Link](#)

Central Valley Flood Protection Board

Advisory Committee Meeting
April 28, 2026
Joint Operations Center –
CVFPB Suite 170, CR112
3310 El Camino Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95821
[Agenda and Teams Link](#)

Department of Water Resources

Proposition 4 Workshop
April 30, 2026
Virtual Workshop
[Agenda and Registration Link](#)

State Water Board

May 5, 2026
CalEPA Building
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
[Agenda and Zoom Link to be posted](#)

March Heatwave, continued from page 7

with central and southern Sierra regions slightly higher but still well below normal for this point in the season.

The limited snowpack has implications for water supply as the state moves into late spring and summer. Snowpack functions as California's largest natural reservoir, slowly releasing water to rivers and reservoirs as temperatures rise. When snow melts earlier than normal, runoff shifts earlier in the year, reducing the amount of water available later in the season when agricultural, environmental, and urban demands typically increase.

With much of the seasonal snowpack already melted, water supply conditions will increasingly depend on reservoir storage and groundwater use. As of this writing, California Water Watch reports that major reservoirs are currently at 121% of average, due to earlier storms and ongoing efforts to maximize water capture. While early runoff may support near-term reservoir levels, reduced snowpack limits flexibility later in the year, particularly if warmer and drier conditions persist through summer and fall.

Looking ahead, forecasts point toward a return to drier conditions with limited opportunities for significant additional snow accumulation.

“To me, this is another reminder that aging water systems need to be retrofit for more volatile precipitation patterns,” noted Director Nemeth. “We’re seeing fewer, warmer storms and shorter wet seasons. Future water supplies will depend upon our ability to capture water when it’s available and manage it more efficiently.”

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Valley Ag Water Coalition

The mission of the Valley Ag Water Coalition is to represent the collective interests of its San Joaquin Valley member agricultural water companies and agencies in California legislative and regulatory matters by providing leadership and advocacy on issues relating to the development and delivery of a reliable farm water supply.

◀ WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ▶

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Sheridan Nicholas

DATE: May 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Opposing AB 2447 (Bauer-Kahan)

AB 2447 (Bauer-Kahan) - Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act would require the State Water Resources Control Board to require the regional board to update the Irrigation Lands Regulatory Program in order to further reduce nitrogen water discharges from commercial irrigation agricultural through a variety of means, including the establishment of enforceable limits on nitrogen fertilizer to reduce water pollution.

This bill could upend the current Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program which the District participates on behalf of its landowners. The State Water Board estimates the legislation would add significant one-time and annual costs (over \$130 million annually) to the State Water Board to update the ILRP, adopt revised orders, revise and implement compliance and enforcement actions, and other tasks. These costs would most likely be assessed to landowners through water discharge fees.

Writing in opposition to the bill, Thomas Harter, a professor at the University of California, Davis, argues, among other things, that the bill enforces a “scientifically outdated, overly simplified approach to nitrate control across the State of California,” that the bill “reverses and turns on its head “two decades of efforts by the agricultural industry, environmental NGOs, environmental justice NGOs, and several state agencies to regulate nitrate discharge from agricultural lands,” and that the timeline in the bill “would potentially lead to a near-instant collapse of California's agricultural production and simultaneously leave behind – and do nothing about – a massive legacy of nitrate pollution that would linger for another century or longer.”

The entire bill summary from CalMatters is attached for your reference.

Recommendation. It is recommended the District oppose AB 2447.

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AB 2447: Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act.

Session Year: 2025-2026

House: Assembly

Latest Version Date: 2026-04-06

Current Status:

IN PROGRESS

(2026-05-06: In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.)

- Introduced
- In Committee
- First Chamber
- In Committee
- Second Chamber
- Enacted

Summary Bill Text Status Votes Supporters & Opponents Analysis

Version:

Amended Assembly (4/6/2026)

Under existing law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards are the principal state agencies with authority over matters relating to water quality. The act requires the state board to formulate and adopt state policies for water quality control and requires the regional boards to adopt regional water quality control plans in compliance with the state policies. Under the act, the state board and the regional boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the state.

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to require the regional boards to update the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program in order to reduce nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural areas, as provided. The bill would require the regional boards to adopt revised orders with waste discharge requirements on or before January 1, 2028, that are

sufficient to meet certain reductions in nitrogen waste discharges. The bill would require the state board to, on or before July 1, 2027, publish both a list of standardized crop names and categories, and a statewide methodology for calculating, and field-level reporting of, nitrogen balances for croplands, including nitrogen fertilizer applications and nitrogen discharges, that account for available soil nitrogen, to be used by the regional boards and incorporated into the revised orders. The bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2031, and in coordination with the regional boards, to submit a report to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature on progress achieved in implementing these requirements, including data on the extent of progress made toward reducing nitrogen waste discharges, as provided.

~~Existing law establishes the Department of Water Resources within the Natural Resources Agency and vests it with various powers and duties related to water. The bill would, upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature, require the state board to convene a Safer Fertilizer Task Force in coordination with the Department of Food and Agriculture to establish best available technology standards for nitrogen-based fertilizers. The bill would require the task force to include persons representing organizations focused on climate-resilient or sustainable agriculture, water quality protection, public health, and biodiversity, as well as persons representing academic institutions, agricultural producers, the fertilizer industry, and appropriate state or local agencies. The bill would require the task force to consult with the Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Boards Technical Advisory Subcommittee in developing those best available technology standards.~~

Discussed in Hearing



Apr 14, 2026

Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials

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Authors shown for version:

Amended Assembly (4/6/2026)

Bill Author



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AB 2447: Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act.

Session Year: 2025-2026

House: Assembly

Latest Version Date: 2026-04-06

Current Status:

IN PROGRESS

(2026-05-06: In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to APPR. suspense file.)

- Introduced
- In Committee
- First Chamber
- In Committee
- Second Chamber
- Enacted

[Summary](#)
[Bill Text](#)
[Status](#)
[Votes](#)
[Supporters & Opponents](#)
[Analysis](#)

Assembly Standing Committee on Appropriations (5/5/2026) ▾

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

ABPCA Bill Id:AB 2447

Author:(Bauer-Kahan) – As Amended Ver:April 6, 2026

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill directs the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to require the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) to update the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) to reduce nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural lands.

Specifically, this bill, among other things:

- 1) Directs the State Water Board to require the Regional Water Boards to update the ILRP to reduce nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural lands (as defined) so that by January 1, 2030, those lands do not cause or contribute to either (a) exceedances of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate, as specified, for waters designated for municipal and domestic supply and (b) exceedances of a water quality objective or total maximum daily load (TMDL) for nitrate, as set forth in applicable approved basin plans.
- 2) Requires, on or before January 1, 2028, Regional Water Boards to adopt revised orders with waste discharge requirements (WDRs) sufficient to meet the reductions in nitrogen waste discharge described above and requires the orders to include both (a) quantitative limits on nitrogen fertilizer application and nitrogen discharge implemented through an adaptive irrigation and nutrient management plan designed to minimize nitrogen discharge and (b) sufficient procedures to ensure compliance with the quantitative limits, as specified, and authorizes these orders to include any of five specified elements, provided these elements are designed to meet the nitrogen waste discharge reductions described above.
- 3) Authorizes the State Water Board, consistent with existing law and regulations, to adjust its fee schedule for the ILRP to cover the cost of the State Water Board and Regional Water Boards in implementing the update to the ILRP pursuant to this bill and prohibits any adjustment to the fee schedule from including discounts on a per-acre basis for larger farms, which have the effect of smaller farms paying higher per-acre fees than larger farms.
- 4) Requires, on or before July 1, 2027, the State Water Board to publish both a list of standardized crop names and categories, and a statewide methodology for calculating, and field-level reporting of, nitrogen balances for croplands, that account for available soil nitrogen, to be used by the Regional Water Boards and incorporated into the orders described above, as specified.
- 5) Requires, on or before January 1, 2031, the State Water Board, in coordination with the Regional Water Boards, to submit a report to the Legislature on progress achieved in implementing this bill, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Significant ongoing costs, likely in the millions to tens of millions of dollars annually, for the State Water Board and the Regional Water Boards to update the ILRP, adopt revised orders with WDRs sufficient to meet specified nitrogen waste discharge reductions, revise and implement compliance and enforcement mechanisms, and other necessary tasks (Waste Discharge Permit Fund (WDPF) and General Fund).

For its part, the State Water Board estimates annual costs of approximately \$136 million for the first three years followed by approximately \$133 million in ongoing annual costs for over 500 new staff, as well as significant contracting costs of an unknown amount for significant translation and interpreter services, IT resources, and scientific analysis (WDPF and General Fund). According to the State Water Board, staff must update the ILRP, regulations, and basin plans; enroll and permit growers on an individual basis; prepare the required list of standardized crop names and additional information; assist with translation and interpretation services; conduct significant public engagement, inspections, and enforcement; collect and administer fees; and manage administrative workload.

A significant assumption made by the State Water board in developing this estimate is an anticipated dissolution of third-party agricultural water quality coalitions that currently assist their members in complying with state water quality laws. The State Water Board argues these coalitions are likely to dissolve because of the new regulatory approach in the bill and due to being unable to comply with revised WDRs designed to reduce nitrogen waste and eliminate nitrate exceedances on commercial irrigated agricultural lands by January 1, 2030. Without these water quality coalitions, the Regional Water Boards (most significantly, the Central Valley

Regional Water Board) must substantially increase their regulation and oversight of tens of thousands of dischargers over millions of acres of land. These costs may decrease over time if a subset of agricultural operations is no longer commercially viable.

The committee notes there is nothing in the bill that calls for the dissolution of grower coalitions, nor does the bill explicitly require individual permitting of growers.

The Water Code requires each person who discharges waste or proposes to discharge waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the state to file a report of waste discharge with the appropriate Regional Water Board and to pay an annual fee set by the State Water Board, the funds from which are to be deposited in the WDPF. Current law requires the State Water Board to adopt, by emergency regulations, an annual schedule of fees for persons discharging waste to the waters of the state and adjust these fees annually to conform to the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act. This bill authorizes the State Water Board to adjust this fee schedule to pay for its and the Regional Water Boards' costs of implementing this bill. It is not clear the extent to which increased fees will be sufficient to cover the entirety of these costs on an ongoing basis.

The Legislative Analyst's Office recently warned of General Fund structural deficits of around \$35 billion per year in the 2027-28 fiscal year and ongoing.

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

California officials have been aware of the dangers of nitrogen pollution since the 1960s and more than two decades ago, the State Water Board created the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program to address the overapplication of such fertilizers. This program, however, is not working and wells continue to test above safe drinking water thresholds and upwards of 600,000 predominantly low-income families currently lack access to safe drinking water. Nitrate contaminated drinking water has been linked to blue baby syndrome, higher rates of leukemia, lymphoma, and childhood brain cancers. This same polluted runoff goes into lakes and rivers, fueling harmful algal blooms that sicken children and animals and threaten important species in our environment.

This bill takes important steps to ensure all Californians have access to clean water by directing state officials to establish clear limits on how much nitrogen fertilizer can be applied and encourages the adoption of sustainable farming practices that reduce this pollution.

2) **Background.** To prevent agricultural discharges from impairing the waters that receive these discharges, the ILRP, overseen by the State Water Board, regulates discharges from irrigated agricultural lands. The State Water Board and Regional Water Boards issue WDRs or conditional waivers of WDRs to growers (collectively referred to as "orders"). Due to regional diversity of farm practices, hydrogeology, and other factors, each Regional Water Board adopts its own order to protect water quality from agricultural practices. Over 29,000 farm operations with over six million acres are enrolled in the ILRP.

In 2025, the State Water Board convened a "second statewide agricultural expert panel" to address several specific questions related to regulating and controlling nitrate discharge to groundwater in the ILRP. The panel released its draft recommendations in March 2026 and expects to release its final recommendations later this year. For a more detailed discussion and history of the state's regulation and management of nitrogen pollution, the ILRP, the second expert panel, and other related topics, please see the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee's analysis of this bill.

3) **Support and Opposition.** Writing in support, a coalition of environmental and environmental justice organizations describe the many environmental and public health consequences of nitrogen pollution and argue this bill adds deadlines to an existing nitrogen management program and directs the State Water Board to coordinate with Regional Water Boards to "update their programs with science-based guidelines on nitrogen fertilizer use and discharge while also encouraging the use sustainable farming practices." The coalition asserts this bill "fills a gap in existing regulations that policymakers have been trying to address for nearly 30 years," and that while some state programs rely on voluntary efforts to reduce nitrogen pollution, on their own, these efforts do not work fast enough. By strengthening California's existing nitrogen management program, the groups argue this bill "will spur more farmers to use healthy soils practices, help achieve sustainable groundwater quality targets, protect ecosystems, and provide a long-term drinking water solution for communities."

Writing in opposition, a coalition of agricultural organizations argues, among many other things, that the ILRP has enrolled more than 30,000 farms and ranches, covering millions of irrigated acres and 89% of irrigated farmland in the state. The group notes that, in some regions, third-party coalitions help to administer these programs and coordinate efforts amongst vast agricultural acreages

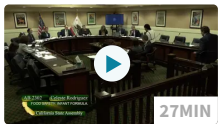
and that, to date, “substantial progress has been made by growers, coalitions and other third-party groups in all facets of ILRP.” The coalition further argues this bill effectively prejudices and overrides the “time-intensive, objective, technical process” of the aforementioned expert panel by “imposing prescriptive statewide mandates before scientific consensus and feasibility determinations are complete.” The organizations assert that it is nearly impossible for all of California agriculture to comply by the timelines in the bill and that farmers are not equipped to bear the costs of an entirely new water quality control program and new fees.

In its letter, the opposition cites an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) from the Central Valley Regional Water Board for the ILRP as proposed in the Central Valley. As part of the EIR, the regional board prepared an economic impact analysis of the regulatory alternatives, one which included a program similar to that envisioned in this bill. According to that analysis, the regional board concluded it would need over 400 new positions to implement a program that required individual grower reporting to the board.

Also writing in opposition, Thomas Harter, a professor at the University of California, Davis, and member of the aforementioned expert panel, argues, among other things, that the bill enforces a “scientifically outdated, overly simplified approach to nitrate control across the State of California,” that the bill “reverses and turns on its head “two decades of efforts by the agricultural industry, environmental NGOs, environmental justice NGOs, and several state agencies to regulate nitrate discharge from agricultural lands,” and that the timeline in the bill “would potentially lead to a near-instant collapse of California’s agricultural production and simultaneously leave behind – and do nothing about – a massive legacy of nitrate pollution that would linger for another century or longer.”

Analysis Prepared by: Nikita Koraddi / APPR. / (916) 319-2081

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Apr 14, 2026

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April 6, 2026

The Honorable Damon Connolly
 Chair, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee
 1020 N Street, Room 171
 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 2447 (Bauer-Kahan) – Oppose

Dear Chair Connolly:

We, the undersigned Central Valley Irrigated Agriculture Coalitions (“**ILRP Coalitions**”), respectfully oppose Assembly Bill 2447 (“**AB 2447**”). While we appreciate your effort to protect groundwater quality and ensure safe drinking water for all Californians, the approach proposed by AB 2447 would undermine extensive efforts already in place, as directed by the State Water Resources Control Board (“**State Water Board**”), and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (“**Central Valley Water Board**”) (collectively, the “**Water Boards**”), which are being implemented by growers with assistance from the ILRP Coalitions.

The Central Valley Water Board regulates discharges of stormwater and irrigation return flows from irrigated lands that may contain pollutants. These regulations have evolved over time, resulting in today’s comprehensive Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (“**ILRP**”). Under the Central Valley’s ILRP, agriculture is regulated through Waste Discharge Requirements (“**WDR**”), which requires, among many other things, implementation of practices that minimize excess nutrient applications, surface and groundwater monitoring, farm-specific Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plans, reporting of the amount of nitrogen applied and removed by the

crop, and reporting on the types of management practices that are being implemented on each farm.

The ILRP, as encouraged and supported by the State Water Board, offers landowners and operators of irrigated lands the option to join and actively participate in a third-party coalition group (e.g., the ILRP Coalitions) to comply with the ILRP WDRs. Currently, there are fourteen third-party coalitions within the Central Valley consisting of more than 25,000 individual growers covering over six million acres of irrigated land. These coalitions work directly with their members to assist them in fulfilling ILRP requirements at a farm level and watershed level. Further, these coalitions prepare and implement mandatory water quality management and monitoring plans. The coalitions, along with their grower members, have made substantial progress in implementing the ILRP and have achieved the following:

- Completed Groundwater Quality Assessment Reports to delineate areas within their coalition boundaries that are vulnerable to nitrate contamination and characterize current groundwater quality conditions.
- Established Groundwater Trend Monitoring programs to track changes in groundwater quality over-time.
- Established annual grower-reporting programs to evaluate nitrogen application (“A”) and removal (“R”) rates for parcels enrolled in the ILRP.
- Developed Management Practice Evaluation Programs to identify, evaluate, and promote practices that are protective of groundwater quality.
- Created a robust and comprehensive Groundwater Protection Formula, Values, and Targets approach to estimate current nitrate discharge rates at the field-scale.
- Proposed crop-specific Acceptable Ranges of A/R to establish agronomically appropriate nitrogen use efficiencies based on sound agronomic research.
- Identify growers outside of the Acceptable Ranges for direct follow-up actions.
- Developed Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plans to manage irrigated agriculture’s impact on groundwater quality, including incorporating Groundwater Protection Targets as milestones in these plans.
- Perform annual, ongoing grower outreach and education to inform growers of the need to protect groundwater quality from the impacts of nitrogen applications through the use of best management practices.

Unfortunately, AB 2447 puts these achievements in jeopardy.

AB 2447 essentially requires the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board to immediately amend Central Valley WDRs to include quantitative numeric limits set at a level whereby growers subject to those WDRs could not “cause or contribute” to exceedances of the drinking water standard for nitrate (i.e., 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L)) and other nitrate water quality objectives after January 1, 2030. This mandate ignores the current state of knowledge and technology imposing limits at infeasible and unachievable levels. The state’s leading agronomic experts from the University of California system continually remark publicly that, for a vast majority of commodities grown in California, growers cannot meet the “not cause or contribute”

standard based on currently known agronomic practices. More research, technology, and innovation needs to be developed over the next several decades to make achieving water quality limits possible.


Further, as a practical matter, AB 2447 shifts responsibilities of implementing the ILRP from the coalitions to the Central Valley Water Board. The Central Valley Water Board already explored this regulatory approach and opted for the current program as the better alternative (i.e., to utilize third parties to assist in administration of the program). One reason for this choice was cost. When evaluating the various proposed regulatory approaches, the Central Valley Water Board estimated that the current approach would only require 20 staff members. However, for the Central Valley Water Board to take on the role of working directly with growers, the total staffing required was 400 personnel years. As stated, within the Central Valley there are fourteen coalitions working directly with more than 25,000 individual growers. Without these coalitions serving as an intermediary, those 25,000 growers would report directly to the Central Valley Water Board. This level of direct reporting would overwhelm the Central Valley Water Board, and would result in a significant increase in fees passed on to the growers, further causing farming to no longer be economically viable in the Central Valley.

Another casualty of AB 2447 would be the ILRP coalitions themselves and the vital role they play in protecting surface and groundwater quality from nonpoint source discharges that may emanate from irrigated cropland. AB 2447 removes incentives for growers to actively participate in their coalition by requiring field level reporting to be publicly available. Currently, the Central Valley ILRP WDRs mandate grower and parcel specific reporting for all enrolled parcels. This detailed information is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board annually and is available to the public. The only information anonymized on these detailed reports are grower names and assessor parcel numbers. By anonymizing this information, growers are more readily willing to enroll their acreage into a coalition program and provide more detailed information as to their current growing practices and circumstances. This in turn allows the ILRP coalitions to work directly with these growers to provide direct education and outreach as to the potential nitrogen impacts that may be associated with their operation. By removing that last level of anonymity, the incentive for growers to enroll acreage would be eliminated, which then would effectively eliminate the need for ILRP coalitions. For the Central Valley Water Board, these ILRP coalitions support regional oversight, communicate effectively with growers directly, and provide significant administrative efficiencies. Without this direct relationship, surface and ground water quality would likely suffer.


Finally, AB 2447 would force the Central Valley Water Board to abandon its current efforts through CV-SALTS' Nitrate Control Program. This program is designed to make sure Central Valley residents who rely on groundwater are receiving safe drinking water that meets nitrate drinking water standards. Under the current program, growers receive extended time to comply with the “not cause or contribute” standard if they are testing domestic wells for nitrate and providing alternative drinking water if the well exceeds the drinking water standard. If growers are required to meet the “not cause or contribute” standard by 2030, the Nitrate Control Program will functionally cease to exist as there would no longer be any incentive for growers to participate.


The ILRP Coalitions and their members have made significant progress in achieving the ILRP’s mandate to reduce nitrate discharges and protect water quality. AB 2447 would upend that progress and create additional burdens for both landowners and operators of irrigated lands and the State. For these reasons, we respectfully oppose AB 2447 and urge a collaborative approach to address nitrates in groundwater through California’s existing regulatory structure.


Sincerely,



Tim Ashlock, PE
Buena Vista Coalition


Craig Riddle, Industry Affairs Manager
California Rice Commission


David Halopoff, PE, ILRP
Cawelo Water District Coalition

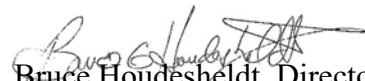

Catie Diemel, Executive Director
East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition


Chris Linneman, Coordinator
Grassland Drainage Area Coalition
Westside San Joaquin River Watershed
Coalition



Christopher D’Aiuto, Executive Director
Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association

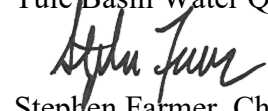

Nicole Bell, Manager
Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority

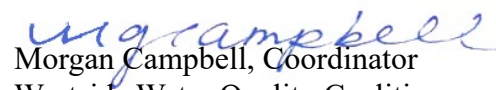

Debra Dunn, Coordinator
Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority


Bruce Houdesheldt, Director of Water
Quality
Northern California Water Association for
Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition


Michael Wackman, Executive Director
San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality
Coalition


David DeGroot, Technical Lead
Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition


Stephen Farmer, Chief Administrative
Officer
Westlands Water Quality Coalition


Morgan Campbell, Coordinator
Westside Water Quality Coalition

cc: The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, California State Assembly
Members, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee

April 14, 2026

RE: AB 2447 (Bauer-Kahan) - OPPOSED

The Honorable Damon Connolly
Chair, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee
1020 N Street, Room 171
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Connolly,

My name is Thomas Harter. I am a Distinguished Professor and Professor of Cooperative Extension at the University of California Davis. I hold the Nora S. Gustavsson Endowed Professorship for Groundwater Resources in Agriculture. I lead the state's only Cooperative Extension program on groundwater resources protection and management. For over thirty years, my [research, teaching, and extension program](#) has focused on sustainable groundwater management and groundwater protection in rural and agricultural regions of California. My team has implemented numerous projects to understand nitrogen's role in California's agricultural landscape concerning groundwater pollution. We have conducted cutting-[edge research](#) in California, nationally, and globally to better understand the link between agriculture and groundwater nitrate, which threatens drinking water in rural communities across California, the United States and the globe.

In that capacity, I co-led the 2012 Report "[Addressing Nitrate in California Drinking Water](#)", which was central to the State Water Board's (SWRCB) 2012 Report to the Legislature and prompted significant regulatory and programmatic actions by CDFA and SWRCB to address nitrate in California domestic and public water supply wells and to control nitrate sources, including nitrogen fertilizer and manure.

More recently, the SWRCB invited me to join the [Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel](#) ("Panel") to address several specific questions related to regulating and controlling nitrate discharge to groundwater in the state's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). After lengthy deliberations and extensive public input we presented a [draft findings report on March 30, 2026](#) ("Panel Report").

The report addresses the very questions that AB 2447 "Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act" attempts to address. Based on the panel's findings and the extensive research on nitrogen and groundwater conducted by my research group, I strongly oppose AB 2447.

My main reasons for opposing AB 2447 are threefold:

- The premise of AB 2447 fails to meet basic scientific understanding of the nitrate problem in drinking water.
- AB 2447 would enforce a scientifically outdated, overly simplified approach to nitrate control across the State of California.
- AB 2447 would reverse and turn on its head two decades of efforts by the agricultural industry, environmental NGOs, environmental justice NGOs, and several state agencies to regulate nitrate discharge from agricultural lands.
- The timeline in AB 2447 would potentially lead to a near-instant collapse of California's agricultural production and simultaneously leave behind— and do nothing about - a massive legacy of nitrate pollution that would linger for another century or longer.

In contrast, the currently existing programs and the blueprint proposed by the Second Agricultural Expert Panel offer the most effective and efficient path to control nitrate discharge to groundwater, improve groundwater quality, and address nitrate in drinking water.

Specifically,

1. The Panel concluded that insufficient scientific evidence exists to conclude that "limits" rather than "targets" are the best regulatory tool for controlling nitrate discharge from irrigated lands to groundwater. Regional Water Boards that have already selected to use "targets" rather than limits should not be forced to convert their "targets" to "limits" as AB 2447 Section 16302 (b)(1) would require.
2. The Panel concluded that insufficient scientific data currently exists to develop statewide quantitative limits on nitrogen fertilizer application and nitrogen discharge. It confirmed that the approaches taken by the Central Valley Regional Water Board and the Central Coast Regional Water Board both reflect best available regional data and science. The Panel further concluded that developing such quantitative limits or targets is best left to Regional Water Boards. Furthermore, current state law provides sufficient necessary constraints to ensure long-term sustainability and protection of groundwater quality.
3. The Panel concluded that insufficient scientific data currently exists to develop standardized figures estimating reduction in nitrogen discharge for certain sustainable farming practices (AB 2447 Section 16302 (c)(2)) or discount factors (AB 2447 Section 16302 (c)(3)).
4. The concept of “interim limits” on nitrogen pollution (AB 2447 Section 16302 (c)(4)) contradicts with the requirement to set final limits that are effective January 1, 2030 (AB 2447 Section 16302 (a)).
5. The Panel concluded that a mass balance-based accounting approach as suggested by AB 2447 Section 16302 (e)(1) is one of several scientific approaches to estimate nitrate fertilizer use and nitrate discharge to groundwater.

Some Regional Water Boards have already adopted more advanced methods, based on highly detailed crop-, soil-, and watershed models that reflect modern scientific standards to determine nitrogen balances for croplands, including nitrogen fertilizer applications and nitrogen discharges (see chapter 6 of the Panel Report). The panel found (a) that the choice of approach for computing nitrogen balances is best left to Regional Water Boards and (b) that none of the currently proposed approaches are scientifically lacking. Specifically, the Central Valley RWB approach to estimating nitrate discharge is among the scientifically most defensible methods and should not be required to be converted to a potentially simplified "back-of-the-envelope" nitrogen balance formula under statewide enforcement.

6. The Panel articulated in the Panel Report why there is no scientifically defensible need for field-level reporting as required in AB 2447 Section 16302 (e)(2). For example, the approach taken by the Central Valley RWB was found to be entirely adequate in terms of public disclosure of data. Specific suggestions for additional data to be provided are listed in the Panel Report to address existing reporting gaps.

Finally, AB 2447 unnecessarily circumvents and obliterates the public and transparent efforts that State of California agencies, environmental and environmental justice NGOs, and the agricultural industry have already engaged in over the past two decades, running counter to its own objectives. Instead, the Panel Report and existing state programs, including the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, the various animal farming industry orders, and the nitrate and salinity control program already address nitrate pollution source control and nitrate in California drinking water more broadly, more effectively, more efficiently, and more holistically than the proposed bill. The proposed bill is unnecessary and would lead to costly efforts that yield no benefits for domestic and community groundwater users over existing approaches.

I am currently on sabbatical leave abroad, but would be happy to engage in further discussion via phone or video call,



Thomas Harter

*Nora S. Gustavsson Endowed Professorship for Groundwater Resources in Agriculture
Distinguished Professor & Professor of Cooperative Extension*

University of California Davis

ph/ +1-530-400-1784

<https://groundwater.ucdavis.edu>

cc: The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, California State Assembly
Members, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2447

Introduced by Assembly Member Bauer-Kahan

February 20, 2026

An act to add Chapter 29 (commencing with Section 16300) to Division 7 of the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2447, as amended, Bauer-Kahan. ~~Water Supply Protection~~ *Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act.*

Under existing law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards are the principal state agencies with authority over matters relating to water quality. The act requires the state board to formulate and adopt state policies for water quality control and requires the regional boards to adopt regional water quality control plans in compliance with the state policies. Under the act, the state board and the regional boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the state.

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to require the regional boards to update the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program in order to reduce nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural areas, as provided. The bill would require the regional boards to adopt revised orders with waste discharge requirements on or before January 1, 2028, that are sufficient to meet certain reductions in nitrogen waste discharges. The bill would require the state board to, on or before July 1, 2027, publish both a list of

standardized crop names and categories, and a statewide methodology for calculating, and field-level reporting of, nitrogen balances for croplands, including nitrogen fertilizer applications and nitrogen discharges, that account for available soil nitrogen, to be used by the regional boards and incorporated into the revised orders. The bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2031, and in coordination with the regional boards, to submit a report to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature on progress achieved in implementing these requirements, including data on the extent of progress made toward reducing nitrogen waste discharges, as provided.

~~Existing law establishes the Department of Water Resources within the Natural Resources Agency and vests it with various powers and duties related to water.~~

~~The bill would, upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature, require the state board to convene a Safer Fertilizer Task Force in coordination with the Department of Food and Agriculture to establish best available technology standards for nitrogen-based fertilizers. The bill would require the task force to include persons representing organizations focused on climate-resilient or sustainable agriculture, water quality protection, public health, and biodiversity, as well as persons representing academic institutions, agricultural producers, the fertilizer industry, and appropriate state or local agencies. The bill would require the task force to consult with the Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board's Technical Advisory Subcommittee in developing those best available technology standards.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 29 (commencing with Section 16300)
2 is added to Division 7 of the Water Code, to read:

3
4 CHAPTER 29. ~~WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION~~ NITROGEN
5 POLLUTION REDUCTION ACT
6

7 16300. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the ~~Water~~
8 ~~Supply Protection~~ Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act.

9 16302. (a) The state board shall require the regional boards
10 to update the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program in order to reduce

1 nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural
2 lands so that by January 1, 2030, those lands do not cause or
3 contribute to ~~both~~ *either* of the following:

4 (1) Exceedances of the maximum contaminant level for nitrate,
5 as set forth in Section 64431 of Title 22 of the California Code of
6 ~~Regulations~~. *Regulations, for waters designated for municipal and*
7 *domestic supply.*

8 (2) Exceedances of a water quality objective or total maximum
9 daily load for nitrate, as set forth in applicable approved basin
10 plans.

11 (b) Consistent with Section 13263, the regional boards shall
12 adopt revised orders with waste discharge requirements on or
13 before January 1, 2028, that are sufficient to meet the reductions
14 in nitrogen waste discharge described in subdivision (a) and shall
15 include both of the following:

16 (1) Quantitative limits on nitrogen fertilizer application and
17 nitrogen discharge implemented through an adaptive irrigation
18 and nutrient management plan designed to minimize nitrogen
19 discharge.

20 (2) Sufficient procedures to ensure compliance with the limits
21 described in paragraph (1), which may include, but is not limited
22 to, verification by a certified crop advisor or cooperative or
23 independent monitoring program, cross-referencing fertilizer
24 application information with fertilizer sales information, and water
25 quality or soil testing.

26 (c) The orders described in subdivision (b) may ~~include, if they~~
27 ~~are designed to meet the reductions in nitrogen waste discharge~~
28 ~~described in subdivision (a), any of the following:~~ *include any of*
29 *the following elements, provided the elements are designed to meet*
30 *the reductions in nitrogen waste discharge described in subdivision*
31 *(a):*

32 (1) Provisions to encourage increased participation in programs
33 designed to reduce nitrogen waste and greenhouse gas emissions
34 from agriculture and improve soil health, including, but not limited
35 to, the Healthy Soils Program, the Organic Transition Pilot
36 Program, and the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement
37 Program.

38 (2) Standardized figures estimating reductions in nitrogen
39 discharge for certain sustainable farming practices based on the

1 best available science, including practices supported by programs
2 described in paragraph (1).

3 (3) Credits or discount factors based on the standardized figures
4 in paragraph (1), which may be accounted for in meeting the
5 requirements of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

6 (4) Interim limits on nitrogen pollution that accommodate
7 regional differences in agricultural production or surface or
8 groundwater quality.

9 (5) Alternative or streamlined compliance pathways for small
10 and diversified farms of fewer than 50 acres, including simplified
11 monitoring and reporting procedures as well as forms published
12 in languages spoken by small farmer operators, including, but not
13 limited to, Spanish, Hmong, Mandarin, and Punjabi.

14 (d) Consistent with existing law and regulations, the state board
15 may adjust its fee schedule for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory
16 Program to cover the cost of the state board and regional boards
17 in implementing this update to the program. Any adjustment to
18 the fee schedule by the state board shall not include discounts on
19 a per-acre basis for larger farms, which have the effect of smaller
20 farms paying higher per-acre fees than larger farms.

21 (e) (1) On or before July 1, 2027, the state board shall publish
22 both a list of standardized crop names and categories, and a
23 statewide methodology for calculating, and field-level reporting
24 of, nitrogen balances for croplands, including nitrogen fertilizer
25 applications and nitrogen discharges, that shall account for
26 available soil nitrogen, to be used by the regional boards and
27 incorporated into the orders described in subdivision (b).

28 (2) The field-level data produced by the field-level reporting
29 described in paragraph (1) shall be made publicly available.

30 (f) On or before January 1, 2031, the state board, in coordination
31 with the regional boards, shall submit a report to the relevant policy
32 committees of the Legislature, in compliance with Section 9795
33 of the Government Code, on progress achieved in implementing
34 this chapter, including data on the extent of progress made toward
35 meeting the reductions in nitrogen waste discharges through the
36 update to the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program as described in
37 subdivision (a).

38 (g) Nothing in this section is intended to weaken existing water
39 quality protections in this division. In the event of a conflict

1 between the provisions of this section and any other law, the more
2 stringent provision shall prevail.

3 *(h) For purposes of this section, commercial irrigated*
4 *agricultural lands shall include, but are not limited to, lands that*
5 *are irrigated to produce crops or pasture for commercial purposes*
6 *with one or more of the following characteristics:*

7 *(1) The landowner or operator holds a current operator*
8 *identification number or permit number for pesticide use reporting.*

9 *(2) The crop is sold to a third party, including, but not limited*
10 *to, any of the following:*

11 *(A) An industry cooperative.*

12 *(B) A harvest crew or company.*

13 *(C) A direct marketing location, including a farmers' market.*

14 *(3) The landowner or operator files federal taxes using the*
15 *Internal Revenue Service Schedule F (Form 1040) for Profit or*
16 *Loss From Farming.*

17 ~~16304. (a) It is the policy of the state to encourage fertilizer~~
18 ~~companies to increase research, investment, and sale of more~~
19 ~~efficient fertilizer technologies to protect water supplies, reduce~~
20 ~~nitrate leaching, and reduce nitrous oxide emissions.~~

21 ~~(b) Upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature, and in~~
22 ~~furtherance of the policy described in subdivision (a), the state~~
23 ~~board shall convene a Safer Fertilizer Task Force in coordination~~
24 ~~with the Department of Food and Agriculture to establish best~~
25 ~~available technology standards for nitrogen-based fertilizers.~~

26 ~~(c) The Safer Fertilizer Task Force shall include persons~~
27 ~~representing organizations focused on climate-resilient or~~
28 ~~sustainable agriculture, water quality protection, public health, and~~
29 ~~biodiversity, as well as persons representing academic institutions,~~
30 ~~agricultural producers, the fertilizer industry, and appropriate state~~
31 ~~or local agencies.~~

32 ~~(d) In developing best available technology standards, the Safer~~
33 ~~Fertilizer Task Force shall consider the following:~~

34 ~~(1) Scientific and peer-reviewed research on fertilizer efficiency~~
35 ~~and technologies, including enhanced efficiency fertilizers.~~

36 ~~(2) Life-cycle and field performance data.~~

37 ~~(3) Technological feasibility and cost-effectiveness.~~

38 ~~(4) Impact on small and disadvantaged farmers.~~

39 ~~(e) The best available technology standards referenced in~~
40 ~~subdivision (b) shall be designed to prioritize the following:~~

- 1 ~~(1) Reductions in nitrate leaching and runoff to the greatest~~
2 ~~extent feasible.~~
- 3 ~~(2) Reductions in nitrous oxide emissions to the greatest extent~~
4 ~~feasible, as required by the state's policy to achieve net zero~~
5 ~~greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, but not later than~~
6 ~~2045, and achieve and maintain net negative greenhouse gas~~
7 ~~emissions after 2045.~~
- 8 ~~(3) Enhanced synchronization of nitrogen release with crop~~
9 ~~uptake.~~
- 10 ~~(f) The Safer Fertilizer Task Force shall consult with the~~
11 ~~Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board's Technical Advisory~~
12 ~~Subcommittee in developing the best available technology~~
13 ~~standards referenced in subdivision (b).~~
- 14 ~~(g) The state board and regional boards may consult with the~~
15 ~~Safer Fertilizer Task Force and Fertilizer Inspection Advisory~~
16 ~~Board's Technical Advisory Subcommittee in implementing the~~
17 ~~update to the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program pursuant to~~
18 ~~Section 16302.~~

O

**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., April 15, 2026**

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, April 15, 2026, 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, and Trey Irwin with Tejon Ranch.

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 that upon a motion by Director Marin, second by Director Richardson, and unanimously approved, the Board approved filing an amicus brief in the *Bring Back the Kern v. City of Bakersfield* case pending in the California Supreme Court.

Legislative, Executive, Regulatory and Legal Matters. Mr. Torigiani reviewed the following bills that are currently being considered in the Legislature: AB 2026 which includes a significant modifications to the California Water Code regarding groundwater recharge and water rights; AB 2132 which would

provide CEQA exemptions for groundwater recharge projects that address subsidence; and AB 2447 which would require updates to the Irrigation Lands Regulatory Program general orders. He further noted the April 2026 ACWA Regulatory Roundup and the April 2026 Valley Ag Water Coalition Sacramento Report are included in the Board packet.

Consider Support of SB 872 and AB 2215. Mr. Nicholas reviewed his March 9, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Support of SB 872 and AB 2215*. Upon motion by Director Mettler, seconded by Director Blaine and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved the District take and communicate a Support position on SB 872 and AB 2215 relating to State Water Project subsidence repair funding and water right permitting, respectively.

Minutes. Upon motion from Director Reiter, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, *The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Directors ... Convened March 11 2026*, were approved and filed.

Filing of the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Mettler presented and reviewed the *Treasurer's Report for the Month of March 2026*. Upon motion from Director Mettler, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the *Treasurer's Report for the Month of March 2026* was approved and filed.

Approve Payment of Accounts Payable. Treasurer Mettler presented and reviewed the *Accounts Payable for the month of March 2026*, and the *Reimbursements and Transfers for the month of March 2026*. Upon motion from Director Mettler, seconded by Director Valpredo and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the *Accounts Payable for the Month of March 2026*, and the *Reimbursements and Transfers for the Month of March 2026* were approved and filed.

Controller's Report. Mr. Smith reviewed the 2025 audit schedule noting the audit will be presented at the regular June meeting of the Board of Directors. He stated the Ad Hoc Investment Committee was expecting proposals from CAMP and California CLASS and would be meeting again soon to review. Mr. Smith also mentioned that he met with the County Controller yesterday, along with Assistant Controller Jennifer Whitby and President Atkinson, to discuss issues with regarding investing with the County. Lastly Mr. Smith mentioned he was still working on closing the District's Wells Fargo accounts.

Delinquent Accounts Report. Mr. Smith reported that all 2025 contract water charges had been paid, and there was only currently one delinquent account. Smith also mentioned there were still several outstanding GWSC delinquencies as detailed in his portion of the Engineer-Manager's Report.

Budget Expenditures Report for February 2026. Ms. Whitby reviewed the Budget Expenditure Report for March 2026.

President's Report. Nothing to report.

Engineer-Manager's Report. Mr. Nicholas announced the passing of former Engineer-Manager Arnold Rummelsburg's wife Helen at the end of February. He also noted that District staff would be reporting on the benefits the District has received from its solar projects at the next board meeting.

2026 Water/Supply Demand Estimate. Mr. McDaris reviewed the 2026 Water/Supply Demand Estimate.

Other Purchases and Exchanges. Nothing to report.

Consider Adoption of Notice of Determination for Final IS-Negative Declaration for Westside 5-SCVWA Multi-Year Transfer Agreement. Mr. McDaris reviewed his April 6, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Adoption of Notice of Determination for Final IS-Negative Declaration 9SCH# 2026020535) for Westside Districts SWP Multi-Year Transfer Agreement*. The Board having considered

the Final Initial Study - Negative Declaration (SAT No. 2026020535) for the Westside District's SWP Multi-Year Transfer Project and upon motion by Director Marin, seconded by Director Fry and unanimously carried with no abstentions (a) approved the Project, and (b) authorized filing of a Notice of Determination (NOD) consistent with the draft NOD in the Board Packet with the appropriate county clerk offices, subject to review by legal counsel and the Engineer-Manager as to final form.

Director Marin left meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Golden Mussel Update Treatment Options. Mr. McDaris reviewed his March 6, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *Golden Mussel Treatment Options*.

Consider 2025 Carryover Recharge Accounting Reconciliation. Mr. McDaris reviewed his April 9, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider 2025 Carryover Recharge Accounting Reconciliation*. Upon motion by Director Mettler, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, consistent with Rule 13 of the District's Rules and regulations regarding the 2026 recharge activities occurring February 19th through February 28th for SLR spill mitigation of 2025-2026 carryover, the Board approved the following final allocation of recharge activities:

(a) Water Users will receive the benefit for deliveries of carryover occurring January 1st through February 18th, totaling 1,113 acre-feet; (b) Of the total 7,043 acre-feet of recharge, the balance of Water User carryover which remained undelivered and in storage on February 19th, 3,230 acre-feet, is classified as Water User carryover which was recharged and direct that staff prepare Second Priority invoices for these Water User recharge activities; and (c) The remaining 3,813 acre-feet of recharge will be classified as District supplies, and the remaining District carryover balance of 5,64 acre-feet will be included in the District's 2026 allocation to Water Users.

White Wolf Orchards et. Al - Request for Water Service Contract Amendments. Mr. McDaris reviewed his April 3, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *White Wolf Orchards - Request for Water Service Contract Amendments: Redistribution of Contract Amount of Water (CAW) Affecting Contract(s): 47, 55A, 72.102A, 121A, 121B, 135, 162, 162A, 165, 12109A, 12109B*.

Upon motion by Director Martin, seconded by Director Valpredo and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2026-05 in the matter of:

**AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO WATER SERVICE CONTRACT(S) NO.
47, 55A, 72.102A, 121A, 121B, 135, 162A, 165, 12109A, AND 12109B
AND CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT ALLOCATION OF WATER**

2025 and 2026 Groundwater Service Charge Review. Mr. Suggs reviewed slides from his Groundwater Service Charge presentation.

State Water Project / Delta Conveyance Project. Mr. Nicholas discussed the current SWP allocation and the abnormal hydrology and weather thus far this year.

Sites Reservoir. Mr. Kunde reviewed the Site's section of his E-M Report.

White Wolf GSA Annual Report. Mr. Nicholas reviewed the 2025 WWGSA Annual Report.

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA. Mr. Nicholas reported that the 2025 Kern Subbasin Annual Report was submitted to DWR, and is available at kerngsp.com. He also noted the Subbasin is working on possible GSP revisions to incorporate the recently approved DWR subsidence BMPs.

Consider Approval of LandIQ Proposal for Evapotranspiration Support. Mr. Nicholas reviewed his April 13, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of LandIQ Proposal for*

Evapotranspiration Support. Upon motion by Director Mettler, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved, and if necessary, authorized the Engineer-Manager to execute a task order and funding for LandIQ to perform evapotranspiration services within the WRMGSA subject to final approval of the Engineer-Manager and District Counsel.

Consider Approval of Kern Subbasin Task Order for Subsidence Program Implementation. Mr. Nicholas reviewed his April 13, 2026 memorandum to the Board entitled *Consider Approval of Kern Subbasin Task Order for Subsidence Program Implementation*. Upon motion by Director Fry, seconded by Director Mettler, and unanimously carried with no abstentions, the Board approved, and if necessary, authorized the Board President to execute the necessary agreements and/or task orders for Kern Subbasin Subsidence Program Implementation at a total cost not to exceed \$225,000 (WRMGSA's share \$13,500) and subject to final approval of the Engineer-Manager and District Counsel.

Directors Meeting Attended. Nothing to report.

Kern County Water Agency. Nothing to report.

Kern Water Bank Authority/KWBGSA. Mr. Nicholas reported the Authority: approved an agreement with KCWA on the Nord turnout construction and operation on the CVC; raised the conversation bank credit pricing to \$50,000 per acre/credit; noted the Basin 11 Turnout project was completed; and is considering a well replacement. Mr. Nicholas had nothing to report on the KWBGSA.

South of Kern River GSP. Mr. Nicholas reported that there was no meeting in April, and the next meeting would be May 14. He did note that the SOKR water level information is included in the Board Packet.

Kern Non-District Lands Authority. Director Fry reported that KNDLA approved an agreement with Provost and Pritchard to study possible demand management actions on un-districted lands.

White Wolf Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Mr. Nicholas reported the 2025 WWGSA is holding a stakeholder workshop on April 30th.

Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority. No meeting.

Committee for Delta Reliability. Mr. Nicholas reviewed the Committee discussion items, including possible litigation on Alternative 5, Healthy Rivers and Landscapes, and possible White Sturgeon listing.

South Valley Water Resource Authority. No meeting.

Unfinished and New Business. Ms. Ruth noted that Board Ethics Training will be required in 2026, and also mentioned that all Directors will be required to complete the SB-827 Fiscal and Financial Training, and noted CSDA will be holding a webinar on June 17th for any Director who would like to participate.

Public Comments. None.

Adjournment. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.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
HRL	Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Flow Program
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
SGMO	Sustainable Groundwater Management Office
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
SSJVQC	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
WRMWSA	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
WSS	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 APRIL 2026

5/13/2026 Board Packet
GENERAL FUND

FUNDS ON DEPOSIT:

BALANCE AS OF:	03/31/2026	59,802,726.50
PLUS CASH RECEIVED FOR: (cash receipts/interest)	04/2026	12,789,113.02
LESS CASH EXPENDED DURING MONTH FOR:	04/2026	(3,006,929.62)
(KCWA, pr, ap, cdr, ach, mnl, fees, pr burdens, ee net, taxes, inv)		

FUNDS ON RECONCILED DEPOSIT AT END OF MONTH: **69,584,909.90**

THE ABOVE FUNDS ARE ON DEPOSIT AS FOLLOWS:

CAMP-POOLED INVESTMENTS - (GL) CASH BALANCE	66,034,619.90
KCT-POOLED INVESTMENTS - (G/L) CASH BALANCE	2,496,096.30
TRI COUNTIES BANK - (GL) CASH BALANCE	1,051,798.06
LAIF-POOLED INVESTMENTS - (GL) CASH BALANCE	2,195.64
PETTY CASH	200.00
	69,584,909.90

CAMP BALANCE AS OF:	03/31/2026	50,956,835.38
TRANSFERS (TO) TRI COUNTIES BANK	04/2026	(2,957,531.28)
TRANSFERS FROM TRI COUNTIES BANK	04/2026	17,853,580.66
INTEREST INCOME	04/2026	181,735.14
ENDING CAMP BALANCE:		66,034,619.90

INTEREST APPORTIONMENT PERCENTAGE (ANNUALIZED)	CAMP
MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2026	3.78%
MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2026	3.80%
MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2026	3.83%
MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2026	3.85%

INTEREST APPORTIONMENT PERCENTAGE (ANNUALIZED)	TCBK Sweep
MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2026	3.57%
MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2026	3.61%
MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2026	2.96%
MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2026	N/A

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/TRI COUNTIES/CAMP) DURING MONTH AS FOLLOWS:

CONTRACT WATER PAYMENTS	11,698,023.71
SPECIAL SERVICE CHARGES - kern county auditor/controller	452,828.50
INTEREST APPORTIONMENT - kern county auditor controller	281,751.30
CAMP INTEREST	181,735.14
NONCONTRACT OM&R CHARGES	123,115.54
MANUAL INVOICES / MISC RECEIPTS	21,489.69
WHITE WOLF GSA GRANT REIMBURSEMENT	17,023.13
TRI COUNTIES SWEEP INTEREST	12,929.11
WELLS FARGO SWEEP INTEREST	195.59
LAIF INTEREST	21.31
GROUND WATER SERVICE CHARGES	-
WRM GSA	-

Cash Receipts Summary **12,789,113.02**

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**

5/13/2026 Board Packet

INTERNALLY CONSTRAINED RESERVES	AUDIT <u>12/31/2024</u>	2025 & 2026 Adjustments	Adjusted <u>4/30/2026</u>
OPERATING RESERVE FUND	24,903,002	96,998 (4)	25,000,000
EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND	3,602,282	(74,401) (3), (4)	3,527,881
GROUND WATER REPLENISHMENT RESERVE FUND	12,429,594	(7,746,927) (4), (7)	4,682,667
CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUND	11,171,205	278,540 (1), (4)	11,449,745
WATER BANKING CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	5,791,997	308,003 (2), (4)	6,100,000
KWBA EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT RESERVE	0	306,213 (6)	306,213
WELL REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND	11,486	390 (4)	11,876
DOMESTIC WELL MITIGATION RESERVE FUND	100,445	2,355 (4)	102,800
TOTAL RESERVE FUNDS INTERNALLY CONSTRAINED	58,010,011	(6,828,830)	51,181,181
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	6,828,830	66,792,221
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	117,973,402	0	117,973,402

- (1) Includes adjustment for 2024 & 2025 litigation expenses
- (2) KWB Capital Assessment 2024 & Facilities Assessment 2025 less 2025 wheeling charges
- (3) 2025 reserve funded capital assets
- (4) Estimated interest credited
- (5) Interest capped / reserve at max
- (6) 2023 & 2024 4% water / RR reconciliation less 2024 capital fees

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
APRIL 2026

NAME	DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
661 COMMUNICATIONS	05/01/2026	2089	208.23	INSTALL 2-WAY RADIO #176	
ACWA JPIA	04/07/2026	883	49,526.58	ANNUAL PROPERTY INSURANCE	49,526.58
ADVANCED COMPLIANCE	04/24/2026	16742	1,064.94	PILOT KIT FOR FUEL STATION	
AFTW HOLDINGS LLC	04/16/2026	AFTW03-2026	84,136.21	WHEELER #1 SOLAR CHARGES	84,136.21
ALERT 360	04/23/2026	17263133	132.30	FIRE ALARM MONITORING	
ASG Supply	04/15/2026	007687	348.73	ACETONE, GRIT DISCS, HYDRATION	
ASG Supply	04/26/2026	007725	288.33	PADLOCKS, PAINT, SAFETY GLASSES	
ASG Supply	04/26/2026	007726	1,651.22	WELDING RODS, WIRE WHEELS, FLAP DISCS, ETC	
ASG Supply	04/29/2026	007741	545.02	WELDING RODS, ROPE, SCREWDRIVER BITS	
ASG Supply	04/30/2026	007744	334.76	GREASE GUN, CHIPPING HAMMER	
ASG Supply	05/07/2026	007767	2,072.32	WEB SLINGS, CLEANING SUPPLIES	5,240.38
AT&T	05/07/2026	N/A	318.03	FIRE ALARM LINES	
AVADINE	04/30/2026	116492	1,000.00	LATIS MAINTENANCE & SUPPORT	
B & B SURPLUS INC	04/17/2026	1300266	165.62	FLANGES (6)	
BAKERSFIELD ICE	04/30/2026	43026564	744.97	ICE / BOX RENTAL	
BAKERSFIELD PAINT AND WALLPAPER	03/31/2026	KHCSK	143.80	PAINT	
BAKERSFIELD PAINT AND WALLPAPER	05/05/2026	2MCJK	312.73	PAINT	
BAKERSFIELD PAINT AND WALLPAPER	05/06/2026	3EYVU	71.90	PAINT	
BARBICH HOOPER KING DILL HOFFMAN	03/31/2026	162363	24,065.00	2025 AUDIT SERVICES	24,065.00
BENCHMARK AIR CONDITIONING SERVICES	04/28/2026	49450869	1,647.50	HQ OFFICE A/C MAINTENANCE	
BLUE BEACON INC	04/30/2026	5185997	122.10	TRUCK WASH	
BOOT BARN INC	04/14/2026	INV00592829	194.84	BOOTS - CLAFFY	
BOOT BARN INC	05/04/2026	INV00600678	214.32	BOOTS - COLVIN	
BRANDCO	04/22/2026	151525	4,660.44	ANNUAL FIRE EXTINGUISHER SERVICE & TRAINING	
Break9	04/24/2026	2026-0220	25,000.00	WATER SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT	25,000.00
Bros Automotive	04/13/2026	1550	688.02	TRANSMISSION SERVICE VEHICLE #37	
Bros Automotive	04/13/2026	1551	507.54	A/C REPAIR TRUCK #164	
Bros Automotive	04/14/2026	1553	1,372.91	TRANSMISSION SERVICE / MAINT #162	
Bros Automotive	04/16/2026	1554	474.04	TRANSMISSION SERVICE #159	
Bros Automotive	04/18/2026	1555	465.60	TRANSMISSION SERVICE #161	
Bros Automotive	04/18/2026	1556	1,687.79	TRANSMISSION SERVICE / MAINT #148	
Bros Automotive	04/23/2026	1557	464.42	TRANSMISSION SERVICE #160	
Bros Automotive	04/23/2026	1558	1,198.16	TRANSMISSION & A/C SERVICE #367	
Bros Automotive	05/01/2026	1559	862.85	TRANSMISSION SERVICE UNIT #391	7,721.33
CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	04/09/2026	SI541469	899.00	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL	
CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL RUBBER	03/31/2026	B-054841	675.00	FOAM SHEETS	
CANON	05/11/2026	N/A	906.20	LEASE 2 CANON COPIERS	
COASTLINE EQUIPMENT	04/16/2026	1341606	1,914.51	BRUSH KIT FOR SWEEPER	
CONEXUS SG	04/20/2026	260420WHEERE	1,515.80	ANNUAL GREAT PLAINS SOFTWARE RENEWAL	
CORE & MAIN LP	04/08/2026	Y706639	1,899.79	DIAPHRAGM VALVE (3)	
COREY WILKERSON	04/30/2026	APR 2026	25.00	SAFETY MEETING - APR 2026	
CRYSTAL CLEAN LLC	04/30/2026	19953584	13.75	USED OIL PICKUP	
DANIELS TIRE SERVICE	04/17/2026	240209430	359.66	TIRES (2) UNIT #169	
DAVID JANES COMPANY	04/28/2026	0468995-IN	774.54	24" FLANGE FOR 8PLAT	
DOCUSIGN INC	01/24/2026	111100626125	7,302.96	DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT	7,302.96
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER INC	04/09/2026	C20055.13-06	10,473.96	SOKR GSP DEFICIENCY RESPONSE	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER INC	04/09/2026	C20055.14-04	6,851.48	SOKR GSP IMPLEMENTATION	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER INC	04/14/2026	B70103.02-44	158.08	SGMA IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER INC	05/06/2026	C20055.13-07	5,750.68	SOKR GSP DEFICIENCY RESPONSE	
EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER INC	05/06/2026	C20055.14-05	7,620.34	SOKR GSP	30,854.54
EQUIPMENT SHARE	05/04/2026	BFL-6874290-0000	122.27	RENT SCISSOR LIFT FOR WELDING SHOP	
FARWEST CORROSION CONTROL	04/30/2026	0425147-IN	1,419.16	BLACK CABLE & HANDY CAP	
FAST UNDERCAR	05/04/2026	08VL7018	652.60	CAR BATTERIES & FILTERS	
FAST UNDERCAR	05/06/2026	08VM0915	140.97	AUTOMOBILE FILTERS	
FERGUSON WATERWORKS 2777	04/14/2026	0059624	39.21	FLANGE	
FERGUSON WATERWORKS 2777	04/29/2026	0060099	3,129.70	COUPLER + EXPEDITE FEE	
FLYERS ENERGY LLC	04/28/2026	26-623196	37,074.38	GASOLINE	37,074.38
Forestry Suppliers	04/08/2026	807817-00	3,409.85	TURBIDITY METER, MULTIPARAMETER METER	
GRAINGER	04/08/2026	9872510426	188.15	PAINT MARKERS, STENCILS, BATTERIES	
GRAINGER	04/10/2026	9875618317	162.26	HOSE REEL	
GRAINGER	04/14/2026	9879217199	97.43	FISH TAPE	
GRAPEVINE MSP	04/15/2026	52793	5,823.50	IT SERVICES - MAY 2026	
GRAPEVINE MSP	05/06/2026	53028	297.69	WIRELESS ACCESS POINT	6,121.19
GREGS PETROLEUM SERVICE INC	04/30/2026	630112	913.31	DIESEL FUEL - HIGHT	
HOWARD SUPPLY CO	04/16/2026	51216245	21.07	THIMBLE WIRE ROPE	
Independent Pipe & Steel Inc	04/24/2026	18972	5,524.65	STEEL PIPE FOR 8PLAT REPAIR	5,524.65
KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY	03/31/2026	RCHG 2026-03E	605.00	MARCH 2026 RECHARGE EAST	
KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY	03/31/2026	RCHG 2026-03W	2,425.50	MARCH 2026 RECHARGE WEST	
KEVIN EATON	04/30/2026	APR 2026	261.00	TRANSPORTATION	
KIMBALL MIDWEST	04/10/2026	104358739	904.75	RING TERMINALS, CONNECTORS, ETC.	
Knights Pumping	02/13/2026	0000263413	270.70	PORTABLE TOILET SERVICES	
Konecranes Inc	05/04/2026	163139568	16,014.46	REPAIR BRIDGE CRANE	16,014.46
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC	04/22/2026	56223685	1,109.59	CYLINDER RENTALS	
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC	04/30/2026	56417366	689.59	WELDING SUPPLIES	
LOWES BUSINESS ACCOUNT	05/02/2026	APR 2026	1,839.10	O&M SUPPLIES	
Madison Energy Investments IX LLC	04/30/2026	SP-337-000018	82,054.85	WHEELER #2 SOLAR CHARGES	82,054.85
MARK DELEON	04/30/2026	APR 2026	500.25	TRANSPORTATION	

**WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
APRIL 2026**

NAME	DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
MEH OBSP LLC	04/30/2026	SP-395-000025	21,211.38	850 CANAL SOLAR CHARGES	21,211.38
MONTGOMERY HARDWARE CO	04/17/2026	783411	71.45	BUILDING ACCESS - APR 2026	
MOTOR CITY AUTO CENTER	04/29/2026	GCCS384640	523.42	REPLACE PURGE PUMP UNIT #157	
Murphy & Evertz	04/30/2026	12227	3,670.00	LEGAL SERVICES - SGMA	
PACIFIC IRRIGATION INC	04/29/2026	00233493	735.23	PVC PIPE	
PG&E #1	04/30/2026	APR 2026	359,097.62	APRIL POWER	
PG&E #2	04/30/2026	APR 2026	197,123.27	APRIL POWER	
PG&E #3	04/30/2026	APR 2026	4,099.23	APRIL POWER	
PG&E #4	04/30/2026	APR 2026	68.83	APRIL POWER	
PG&E #5	04/30/2026	APR 2026	3,501.56	APRIL POWER	563,890.51
POWERSTRIDE BATTERY	04/15/2026	B396690	122.87	CABLE	
PRICE DISPOSAL INC	04/30/2026	N4855442232	1,546.05	2 40-YARD ROLL OFFS	
Primo Brands	04/29/2026	16D0028964179	654.59	DRINKING WATER	
PROVOST & PRITCHARD	04/10/2026	129439	712.30	WHITE WOLF IN-LIEU BANKING	
PROVOST & PRITCHARD	04/17/2026	129810	325.50	WELL FLOWMETER REVIEW PROGRAM	
Purpose-Built Trade Co	03/24/2026	#PBT628537	167.78	SAFETY BOOTS - AGUIRRE	
Purpose-Built Trade Co	03/24/2026	#PBT628541	57.22	SAFETY BOOTS - AGUIRRE	
QUADIENT	04/17/2026	4.20.26	250.00	POSTAGE	
Ricks Hunter Service	04/23/2026	2136	821.77	REPAIR TIRE BALANCER	
Rincon Consultants Inc.	04/14/2026	73521	3,526.00	WESTSIDE DISTRICTS-SCV WATER TRANSFER	
RINGCENTRAL INC	05/01/2026	CD 001422962	789.38	TELEPHONES	
ROBERT CLAFFY	04/30/2026	APR 2026	25.00	WATER TREATMENT - APR 2026	
SAN JOAQUIN TRACTOR	04/15/2026	4800B	305.25	AXLE BUSHINGS KIT & COVER FOR SCRAPER	
SMART & FINAL	04/15/2026	4.15.26	37.98	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SMART & FINAL	04/22/2026	4.22.26	73.90	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SMART & FINAL	04/29/2026	4.29.26	39.25	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SMART & FINAL	05/06/2026	5.6.26	43.94	BREAKROOM SUPPLIES	
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY	04/24/2026	APR 2026	89.25	NATURAL GAS	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	04/15/2026	1075905	731.73	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	04/22/2026	1076813	860.82	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	04/29/2026	1077818	796.42	UNIFORM CLEANING	
SPARKLE UNIFORM & LINEN SERVICE	05/06/2026	1078811	740.99	UNIFORM CLEANING	
STINSONS	04/08/2026	373579-0	103.60	CUSTOM ACCOUNTING STAMPS	
STINSONS	04/13/2026	374966-0	352.24	TONER, CHAIR MAT	
STINSONS	04/14/2026	374966-1	56.70	ADVIL	
STINSONS	04/20/2026	374966-2	322.82	TONER, HYDRATION	
STINSONS	05/06/2026	377806-0	497.03	OFFICE SUPPLIES	
TARGET SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC	04/21/2026	INVP502131623	201.68	FLY BAIT	
TECHNOFLO SYSTEMS	04/29/2026	54487	5,352.15	BUTTERFLY VALVES (8)	5,352.15
THE MARCOM GROUP	04/15/2026	69008	95.00	WEBSITE HOSTING	
THOMAS SUGGS	04/30/2026	Golden Mussel	320.55	TRAVEL - GOLDEN MUSSEL WORKSHOP	
THREE WAY CHEVROLET	04/22/2026	989365	36,695.83	CHEVY SILVERADO 1500	36,695.83
Tri Counties Bank Credit Cards**	04/30/2026	APR 2026	16,916.80	CREDIT CARD PURCHASES	16,916.80
UNIVERSAL URGENT CARE AND OCCUP MEDICINE	04/21/2026	EM019609	53.00	DRUG TEST - PARKER	
VANGUARD CLEANING SYSTEMS	05/01/2026	87003	1,565.00	JANITORIAL SERVICES	
VAST NETWORKS	05/01/2026	74448	1,450.00	INTERNET	
VERIZON WIRELESS	04/30/2026	6142452147	192.60	CELL PHONES / SIM CARDS	
VERIZON WIRELESS	04/30/2026	6142452146	298.00	IPAD DATA	
VULCAN MATERIALS	04/22/2026	6255562	1,065.65	ROCK FOR 8PLAT	
VULCAN MATERIALS	04/29/2026	6311081	2,159.78	ROCK FOR 8PLAT	
WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION	04/07/2026	MEM1898-2026	1,050.00	2026 WEF MEMBERSHIP	
WESTERN EXTERMINATOR COMPANY	04/15/2026	94585904	283.74	PEST CONTROL SERVICES	
ZEP SALES AND SERVICE	04/09/2026	9012637119	400.79	VEHICLE CLEANING SUPPLIES	
		SUBTOTAL	1,091,567.67		
		MANUAL CHECKS	10,215.90		
		BILLS PAID BY CREDIT CARD	(1,095.58)		
		VOUCHER TOTAL	1,100,687.99		

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
 ACH AND MANUAL CHECKS PAYMENTS
 APRIL 2026

APRIL	NAME	TYPE	DATE	INVOICE #	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	5,000+
	AT&T	Credit Card	4/7/26	8026424113	346.84	invoicing correction	
	Greenleaf Ag	Check	4/20/26	0010056-IN	9,869.06	sales tax on Golden Mussel treatment	
				Total	10,215.90		

**Tri Counties Bank Credit Cards	
O&M materials and supplies	5,011.10
500 gallon waste oil tank	4,659.52
Annual Adobe renewal	2,222.97
Training and travel	1,646.99
Bill payments	1,538.78
Recurring monthly charges (internet, software, etc.)	864.43
Board food, meals	585.61
Miscellaneous office supplies	237.40
Memberships	150.00
Total payment	16,916.80
**Tri Counties Bank Credit Cards (previous month)	
Computers (4), office supplies, and miscellaneous	11,167.99
Training and travel	3,132.23
O&M materials and supplies	2,706.21
Bill payments	935.96
Recurring monthly charges (internet, software, etc.)	665.90
Memberships	476.00
Reverse finance charges	(52.24)
Total payment	19,032.05

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WSD
 FISCAL AGENT FOR COMMITTEE FOR DELTA RELIABILITY
 CUSTODIAL FUNDS-REPORT OF EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS
 APRIL 2026 FOR THE MAY 13, 2026 BOARD MEETING

5.2

NAME	INVOICE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
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TRANSFERS AUTHORIZED BY WRMWSO BOARD

APRIL 15, 2026 BOARD AUTHORIZATION	APRIL	VOUCHER	38,759.79
VOUCHER TOTAL REQUESTED			38,759.79

EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZED BY COMMITTEE AND PAID BY WRMWSO MANUAL CHECK

Center for California Water Resources	319	Assn Mgmt - Jan/Feb 2026, Hamilton - Jan 2026	4,388.50
Nossaman	589457	ESA / Water Quality - Jan 2026	22,612.31
Nossaman	590334	ESA / Water Quality - Feb 2026	9,848.92
Water & Land Solutions, LLC	5143	Representation - March 2026	1,910.06
TOTAL PAID			38,759.79

INVOICES AWAITING COMMITTEE APPROVAL

INVOICES APPROVED BY WRMWSO BOARD @ MAY 13, 2026 BOARD MEETING (VOUCHER)

Nossaman	591817	ESA / Water Quality - Mar 2026	15,246.00
Water & Land Solutions, LLC	5192	Representation - April 2026	3,229.31
VOUCHER TOTAL REQUEST			18,475.31

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
Revolving Account Check Listing

APRIL 2026

Check	Date	Payee	Amount	Description
			BALANCE AS OF 3/31/26	
				Deposit
			<u>7,000.00</u>	
			7,000.00	

Total Checks Issued	0.00
Ending Balance	<u>7,000.00</u>
Balance Limit	<u>7,000.00</u>
Replenish Amount	0.00

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

April 2026 for the May 13, 2026 BOARD MEETING

NAME	ACWA BLUE CROSS OF CA			DENTAL-HEALTHEDGE	HARTFORD	TOTAL	
	MED	VISION	LIFE/AD&D	CLAIMS	ADM		DISABILITY
ATKINSON	1,990.34	17.21	9.77	***	18.15	0.00	***
BLAINE	2,637.20	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
FRY	2,637.20	17.21	4.30	***	18.15	0.00	***
MARIN	2,637.20	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
MARTIN	2,637.20	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
METTLER	1,990.34	17.21	7.10	***	18.15	0.00	***
REITER	995.70	17.21	4.30	***	18.15	0.00	***
RICHARDSON	2,637.20	17.21	3.20	***	18.15	0.00	***
VALPREDO	1,990.34	17.21	5.50	***	18.15	0.00	***
LOVELESS	2,637.20	17.21	36.50	***	18.15	71.93	***
MCDARIS	1,990.34	17.21	14.00	***	18.15	71.93	***
NICHOLAS	2,637.20	17.21	36.50	***	18.15	71.93	***
SMITH	2,637.20	17.21	78.50	***	18.15	71.93	***
SUGGS	2,637.20	17.21	78.50	***	18.15	71.93	***
WHITBY	1,990.34	17.21	36.50	***	18.15	71.93	***
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	34,682.20	258.15	331.17	1,869.85	272.25	431.58	
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TOTAL BENEFITS						\$37,845.20	

*** 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
APRIL 2026 for the MAY 13, 2026 BOARD

NAME	DATE	TOTAL	PAYEE	MEMO
Atkinson	04/14/2026	125.00	Atkinson	Kern County Treasurer
Atkinson	04/15/2026	129.00	Atkinson	WRMWSD Board
Atkinson	04/21/2026	125.00	Atkinson	Delta Conveyance Project call
Atkinson	04/30/2026	125.00	Atkinson	Delta Conveyance Project call
Blaine	04/15/2026	128.00	Blaine	WRMWSD Board
Blaine	04/27/2026	125.00	Blaine	KNDLA Board
Fry	04/15/2026	125.00	Fry	WRMWSD Board
Fry	04/30/2026	125.00	Fry	WWGSA Grower's Workshop
Marin	04/15/2026	125.00	Marin	WRMWSD Board
Martin	04/15/2026	127.00	Martin	WRMWSD Board
Metter	04/15/2026	128.00	Mettler	WRMWSD Board
Mettler	04/30/2026	128.00	Mettler	WRMWSD Board
Reiter	04/09/2026	125.00	Reiter	WWGSA Grower's Workshop
Reiter	04/15/2026	139.00	Reiter	KCWA Member Unit
Richardson	04/15/2026	128.00	Richardson	WRMWSD Board
Valpredo	04/15/2026	129.00	Valpredo	WRMWSD Board
DIRECTORS		2,036.00		

Loveless	04/22/2026	35.03	Tri Counties	Executive Assistant lunch
McDaris	04/22/2026	35.03	Tri Counties	Executive Assistant lunch
McDaris	04/09/2026	287.16	Tri Counties	AWWA Conference - Golden Mussel
Nicholas	04/22/2026	35.03	Tri Counties	Executive Assistant lunch
Nicholas	04/13/2026	26.14	Tri Counties	EM lunch
Nicholas	4/17/2026-4/19/2026	514.08	Tri Counties	ACWA board meeting
Smith	04/22/2026	35.03	Tri Counties	Executive Assistant lunch
Suggs	04/22/2026	35.03	Tri Counties	Executive Assistant lunch
Suggs	04/02/2026	50.00	Tri Counties	Golden Mussels workshop
MANAGEMENT		1,052.53		

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

RETIRED ANNUITANT 0.00

Board	04/15/2026	120.05	Tri Counties	4/15/2026 Board Meeting - burritos
BOARD		120.05		

TOTAL EXPENSE 3,208.58

**WHEELER RIDGE - MARICOPA WSD
PAYROLL FUND
APRIL 2026
MAY 13, 2026 BOARD MEETING**

	EMPLOYEES	DIRECTORS	RETIREES	TOTALS
SALARIES & WAGES Pay Period Ended: April 11, 2026/ee; March 31, 2026/dir	166,897.31	1,533.00		168,430.31
SALARIES & WAGES Pay Period Ended: April 25, 2026	175,404.56			175,404.56
SALARIES & WAGES Pay Period Ended: , 2026				-
PAYCHEX Employer taxes: SSI, Medicare, UI	26,514.68	141.86		26,656.54
PERS (EMPLOYER PORTION) RETIREMENT	40,753.26			40,753.26
ACWA-HEALTH BENEFITS Medical/Vision Insurance Premium	101,760.87	20,359.43	25,335.13	147,455.43
HEALTH EDGE ADMINISTRATORS INC Dental Insurance Administrative Fees	780.45	163.35	453.75	1,397.55
HEALTH EDGE ADMINISTRATORS INC Dental Insurance Claims	3,912.64	442.00	3,907.59	8,262.23
THE HARTFORD GROUP Long Term Disability Insurance	3,092.85			3,092.85
PAYCHEX P/R Processing Fees, monthly and W-2 fees	2,091.90	165.95		2,257.85
TOTAL PAYROLL FUND:	521,208.52	22,805.59	29,696.47	573,710.58

**WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
REIMBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS
MAY 13, 2026 BOARD MEETING
APRIL / MAY 2026**

OPERATING / REVOLVING ACCOUNT:

WRM-WSD TRI COUNTIES BANK OPERATING ACCOUNT APPROVED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR: April 2026 Accounts Payable	1	\$ 1,100,687.99
WRM-WSD TRI COUNTIES BANK OPERATING ACCOUNT APPROVED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR: Committee for Delta Reliability	2	\$ 18,475.31
WRM-WSD TRI COUNTIES BANK REVOLVING ACCOUNT APPROVED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR: April 2026 Revolving Account	3	\$
TOTAL OPERATING / REVOLVING ACCOUNT:		\$ <u>1,119,163.30</u>

PAYROLL ACCOUNT:

WRM-WSD TRI COUNTIES BANK PAYROLL ACCOUNT APPROVED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR PPE: May 23, 2026	4	226,000.00	
WRM-WSD TRI COUNTIES BANK PAYROLL ACCOUNT APPROVED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR PPE: June 6, 2026	5	216,000.00	
WRM-WSD TRI COUNTIES BANK PAYROLL ACCOUNT APPROVED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR PPE: , 2026	6		
TOTAL PAYROLL ACCOUNT:		\$ <u>442,000.00</u>	<u>442,000.00</u>

COUNTY TRANSFERS: Transfer SSC / Property Taxes / ACH Deposits to CAMP **2,100,000.00**

TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS: \$ **3,661,163.30**

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
 BUDGET EXPENDITURES REPORT
 PERIOD ENDING APRIL 2026
 (UNAUDITED)

BUDGET CLASS	ANNUAL BUDGET	ANTICIPATED TO DATE	ACTUAL SPENT TO DATE	UNDER/(OVER) BUDGET TO ACTUAL DIFFERENCE	% OF ANTICIPATED TO DATE
PAYROLL SALARIES	4,415,798	1,528,545	1,545,681	(17,136)	101.12%
PAYROLL TAX	332,953	115,253	124,312	(9,059)	107.86%
PAYROLL PERS	547,589	168,489	162,910	5,579	96.69%
PAYROLL HEALTH	1,287,640	429,213	430,353 (a)	(1,140)	100.27%
TOTAL PAYROLL & BENEFITS	6,583,980	2,241,501	2,263,256	(21,755)	100.97%
FUEL & OIL	494,800	164,933	131,417	33,516	79.68%
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	1,867,900	622,633	296,783	325,850	47.67%
SMALL TOOLS & INSTRUMENTS	52,600	17,533	931	16,602	5.31%
WELL MAINTENANCE STANDBY POWER	6,000	2,000	1,964	36	98.20%
COMMUNICATIONS	66,700	22,233	14,077	8,156	63.31%
DIRECTORS PAYROLL & EXPENSES	36,000	12,000	8,480	3,520	70.67%
DIRECTORS HEALTH	255,000	85,000	82,991 (a)	2,009	97.64%
RETIREEES-OPEB	336,000	112,000	126,526 (a)	(14,526)	112.97%
INSURANCE & BONDS	364,800	121,600	93,061	28,539	76.53%
MEMBERSHIPS	102,210	77,921	77,921	-	100.00%
MISC SERVICES & SUPPLIES	72,400	24,133	24,732	(599)	102.48%
OFFICE SERVICES & SUPPLIES	34,700	11,567	6,943	4,624	60.03%
COMPUTER SUPPLIES	160,590	53,530	68,043	(14,513)	127.11%
MAINT. & REPAIR BY OTHERS	329,500	109,833	65,909	43,924	60.01%
PROFESSIONAL & SPECIALIZED-LEGAL	125,000	41,667	43,140	(1,473)	103.54%
PROFESSIONAL & SPECIALIZED-AUDIT	54,000	28,390	28,390	-	0.00%
PROFESSIONAL & SPECIALIZED-OTHER	203,300	67,767	59,010	8,757	87.08%
SGMA - SOKR EXPENSES	100,000	33,333	56,286	(22,953)	168.86%
SGMA - WHITE WOLF GSA EXPENSES	100,000	33,333	52,239	(18,906)	156.72%
SGMA - WRM GSA EXPENSES	293,000	97,667	49,052	48,615	50.22%
LEGAL NOTICES & PUBLICATIONS	17,200	5,733	1,899	3,834	33.12%
RENTED EQUIPMENT	66,400	22,133	11,344	10,789	51.25%
SPECIAL DEPARTMENT EXPENSE	20,400	6,800	6,115	685	89.93%
TRAINING & TRAVEL EXPENSE	80,900	26,967	13,674	13,293	50.71%
UTILITIES	130,200	43,400	40,399	3,001	93.09%
JUDGEMENTS & CLAIMS EXPENSE	6,600	-	-	-	0.00%
CALPERS UNFUNDED LIABILITY	2,000,000	-	-	-	0.00%
CURRENTLY FUNDED ASSETS	890,000	57,000	65,948	(8,948)	115.70%
RESERVE FUNDED ASSETS	3,444,000	-	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES	11,710,200	1,901,108	1,427,274	473,834	75.08%
SUBTOTAL OPERATING COSTS	18,294,180	4,142,608	3,690,530	452,078	89.09%
KCWA F.O.	55,800,000	55,799,993	55,799,993	-	100.00%
KCWA VARIABLE	10,667,060	10,664,987	10,664,987	-	100.00%
DISTRICT POWER-PUMPS	20,046,584	20,018,789	20,018,789	-	100.00%
TOTAL WATER BUDGET	86,513,644	86,483,769	86,483,769	-	100.00%
GRAND TOTAL	104,807,824	90,626,377	90,174,299	452,078	99.50%
(a) Health Insurance combined	1,878,640	626,213	639,870	(13,657)	102.18%

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES BUDGET - PERIOD ENDING APRIL 2026									
		BUDGET				ACTUAL (net of trade or sale)			
QTY	DESCRIPTION	BGT COST PER ITEM	TOTAL BUDGET	CURRENT FUNDED	RESERVE FUNDED	TOTAL TO DATE	CURRENT FUNDED	RESERVE FUNDED	% OF BGT.
ENGINEERING:									
1	Drill Two Replacement Supply Wells	2,100,000	2,100,000	-	2,100,000	-	-	-	0%
8	WRM10 Large Pump Units, 17 & 44 CFS	210,000	1,680,000	336,000	1,344,000	-	-	-	0%
1	Portion of 6P Lateral Pipeline Replacement	300,000	300,000	300,000	-	-	-	-	0%
	SUBTOTAL		4,080,000	636,000	3,444,000	-	-	-	0%
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:									
1	Compact SUV	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	-	-	-	0%
1	Mid-Sized Crew Cab 4X4	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	-	-	-	0%
1	1/2 Ton Reg Cab Pickup #175	27,000	27,000	27,000	-	29,252	29,252	-	108%
1	1/2 Ton Ext Cab Pickup #176	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	36,696	36,696	-	122%
1	3/4 Ton Pickup	32,000	32,000	32,000	-	-	-	-	0%
1	1 Ton Cab / Chassis Utility	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	-	-	0%
1	1-1/2 Ton Cab / Chassis Utility	55,000	55,000	55,000	-	-	-	-	0%
	SUBTOTAL		254,000	254,000	-	65,948	65,948	-	26%
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES			4,334,000	890,000	3,444,000	65,948	65,948	-	

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-XX

DECLARING INTENTION TO FIX CHARGES AUTHORIZED BY WATER CODE SECTIONS 43006 AND 47180 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE, GENERAL SERVICE, AND PROJECT SERVICE RENDERED BY THE WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT AND TO ORDER THAT THE SAME BE COLLECTED FROM ALL PERSONS RECEIVING THE BENEFIT OF SUCH SERVICES (CALENDAR YEAR 2026 - 2027)

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the District has determined that it will be necessary, in order to obtain funds to meet expenses of the District, incurred by reason of Administrative Service, General Service, and Project Service rendered by the District, to fix charges and order collection thereof for all persons receiving the benefit of such services, or any of them, all as provided in Sections 43006 and 47180 of the Water Code of the State of California.

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

1. Said Board does hereby declare its intention to fix charges to obtain funds in an amount sufficient to meet expenses of the District, incurred by reason of Administrative Service, General Service and Project Service rendered by the District and order that such charges be collected from all persons receiving the benefits of such services, which charges shall be proportional, as nearly as practicable, to the services rendered, all as provided in Sections 43006 and 47180 of the Water Code of the State of California.
2. That the hour of 9:45 A.M., June 10, 2026, at the office of the District on Maricopa Highway approximately six miles west of Mettler, California, is the time and place when the matter of fixing such charges will be considered an open meeting of the Board.
3. That a copy of this Resolution of Intention shall be published once a week for two successive weeks in the Bakersfield Californian, a newspaper of general circulation in Kern County, California.
4. That at the time and place so appointed, the Board shall meet in an open meeting and shall consider the matter of fixing such charges and ordering the collection thereof from all those persons receiving the benefits of said services, or any of them, and hear any objections thereto.
5. That the foregoing resolution is in compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the District establishing a procedure for fixing such charges.

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

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of this District as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on the 13th day of May 2026.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Board of Directors this 13th day of May 2026.

(Seal)

Treasurer of the Board of Directors



ENGINEER-MANAGER'S REPORT

APRIL
2026



**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: MAY 8, 2026

SUBJECT: ENGINEER-MANAGER’S MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2026

During the months of April, the District delivered 12, 402 acre-feet consisting of the water types described below. Of the total quantity delivered, 202 acre-feet was delivered for industrial use, with the remainder being delivered for agricultural use. This is more than average when compared to the projected deliveries of approximately 11,000 acre-feet, based on the “typical average surface water demand 2015-2025” 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- 2026	Jan-Mar	Apr	YTD
2026 SWP Entitlement (a)	3,893	9,222	13,115
2025 Carryover (estimate) (b)	6,745	2,087	8,832
Mettler Water Bank (c)	523	-	523
Pastoria/TRC	347	85	432
Granite/TRC	181	8	188
Supplemental Supplies	-	-	-
Landowner Water Transfer	-	1,000	1,000
User Input-District Wells	-	-	-
User Input-Private	-	-	-
Type of Delivery			
Irrigation	11,145	12,296	23,442
Industrial Contract	528	93	621
Other Industrial	17	14	30
Subtotal: In-District Deliveries	2,608	12,403	24,093
Kern Fan Recharge Deliveries estimates			
Kern Water Bank (c)	3,651	-	3,651
Pioneer Project + 2800 Acres (c)	2,881	-	2,881
Total Deliveries	9,140	12,403	30,625

(a) Assumes a 2026 allocation of 197,088 acre-feet (100%)

(b) An estimated 15,000 acre-feet was carried over from 2025 into 2026. Of this, Water User carryover was approximately 4,345 acre-feet. 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

New District Employees. Britton Armstrong and Jason Buege have recently joined the District family. We welcome them to the District and look forward to working with them.

New ACWA Executive Director. Karla Nemeth, the current DWR Director, was announced as the new Executive Director at the ACWA Conference on May 6. She is scheduled to leave DWR at the beginning of July, and will begin at ACWA on September 1.

CALPine Pastoria Energy Event. On April 16 I attended CalPine's Pastoria 2045 Event at the Pastoria Energy Facility. The new solar field will be used to provide power to the State Water Project to fulfill its obligations under SB 1020 which set a requirement of a renewable and zero-carbon power portfolio for the SWP by 2035.

Tom Clark - Oildale Honoree. I recently attended an event where the former Kern County Water Agency General Manager Tom Clark was honored on the Oildale Wall of Fame. Speakers included current KCWA General Manager Eric Averett, former KCWA Water Resources Manager, Gary Bucher, and Mr. Clark's daughter, Krista Sherlock.

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 Pine is currently working with adjacent landowners to site the batteries.

White Wolf GSA.

- The White Wolf GSA meeting for May 5 was cancelled.
- The WWGSA held a stakeholder workshop on April 30.
- Next scheduled White Wolf GSA Board Meeting is June 2.

Coordination between SOKR GSA's

- The Next Executive Committee meeting is May 14

Kern Subbasin Coordination

- Biweekly Managers Meetings
- Monthly Subbasin Meetings
- Subbasin working on possible GSP revisions due to DWR Subsidence BMP document.
- Meetings with Self Help, DWR-SGMO, and CASP

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
- Dec 9 SWRCB Letter Sending Subbasin to DWR
- DWR Review of Kern Subbasin Plan (potentially 2 years)

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

Apr 06 State Legislative Call
Apr 09 AE/WRM
Apr 09 AECA Briefing
Apr 09 Member Unit Managers
Apr 10 Kern Subbasin Managers

Apr 10 Kern Water Collaborative
Apr 14 Committee For Delta Reliability
Apr 14 KWBGSA/KWB Board
Apr 15 WRMWSD Board
Apr 15 White Wolf Technical Committee

Apr 16 CalPine Pastoria 2045 Event
Apr 17 CVC Negotiations
Apr 17 ACWA Special Board of Directors
Apr 20 White Wolf GSA & DWR
Apr 20 ACWA Ag Committee

Apr 20 ACWA Briefing - ACWA Vision
Apr 21 Special Member Unit Managers
Apr 21 CVC Tour
Apr 22 CVC Advisory Committee
Apr 22 WRM-13

Apr 23 Gilkey & Gianquinto
Apr 23 South Valley Water Resources Authority
Apr 23 KCWA Board Meeting
Apr 24 Kern Subbasin Managers
Apr 27 California Farm Water Coalition Board

Apr 27 Kern Non-Districted Lands Authority
Apr 29 DWR/CASP Shallow Subsidence Presentation
Apr 29 CVC Negotiations
Apr 30 Gianquinto & Gilkey
Apr 30 Special Member Units Managers

RETIRED ANNUITANT REPORT – R. KUNDE

Delta Conveyance Project - Submittal to Delta Stewardship Council (DSC). On April 23, by a 6-1 vote, the Delta Stewardship Council found the DCP compliant to the Delta Plan with two caveats. DWR must further address (a) if the project could worsen the invasive golden mussel problem and (b) concerns about possible conflicts with Sacramento-area recycled water systems. This is a significant positive milestone for the DCP.

Delta Conveyance Project – Validation Action for Bonds. In order to finance the DCP, DWR has to issue bonds. Prior to issuance, DWR chose to seek a court’s finding that such issuance could be repaid through State Water Project contract charges to Contractors through a “First” Validation Action. On April 23, the California Supreme Court refused to review a Trial Court and subsequent Appellate Court ruling that found that issuance of such bonds under the terms and conditions proposed in the First Action would not be consistent with the existing State Water Project contracts for billing purposes.

After the Trial Court ruling, DWR filed a “Second” Validation Action intended to cure the deficiencies identified by the Trial Court. The Second Action is proceeding toward a decision.

Delta Conveyance Project - Water Right Hearing and Schedule. (*NEW information is below*) The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Administrative Hearing Officer (AHO) conducted 6 days of Hearings in March *and no Hearings in April* on DWR’s Petition (Change in Point of Diversion - CPOD) for the DCP. The current Hearing schedule through Summer 2026 is as follows:

*Protestants’ rebuttal portion of the Public Hearing will begin on
June 1, 2026, and continue on June 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 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 March 27, the AHO ruled in favor of the Delta Tribal Environmental Coalition’s November 21, 2025 evidentiary objections to DWR’s exhibits and related testimony regarding tribal resources. Said exhibits and testimony were removed from the administrative record, but DWR, under certain conditions, could reintroduce this testimony during surrebuttal.

On April 13, the AHO directed DWR to submit additional information regarding groundwater impacts to the AHO by April 27.

Sites Reservoir - Draft Water Right Issued for Public Comment. On March 20, the SWRCB released for public comment its:

- a. 174 page DRAFT “*Decision Conditionally Approving Water Right Application for the Sites Reservoir Project and Denying Assignment of State-filed Application and Release from Priority of State-filed Applications*”, and
- b. 123 page DRAFT “*Permit to Divert and Use Water*”,
for the Sites Reservoir Project. A high level summary of these DRAFTS was provided in the March Engineer-Manager’s Report. Some terms of the DRAFTs were more burdensome and restrictive than the terms included in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for the Sites Project. The effect of the draft Order and Permit, if adopted as proposed, would reduce the Project Yield and increase the unit costs of water from the Project.

On April 2 and April 17, the Sites Project held closed sessions to review and discuss the drafts. No reportable actions were taken.

Public comments on the DRAFTs are due to the Administrative Hearing Office on May 22, 2026. The Sites Water Right Application was submitted to the SWRCB on May 11, 2022.

The anticipated schedule for further water right consideration is:

May 22	Deadline for public comments due to AHO. The District plans to submit comments.
July	Revised Draft Decision and Permit submitted to SWRCB by AHO
August	Public Hearing and Comments Due on Revised Draft to SWRCB
September	SWRCB Decision

Caution: Anticipated schedules during this proceeding have often been delayed.

Sites Reservoir - 2026 Decision Schedule. The key dates for Participant decisions are:

July	Presentation of the Sites Project Baseline Report incorporating costs, yield, financing, and cash flows.
July	Resolution to Offer Capacity to Sites Participants
July - October	Investor Commitment period - Participant decisions on participation level for Phase 3 including commitment to repay future bonds.
Nov - December	Initiate and draw on interim financing for Phase 3
Jan 2027	Start Phase 3 (final design, land acquisitions, construction planning and initiation)

Sites Reservoir - April Joint Meeting of Sites Project Authority (SPA) and Reservoir Project Committee (RPC). At its April 17, 2026 meeting, the SPA and/or RPC approved the usual consent agenda (minutes, treasurer's report, accounts payable), and rescheduling the July Board meeting from July 17 to July 24.

Action items were as follows.

1. After review, the Executive Director was authorized to execute the Exchange Agreement between the Sites Project Authority and the California Department of Water Resources governing voluntary exchanges of water between the Sites Project and the State Water Project, subject to final legal review and approval. Such exchanges would provide greater flexibility for delivery of Sites water to participating State Water Project Contractors.
2. After review, the Executive Director was authorized to execute an agreement with Reclamation related to accepting and conveying Incremental Level 4 refuge water as part of the Sites Project's Proposition 1 ecosystem benefits, conditioned on no substantial changes from the terms described in the staff report.

Discussion items were as follows.

3. The Boards heard public comment on possible revisions to the Sites Project Construction Workforce Policy from 8 individuals representing unions. Seven supported the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) approach developed by Barnard Construction - the Reservoir and Roads Construction Manager at Risk. The Northern California Carpenters Union opposed that approach and the addition of Solano County to the Local Area Definition. After public comment, the Boards provided feedback to staff on possible revisions to the Policy:
 - a. Propose a slightly modified CMAR Contractor approach for alternative project delivery Project Labor Agreements (PLA) to strengthen labor harmony and workforce stability with union labor based on lessons learned from the Reservoir Construction Manager At Risk procurement.
 - b. Add Solano County within the Local Area definition.
 - c. Implement local hauling as non-covered work as reflected in the Reservoir PLA. Staff advised that negotiating another PLA for the Conveyance CMAR package would result in a delay in the critical path for the Project and thereby increase Project costs.
4. The Assistant Construction Manager provided the status update of the Conveyance Package Construction Manager at Risk procurement process for the Sites Project.
5. Information was provided on upcoming negotiations with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on an Excess Capacity Agreement for the Tehama Colusa Canal. Due to existing federal law and policy, Reclamation can agree to agree

to provide such capacity when available, but no guarantee can be made of any specific physical capacity for conveyance of Sites water. However, modeling of the canal and water demands indicate such capacity sufficient for Sites' purposes exists.

6. The updated conditions precedent quarterly status report was presented. In particular, the Schedule was adjusted to reflect the expected final draft water right order from the AHO in July. In order to make timely decisions for participation in Phase 3 of the Project starting in 2027 and address existing funding expected to be used up in 2026, the "escrow period" for decisions regarding Phase 3 participation (including execution of Benefits and Obligations Contracts and initiation of construction loans) was shortened to the July to October time frame (from a six month time frame).

A Closed session was also held on various matters with no reportable action taken.

The next regular joint Sites Project Authority/Reservoir Project Committee Meeting will be held on May 22, 2026. A special joint meeting will be held on May 8 to discuss elements of the drafts of the Benefits and Obligations Contract, the Joint Powers Authority agreement, and the Bylaws.

Sites Reservoir - District Participation Changes. (*NEW information is below*). Per Board actions taken in December, the District, Santa Clara Valley Water District and the Sites Project Authority approved and/or executed an *Assignment* of 1000 acre-feet of Sites participation (out of the total District participation of 3050 acre-feet) from the District to Santa Clara Valley Water District on behalf of District grower Booth Ranches LLC.

(*NEW*) As reported last month, all 20 Reservoir Committee members completed written approvals of the *Assignment* setting the effective date thereof as April 2, 2026. After receipt on March 23 of the \$30,000 initial deposit from Santa Clara, the remainder of the \$608,500 payment (\$578,500) was billed to Santa Clara and due on May 2. Up to \$10,000 in District costs to develop and execute the *Assignment* remain to be billed.

Sites Reservoir - Grower Communications. On April 10, the District's Sites Reservoir Report for March was emailed to Participating Growers. On April 13, a Participating Growers video conference was held to provide an update on Sites matters.

Other Matters. Information on possible utilization of DWR flowmeter signals for Golden Mussel feed pump control treatments was provided to the O&M Superintendent and Director of Water Resources.

Meetings. The Retired Annuitant attended the following meetings:

- Apr 14 Committee for Delta Reliability
- Apr 09 Delta Conveyance Project - Policy Briefing
- Apr 21 Delta Conveyance Project - Policy Briefing
- Apr 30 Delta Conveyance Project - Policy Briefing
- Apr 08 Sites Reservoir - Coordination Committee
- Apr 13 Sites Reservoir - District Grower Participant Meeting
- Apr 17 Sites Reservoir - Joint Sites Authority/Reservoir Committee Board of Directors
- Apr 08 Sites Reservoir - Operations and Engineering Work Group
- Apr 15 WRMWSD - Board of Directors
- Apr 27 WRMWSD - Online Security Training

DIRECTOR OF WATER RESOURCES REPORT – E. MCDARIS

2026 State Water Project Allocation – 30%

On December 1st, 2025, DWR announced the initial 2026 State Water Project allocation of 10%. On January 29th, DWR announced an increase to the 2026 allocation raising it to 30% where it remains at this time. 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 30% allocation is *nearly* 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). 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 April 27th DWR analysis results for 2026 are as follows (values in acre-feet).

Source/SVI	Below Normal	Below Normal	Above Normal	Above Normal
SWP Allocation	32%	38%	43%	51%
OMR Restriction [a]	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Prob. Of Exceedance [b]	90%	75%	50%	25%
District Supply	63,068	74,893	84,748	100,515

[a] Average Old and Middle River reverse flow restrictions (cfs) from December 2025 to July 2026.

[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 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 54% per DWR’s *Draft Delivery Capability* report 2025). 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.

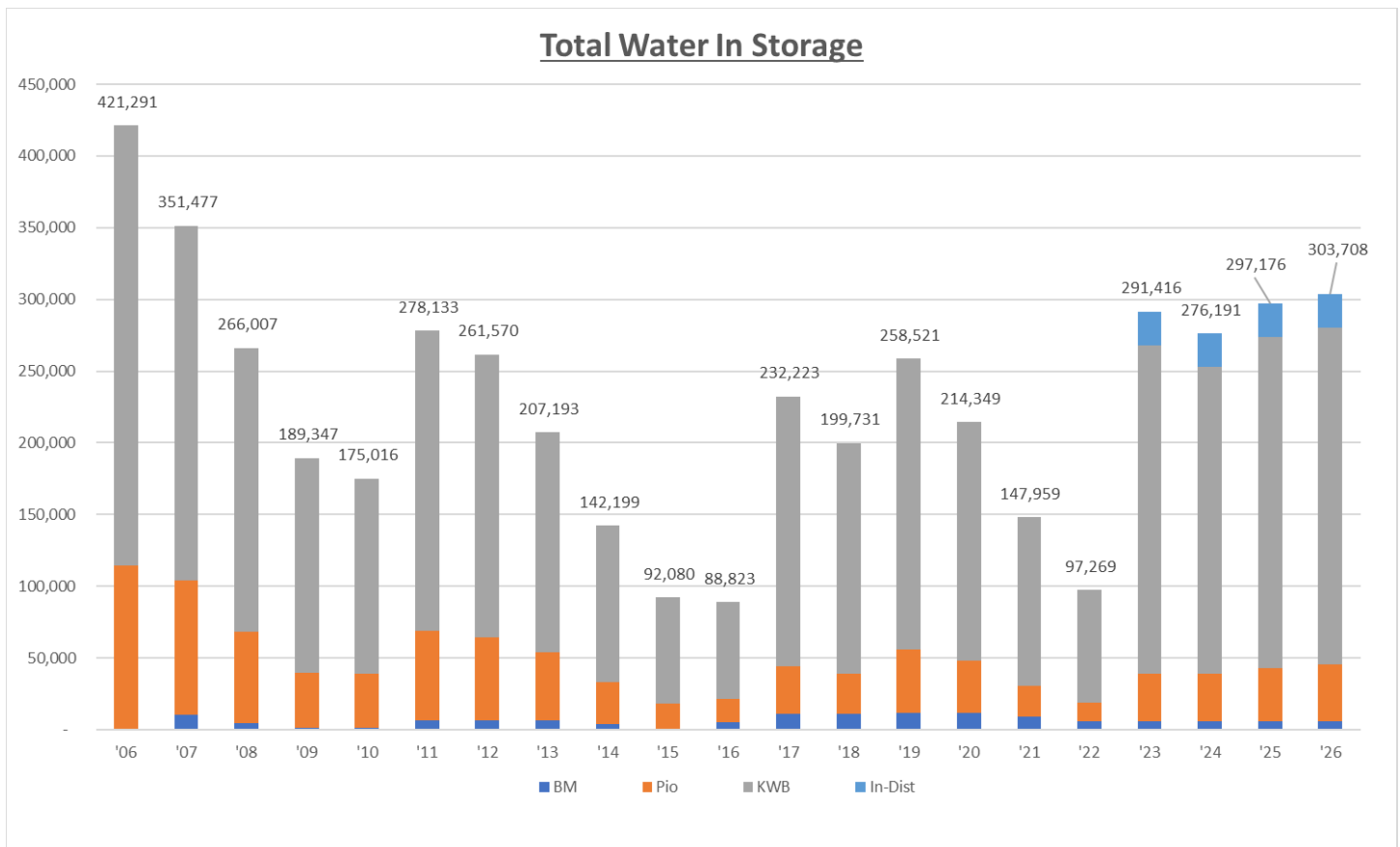
The “*Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Tabulation*” index of rain and snow water content for the Sacramento, Feather, Yuba and American River Basins in April was 7.8 inches, or 181% of the monthly average of 4.3 inches. *Accumulation* for the season is as follows:

Current Amount – October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026,	49.1”
Seasonal Average to Date	48.4”
Seasonal Percent of Average to Date	101%
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 April was 5.7 inches, which is 162% of historical average (3.5 inches). *Accumulation* for the season is 34.1 inches, which is 93% of the seasonal average of 36.4 inches.

Carryover and Spill Conditions.

The District continually reviews current San Luis Reservoir (SLR) storage levels (May 1, 2026: 85% capacity, 103% of average) to determine optimum carryover amounts. End of month San Luis Reservoir conditions were as follows:



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

- 4/1, 4/6, 4/17, 4/27, 4/29 – Golden Mussel, KCWA Task Force, SePRO/GreenLeaf, Prop 4 webinar
- 4/1, 4/22 – Watermark Platform Introduction
- 4/2, 4/13, 4/17 – Sites
- 4/7, 4/14, 4/28 – Supervisors Mtg
- 4/7, 4/9, 4/21, 4/22, 4/23, 4/28, 4/30 – KCWA Ops Update, MU Mgr, KCWA BOD, CVC Advisory, CVC Tour
- 4/7/2026 – WWA Banked Water Valuation
- 4/8, 4/14, 4/22, 4/29 – Bi-Weekly Sync Meeting
- 4/1, 4/8, 4/10, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29 – Westside 5 Weekly Call, Strategy Meeting
- 4/8/2026 – Board Meeting
- 4/9/2026 – Monthly AE/WRM Meeting
- 4/9, 4/27 – SWC Water Operations Committee
- 4/10, 4/14, 4/15, 4/20, 4/24, 4/29, 4/30 – Kern Subbasin Managers, SOKR, WWGSA, CASP
- 4/13/2026 – Kern PMA benefits accounting
- 4/13/2026 – WS5/SCV
- 4/13/2026 – GWSC Presentation Review
- 4/14/2026 – KWB GSA & BOD
- 4/14/2026 – WRM/Silvertip
- 4/16/2026 – Tri Counties Bank – Integrated Payables
- 4/22/2026 – Safety Meeting Fire- Extinguisher
- 4/27/2026 – KNDLA Regular Board Meeting
- 4/28/2026 – ACWA Groundwater Banking Working Group Meeting

The Contract Administrator’s Work Included:

Contract/Water Allocation Work.

Contract Processing

- Contract(s): 51, 69.11, 69L, 70
 - Received Grant Deeds
 - Drafted/Finalized Assumption Agreements
 - Pending notarized signatures from the Landowner
- Contract(s): 25A
 - Finalized Contract Correctory Agreement
 - Received notarized signatures from all parties
 - Pending recording at the Kern County Recorder’s Office
- Contract(s): 43 & 103
 - Finalized Assumption Agreements
 - Received notarized signatures from all parties
 - Pending recording at the Kern County Recorder’s Office
- Contract(s): 124A18
 - Received agreements back from Landowner
 - Pending notarized Board signatures
- Contract(s): 14, 95, & 120A
 - Received agreements back from the Kern County Recorder’s Office
 - Completed Post Recording Procedures
- Contract(s): 14, 124A18A, & 69L
 - Completed Post Recording Procedures

Landowner Assistance.

Provided assistance to Landowners and Water Users regarding water allocations, ledger balances, account status, program participation, water transaction processing, etc.

<u>Type of Assistance</u>	<u>Number Assisted:</u>
• 2026 SWP Allocation/Supp/Returns	06
• 2025 Carryover/Water Usage	04
• Water Costs/Allocation/General Questions	02
• APN Verification (Appraiser Requests)	03
• Non-contract User District Information	02
• Farming Unit Operation changes/questions.	02
• Second Priority Sub-Account Program/Requests	02
• GWSC Information Requests	04
• Water for Sale Announcement via email	
• Provide Water User(s) with Seller’s contact information	
• Title Demand Request	
• Water Transfers	03
• Water Returns	
• Farming Unit Operation Agreements/Changes	02

Other Tasks.

- Important Notices via email to Landowners/Water Users
 - 4/08/2026 Golden Mussel Treatment
 - 4/27/2026 DWR Flow Testing 5/6/26
 - 4/27/26 Golden Mussel Treatment - Update
- Completed weekly water schedule updates, reconciling variances with Dispatch and Controller.
 - Low Water Balance Notices
 - Worked with Controller & Operations on End of Month Water Reports & Non-Contract Accounts.
 - Worked with Dispatch/Accounting to resolve low/negative Water User Accounts

- 2026 WSC Delinquency:
 - Contract 25A/163- sent payment reminder to Water User- delinquency balanced paid, shortly after.
 - Contract 124A09/124A25- sent payment reminder to Water User
- 2024 GWSC Delinquencies
 - 4/29/2026- District filed a Release of Delinquency for Water User – Westland Farms, forbearance agreement paid in full.
- Assisted Executive Assistant and Accounting Department with Mail Distribution/Cash Receipts/Cash Deposit Scan process
- Assisted in current/ongoing discussions:
 - Bankruptcy Notices/Proof of Claim regarding a Contract Water User
 - GWSC Delinquencies
 - Extension collections of 2nd Priority Sub-Account Agreement holders
- 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:

- Apr 08 Contract TO Variance Project Meeting
- Apr 14 Bi-Weekly Sync Meeting
- Apr 15 Board Meeting
- Apr 16 SSC Seminar -in person
- Apr 21 CVC Tour with KCWA
- Apr 29 Bi-Weekly Sync Meeting

ACCOUNTING ACTIVITIES – J. SMITH

Controller’s Report:

2026 Water Allocations, Deliveries, and Billings The April water reports were mailed on May 4. On December 1, 2025, DWR announced an initial SWP allocation of 10% of CAW. The DWR announced a revised allocation of 30% on January 29. Current allocations and usage are:

<u>As of 4/30/2026</u>	<u>Acre-Feet</u>
SWP	200,818.00
Carry Over	4,343.48
User Input	96.14
Transfers In	1,000.00
Transfers to KWB	(3,230.40)
Returns	(4,010.00)
Total Supply	199,017.22
Deliveries (Jan-Apr)	(23,441.61)
Unused	175,575.61

2026 Contract and Non-Contract Water Billings and Delinquencies.

- The 4 of 8 contract water billings were mailed on April 27
- The 3 of 6 noncontract billings were mailed on April 27

Contract Water Delinquencies as of April 30, 2026.

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Customer</u>	<u>Billing</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Contract Acres</u>	<u>Delinq. \$/Acre</u>
0038	Almond Blossom Ranch, LLC	11,735.58	1,173.56	64.55	12,973.69	322.59	40.22
	Total	11,735.58	1,173.56	64.55	12,973.69	322.59	40.22

NonContract Water Delinquencies as of April 30, 2026.

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Customer</u>	<u>Billing</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
1869	Maricopa Farms, LLC	5,393.60	539.36		5,932.96
	Total	5,393.60	539.36	-	5,932.96

2024/2025 Ground Water Service Charge Delinquencies as of March 31, 2026.

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Customer</u>	<u>Billing</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Field Acres</u>	<u>Delinq. \$/Acre</u>
2180	Almond Blossom Ranch, LLC	130,903.50	10,324.67	10,948.59	152,176.76	279.92	543.64
1010	Biane JP Living Trust	13,762.45	1,376.26	700.50	15,839.21	90.00	175.99
1060	K & B Inv Fund	3,419.50	341.96	205.31	3,966.77	99.11	40.02
1080	LNZ Prosperity, LLC	26,914.61	503.13	1,327.84	28,745.58	322.32	89.18
1090	New Sunny International, LLC	3,610.84	298.40	38.52	3,947.76	61.69	63.99
1090	New Sunny International, LLC	1,077.00	170.39	769.47	2,016.86	61.69	32.69
2150	Old River Farm, Inc. et. al.	80,462.75	8,046.28	4,386.71	92,895.74	365.69	254.03
	Total	260,150.65	21,061.09	18,376.94	299,588.68	1,280.42	233.98
	Grand Totals	277,279.83	22,774.01	18,441.49	318,495.33		

Controller Report-Smith:

2025 Audit Update. Staff continues to work with BHK on the 2025 audit and anticipates a draft audit by May 8 and will begin work on the MD&A at that time. The Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for June 4. BHK to present the audit at the June 10 Board meeting.

Meetings:

- Apr 14 Meeting with Kern County Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer to review operations and interest apportionments.
- Apr 15 Break9 demo of water accounting software database
- Apr 16 Tri Counties Bank Integrated Payables Training
- Apr 21 Tour of the CVC facilities

The Assistant Controller's activities included:

- Processed accounts payable
- Completed reports for Board
- Reconciled bank accounts
- Attended Accounting Department meetings
- Processed checks and completed reports for CDR
- Invoiced water users for short run/industrial/miscellaneous water charges
- Distributed water reports to landowners
- Assisted Controller with water orders, returns, and transfers
- Completed JPIA Job Descriptions training
- April 14 – met with Kern County Treasurer Jordan Kaufman
- April 16 – attended Special Assessment Seminar
- April 21 – attended tour of Cross Valley Canal
- Began training on processing payroll
- Completed 10 hours Continuing Professional Education

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 April 50k life worksheet
- Updated the April cell audit sheet
- Prepared burden checks
- Made online burden payments
- Entered the 3/28 and 4/11 CalPERS data and submitted the payments
- Generated the CalPERS report breakdown for each pay period
- April meetings requested from the directors
- Prepared and submitted the monthly payroll
- Updated the ACWA, HealthEdge Administration, HealthEdge Claims spreadsheets and vouchers for May invoices
- Completed the April burden journal entries
- Reconciled payroll account for April
- Completed the Government Compensation in California report for 2025
- Completed the CES report for April
- Completed the Expense and Compensation sheet
- Completed the payroll voucher estimates
- Completed the payroll fund sheet
- Completed daily deposits
- Requested safety incentives
- Filed AP invoices
- Completed the monthly security training course

Employee Committee

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

Meetings/Training

- Attended accounting department meetings
- Attended the Employee Committee meeting

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 AEWS.

White Wolf Basin GSA:

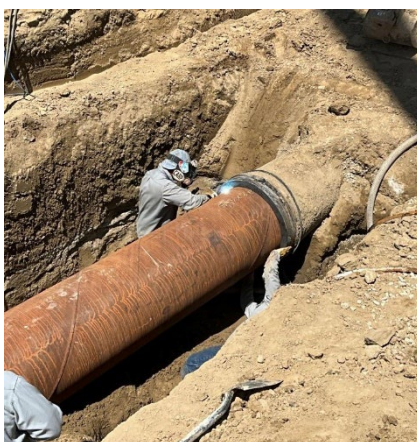
- On April 1st, the Staff Engineer and Staff Geologist, in the company of Tejon Ranch personnel, made a geologic reconnaissance of the upland area where Tejon Creek joins Chanac Creek. A certain growth of water-loving plants located in this vicinity was identified as a potential “groundwater dependent ecosystem” (GDE) in the White Wolf GSP, but the Staff Engineer believes the plant community should be removed from the GSP because they are hydraulically disconnected from the principal White Wolf basin aquifer. It is believed that evidence can be presented to show that the creek flows across a shallow subcrop (like a buried rock outcrop) of igneous rock in this location, forcing percolating creek water to the surface and also hydraulically isolating this reach of the Tejon Creek from the valley.
- 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.

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

- Engineering Department personnel provided support to the O&M Department during an unusually complex pipe repair that took place outside the 8P-P2 Pumping Plant during the month. In this instance a 40-foot section of 28-inch-diameter asbestos-concrete pipe was replaced with steel, and Engineering staff assisted with plans, dimensions, repair options, and cathodic protection. Four new sacrificial anodes were pin brazed directly to the new steel section and a new cathodic test station was provided.



Moving steel pipe into position



Welding the joint



Sealing test station leads with epoxy

- Engineering Department staff responded to 230 underground services alerts (USAs) during this period, eventually marking a total of 2.6 miles of District pipelines.
 - Field inspections were made and as-built notes were collected while:
 - A contractor crossed the District’s C-1-1 Lateral with a 15-inch-diameter PVC irrigation pipeline.
 - An oil services contractor crossed the 4P-E Lateral with a 1-inch-diameter plastic conduit.

Corrosion Protection:

- Current rectifiers were read for cathodic potential at nine pumping plants and minor adjustments were made as needed.
- A new current rectifier was installed at the WRM 6 Pumping Plant. New electrical leads to the hydropneumatic (HP) tank were also installed and the system was placed back on line.
- Sacrificial anodes were replaced at the WRM 9 Pumping Plant forebay with the assistance of the O&M Department.

Groundwater Service Charges (GWSCs):

- Significant time and effort were devoted to updating land ownership records.
- During April, the Assistant Engineer visited 22 private supply wells to verify the landowner-reported meter readings.
- A number of input files for 2026 GWSCs were prepared including tabulations of evapotranspiration, rainfall, surface deliveries, and metered well pumping.
 - Two new applications to use a landowner well meter were received and forwarded to Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group for their review.
- During the month, three well meter applications were approved by Provost and Pritchard, but two others were put on hold pending corrections to the discharge manifolds.

Crop Surveys: Field checks continued as part of the 2026 spring crop survey, requiring about 4 man-days of effort and by month's end, the survey was essentially 100% complete.

Direct Landowner Services: The following engineering assistance was provided to landowners or members of the general public:

- The Assistant Engineer continued to participate in a county-wide cooperative effort to help Kern County update its Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- AEWS staff were provided with water level data from the District's spring 2026 survey. Similar records were also received from AEWS and incorporated into the District's water level database.
- The O&M Department was provided with electrical detail drawings for the WRM 10 Pumping Plant in support of their efforts to help GreelLeaf Ag set up chemical applicators at WRM 10.
- A right-of-ways consultant was provided with drawings of the 10P Lateral.
- A Water User was provided with general plan drawings of the WRM 14, WRM 15, 15G-P1, and 15G-P2 pumping plants.

Maps and Records:










- Various improvements were made to the District's databases of pipelines, turnouts, air valves, and land use.
- In recent years, most District pipe repairs have involved some use of PVC pipe to replace older, existing materials. In April, a project was begun to research and tabulate the inside and outside diameters of District pipelines, which consist of many types and materials (such as asbestos-concrete and mortar-coated steel), so that repair couplers can be pre-purchased to accommodate every potential transition to PVC.

Meetings Attended:

April 7	KCWA Operations Conf. Call
April 9	Golden Mussel Workshop, San Diego
April 10	Kern Subbasin Managers
April 15	White Wolf Technical Committee
April 20	White Wolf GSP Periodic Evaluation Check-in With DWR
April 21	CVC Tour with KCWA
April 22	Watermark Platform Vendor Demonstration
April 27	Golden Mussel Task Force
April 28	KCWA Operations Conf. Call
April 29	DWR Presentation on September 2025 Shallow Subsidence Report
April 29	AEWS-WRMWS Engineering Departments Meet and Greet






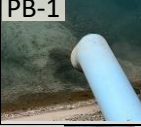



District Well Status Summary

As of April 30, 2026

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 635' on 4/23/2026.	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. A 1/19/2026 video log showed what could be holes in the casing at approximately the same depth as the old pump setting (744-747'). It is not known whether it would be feasible to patch 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 570' on 4/23/2026.	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 578' on 4/23/2026	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 595' on 4/23/2026.	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 708' on 4/23/2026.	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 674' on 4/22/2026.	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 592' on 4/23/2026.	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 734' on 4/23/2026.	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 4/23/2026.	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 April 30, 2026

Well Name	Status / Description of the Problem	Most Recent Activity	Next Planned Activity
Currently in Running Condition			
 #C1	Currently off. SWL was 615' on 3/27/2026.	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 558' on 4/23/2026.	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 4/23/2026.	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 properly abandon the hole by grouting in 2026. The site location is very favorable, and it is recommended that a new well should be drilled to replace the collapsed well.
 #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 should be converted to a monitoring well and that a replacement well be drilled.
 #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.		

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA FOR GREENLEE'S PASTURE

Parameter	April 2026	Since 10/01/2025	Days Occurred in April
Maximum Temperature	90°	92°	6th
Minimum Temperature	40°	40°	8th
No. Days at or over 100° F	0	0	N/A
No. Days at or under 32° F	0	0	N/A
Precipitation (inches)	0.70	8.45	31st
Evaporation (inches)	6.82	26.46	----
Wind Run	OOS	OOS	----

STORAGE IN MAJOR RESERVOIRS (Acre-Feet)

Reservoir	Capacity	Storage at End of April	
		2025	2026
Shasta	4,552,000	4,395,890	4,140,355
Oroville	3,538,000	3,277,491	3,319,917
San Luis (Total)	2,028,000	1,679,984	1,733,128
San Luis (State Share)	1,062,000 (a)	858,980	954,325
Folsom	977,000	901,639	922,222
Isabella	361,250 (b)	298,706	367,069
Millerton	520,000	431,267	464,383
TOTALS	11,976,250	10,984,977	10,947,074

(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 in Lake Isabella = 568,075 AF on May 1; 170,000 AF from Nov 1 - Jan 1; 245,000 AF from February 1-28; between 245,000 and 361,250 AF from March 1-30; 361,250 AF on April 1

NR Not reported as of this publication

OOS Out Of Service

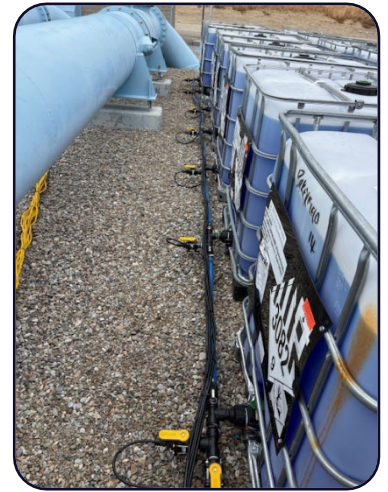
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES – G. LOVELESS

Safety/Administrative Training

Safety meeting on Code of Safe Practices *Fire Prevention Plan*.

Field/System Maintenance

- Completed various trouble reports across the District.
- Spot sprayed Roundup herbicide around various turnouts and well sites.
- Trenched for electrical conduit at WRM-6.
- 4/13/26 – Began molluscicide treatment (Earthtec QZ) at WRM-10.
- Disced weeds and box scraped spill basin.
- 4/28/26 – Applied aquatic herbicide (Teton) to 850 Canal.
- Assembled new storage racks in open face building and began organizing parts and materials.



Golden Mussel Treatment at WRM-10



Pipeline Repair

- 4/02/26, 1030 hours - 5GA-2 lateral isolated for repair to turnout 5G25 isolation valve. Work was completed and service resumed 4/3/25, 1245 hours.
- 4/14/26, 1330 hours – Repair was completed on turnout 9G30A after previously reported damage.
- 4/17/26, 0330 hours - Leak reported on 8P lateral. A section of mainline was replaced, including the mainline valve for the 8P-3 lateral. Service restored 4/26/26, 1746 hours.



8P Lateral Leak



Power Outage

- 4/09/26, 0650 hours – Power outage WRM-6, WRM-7 WRM-8, WRM-9, and District office. Power was restored 0720 hours and service resumed 1230 hours.
- 4/11/26, 0610 hours – Power outage PA-2, PB-2, WRM-13B, WRM-14, WRM-15. Service restored 4/12/26, 0900 hours.
- 4/13/26, 1530 hours - Power outage 8P-P2. Service restored 1850 hours.

Pump/Electrical

- Replaced video monitor in Dispatch office.
- Serviced A/C unit for Pump / Electrical office.
- Replaced corroded battery cables on manlift.
- Replaced leaking air valve and gate valve on unit #8, WRM-4.
- Replaced thermostat and blower motor capacitor on A/C unit at WRM-4.
- Replaced photocells on two yard lights at 4P-P2.
- Retorqued pump shaft motor coupler on unit #5.
- Replaced packing on unit #1 at 6P-P2.
- Repaired leak in air compressor line at 7P-P3.
- Ran power to individual pumping units and installed a junction box with relays to control dosing pumps for injecting molluscicide at WRM-10.
- Separated and cleaned stuck starter contacts on unit #2 at PB-1.
- Replaced roller and gearbox for travelling water screen conveyor at PC-1.
- Replaced PLM switch wiring and run status lights at PC-1.

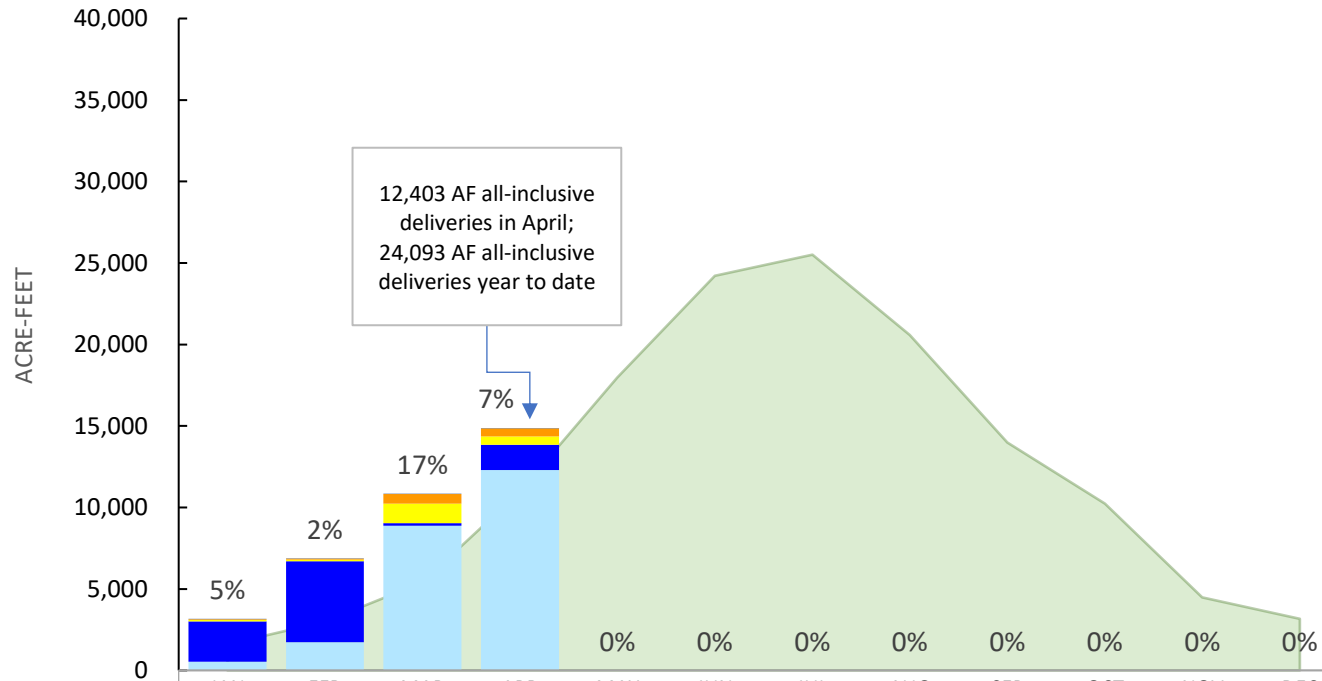
Equipment Maintenance

10 regular vehicle services.

- Unit #037 had transmission serviced.
- Unit #148 had the fuel canister replaced.
- Unit #157 had the purge pump replaced.
- Unit #159 had transmission serviced.
- Unit #160 had transmission serviced.
- Unit #161 had transmission serviced.
- Unit #162 had transmission serviced and fuel pump, spark plugs, and coil were replaced.
- Unit #164 had the A/C repaired.
- Unit #367 had the A/C and transmission serviced.
- Replaced KO2 pilot assembly for the Hirt burner on the fuel station.

**Current gasoline bulk purchase prices for the District are:
\$5.32 per gallon for gasoline and \$5.37 per gallon for diesel.**

IN-DISTRICT WATER DEMANDS AND SURFACE WATER DELIVERIES THROUGH April 2026



	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
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	141,089
Est. % of Available Water from GW	5%	2%	17%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	--
Est. White Wolf GW Pumping (AF)	50	50	600	500									1,200
Estimated Kern Subbasin GW Pumping (AF)	100	100	1,200	500									1,900
User Input GW Applied (AF)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calc'd Effective Precip. (AF)	2,462	4,970	150	1,560	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,124
SW Deliveries (AF)	538	1,727	8,880	12,296	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,441

Notes and Assumptions:

- a. January-April crop water use and GW pumping were estimated, because the 2026 GWSC calculator was not set up as of this writing.
- b. 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%, Dec 20%)

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Monthly Deliveries in Acre-Feet

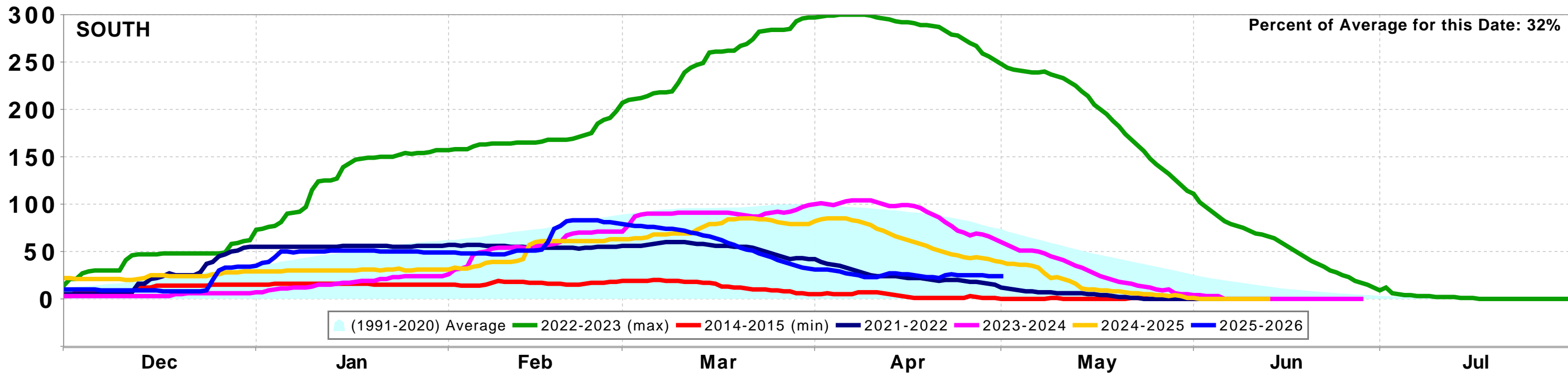
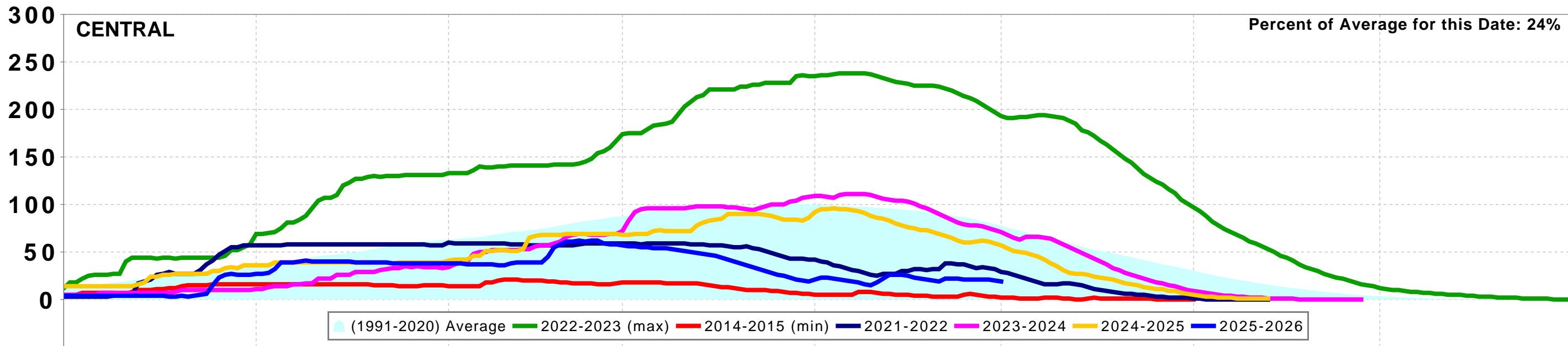
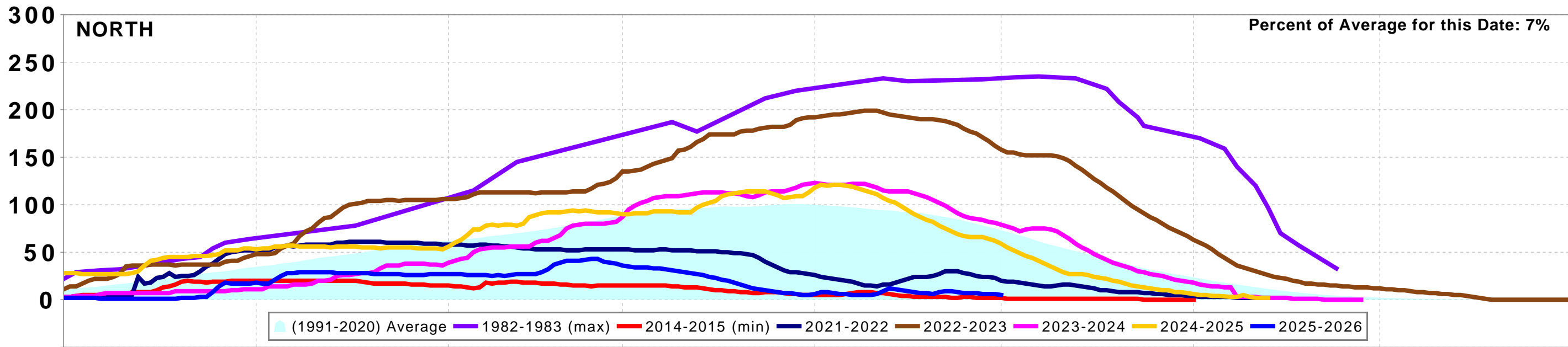
(Includes water from the State Water Project, banking projects, District wells, and User input.)

Month	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
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	704
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	8,436
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	9,082
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	12,403
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	2,455	

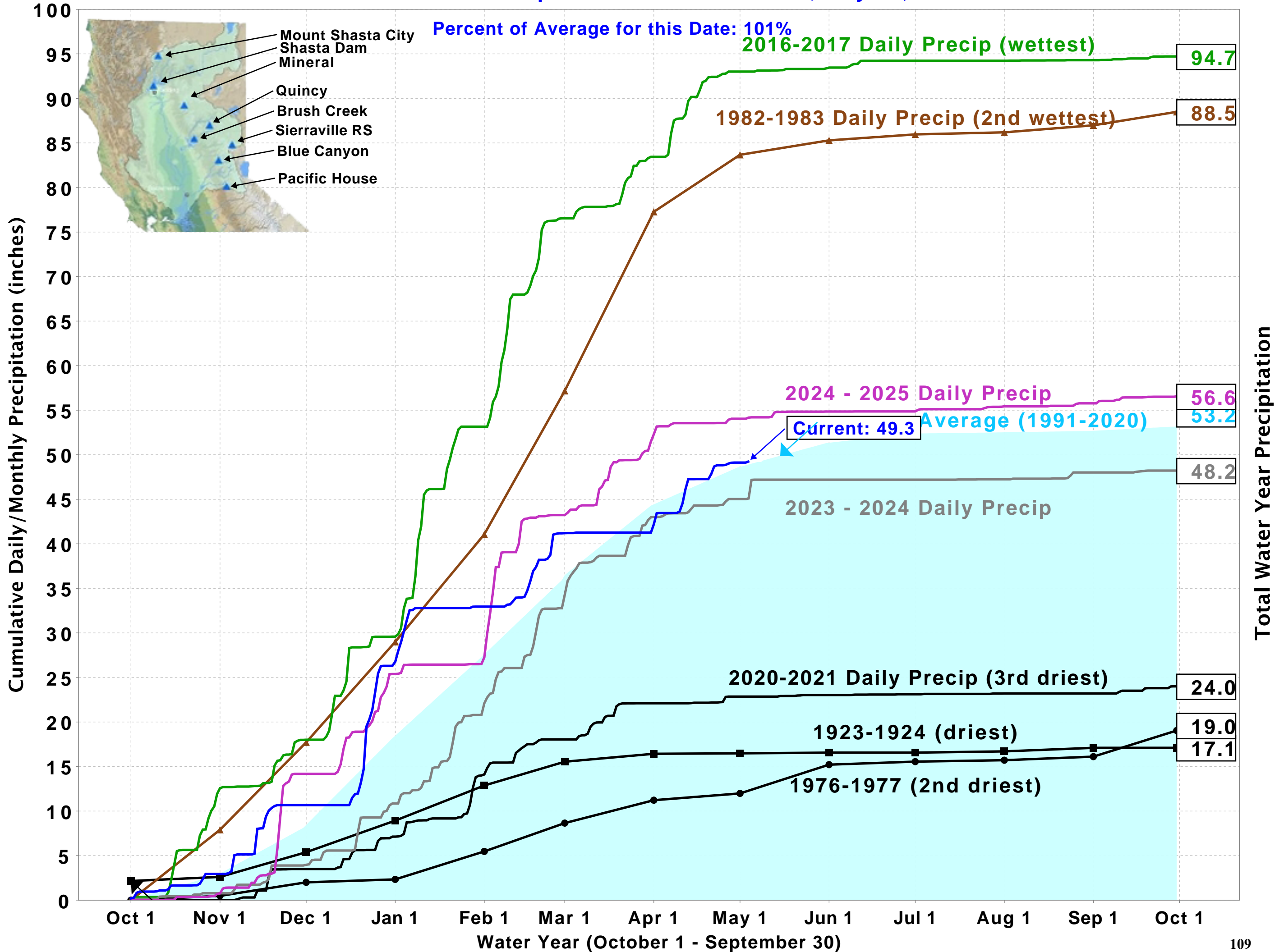
Accumulated Monthly Deliveries in Acre-Feet

Month	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
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	30,625
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	9,140
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	18,222
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	30,625
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	130,335	
SWP Allocation%	100%	60%	35%	40%	50%	80%	65%	35%	5%	20%	60%	85%	35%	75%	20%	5%	5%	100%	40%	50%	30%
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	59,126

California Snow Water Content, May 1, 2026, Percent of April 1 Average



Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, May 04, 2026



WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
 2026 WATER SUPPLY/DEMAND ESTIMATE
 As of May 04, 2026

		Max Recovery		30% SWP		Max Recovery		30% SWP		
		30% SWP ALLOCATION		30% SWP ALLOCATION		32% SWP ALLOCATION		30% SWP ALLOCATION		
Capacity		Supply	Shortage	Supply	Shortage	Supply	Shortage	Supply	Shortage	
Values in acre-feet		or (Excess)		or (Excess)		or (Excess)		or (Excess)		
[1]	Sacramento Valley Water Year Index (40-30-30)	Below Normal		Below Normal		Below Normal		Below Normal		
[2]	Probability of Exceedance	90%	P.O.E.	90%	P.O.E.	75%	P.O.E.	75%	P.O.E.	
[3]	Assumptions	30% Allocation		30% Allocation		32% Allocation		30% Allocation		
[4]	Total Estimated Demand (b)	130,600		130,600		130,600		130,600		
[5]	Surface Supplies									
[6]	SWP Table A Entitlement	197,088	59,126	71,474	59,126	71,474	63,068	67,532	59,126	71,474
[7]	Article 21 In-district deliveries	-	-	71,474	-	71,474	-	67,532	-	71,474
[8]	KR Lower River Water	-	-	71,474	-	71,474	-	67,532	-	71,474
[11]	SWP Supply	55,314	27.54%	55,314	27.54%	63,068	32%	59,126	30%	
[12]	Lyndal Water	-	-	71,474	-	71,474	-	67,532	-	71,474
[13]	Transfers out of WRMWS	-	-	71,474	-	71,474	-	67,532	-	71,474
[14]	District Recharge Deliveries	(3,813)	(3,813)	75,286	(3,813)	75,286	(3,813)	71,344	(3,813)	75,286
[15]	Lower River Water Banking deliveries	-	-	75,286	-	75,286	-	71,344	-	75,286
[16]	Article 21 Banking deliveries	-	-	75,286	-	75,286	-	71,344	-	75,286
[17]	Supplemental 1 Supplies									
[18]	District Carryover (estimate)	11,532	11,532	63,754	11,532	63,754	11,532	59,812	11,532	63,754
[19]	Long Term- Butte County **	4,550	1,227	62,527	1,227	62,527	1,227	58,585	1,227	62,527
[21]	Long Term- Palmdale Water District **	8,000	-	62,527	-	62,527	-	58,585	-	62,527
[22]	Long Term - Exchange Contractors**	5,000	1,349	61,179	1,349	61,179	1,349	57,237	1,349	61,179
[23]	Metropolitan Water District **	50,000	13,485	47,694	13,485	47,694	13,485	43,752	13,485	47,694
[24]	Solano County Water Agency **	8,650	2,333	45,361	2,333	45,361	2,333	41,419	2,333	45,361
[25]	NOD (various) **	8,450	2,279	43,082	2,279	43,082	2,279	39,140	2,279	43,082
[26]	Kern Water Bank - estimate to date (c)	-	-	43,082	-	43,082	-	39,140	-	43,082
[27]	Kern Water Bank - estimated through end of year	29,419	29,419	13,663	-	43,082	29,419	9,721	-	43,082
[28]	Pioneer Project - estimate to date (c)	-	-	13,663	-	43,082	-	9,721	-	43,082
[29]	Pioneer Project - estimated through end of year	5,000	5,000	8,663	-	43,082	5,000	4,721	-	43,082
[34]	Supplemental 1 Water Capacity	130,601	66,624	60.72%	32,205	43.58%	66,624	64.58%	32,205	45.48%
[35]	DISTRICT ALLOCATION		121,937	60.72%	87,518	43.58%	129,692	64.58%	91,331	45.48%
			1.72	AF/Ac	1.23	AF/Ac	1.826	AF/Ac	1.286	AF/Ac
[43]	Additional Supplemental Water Capacity	-	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
[44]	Supplemental Supplies - Water User									
[45]	Water User - Carryover from 2025 (estimate)	1,113	1,113	7,550	1,113	41,969	1,113	3,608	1,113	41,969
[46]	KWB 2nd Priority - estimate to date (Recharge)/Recovery	(3,230)	-	7,550	(3,230)	45,199	(3,230)	6,838	(3,230)	45,199
[47]	KWB 2nd Priority - estimated through EOY	-	-	7,550	-	41,969	(3,230)	6,838	(3,230)	45,199
[48]	User Input - actual	-	-	7,550	-	41,969	-	6,838	-	45,199
[49]	User Input - estimated through EOY	-	-	7,550	-	41,969	-	6,838	-	45,199
[50]	Landowner Transfer	1,000	1,000	6,550	1,000	40,969	1,000	5,838	1,000	44,199
[51]	Available Supply			124,050	86,401		125,344		86,983	
[52]	Estimated Demand (b)			130,600	130,600		130,600		130,600	
[53]	Shortage (Excess)			6,550	44,199		5,256		43,617	

** WS5 Deal

(b) Based upon average deliveries 2020-2025.

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

WATER IN STORAGE @ 8-May-26	
LOCATION	AF
Kern Water Bank	
District	183,154
Water User 2nd Priority	51,420
KWB Tot	234,574
KCWA	45,645
In-District	23,568
Semitropic	7,500
TOTAL KERN FAN	311,287
PRELIMINARY - SUBJECT TO REVISION	

WHEANDLER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris

DATE: Monday, May 11, 2026

SUBJECT: **Allocation of Water Supplies
2026 SWP and Supplemental Water Program
– F.O. Equivalent SWP and Supplemental Water Rates
– Supplemental Water Agreements**

Rules and Regulations.

Rule 3.h. of the District Rules and Regulations provides as follows:

*“**Supplemental Water:** Supplemental water means the water supplies acquired in addition to the water supply available under the Agency contract and includes district wells, Banking programs and water purchases. Supplemental water will be allocated pursuant to these Rules and Regulations up to the Contract Amount of Water in Water Users Water Service Contract. The quantities of Supplemental Water allocated to Water User shall only be available after Water User has submitted a signed order in a form provided by the District for such purposes in which the Water User agrees to the terms and conditions of delivery and payment for Supplemental Water.”*

Rule 5.e. of the District Rules and Regulations provides in part as follows:

*“**Supplemental Water:** Payments for Supplemental Water shall be made at the rate or rates established therefore by the Board. Payment for Supplemental Water, either allocated as part of the Contract Amount of Water or in addition thereto, for Water User and ordered by Water User shall be spread over the remaining regular monthly payments set forth in the Water Service Contract. Payment for Supplemental Water shall be subject to and a part of a final accounting of costs in the same manner as set forth in paragraph 5(a) of these Rules and Regulations. Water User shall be entitled to any credit due for overpayment and shall be responsible for any additional payment obligation as a result of underpayment identified in said final accounting adjustment.”*

Revised SWP Fixed Obligation. The current budgeted SWP F.O. rate is \$277.86 per acre-foot. This budget rate was based on a 100% SWP allocation.

When the 100% budget rate of \$277.86 per acre-foot is adjusted for the current SWP allocation of 30%, the new SWP F.O. budget rate is \$694.14 per acre-foot.

Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund. There are currently no funds within this reserve as they were previously exhausted in 2013.

Supplemental Fixed Obligation. Attached find “*Table 1 - Melded Cost of 2026 SWP and Supplemental Water*” summarizes the estimated cost and quantity of 2026 Supplemental Water supplies from various non-SWP sources and shows the melded Fixed Obligation (F.O.) for SWP and combined SWP + Supplemental water supplies at the 30% SWP allocation.

If the SWP F.O. is lower than the Supplemental F.O., which is *not* the case for 2026, then the Water Service Contracts require the SWP allocation and F.O. to stand alone, i.e. not be melded with other supplies. However, if the Supplemental F.O. is lower than the SWP F.O., the effect of melding Supplemental supplies with the SWP supplies lowers the melded F.O. to the benefit of all Water Users.

Table 1 estimates the cost of 2026 Supplemental Water from all sources melded into a single Supplemental F.O. equivalent rate of \$446.66 per acre-foot (line 34 column 14). F.O. equivalent means the water is priced as though it is available in the Delta, and SWP firm variable charges are assessed to deliver it into the District. This provides a common base of reference and billing with SWP water.

Table 1 evaluates whether the SWP and Supplemental F.O. rates should be combined or separated. Because the estimated Supplemental F.O. rate is less than the SWP F.O. rate of \$694.14, *Table 1 does support* the combination of these supplies. Under the combined scenario in *Table 1*, the melded SWP F.O. and the Supplemental Water F.O. rate would be \$566.66 per acre- (line 38, column 14).

Table 1 does not show sufficient Supplemental Water from the various sources listed to meet Water User demands over the Contract Amount of Water. As identified in Rule 3.h. however, Supplemental Water “...will be allocated... up to the Contract Amount of Water...” (emphasis added).

***Table 1* estimates the available supplies for allocation are:**

SWP Allocation	29.44% of CAW
<u>Supp. 1 Allocation</u>	<u>31.28% of CAW</u>
Total Initial Allocation	60.72% of CAW

Golden Mussel Mitigation Costs. In a subsequent item on today’s agenda is the Board’s consideration to revise the District’s OM&R rates to include the costs for golden mussel mitigation. The District’s Water Service Contract’s do not allow these costs to be included in the SWP costs, however, at the Boards discretion, these costs could be included within the Supplemental Fixed Obligation Equivalent.

The total cost of this treatment program along the 850-canal is anticipated to be approximately \$300,000. The Board initially authorized expenditures of up to \$2.5 million during 2026 for golden mussel treatment and mitigation activities. At that time, it was anticipated that all District systems could receive treatment in a similar manner, however, given the District’s evolving treatment strategy and difficulty in treating the gravity systems, treatment may ultimately be limited to select distribution systems at this time.

If the Board were to include the full \$2.5 million within the Supplemental water costs, the resulting Supplemental Fixed Obligation Equivalent would increase from \$446.66 per acre-foot to \$451.44 per acre-foot and a melded Fixed Obligation of \$569.12. Including only the current anticipated expenditure of \$300,000 increases the Supplemental Fixed Obligation Equivalent from \$446.66 per acre-foot to \$486.47 with a melded Fixed Obligation of \$587.16.

Water Allocation. The District allocation of SWP and Supplemental water supplies to Water Users will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Regulations and as authorized by the Board today through previous board action. Allocations will be made in time for the May water

contract installment charge in quantities as authorized. Staff may adjust the quantities for allocation prior to that time if justified by credible new information. For example, if the SWP allocation were increased, the District water allocation for both SWP and Supplemental water may be adjusted as explained above.

Groundwater Service Charge. Rule 7.a. of the District Rules and Regulations provides in part that the GWSC “shall be set by the Board...at any time and by the same procedures as the rates for the Water Service Charges under the Water Service Contracts.” The table below outlines the maximum GWSC rates for 2026-2028; beginning January 1, 2026, the GWSC shall not exceed \$200.00 per acre-foot. The Board has already set the GWSC at the maximum rate identified below, and staff does not have any recommended adjustments to that rate at this time. The Board has expressed intent to keep the GWSC rate comparable to the Water Service Charges when appropriate, but like the District Water Service Charges, the GWSC can be revised by the Board at any time to better reflect hydrologic conditions and State Water Project costs.

Effective Date	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	1/1/2028
Max GWSC (\$/AF)	\$175.00	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$299.36

It is currently estimated that the GWSC will result in the collection of \$4,000,000 from approximately 20,000 acre-feet of pumping. This will be utilized to source additional supplies for delivery or to offset the District’s 2026 SWP costs.

Supplemental Water Agreements. Attached is the “2025 Supplemental Water Service Agreement” between the District and Water Users describing the terms and conditions for delivery and payment of Supplemental Water. The Water Rates and amounts therein will be updated to conform to the 2026 budget rates adopted by the Board; any reference to the District Rules and Regulations will be updated as necessary and the Exhibit A will be revised to allow orders under the Supplemental allocation.

Recommendation. It is recommended the Board authorize the following water rates supported by the attached *Table 1 - Melded Cost of 2026 SWP and Supplemental Water*:

- a) Amend the 2026 budget SWP Fixed Obligation, recognizing a 30% SWP Allocation resulting in a SWP F.O. rate of \$694.14 per acre foot, together with estimated GWSC collections of \$4,000,000 set the 2026 SWP F.O. rate at \$626.49, and
- b) Establish the 2026 Supplemental Fixed Obligation Equivalent at \$446.66 per acre-foot per *Table 1*, and
- c) Establish the 2026 melded SWP F.O. and the Supplemental F.O. Equivalent at \$533.86 per acre-foot per *Table 6*,
- d) Finalize 2026 Supplemental Water Service Agreements accommodating multiple supplemental water types and rates as applicable and, upon approval as to form and content by Counsel, and direct that they be provided to Water Users for completion and return to enable participation in the 2026 Supplemental Water Service Program, and
- e) Approve the revised 2026 Budget Table 17 water rates as described in the attached memorandum, increasing the Industrial water rates to the higher of: (a) \$175 for the first day of service and \$87.50/day thereafter, or (b) \$700 per acre-foot.

Attachments: 2026 Budget Water Rate Revisions – District Wells Memorandum
Table 1 Melded Cost of 2026 Supplemental and SWP Water
2026 Supplemental Water Service Agreement
Filename: 8.3.a., 8.3.b., 8.3.c., 8.3.d, 8.3.e 2026 FO Supp Wtr Rates

TABLE 1A
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
Melded Cost of 2026 Supplemental and SWP Water
by Source of Water Supply

Table contains hidden rows and columns

	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8	-9	-14
		State	Exchange	Butte	MET	NOD	SOLANO	Carryover	Kern	Pioneer
Description		Water	Cont.	County		GW		2025	Water	Project
		Project	Long-Term	Long-Term	SW	SUB	SW	SW	Bank	GW
Delivery Location		Delta	R12	Delta	Delta	North Delta	SLR	Delta	R12	R12
Equivalent Fixed Obligation (F.O.-Equiv)										
Cost of Water in the Delta		\$ 208.24	\$ 715.08	\$ 748.99	\$ 523.70	\$ 485.24	\$ 498.70	\$ 388.54	\$ 391.70	\$ 463.70
Production & Cost										
Total Available after conveyance losses		197,088	5,000	4,550	50,000	8,650	8,450	7,719	29,419	5,000
WRM Share		30.00%	26.97%	26.97%	26.97%	26.97%	26.97%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Quantity Produced (preliminary) (AF)		59,126	1,349	1,227	13,485	2,333	2,279	7,719	29,419	5,000
Total Cost		\$ 41,041,838	\$ 964,281	\$ 919,116	\$ 7,062,131	\$ 1,132,021	\$ 1,136,526	\$ 2,999,106	\$ 11,523,501	\$ 2,318,513
Melded Costs: Supplemental										
Accum Cost of Water in the Delta (\$)	\$	-	\$964,281	\$1,883,397	\$8,945,527	\$10,077,549	\$11,214,075	\$14,213,180	\$25,736,682	\$28,055,195
Accum Quantity (AF)		-	1,349	2,576	16,061	18,394	20,673	28,392	57,811	62,811
Accum Unit Cost (\$/AF)	\$	-	\$ 715.08	\$ 731.24	\$ 556.98	\$ 547.89	\$ 542.46	\$ 500.61	\$ 445.19	\$ 446.66
Melded Costs: SWP + Supplemental										
Accum Cost of Water in the Delta (\$)		\$41,041,838	\$42,006,119	\$42,925,234	\$49,987,365	\$51,119,386	\$52,255,912	\$55,255,018	\$66,778,519	\$69,097,033
Accum Quantity (AF)		59,126	60,475	61,702	75,187	77,520	79,799	87,518	116,937	121,937
Accum Unit Cost (\$/AF)		\$ 694.14	\$ 694.60	\$ 695.69	\$ 664.84	\$ 659.44	\$ 654.84	\$ 631.36	\$ 571.06	\$ 566.66
Allocation										
SWP Allocation		59,126	59,126	59,126	59,126	59,126	59,126	59,126	59,126	59,126
Supplemental Allocation			1,349	2,576	16,061	18,394	20,673	28,392	57,811	62,811
Total Initial Allocation		59,126	60,475	61,702	75,187	77,520	79,799	87,518	116,937	121,937
Overall % of CAW		29.44%	30.11%	30.73%	37.44%	38.60%	39.74%	43.58%	58.23%	60.72%
Allocation, acre-feet per contract acre		0.832	0.851	0.868	1.058	1.091	1.123	1.231	1.645	1.716

(a) District wells subject to the same User Input Administration Charge as Water Users; \$10.00/AF as recommended 5/14/2025.
(b) Based on rates for 2025.
(c) District wells subject to the same Groundwater Service Charge as Water Users; \$200/AF for 2026.
(d) O-A in variable rate is estimated at 90% of 2025 rate. Using the lower value adds a 10% contingency factor to SWP variable costs.
All supplies subject to reconciliation.

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
 TABLE 6
 KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY
 FIXED OBLIGATION
 2026 BUDGET

TOTAL BASIC OBLIGATION				
\$	220,462,078 X	0.185447 =	\$	40,884,031
KWB DELTA CHARGE				
			\$	93,263
EXCESS CAPACITY				
			\$	630,433
LESS VARIABLE THRU DOS AMIGOS P.P.				
	59,126 AF	FIRM @	\$ 27.3409 =	\$ (1,616,569.46)
	34,205 AF	SURPLUS @	\$ 32.4531 =	\$ (1,110,058.97)
			\$	(2,726,628)
KERN WATER BANK FIXED O&M CHARGES				
			\$	1,040,260
PIONEER PROJECT FIXED O&M CHARGES				
			\$	867,718
BERRENDA MESA PROJECT FIXED O&M CHARGES				
			\$	73,805
CROSS VALLEY CANAL FIXED O&M CHARGES				
			\$	115,956
KERN FAN MONITORING COMMITTEE				
			\$	13,000
IAA AUDIT OF THE STATE WATER PROJECT via KCWA				
			\$	50,000
NET SWP FIXED OBLIGATION				
			\$	41,041,838
DETERMINATION OF FIXED OBLIGATION UNIT COST PER AC-FT				
			\$	41,041,838
				59,126
			\$	694.1373
SUPPLEMENTAL 1 WATER SUPPLY				
	62,811 AC-FT @	\$ 446.6641	\$	28,055,195
TOTAL FIXED OBLIGATION (BEFORE GWSC ADJ.)				
				69,097,033
				121,937
			\$	566.6622
GROUNDWATER SERVICE CHARGE (GWSC) ADJUSTMENT [A]				
ESTIMATED NON-CONTRACT PUMPING:				
	NON-CONTRACT PUMPING SUBJECT TO CHARGE	18,000 AC-FT @	\$200.00	\$ (3,600,000)
	NON-CONTRACT PUMPING EXEMPT FROM GWSC	- AC-FT @	\$ -	\$ -
ESTIMATED CONTRACT PUMPING:				
	CONTRACT PUMPING SUBJECT TO CHARGE	2,000 AC-FT @	\$200.00	\$ (400,000)
	CONTRACT PUMPING EXEMPT FROM GWSC	3,000 AC-FT @	\$ -	\$ -
ESTIMATED TOTAL FIXED OBLIGATION ADJUSTMENT				
	NET GWSC		\$	(4,000,000)
	BUDGET FIXED OBLIGATION		\$	69,097,033
	GWSC ADJUSTED FIXED OBLIGATION		\$	65,097,033
	DIVIDED BY 2026 C.A.W.			121,937
	EQUALS ESTIMATED GWSC ADJUSTED BUDGET F.O. UNIT RATE PER AC-FT:		\$	533.8583

**WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
2025 SUPPLEMENTAL WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT**

This 2025 Supplemental Water Service Agreement (“Agreement”) is made for the 2025 Supplemental Water Program of the District. The quantities of supplemental water applied for are as shown on submitted and accepted District authorized forms entitled ‘2025 Supplemental Water Order Form’ (“Order Form”) as shown in Exhibit A of this Agreement. The Exhibit A Order Form contents will be amended from time to time, if additional supplemental supplies become available, indicating the budgeted unit F.O. rate and any special terms and conditions for each type of Supplemental Water supply. The Exhibit A Order Form for the Initial Estimate as well as all subsequent Exhibit A Order Forms for varying F.O. rates and water types, completed by Water User and accepted by District, are herewith deemed included and incorporated into this Agreement. **A completed Exhibit A Order Form will be necessary for each type and quantity of supplemental water ordered by Water User and shall be timely delivered to the District prior to delivery of any supplemental water to Water User.** Water User understands and agrees that:

- a. the current State Water Project Contract Allocation of Water (SWP) is 50% for 2025. It is possible, but not certain, that the SWP Allocation will be increased or decreased as 2025 develops.
- b. Water User will be responsible for the payment of all costs associated with the production and delivery of Supplemental Water ordered by Water User;
- c. delivery of Supplemental Water is subject to the additional “Conditions of 2025 Supplemental Water Service” which is attached and hereby made part of this Agreement,
- d. to the extent that current or subsequent allocations of Supplemental Water exceed the actual quantities of water ordered, or deemed to be ordered by Water User, such excesses will be IRREVOCABLY removed and no longer available to Water User;
- e. all activities and agreements necessary to obtain Supplemental Water have not been completed, and by accepting this Agreement, the District makes no guarantee as to its availability, cost, or condition of delivery;
- f. the District reserves the right to change the total quantity, monthly or seasonal quantity, and cost of Supplemental Water available; and
- g. Water User holds District and its Directors, employees and consultants harmless in the event the District changes the quantities and/or costs of Supplemental Water provided hereunder.

WATER USER

**WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT**

(Date Submitted)

(Date Accepted By District)

(Signature)

(Signature)

(Printed Name & Title)

(Printed Name & Title)

CONDITIONS OF 2025 SUPPLEMENTAL WATER SERVICE

Supplemental Water supplied by Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District ("District") to the Water User requesting service pursuant to the 2025 Supplemental Water Service Agreement ("Agreement") shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The total amount of supplemental water to be made available to Water User in 2025 by the District from the Supplemental Water program is currently unknown.
2. The quantity to be delivered shall not exceed the quantity which Water User has ordered as shown on submitted and accepted Exhibit A Order Forms supplied by the District or as otherwise deemed to be ordered by default. The quantities of water allocated to Water User are District's best estimate of the quantities which can be produced by District for Water User and, in the event of shortage, the District will reapportion the quantities of water among water users in the manner set forth in the water service contracts.
3. Water Users who do not timely return their signed 2025 Supplemental Water Agreement and their signed 2025 Supplemental Water Exhibit A Order Form(s) or otherwise do not notify the District in a timely manner accepted by the District of their intended 2025 Supplemental Water requests, the quantity of Supplemental Water will be deemed DECLINED, by default. Further, such declination of the Initial Estimate of supplemental water allows the District to otherwise allocate your supply. In this likelihood, there is no guarantee of water availability from District sources for the 2025 water year.
4. 2025 Supplemental Water Exhibit A Order Form submissions received at the District after the final acceptance date may or may not be accepted depending on the then current circumstances which may cause the District to cease, or continue to allow, water order adjustments. Adjustments, if accepted, will be made to both the Annual Charges Bills as well as the Statements for the remaining unpaid installments.
5. Water User shall pay for Supplemental Water in installments, together with the Contract water charges, as provided in Rule 5e. of the District Rules and Regulations for the Distribution of Water, to wit:

"Payments for Water - Supplemental Water: Payments for Supplemental Water shall be made at the rate or rates established therefore by the Board. Payment for Supplemental Water, either allocated as part of the Contract Amount of Water or in addition thereto, for Water User and ordered by Water User shall be spread over the remaining regular monthly payments set forth in the Water Service Contract. Payment for Supplemental Water shall be subject to and a part of a final accounting of costs in the same manner as set forth in paragraph 5(a) of these Rules and Regulations. Water User shall be entitled to any credit due for overpayment and shall be responsible for any additional payment obligation as a result of underpayment identified in said final accounting adjustment."

6. Water User shall be responsible to pay the District for the quantity ordered as shown on the 2025 Supplemental Water Exhibit A Order Form, even if Water User does not take delivery of the full quantity ordered or deemed to be ordered.

**EXHIBIT A
WHEELER RIDGE- MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
2025 SUPPLEMENTAL WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT**

In order to receive all or part of your Supplemental Water, including your initial estimated allocation and/or subsequent supplemental supplies if made available by the District, you must order your total requested amount on an Order Form. If you do not order this supplemental water on this Order Form, **it will be removed from your account and there is no guarantee of water availability from District sources for the 2025 water year.**

**THE BUDGET F.O. RATE IS \$ 451.96 /AF
FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL WATER TYPE "SUPP 1"**

WATER USER	SWP ENTITLEMENT	MAX. SUPP 1 ALLOCATION	2024-2025 CARRYOVER	2025 ALLOCATION WITH OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL WATER
ALL SUPPLIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE/RECONCILIATION				

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CHOICES AND COMPLETE THE AF QUANTITY:

- LESS THAN** maximum Supplemental 1 allocation.
- EQUAL TO** maximum Supplemental 1 allocation of: acre-feet.

The undersigned Water User hereby **ORDERS**:
 acre-feet of "Supp 1" water
 at an F.O. rate of: **\$ 451.96** /AF

ADDITIONAL DEMANDS: If your operations are such that you have additional demands for the above supplemental water type, please indicate the total additional demand below. This is not a water order and is not guaranteed to be fulfilled, nor is it binding. This is for informational purposes only and informs the District of total demands.

I have demand for additional supplemental supplies beyond the maximum ordered above:

acre-feet.

Signature _____

Date _____

Name _____

Title _____

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris

DATE: May 11, 2026

SUBJECT: 2026 Budget – Table 17 – Adopt Miscellaneous Water Rates

By separate memo, under 8.3.a., it is recommended the Board adopt revised Fixed Obligation (F.O.) rates to reflect the 30% SWP allocation and cost quantities of available Supplemental Water supplies. The current SWP F.O. rate at the 30% allocation is \$630.34 per acre-foot and the proposed melded F.O. rate is \$506.38 per acre-foot based on a 29.44% SWP allocation and a 31.28% Supplemental allocation.

Table 17 of the Budget sets rates for various miscellaneous water types. With the current estimated F.O., it would be appropriate for the Board to also revise the rates in Table 17.

For Unscheduled Water (District Pool water rate which does not apply in water short years) and Temporary Water (Miscellaneous non-contract agricultural water sales such as water for cattle), the water rates are mathematically linked to the F.O. rate as described in Table 17 notes.

For Non-Contract Industrial water, the rate is not directly linked to the F.O. rate and is set by the Board as appropriate from time to time. Industrial deliveries are typically small quantities that require operational, metering and accounting effort to deliver, track and bill. This usually results in the application of a daily rate rather than an acre-foot rate. The history is:

Year	SWP Alloc. %	Budget
2016	60%	\$ 1,500.00
2017	85%	\$ 600.00
2018	35%	\$ 600.00
2019	75%	\$ 600.00
2020	20%	\$ 1,600.00
2021	5%	\$ 1,600.00
2022	5%	\$ 1,800.00
2023	100%	\$ 600.00
2024	40%	\$ 600.00
2025	50%	\$ 600.00
2026	30%	\$ 700.00

Industrial water is charged at the higher of the (a) acre-foot rate, or (b) daily rate, which is 1/4 the acre-foot rate for the first day of service and 1/8 the acre-foot rate for subsequent, consecutive days

of service.

Given the current 30% SWP allocation and taking into account the average cost of water on the spot market, it would be appropriate for the Board to increase the Industrial Rate to \$700 per acre-foot with the daily rates determined as described above.

Recommendation. It is recommended the Board approve the revised 2026 Budget Table 17 water rates as described herein and revise the rate accordingly shown in the attached Table 17.

Attachments: 8.3.c Table 17
Filename: 8.3.c Misc. Water Rates

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
TABLE 17

MISCELLANEOUS WATER RATES
FOR NON-CONTRACT LAND, UNSCHEDULED, TEMPORARY, AND INDUSTRIAL USES
2026 BUDGET

CHARGE CODE	CHARGE ZONE	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		NON-CONTRACT LAND OM&R RATES (\$/acre)	NON-CONTRACT LAND OM&R RATES (\$/AF)	ADDED OR UNSCHEDULED WATER RATE (\$/AF)	TEMPORARY WATER RATE (\$/AF)
1401	BUENA VISTA DOWNHILL	134.8370	44.95	372.86	417.81
1402	SAN EMIDIO - ZONE I	134.8370	44.95	417.86	462.81
1403	SAN EMIDIO - ZONE II	134.8370	44.95	485.86	530.81
1501	WHEELER RIDGE DOWNHILL	134.8370	44.95	387.86	432.81
1508	850 - ZONE I	134.8370	44.95	416.86	461.81
1509	850 - ZONE II	134.8370	44.95	481.86	526.81
1510	850 - ZONE III	134.8370	44.95	552.86	597.81
1600	RANCH HQ - GRAVITY	134.8370	44.95	377.86	422.81
1605	RANCH HQ - ZONE I	134.8370	44.95	510.86	555.81
1606	RANCH HQ - ZONE II	134.8370	44.95	530.86	575.81
2401	SOUTH LAKE	134.8370	44.95	372.86	417.81
3402	NS-1972 - ZONE I	150.2098	50.07	417.86	467.93
3403	NS-1972 - ZONE II	150.2098	50.07	485.86	535.93
3404	NS-1972 - ZONE III	150.2098	50.07	569.86	619.93
4407	LATERAL 5P EXTENSION	177.5008	59.17	690.86	750.03
5401	SANTIAGO - DOWNHILL	152.2788	50.76	372.86	423.62
5411	SANTIAGO - ZONE I	152.2788	50.76	405.86	456.62
5412	SANTIAGO - ZONE II	152.2788	50.76	502.86	553.62
6402	LATERAL 6P (EXC SPECIAL) ZONE I	150.2098	50.07	417.86	467.93
6402A	LATERAL 6P (SPECIAL) ZONE I	150.2098	50.07	417.86	467.93
6403	LATERAL 6P - ZONE II	150.2098	50.07	485.86	535.93
7402	N.A.L.	134.5124	44.84	417.86	462.70
7403	N.A.L.	134.5124	44.84	485.86	530.70
7509	N.A.L.	134.5124	44.84	481.86	526.70
7600	N.A.L.	134.5124	44.84	377.86	422.70
8600	NS-1978	121.9509	40.65	377.86	418.51
9600A	LATERAL 13G-A	121.9509	40.65	377.86	418.51
9600B	LATERAL 13G-B	121.9509	40.65	377.86	418.51

INDUSTRIAL WATER RATES ARE THE HIGHER OF:
(A) ~~\$150~~ **\$175** FOR FIRST DAY OF SERVICE, PLUS ~~\$75~~ **\$87.5** FOR EACH ADDITIONAL CONTINUOUS DAY OF SERVICE; OR
~~\$600~~ **\$700** PER ACRE-FOOT.

ALL WATER TYPES IN THIS TABLE ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY, AND DELIVERIES ARE MADE ON AN INTERRUPTIBLE, NON-DEPENDABLE BASIS.

- (1) 100% OF CONTRACT LAND OM&R RATE. APPLIES TO CROPPED NON-CONTRACT LAND INSIDE A FARMING UNIT OPERATION.
- (2) NON-CONTRACT LAND OM&R RATE DIVIDED BY 3.
- (3) FIXED OBLIGATION + STATE VARIABLE + DISTRICT VARIABLE = COST OF DISTRICT POOL WATER TO CONTRACT LANDS.
- (4) COL (2) + COL (3) = COST OF DISTRICT POOL WATER PURCHASED BY A LANDOWNER AT 100% OF THE F.O. RATE.

See Table 14 for the rates used

ADDED OR UNSCHEDULED vs. TEMPORARY?
ADDED OR UNSCHEDULED = Pool Water purchased by a contract landowner
TEMPORARY = Pool Water purchased by a non-contract landowner

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
 FROM: Eric McDaris
 DATE: May 11th, 2026
SUBJECT: Consider Revising 2026 OM&R Rates Due to Golden Mussel Treatment

The District initiated golden mussel treatment for the WRM-10 system on April 27, 2026. This treatment targets supplies being delivered to Water Users from the 850 Canal, specifically pump zones 1508, 1509, and 1510. All systems along the 850 Canal (PA, PB, PC, and PD) are currently making deliveries, allowing the EarthTecQZ product to move throughout the conveyance facilities and pumping plants. Treatment operations are expected to continue through October 2026 at varying concentration rates contingent upon treatment efficacy.

The total cost of this treatment program is anticipated to be approximately \$300,000. The Board initially authorized expenditures of up to \$2.5 million during 2026 for golden mussel treatment and mitigation activities. At that time, it was anticipated that all District systems could receive treatment in a similar manner, however, given the District’s evolving treatment strategy and difficulty in treating the gravity systems, treatment may ultimately be limited to select distribution systems at this time.

While the District has not historically revised its Operations, Maintenance and Replacement (OM&R) budget mid-year, this considerable increase in facility maintenance costs may warrant adjustment at the Board’s discretion. Should the Board elect to include this revision in the O&M budget, the resulting increase in costs per acre is approximately \$34.68 to the existing OM&R rates which vary by category of service.

<u>OM&R Category of Service</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Δ in OM&R Rate/Acre</u>
Current 850-Canal Expense	\$300,000	72,081.41	additional \$4.16
Total 2026 Authorization	\$2,500,000	72,081.41	additional \$34.68

Treatment costs by distribution system are directly correlated to delivered water volumes and chemical dosage requirements because EarthTecQZ concentrations must be maintained throughout the conveyance system. As system deliveries increase, chemical demand and treatment costs increase proportionally. Recovering treatment costs solely through OM&R acreage rates may create inequities between Water Users. Under an acreage-based allocation of costs, low-demand Water Users could bear treatment costs similar to higher-demand Water Users despite the higher-demand users driving a disproportionate share of the treatment expense.

While the treatment program is clearly related to OM&R activities, these costs could alternatively be recovered through the District’s revised Supplemental Fixed Obligation Equivalent now, or the 2026 Final Accounting Adjustment. Assuming a 2026 District Supplemental allocation of 62,811 acre-feet, the treatment program would increase the Supplemental Fixed Obligation Equivalent by approximately \$4.77 per acre-foot at the current expense of \$300,000 along the 850 Canal, or an additional \$39.80 per acre-foot assuming the maximum \$2.5 million expense in 2026.

Recommendation. Treatment of the distribution system is inherently an OM&R related task; therefore, staff recommend that the Board direct that the previously authorized expenses of up to \$2.5 million for 2026 golden mussel treatment and mitigation be recovered through the District's revised OM&R rates, resulting in an increase of \$34.68/acre for all charge code zones. Staff further recommend corresponding adjustments to the non-contract OM&R categories as appropriate.

◀ WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ▶

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Sheridan Nicholas

DATE: May 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Agricultural Energy Consumers Association Contribution Increase

The Agricultural Energy Consumers Association (AECA) represents the interests of more than 40,000 agricultural operation throughout California. AECA members include the state’s leading agricultural associations, water agencies, farmers, ranchers, producers and food processors. AECA members share a common concern of ensuring affordable and reliable energy resources throughout California.

As electrical power is one of the largest District expenses, the District has been a member and supporter of AECA for decades. It has annually contributed \$15,000 to the AECA for several years.

Please find attached the May 4, 2026 letter from AECA regarding the broadening and advancement of their efforts due to the foreseen increases in PG&E rates in the near future. They are asking that members reassess their contribution/dues based on 0.0025 of their current energy bills, or \$2,500 per \$1 million of PG&E charges.

For 2024 and 2025, the District paid PG&E \$10.2 million and \$9.6 million, respectively. I would note that without the District’s solar facilities those bills would have been much higher¹, with the 2025 charge approximating \$14.2 million. Based on the recommendation and those charges, the District’s recommended annual AECA contribution would increase to \$24,000 based on 2025 charges.

Recommendation. It is recommended the District increase its annual contribution to AECA to \$25,000.

¹ Per the TerraVerde 2025 Annual Asset Management Report, the District saved nearly \$4.6 million from its PG&E electricity charges in 2025, with a net savings of \$2.2 million after Power Purchase Agreement payments.



May 4, 2026

Sheridan Nicholas
 Engineer-Manager
 Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Dear David:

AECA greatly appreciates your continued support of our efforts. As you know, our work is vitally important as we continue to see significant upward pressure on energy rates in California. We remain committed to our core mission of combating rising energy costs while protecting the energy interests of the state's farmers and food producers.

While we achieved some important energy cost containment victories in 2025, we have much more work to complete. With that in mind, AECA will be undertaking a significant broadening and advancement of our efforts. After listening to growers, food processors, energy consultants and water agency managers such as yourself, concerned about rapidly rising energy costs, we are pleased to report that we will be expanding our efforts in 2026. **Please recognize we can only do this with your agency's continued and expanded support.** We are asking all AECA members to reassess their dues at the 0.0025 (one-quarter of 1%) rate based on current energy bills.

As a direct result of AECA's lobbying efforts in Sacramento, legislators last year enacted some modest but important reforms to begin getting energy affordability and unsustainable utility spending under control. Our legislative victories were enhanced by successful efforts to get utility regulators to limit shareholder profits by reining in allowable returns on utility investments. PG&E and SCE's agricultural electricity rates will actually **decrease** by about **5%** on average in 2026.

Despite these important reforms, much more needs to be accomplished in the next few years and the opportunity is **now**. Legislators are fixated on energy cost affordability and energy cost concerns remain the number one issue with California voters across the state. Voters are demanding action.

Our listening sessions made it clear that more action and enhanced efforts are needed by the food production sector. In response, AECA will be enhancing our efforts as follows:

- Legislative efforts focused on expanding programs to help farmers, ag water agencies, and food processors better control their own energy destinies.
- Enhanced engagement with utility regulators to ensure they understand the realities facing farmers and food production and how increasing water scarcity will impact farm water and energy use going forward.
- Trumpeting the worsening energy affordability crisis as consumers are increasingly forced to choose between turning on the lights or putting food on their table.

As part of this effort, we are launching a comprehensive analysis of the impacts of SGMA on agricultural energy use. As irrigated acreage declines so will agricultural energy use. This is in sharp contrast to rapidly rising energy demand and costs driven by data centers, transportation electrification and building decarbonization. Since agricultural energy users are not driving these costs, we must make sure we are not picking up the tab. AECA's efforts have never been more important as we push back against unsustainable energy costs. Your partnership and support are vital as we seek to enhance our efforts. We are pleased to share that dues can be paid either by check or by debit/credit at www.agenergyca.org. Please do not hesitate to contact us at (916) 447-6206 if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Are you on our email list? To receive email updates on critical AECA issues please email contact@agenergyca.org.

Sincerely,



Roger Isom
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn
Western Tree Nut Association
AECA President



Brian Ketelhut
Wonderful Orchards
AECA Vice President



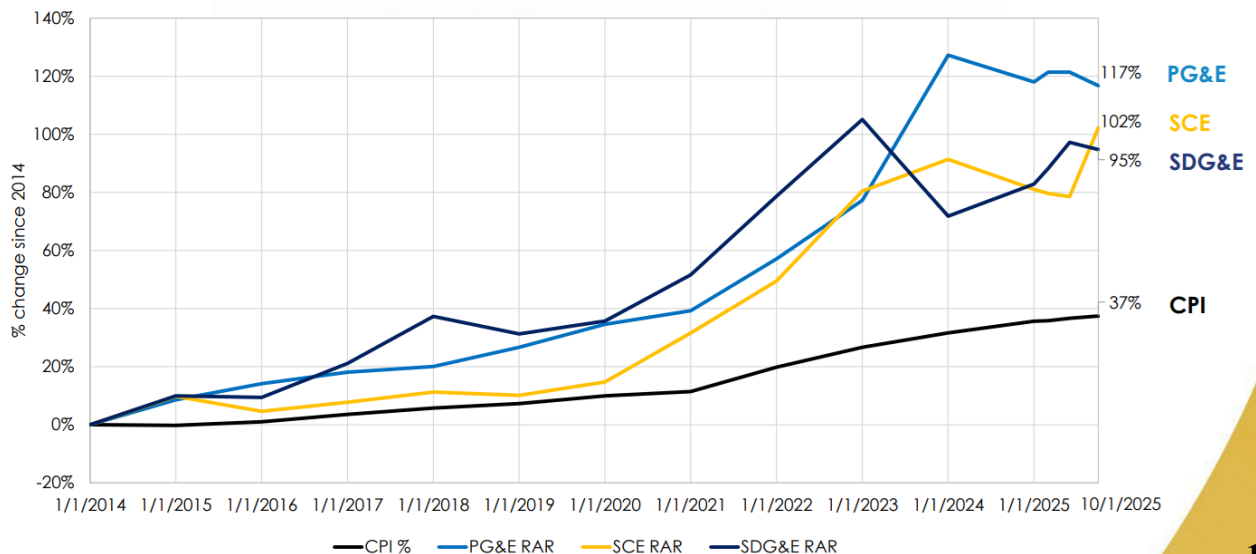
Michael Boccadoro
AECA Executive Director



Matthew Efird
Efird Ag Enterprises Inc., Double E Farms Inc.
AECA Treasurer



Rates have increased substantially since 2014, surpassing inflation



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

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-XX

**COMMENDATION AND EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION
TO JON ELDON KELLEY**

WHEREAS, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District was formed in 1959, and has delivered 8,804,657 acre-feet of irrigation water (through April 30, 2026) to its farming customers since 1970 via its 16 California Aqueduct turnouts, 137 booster pumps, 297 miles of pipelines, 7 miles of canal, 18 groundwater wells and over 700 water meters that serve about 90,000 acres of farmland;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley graduated from Arvin High School in Arvin, California, and worked as a plant operator at Anheuser-Busch before finding his ultimate calling at Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District, being hired by the District on December 29, 1987, as a part-time employee in the Maintenance Department and subsequently became a full-time employee in the Pump Department on June 1, 1988; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his thirty-seven years of service, Mr. Kelley served the District in multiple capacities, including assignments in the Operations, Maintenance, and Pump/Electrical Departments, demonstrating a broad range of knowledge, adaptability, and dedication to the District's mission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley's career progression reflects his commitment to professional growth and service, including his transfer to the Operations Department on March 1, 1994, his return to the Maintenance Department on March 10, 1997, his promotion to Mechanic/Welder on May 11, 2003, promotion to Assistant Maintenance Foreman on May 7, 2006, promotion to Maintenance Foreman on January 1, 2011, reclassification to Mechanic/Welder on September 3, 2015, and reclassification to Pump/Electrical Technician on March 17, 2017; and

WHEREAS, 64 percent of the District's water deliveries to its customers (over 5.61 million acre-feet) were made during Mr. Kelley's service to the District;

WHEREAS, throughout his employment, Mr. Kelley developed exceptional skills in maintenance, repair, welding, fabrication, troubleshooting, and equipment operation, and earned numerous certifications, including a Class A Commercial Driver's License, Certified Crane Operator license, Welder's Certification exceeding the District's required QC-7 rating, and a Qualified Applicator Certificate; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley consistently demonstrated sound mechanical knowledge, strong troubleshooting ability, expert welding and fabrication skills, and the ability to adapt effectively to changing conditions in the field, while embracing safety policies and procedures and assisting co-workers and other departments with his knowledge and experience; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley is proactive, thoughtful, detail-oriented and dependable, and his labor, expertise, advice and performance has resulted in substantial benefits to the District's customers in cost-effective water distribution system maintenance and reliability;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was known throughout his career for his dependability, honesty, strong work ethic, commitment to safety, and willingness to work extra time when needed, and he repeatedly demonstrated initiative and practical problem-solving in carrying out the District's work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley’s skill and ingenuity were evident in many ways over the years, including designing and fabricating improved aluminum ramps for the District’s backhoe trailer, helping solve difficult pipe repair challenges, and providing practical solutions to maintenance and operational issues through his experience and judgment; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many professional strengths, Mr. Kelley has long been appreciated for the personality he brought to the workplace, including his stories, humor, and the perspective he gained from his many interests outside of work, including hunting, fishing, and trap shooting; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley’s professionalism and dedication were especially evident during the WRM-10 outage in May 2025, when he remained onsite to assist and coordinate with PG&E contractors in supplying temporary power and restoring service to the District’s Water Users; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley’s long and distinguished service has contributed significantly to the success of the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District and has earned the respect and appreciation of his fellow employees, supervisors, and the Board of Directors;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley is one of only four District employees to have worked under all four Engineer-Managers, a distinction that says a great deal about both the length of his service and the consistency, adaptability, and good judgment he brought to the District over the years; and

WHEREAS, the District is well-regarded in the local water community for the condition of its water distribution system in no small part due to the contributions of Mr. Kelley, and he has successfully discharged his responsibilities with skill, honesty, integrity, and fairness;

WHEREAS, the delivery of water to farmers to grow food and fiber for the citizens of the state, nation, and world is noble and praiseworthy work, and Mr. Kelley has cared deeply about this work and has performed it with loyalty, dedication, and excellence to the benefit of the District, its employees, and its customers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley will retire from the District on May 22, 2026, after having served the District and its farming customers for almost 38 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District does hereby commend and express its sincere appreciation to Jon Eldon Kelley for his thirty-seven years of dedicated service to the District; and

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

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING: None

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of said District as duly adopted by said Board of Directors on the 12th day of May, 2026.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Board of Directors this 12th day of May, 2026.

Assistant Secretary of the Board of Directors

WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
 FROM: Eric McDaris
 DATE: April 30, 2026
 SUBJECT: **Consider Amendment No. 4 to the L-T Yuba Water Purchase Program**

In October 2011, the Board authorized the Engineer-Manager to enter into an agreement with the Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) for the purchase of supplies developed through the Lower Yuba River Accord Water Transfer Program. This agreement transferred the Agency’s rights and obligations to the participating Member Units, requiring Member Units to purchase available Yuba supplies in dry years and an optional purchase in below normal years. The term of that agreement expired in 2025 and KCWA subsequently notified Member Units that the Yuba Program negotiations to extend the program through 2050 and update the pricing through 2030 were successful.

The Program has been very advantageous with the District having taken delivery of 25,000 acre-feet of Yuba supplies at an average South of Delta F.O. Equivalent of approximately \$436/AF, after conveyance losses across the Delta which range from 20%-35%. The majority of Yuba supplies are delivered in dry years, adding valuable supplies to the District’s allocation in water short years at low costs compared to dry year market rates.

The newly negotiated prices in effect through 2030 are shown below.

<u>Year Type</u>	<u>\$/AF</u>
Wet	\$75
Above Normal	\$150
Below Normal	\$225
Dry	\$300
Critical	\$450 (\$525 consecutive year)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board authorize the Engineer-Manager or his designee to execute the long-term agreement with KCWA for the Yuba Water Purchase Program, subject to review by counsel as to form and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

Attachments: Amendment No. 4 to the Long-Term Yuba Water Purchase Program
 Filename: 8.7 Consider Amendment No. 4 to the L-T Yuba Water Purchase Program



Directors:

Jay Kroeker
Division 1

Laura Cattani
Division 2

Martin Milobar
President
Division 3

Tamara Johnson
Division 4

Charles (Bill) W. Wulff,
Jr.
Division 5

Royce Fast
Division 6

Gene A. Lundquist
Vice President
Division 7

Eric L. Averett
General Manager

James Ciampa
Lagerlof, LLP
General Counsel

April 24, 2026

Mr. Sheridan Nicholas
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
12109 Highway 166
Bakersfield, CA 93313-9630

RE: Amendment No. 4 to the Long-Term Yuba Water Purchase Program

Dear Mr. Nicholas:

This is Amendment No. 4 (Amendment) to the February 14, 2012 Long-Term Yuba Water Purchase Program letter agreement (Agreement) between Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (District) and the Kern County Water Agency (Agency). On March 5, 2026, the Agency entered into 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 (Yuba Agreement), which is incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A. The Agreement between your District and the Agency is hereby amended to incorporate Amendment No. 7 to the Yuba Agreement, including extension of the term of the Agreement to December 31, 2050.

If the above terms and conditions are acceptable, please sign and date both copies of this Agreement and return both copies to the Agency. A fully executed original will be returned to the District.

Sincerely,

Lauren Bauer
Water Resources Manager

Phone No. (661) 634-1400

Mailing Address
3200 Rio Mirada Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Enclosures

Accepted:

Kern County Water Agency

By: _____

Title: Water Resources Manager

Date: _____

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

VISION

FOR OUR WATER FUTURE



Setting the Vision

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) represents approximately 470 public water agencies that collectively deliver approximately 90 percent of the water used by Californians — in their homes, on their farms, and for their businesses.

Water agencies are being proactive and are on the front lines of the state’s most pressing challenges — from droughts, floods, and wildfires to aging infrastructure and the need for more housing. Meaningful progress requires state partnership with local water suppliers to achieve common goals. Bold leadership from the governor is critical to setting a unified direction, accelerating action, and delivering results to prepare California for the future. Action is needed now.

Why Water Matters

Water is the foundation upon which California is built. This State is the world’s fourth-largest economy, the nation’s breadbasket, a global technology leader, and home to extraordinary ecosystems. None of it functions without water.

Water is not a single-sector issue. It is the backbone every other sector depends on. It determines where homes can be built, whether farms can produce, how businesses operate and grow, and whether species can survive a changing climate. A safe, reliable, and affordable water supply is one of the most important investments California can make.

ACTION IS NEEDED NOW



Lead on Water



Protect Affordability



Deliver Critical Infrastructure



Modernize Water Management

California Thrives With Water

- › **Housing:** California must plan for 2.5 million new homes in the next decade. Every unit requires a reliable water supply.
- › **Agriculture:** California agriculture is 12% of the state's economy, contributing \$60 billion; employing over 400,000 people; and producing more than half of the nation's fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Both surface and groundwater are fundamental to California's agriculture sector.
- › **Economy:** California's \$4 trillion economy spans technology, innovation, manufacturing, trade, and tourism. Every dollar of it depends on a reliable water supply.
- › **Environment:** California's extraordinary ecosystems — its rivers, wetlands, and floodplains — depend on the same water system managed by local water suppliers. A thriving California requires managing water to sustain both communities and ecosystems.
- › **Public Health:** Water suppliers are California's first line of public health defense, delivering safe, clean drinking water to every community in the state.
- › **Climate Resilience:** Climate whiplash — the swing between extreme droughts and extreme floods — is increasing, snowpack is diminishing, and wildfires are growing more severe. Water suppliers are modernizing, but they cannot do it alone.

Building A Modern System

Securing California's water future requires more than incremental fixes. It demands a fundamental shift in how the State leads, invests, and operates. The Vision for Our Water Future provides an essential framework for ensuring a resilient and reliable water system.

Funded, built, and managed for extreme conditions, our modern water system is resilient, coordinated, and flexible — meeting the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment.

- › **Anchored by Backbone Infrastructure:** The State Water Project and Central Valley Project form the foundation of the statewide water system. These assets capture and manage California's highly variable hydrology and move water where and when it is needed.
- › **Strengthened by Regional Resiliency:** Regional and watershed-based partnerships strengthen local water reliability under changing hydrologic conditions and during emergencies through coordinated planning, interconnected infrastructure, diversified supplies, and shared responsibility.
- › **Delivered Locally:** Water is delivered by local suppliers, even when conveyed through or interconnected with statewide or regional systems. Local agencies set rates and policies — ratepayers fund approximately 85% of California's water system costs — while navigating structural constraints from Proposition 218, regulatory mandates, and permitting complexity.

Key Elements of A Modern Water System

- › Designed and upgraded for the future
- › Flexible and responsive to changing climate conditions
- › Supported by aligned state permitting, regulatory, and investment frameworks
- › Informed by technology, data, and science
- › Grounded in long-term affordability

A modern water system must be resilient, coordinated, and flexible to meet California's evolving needs.



LEAD ON WATER

Recognize water as an essential resource and the infrastructure that underpins California's economy, housing growth, food production, environmental health, and community resilience. Sustained executive leadership is needed to improve water supply reliability, accelerate climate resilience, and ensure coordinated action across state government.

- › **Set a Bold Water Agenda (First 100 Days):** Establish a focused statewide water agenda aligned with this Vision for Our Water Future.

- › **Appoint Leaders to Deliver Results:** Appoint and empower leaders to deliver measurable outcomes.
- › **Unify State Agencies:** Direct state agencies to align under unified statewide water priorities and jointly advance implementation in partnership with local, regional, and federal water managers. Designate a cabinet-level water policy executive, reporting directly to the Governor, to align agencies and organize state resources to implement California's water priorities.



PROTECT AFFORDABILITY

Ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable by strengthening sustained state investment and funding partnerships with local, regional, and federal agencies to address rising infrastructure, climate, and regulatory costs. California's ratepayers fund more than 85% of the system. Without predictable investment, these costs will increasingly fall on households, businesses, and farmers.

- › **Secure Sustainable Water Funding:** Create a reliable sustainable state funding source for water infrastructure that provides predictable, long-term investment. This funding should support critical water infrastructure projects, environmental needs, and California's Human Right to Water while leveraging federal, regional, and local investment.

- › **Accelerate Funding:** Improve funding programs and coordination so investments reach projects faster — reducing administrative delays, lowering project costs, and accelerating infrastructure delivery.
- › **Integrate Investments Across Sectors:** Align state investments and integrate water infrastructure funding across energy, housing, and climate and hazard mitigation to advance multi-benefit projects and maximize federal, state, and regional investment.



3

DELIVER CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Future-proof California’s critical water infrastructure to ensure reliable supplies in the face of climate change, growing economic and community demands, and escalating emergency risks. This requires strengthening the statewide water system, including both built and natural infrastructure, while advancing regional resilience to maximize systemwide reliability.

- › **Strengthen the State’s Water Backbone:** Upgrade, repair, and optimize California’s essential backbone infrastructure — the California State Water Project and Central Valley Project.
 - ◆ **Modernize and Protect Infrastructure:** Advance a durable Delta conveyance solution, strengthen Delta levees, safeguard critical infrastructure from subsidence and seismic risk, and upgrade system technologies — including Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations, snowpack measurement, and remote monitoring control.

- ◆ **Improve Coordinated Operations:** Integrate operations of the California State Water Project and Central Valley Project to increase system flexibility, expand the storage and movement of water, and enhance water supply reliability.
- › **Safeguard Colorado River Water Supplies:** Protect California’s Colorado River allocation, consistent with the State’s legal entitlements and the efforts of the Colorado River Board of California.
- › **Empower Regional Water Solutions:** Champion regional and watershed-based solutions. State policy should empower regions with the tools, flexibility, and investment needed to advance regional planning, partnerships, and projects that diversify water supplies, strengthen system connectivity and operational efficiency, and restore ecosystem functions to ensure reliable water supplies.

4

MODERNIZE WATER MANAGEMENT

Improve California’s regulatory and operational systems so water projects can move forward reliably and efficiently, infrastructure can be operated more flexibly, and agencies can respond more rapidly to changing conditions. California’s regulatory framework should deliver clear, coordinated decisions grounded in the best available science, while maintaining environmental protections, public transparency, and California’s existing water rights priority system.

- › **Improve Permitting Performance:** Enhance the clarity, coordination, and efficiency of state permitting processes to accelerate infrastructure and operational improvements; eliminate avoidable costs; and ensure state and local agencies deliver timely, accountable results.
 - ◆ **Integrate Permit Requirements:** Integrate requirements and processes across regulatory agencies to eliminate redundancy and inconsistency.
 - ◆ **Enhance Regulatory Certainty:** Establish transparent procedures, clear criteria for permit approval, and accountable timelines for agency decisions — developed in direct partnership with water suppliers.

- ◆ **Streamline Pathways:** Create efficient pathways to advance multi-benefit, climate-resilient water supply projects.
- › **Modernize Water Operations:** Advance operational approaches that reflect changing climate realities to improve water supply reliability across environmental, agricultural, and urban sectors. This may include coordinated reservoir management, flexible diversion rules tied to real-time hydrology, accelerated groundwater recharge and conjunctive use, expanded water transfers, and other adaptive strategies.
- › **Strengthen Water Data and Science:** Invest in integrated, science-based statewide data systems and technology that improve transparency, inform real-time decisions, and strengthen regulatory and operational performance to increase efficiency and better manage water resources.

VISION
FOR OUR WATER FUTURE



Vision for Our Water Future is an initiative of the Association of California Water Agencies, representing approximately 470 public water agencies in California. 136

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-XX

**SUPPORT FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES VISION
FOR OUR WATER FUTURE**

WHEREAS, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (“District”) is a California Water Storage District formed and existing under the California Water Storage District Law (Wat. Code, §§ 39000 *et seq.*).

WHEREAS, the District has been a participating member of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) for many decades; and

WHEREAS, in April 2026, ACWA launched Vision for Our Water Future, a member-driven initiative to identify statewide water priorities to inform engagement with California’s next Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Vision for Our Water Future priorities are a set of recommendations for the next governor, emphasizing the importance of strong leadership, sustainable investment and coordinated action across all levels of government to secure California’s water future; and

WHEREAS, the first priority is to lead on water and elevate water as foundational to California’s economy, agriculture, communities, environment and climate resilience through sustained leadership and coordinated state action; and

WHEREAS, the second priority is to ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable through sustained and predictable funding partnerships and streamlined investment delivery; and

WHEREAS, the third priority is to strengthen and modernize California’s water infrastructure, including both built and natural systems, to improve reliability and resilience; and

WHEREAS, the fourth priority is to improve regulatory, operational and scientific frameworks to enable efficient project delivery and adaptive water management; and

WHEREAS, local water agencies play a critical role in delivering safe and reliable water supplies and are essential partners in implementing statewide solutions; and

WHEREAS, supporting the Vision recommendations demonstrates a unified commitment to collaborative, science-based and practical policies that advance a secure and resilient water future for California’s communities, farms, economy and environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Board of Directors that:

1. The Board of Directors for the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District hereby expresses support for ACWA’s Vision for Our Water Future recommendations and affirms its commitment to working collaboratively to advance reliable, affordable and resilient water supplies.

All the foregoing, being on motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, is authorized by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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 13th day of May 2026

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Board of Directors this 13th day of May 2026.

(District Seal)

Secretary of the Board of Directors

DRAFT

MAY 6, 2026

ACWA Announces Statewide Water Leader as New Executive Director



Nemeth Named ED

California Department of Water Resources Director Karla Nemeth has been selected to lead ACWA as its sixth Executive Director, President Ernie Avila announced today during ACWA's Spring Conference.

Nemeth brings an unprecedented breadth of experience, list of accomplishments and high-profile statewide recognition to overseeing the largest association of its kind in the nation. She is the first woman to hold the position in its 116-year history.

Nemeth's appointment followed overwhelming support by the association's Board of Directors after a nationwide recruitment process. She will assume responsibilities as ACWA Executive Director effective Sept. 1. Current Interim Executive Director Marwan Khalifa will remain at ACWA through a transition period.

"Bringing in Karla to lead the ACWA team is a phenomenal win for our members," said ACWA President Ernie Avila. "She brings deep expertise and a proven track record navigating California's most complex water challenges. Her leadership will strengthen ACWA's role as a leading voice and advocate for water agencies across the state."

Nemeth is among the most instantly recognizable and accomplished decision makers within the California water space, having served as DWR Director since 2018, originally appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown and re-appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom. Throughout that time, Nemeth has

participated in numerous ACWA conferences as a panelist and keynote speaker, sharing her perspectives on a wide range of critical issues.

"On behalf of our member agencies, I also want to extend my deep appreciation to Marwan for his leadership during the past 15 months and through a transition period," Avila said. "His contributions have been invaluable in supporting the association, especially in successfully implementing the 2025-'29 Strategic Plan and launching ACWA's Vision for Our Water Future initiative."

Bringing Water Together

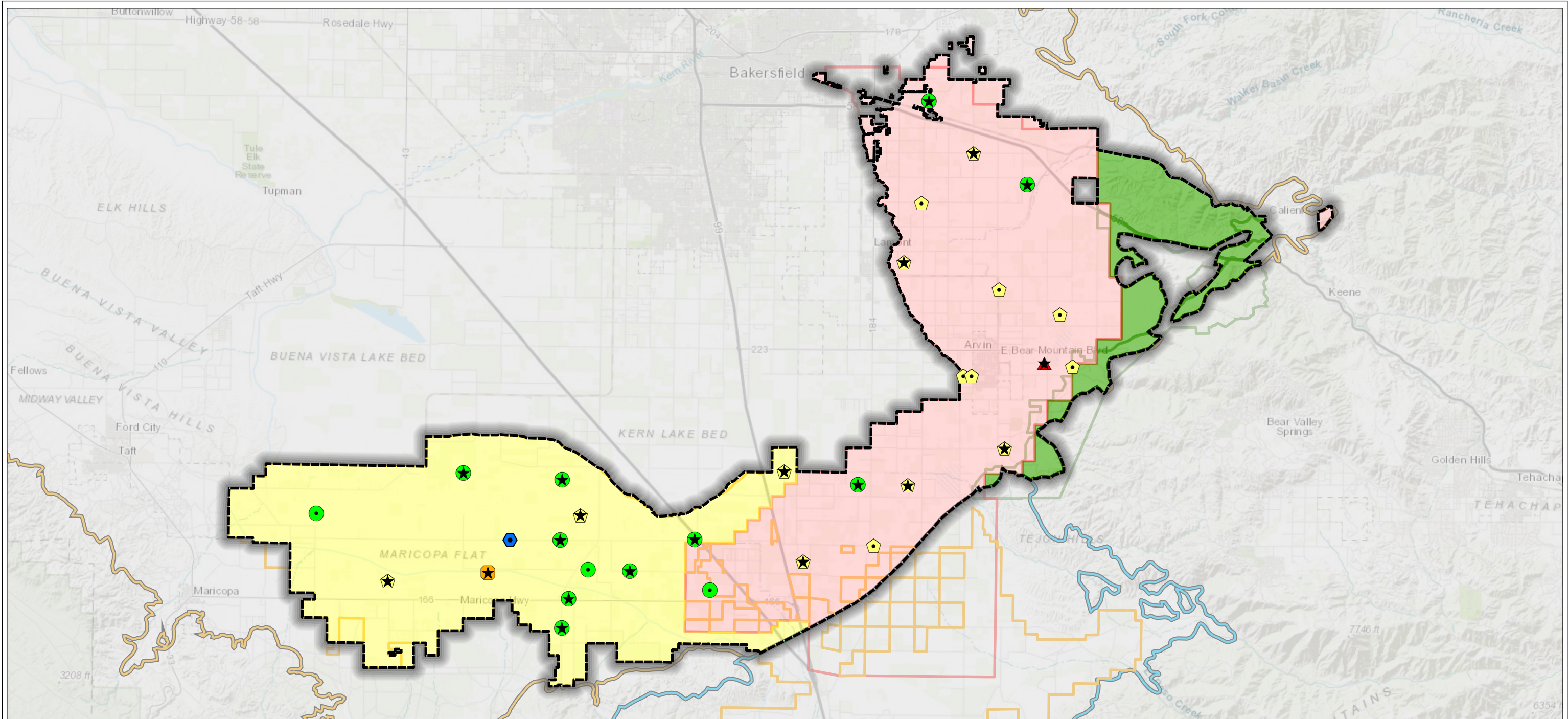


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980 9th St. Ste. 1000, Sacramento, CA 95814

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Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of April 2026

- Water Level Above MO (13 or 42%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (15 or 48%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (1 or 3%)
- ▲ Water Level Below MT (1 or 3%)
- No Water Level Measurement (1 or 3%)

- 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

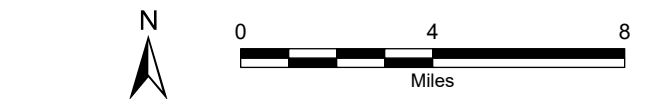
- AEWSD = Arvin-Edison Water Storage District
- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- MO = Measurable Objective
- MT = Minimum Threshold
- RMW = Representative Monitoring Well
- SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SMC = Sustainable Management Criteria
- TCWD = Tejon-Castac Water District
- UR = Undesirable Result
- WRMWSA = Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Notes

1. All locations are approximate.
2. Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan
3. 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

1. Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 7 May 2026.
2. GSA boundaries obtained from SGMA GSA Map Viewer portal, accessed 6 May 2022.
3. DWR groundwater basins are based on the boundaries defined in California's Groundwater Bulletin 118 - 2019 Update.

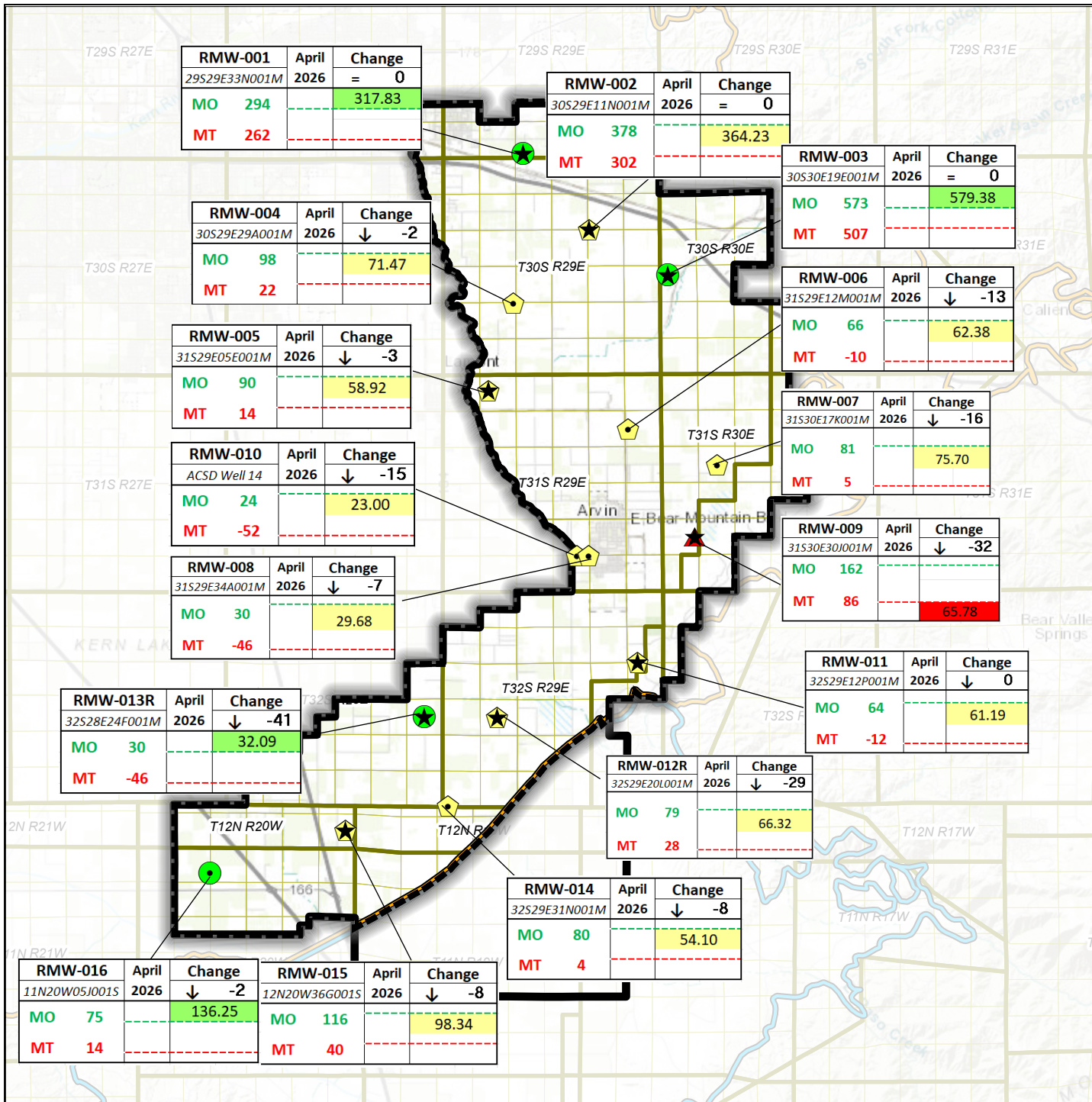


April 2026 Water Levels Relative to SMCs

South of Kern River GSAs
Kern County, CA
April 2026
C20055.00



Path: X:\C20055.00\Maps\2026\04\April_2026.aprx



Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of April 2026

- Water Level Above MO (4 or 25%)
- ⬠ Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (11 or 69%)
- ⬡ Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (0)
- ▲ Water Level Below MT (1 or 6%)
- ⬢ No Water Level Measurement (0)
- 🏠 Arvin GSA
- 🏞️ Arvin-Edison Water Storage District
- 📏 Groundwater Subbasin
- 🟡 Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- 🟢 White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
- ★ Transducer Installed

Abbreviations

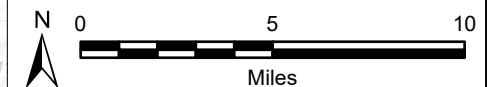
- ACSD = Arvin Community Services District
- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- ft msl = feet above mean sea level
- GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- MO = Measurable Objective
- MT = Minimum Threshold
- RMW = Representative Monitoring Well
- SMC = Sustainable Management Criteria

Notes

1. All locations are approximate.
2. Groundwater elevations reported in units of ft msl.
3. All water levels collected during April 2026.
4. Arrow direction indicates water level change from previous month.
5. Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
6. 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

1. Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 7 May 2026.

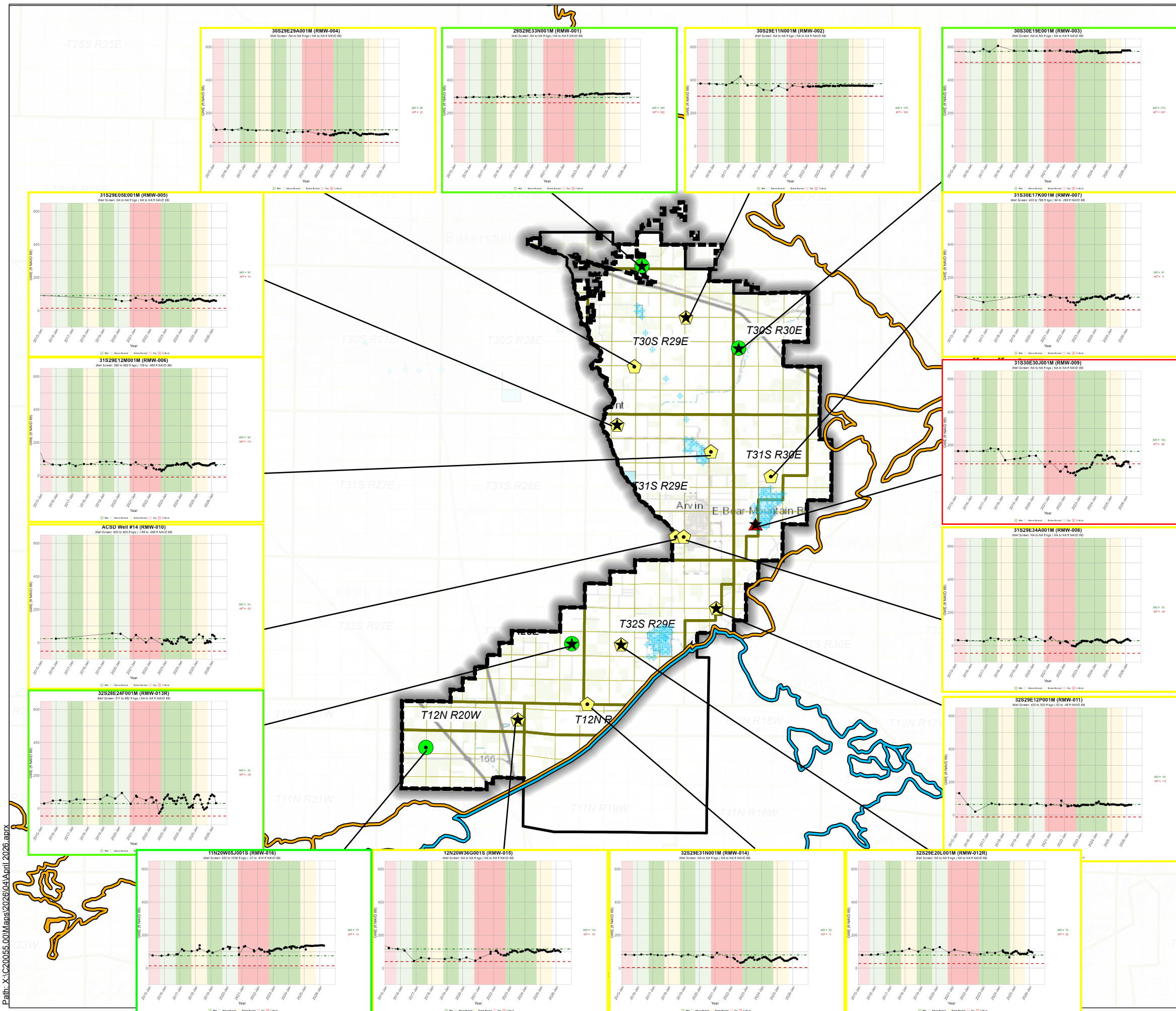


**Groundwater Levels Relative to SMCs
April 2026
Arvin GSA**

Arvin-Edison Water Storage District
Kern County, California
April 2026
B60064.10



Figure 2



Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of April 2026

- Water Level Above MO (4 or 25%)
- ⬠ Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (11 or 69%)
- ⬠ Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (0)
- ▲ Water Level Below MT (1 or 6%)
- ⬠ No Water Level Measurement (0)
- Arvin-E Edison Water Storage District
- Arvin GSA

Groundwater Subbasin

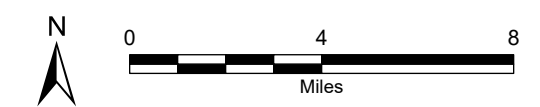
- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
- ★ Transducer Installed

Abbreviations

AEWSD = Arvin-E Edison Water Storage District
 DWR = California Department of Water Resources
 ft msl = feet above mean sea level
 GWE = groundwater elevation
 MO = measurable objective
 MT = minimum threshold
 RMW = Representative Monitoring Well

- #### 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 April 2026 measurements.

- #### Sources
- Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 7 May 2026.
 - Water level information obtained from AEWSD.

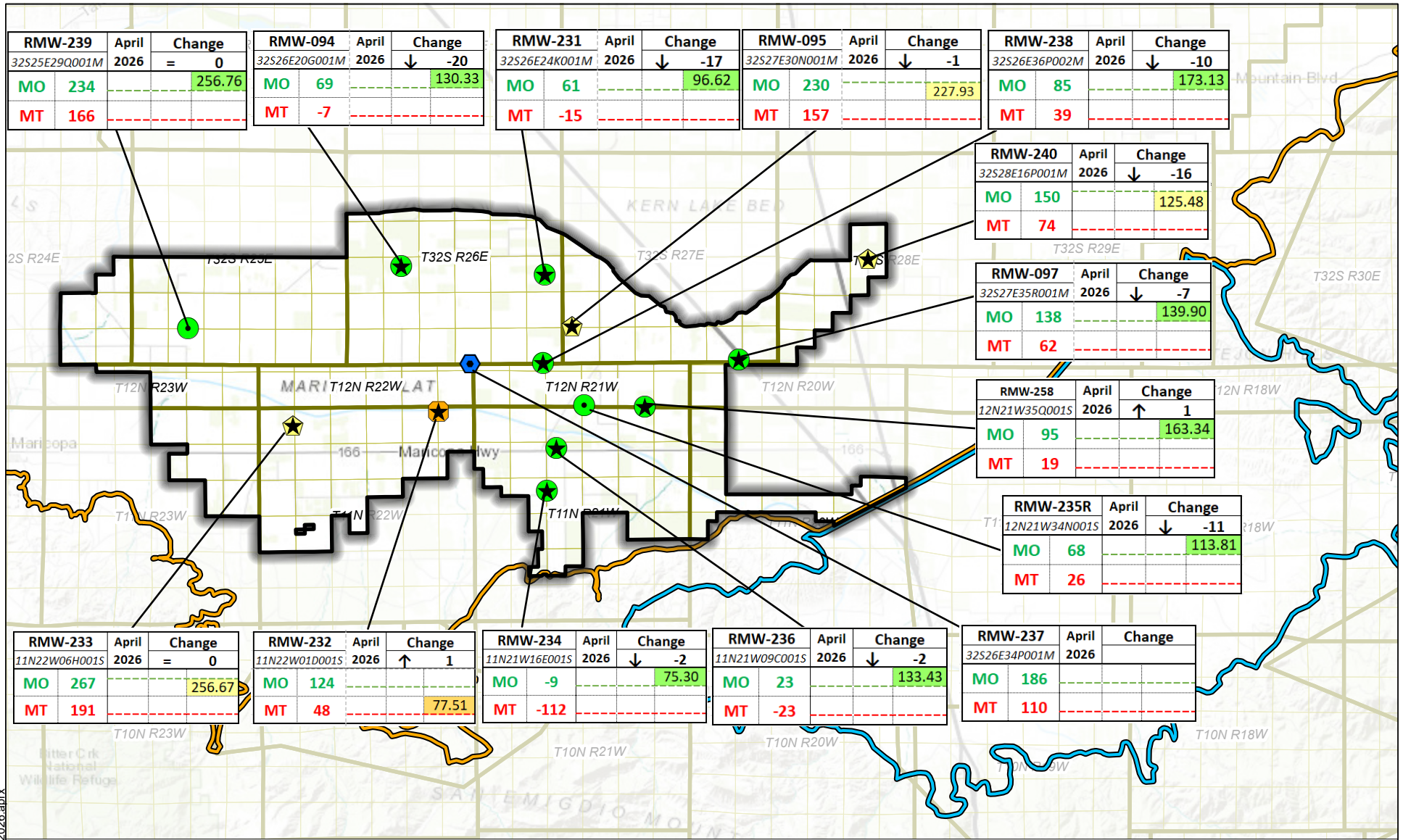


DRAFT

Hydrographs in Representative Monitoring Wells (January 2015 - April 2026)

Arvin-E Edison Water Storage District
Kern County, CA
April 2026
C20055.01
Figure 3

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Path: X:\C20055_00\Maps\2026\04\April_2026.aprx

Legend

Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of April 2026

- Water Level Above MO (9 or 65%)
- 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 (1 or 7%)

Groundwater Subbasin

- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
- Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
- ★ Transducer Installed

Notes

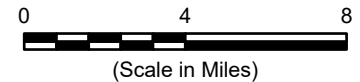
1. All locations are approximate.
2. Groundwater elevations reported in units of ft msl.
3. All water levels collected during April 2026.
4. Arrow direction indicates water level change from previous month.
5. Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
6. 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

1. Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 7 May 2026.

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



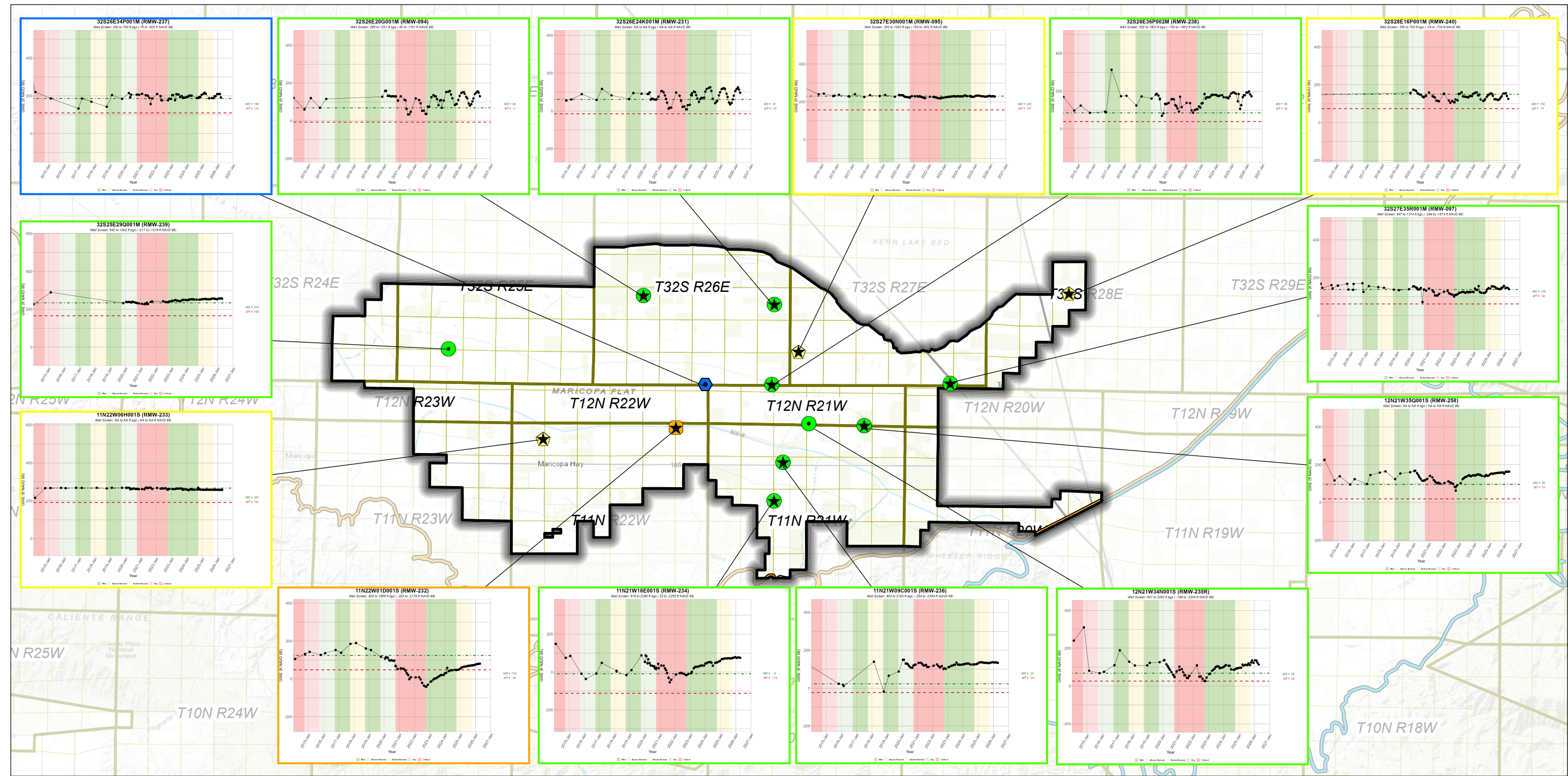
**Groundwater Levels Relative to SMCs
April 2026**

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA

South of Kern River
Kern County, California
April 2026
C20055.00



Figure 4



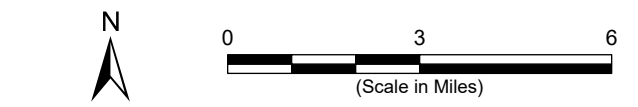
- Legend**
- Representative Monitoring Well and Status as of April 2026**
- Water Level Above MO (9 or 72%)
 - Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MO (3 or 21%)
 - Water Level Between MO and MT but closer to MT (1 or 7%)
 - Water Level Below MT (0)
 - No Water Level Measurement (1 or 7%)

- Groundwater Subbasin**
- Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA
 - Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
 - White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
 - ★ Transducer Installed

- Notes**
1. All locations are approximate.
 2. Groundwater elevations are in feet mean sea level.
 3. Status is based on the SMCs in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
 4. 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).
 5. All RMW status based on April 2026 measurements.

- Sources**
1. Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 7 May 2026.
 2. Groundwater elevation data provided by WRMWS.

- 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 = Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District



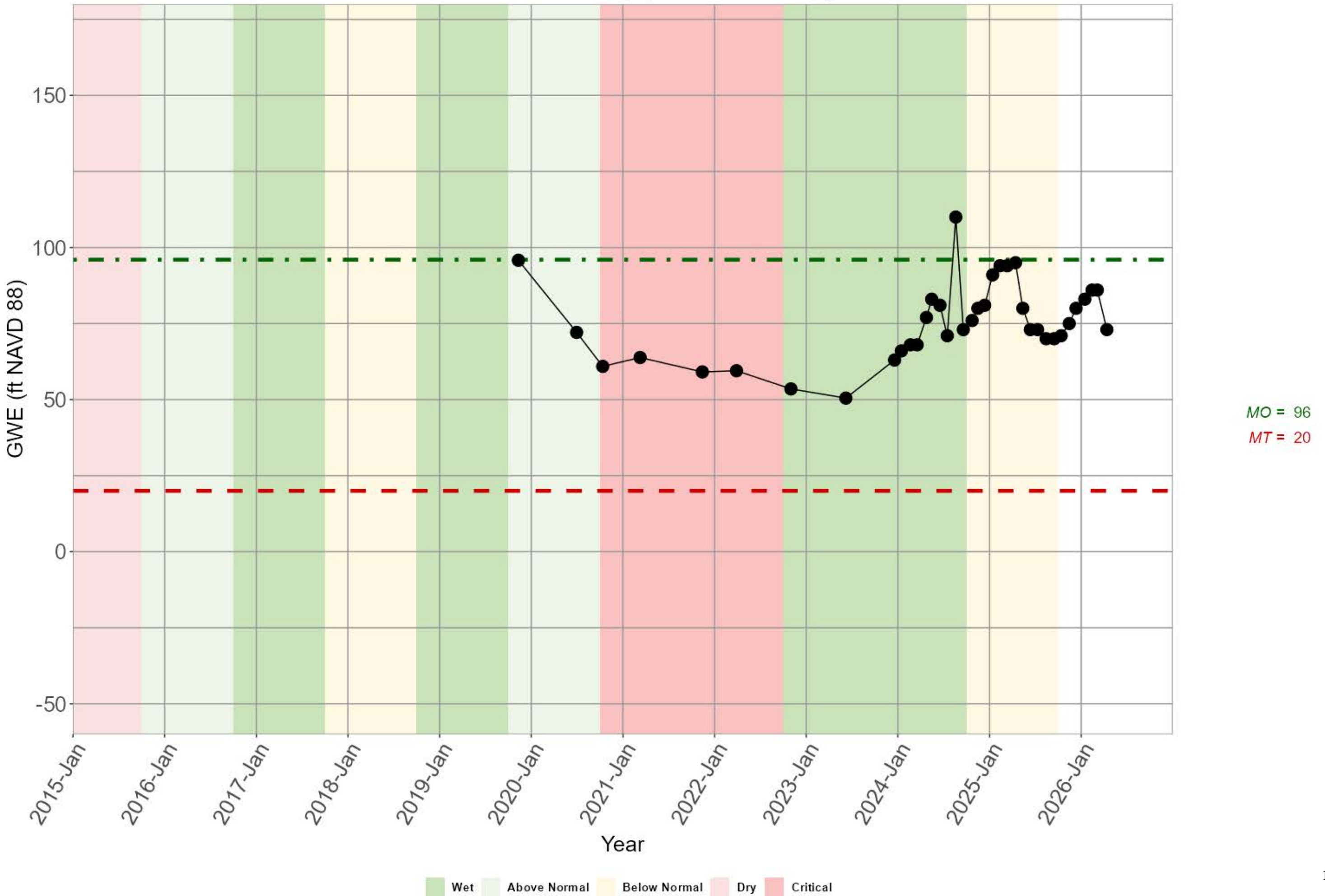
Hydrographs in Representative Monitoring Wells (January 2015 - April 2026)
 Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
 Kern County, CA
 April 2026
 C20055.00



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Caratan Well (RMW-070)

Well Screen: NA to NA ft bgs (NA to NA ft NAVD 88)



WHEELER RIDGE-MARICOPA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Eric McDaris

DATE: May 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Establishing 2026 WRMGSA Administration Charge

Each year the Board is required to set the annual rate for WRMGSA Administration Charge, similar to the process to establish the District’s Special Service Charges. In 2024, following the public hearing to establish the WRM GSA administration charge, the Board adopted Resolution 24-08 which authorized the charge and outlined a schedule of rates for the years 2024-2028 as shown below.

	2024	2025*	2026	2027	2028
SGMA Budget: \$	230,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
\$/Acre: \$	2.52	\$ 3.28	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.19
Amortization of prior costs: \$	3.79	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.79	\$ -
Total \$/Acre: \$	6.30	\$ 7.07	\$ 5.97	\$ 5.97	\$ 2.19

WRMGSA costs have exceeded the budget which was estimated for the WRMGSA when the charge was established in 2024. Much of these costs can be attributed to the GSP revisions which were necessary following the Kern Subbasin’s inadequate determination. The table below compares the estimated annual SGMA budgets vs. actual spend as well as the running balance of the amortization of prior WRM GSA related expenses:

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
SGMA Budget: \$	230,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Actual Expenses: \$	432,372.00	\$ 419,178.71	\$ 107,735.26	\$ -	\$ -
Amortization Balance: \$	1,586,816.07	\$ 1,359,883.76	\$ 1,013,772.75	\$ 667,661.73	\$ 321,550.71 ***

Given the WRMGSA costs in 2024 and 2025 came in substantially higher than anticipated, it will be necessary to revise the above schedule in 2029 to include an extended amortization period to recover these overages.

Recommendation. Staff recommends the Board adopt the attached resolution entitled Setting 2026 Rate For the WRMGSA Administration Charge, setting the rate for the WRMGSA Administration Charge at the maximum allowable rate of \$5.97 per acre as described herein and ordering the collection of same, subject to review by counsel as to form and final approval of the Engineer-Manager.

Attachments: Draft Resolution 2026-XX Setting 2026 Rate for the WRGMSA Administration Charge
 Filename: 8.11.a Consider Establishing 2026 WRMGSA Administration Charge

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-XX

SETTING 2026 RATE FOR THE WRMGSA ADMINISTRATION CHARGE

WHEREAS, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (“District”) is a California Water Storage District formed and existing under the California Water Storage District Law (Wat. Code, §§ 39000 *et seq.*).

WHEREAS, under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”), the District is the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) for the portion of the Kern County Subbasin within its boundaries (excluding the area overlapping with the boundaries of Arvin-Edison Water Storage District), known as the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA (“WRMGSA”).

WHEREAS, by adoption of Resolution 24-08, dated the 14th day of March, 2024, the Board approved the imposition of a WRMGSA Administration Charge to be imposed on a per-acre basis on the area of the Kern County Subbasin for which it is the GSA.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Board of Directors that:

1. The Board finds that each of the above recitals is true and correct.
2. Funds collected through the GSA Charge will be used only as provided in Water Code section 10730, i.e. to “fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, including, but not limited to, preparation, adoption, and amendment of a groundwater sustainability plan, and investigations, inspections, compliance assistance, enforcement, and program administration, including a prudent reserve.” For the purposes of providing funds necessary to defray and recover the costs of the aforementioned WRMGSA services:
 - a. A charge known as the WRMGSA Administration Charge of \$5.97 per acre for 2026 is hereby fixed upon each and every acre of land within that portion of the District in the Kern County Subbasin, excluding the overlap with Arvin- Edison Water Storage District.
 - b. For those lands which may be bifurcated by a GSA or Subbasin boundary, the WRMGSA Administrative Charge shall be prorated proportionally by the acreage which lies within the WRMGSA.
3. It is ordered that the said charges shall be billed and collected by the County of Kern, as provided in Chapter 8 and Part 2.74 of Division 6 of the Water Code (commencing with Section 10730) and Article 4 of Chapter 13 of Part 9 of Division 14 of the Water Code (commencing with Section 47980).
4. The assessee parcels and the assessee names for each parcel of lands in the WRMGSA against whom such charges have been fixed and the acreage assessed to such people according to the District's records and the rate per acre of such charges to be paid by each assessee parcel herein above designated as those to be billed and collected by the County of Kern, is as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

5. The Secretary is hereby ordered and directed to deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of Kern County on or before August 9, 2025, as and for this GSA's certification to said County Auditor of the information required by Section 10730(d)(2) of the Water Code.
6. The Secretary is further ordered to deliver certified copies of this Resolution to the Tax Collector and Treasurer of Kern County, California.
7. As provided in Section 47980 of the Water Code, the District elects to have this charge collected by the County and directs staff to transmit a copy of this resolution along with the information required by that section to the County Auditor. The net amount collected by the County of Kern pursuant hereto shall be paid to the Treasurer of the WRMGSA under the general requirements and penalties provided by law for the settlement of County taxes, provided, however, that all amounts so collected by the County of Kern shall be deposited with the County Treasurer of Kern County in the District's Account No. 60710.

All the foregoing, being on motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, is authorized by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

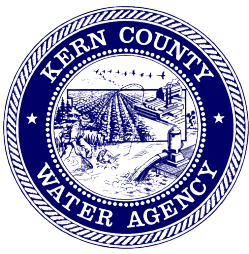
ABSENT:

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 13th day of May 2026

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Board of Directors this **13th** day of May 2026.

(District Seal)

Secretary of the Board of Directors



KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Stuart T. Pyle Water Resources Center

3200 Rio Mirada Drive

Bakersfield, California

Notice of SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 23, 2026

Conference Line: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122)

Access Code: 863-465-805#

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/863465805>

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order – 11:30 a.m.
- II. Directors' Forum
- III. 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.
- IV. 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

2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Significant exposure to litigation: (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2)):
 - a. One potential suit
3. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code section 54956.8):
 - a. Negotiator: Assistant General Manager
Property: State Water Project Water
Parties: California Department of Water Resources and State Water Project Contractors
Under Negotiation: Price & Terms

V. Closed Session Report

VI. 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 April 17, 2026.



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 COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Stuart T. Pyle Water Resources Center

3200 Rio Mirada Drive
Bakersfield, California 93308

Notice of BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 23, 2026

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)

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- 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
 - 2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Significant exposure to litigation: (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2)):
 - a. One potential suit
 - 3. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code section 54956.8):
 - a. Negotiator: Assistant General Manager
Property: State Water Project Water
Parties: California Department of Water Resources and State Water Project Contractors
Under Negotiation: Price & Terms
- III. Closed Session Report
- IV. Directors’ Forum
- V. 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.
- VI. 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 –

Special Board Meeting	March 16, 2026
Special Board Meeting	March 25, 2026
Regular Board Meeting	March 25, 2026
- 2. Payment of the Bills
- 3. Authorization to Publish a Notice of Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget
- 4. Authorization to Publish the Notice of Public Hearing for the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan
- 5. Authorization to Execute Change Order No. 3 for the North Pioneer East Basin Turnout Structures Project – Contract KCWA 2025-01

6. Consideration of the Kern County Water Agency Purchase Card Program Policy
7. Consideration of the Kern County Water Agency Reserves and Designations Policy
8. Consideration of the Kern County Water Agency Investment Policy

VII. 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 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – Director Johnson, Chair

1. Financial Report
2. Treasury Report

B. STATE WATER PROJECT POLICY COMMITTEE – Director Cattani, Chair

1. Update on Delta Conveyance Activities
2. Update on Legislative Activities
3. State Water Project Policy Activities
 - a. Report on the State Water Contractors Board Meeting
 - b. Report on the State Water Contractor Meetings
 - c. Report on 2026 State Water Project and Central Valley Project Allocations and Operations

C. WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Director Fast, Chair

1. Report of the Water Resources Manager
2. Update on Golden Mussels
 - a. Update on the Kern County Water Agency's Response to Local Golden Mussel Detections
 - b. Authorization to Retain a Golden Mussel Consultant

3. Local State Water Project
 - a. Report on Kern County Water Agency California Aqueduct Deliveries
 - b. Update on Water Transfers, Exchanges and Purchases
4. Groundwater Banking
 - a. Report on 2026 Water Operations
5. Sustainable Groundwater Management
 - a. Update on the Pioneer Groundwater Sustainability Agency

D. CROSS VALLEY CANAL COMMITTEE – Director Lundquist, Chair

1. Report of the Water Resources Manager
2. Report on the Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee
3. Report on Cross Valley Canal Operations and Deliveries
4. Review of the Emergency Action Regarding the Cross Valley Canal River Turnout No. 3 Secondary Turnout
5. Review of the Emergency Action Regarding Golden Mussels in the Cross Valley Canal
6. Authorization to Approve an Amendment to the 2026 Cross Valley Canal Operations and Maintenance Budget

E. IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4 COMMITTEE – Director Wulff, Chair

1. Report on Urban Bakersfield Advisory Committee
2. Report on the Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Agency Meeting
3. Report on Kern Water Bank Activities
4. Report on the Improvement District No. 4 2026 Water Supply and Management Plan
5. Report on the Henry C. Garnett Water Purification Plant

F. ENGINEERING AND GROUNDWATER SERVICES COMMITTEE –
Director Kroeker, Chair

1. Update on Construction/Maintenance Projects
2. Authorization to Issue the Notice to Invite Bids for the North Pioneer West Basin Levee Reconstruction Project – Contract No. KCWA 2026-02

VIII. Correspondence

IX. Brief Report on Potential New Business

X. 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 April 17, 2026.



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, May 12, 2026, 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. Notice of Board Member Resignation and Appointment**
- 3. Resolution No. 2026-03 – Recognition of Dennis Atkinson**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
The Board will consider approval of April 14, 2026, Regular Board of Directors' Meeting minutes.
- 5. Treasurer's Report**
The Board will consider approval of the April 2026 Treasurer's Report.
- 6. Authorization to Pay Expenses of Authority**
The Board will consider approval of payment of the April 2026 accounts payable.
- 7. Establishment of CAMP Account**
The Board will consider approval of establishing an investment account with the California Asset Management Program (CAMP).
- 8. Replacement Well**
The Board will review and consider approval of the replacement of a recovery well.
- 9. GEI Grant Application**
The Board will consider engaging GEI for the preparation of replacement well grant applications.
- 10. Reports/Other Action Items**
 - A) Staff Report
Review and possibly act on items discussed in previously submitted Staff Report, staff recommendations, and other items regarding:
 - (1) Water Bank Operations
 - (2) 3rd Party Facilities on Kern Water Bank
 - (3) Adjacent Properties

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.

- (4) KWBA HCP/NCCP and Land Management
- (5) Finalize 2025 Fee Reconciliation
- (6) Capital Improvements/Maintenance and Funding
- (7) Data Collection and Automation

B) Directors, Counsel and Committee Reports

The Board of Directors will hear and possibly act on reports and recommendations:

- (1) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee

7. Old Business

This portion of the meeting is set aside for the discussion of matters which have been addressed at previous Board meetings.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
Negotiating Parties: KWBA and Kern County Water Agency
Property: CVC N2 Siphon Repair and Replacement

- 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 Irvine Ranch WD/Rosedale Rio-Bravo WSD
Properties: Kern Water Bank Land - Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project
Conveyance

- 11. Reconvene and Report from Closed Session (Gov. Code section 54957.1)**

- 12. Adjourn**

KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

To: KWBA Board of Directors; Steve Torigiani

From: KWBA Staff

Date: May 12, 2026

Subject: Monthly Status Report

CALENDAR

The next KWBA 2026 Regular Board of Directors' Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2026 (3:15 P.M.).

OPERATIONS

Recharge

There are currently no recharge activities.

Recovery

Recovery operations started on May 11, 2026.

FACILITIES

Facilities Maintenance

Routine maintenance continues on roads, water delivery structures, wells, pumping stations, and canals is continuing.

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.

Golden Mussels

KWBA staff are participating in the Kern County golden mussel task force. KWBA staff continue to look for signs of golden mussels at the KWB pump stations and pipelines but, to date, have not found any.

THIRD PARTIES

PG&E is no longer requesting an easement along Stockdale Highway. SoCalGas is working on emergency pipeline repairs in the Conservation Bank Area.

ENVIRONMENTAL – GENERAL AND HCP ISSUES

Conservation Bank

CalTrans is finalizing its purchase of 4 credits. The Bakersfield Gateway Project is expected to purchase 10 credits in the near future. SoCalGas pipeline repairs in the

Conservation Bank Area will require mitigation and PG&E has inquired about the purchase of mitigation credits.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS/REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

Capitalized Maintenance Program

Construction of replacement turnouts is currently in progress in the K Ponds.

Replacement Wells

Well 30S25E-18C01 will be replaced with Well 30S25E-18C02. Well permit has been issued along with the old well abandonment permit . WM Lyles completed temporary work on existing discharge pipe to accommodate new well prior to drilling and Gillex completed the well pad construction. BWP will install the well conductor pipe on Tuesday May 12, 2026 and will start mobilizing drilling rig in mid-May 2026 to start drilling in May 2026.

Well Rehabilitation and Repairs

There are no current well rehabilitation activities. Well 30S25E-13J01, Well 30S26E-18D01 and Well 30S25E-06K01 were vandalized and are currently being repaired.

Basin 11

The Basin 11 Project upgrades are complete and KWBA staff is waiting on some final invoices so that they can bill the Pioneer Project participants for their 15% of the direct costs.

Strand Siphon Replacement and Joint Use of Facilities Agreements

As previously reported, 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. Pre-fab turnouts and discharge pipes are on site, gates will be fabricated next, and, once they are delivered to KWBA staff, KWBA will start construction.

Enos Lane Culvert

The KWBA has received approval and a permit from Caltrans for the culvert construction. Caltrans has extended our permit for another 7 months. Enos Lane culvert construction is in progress. Richard Meyer, NCI, and KWBA staff had a meeting on May 6, 2026 to discuss a solution to an existing 6” gas line that is on Caltrans’ right of way that impacts the new culvert pipe location.

Nord Turnout

The agreement between KCWA and KWBA for KCWA’s construction and the operation of the new Nord Turnout has been executed. The KCWA has finalized the bid process and

selected Nicolas Construction as the contractor. Nicolas has removed the four old siphons and will begin construction of the new turnout.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Power Update

The KWBA NEM2 application must be submitted to the PG&E CAISO cluster study by October 2026. TotalEnergies is assisting with that process.

Data Management Progress

WH Automation is continuing installation of control panels and is progressing at a rate of about two (2) wells per week. Communications Enterprises Inc. (CEI) has completed installation of the Water Bank communications backbone and is installing the communication equipment at individual well sites. To date, the installation at fifty-one of the well sites have been completed and those wells are currently communicating with the SCADA system. The KWBA has received an additional \$30K of incentive payments from PG&E for the well automation upgrade, bringing the total incentive payments received to \$430K.

Financial Statement Audit

The financial statement audit with auditors BHK has started. BHK has completed onsite testing and hopes to finalize the audit and issue financial statements by the end of May.

Kern Water Bank Groundwater Sustainability Agency



**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
of the Kern Water Bank GSA
Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 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. **Notice of Board Member Resignation and Appointment**
3. **Consider Approval of April 14, 2026 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**
4. **Consider Approval of April 2026 Treasurer's Report**
5. **Consider Authorizing Payment of April 2026 Expenses**
6. **Reports and Other Action Items**
 - a. Kern County Subbasin 2025 GSP
 - i. Approval of Cost Share Agreement
 - b. SGMA Compliance
 - c. 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
 - a. Litigation]: One Item.
 - ii. Gov. Code, § 54956.9(d)(4) [Potential: Initiation of
 - a. Litigation]: One Item.
10. **Reconvene and Report from Closed Session (Gov't. Code section 54957.1)**
11. **Adjourn**

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.

KERN NON-DISTRICTED LAND AUTHORITY (FORMERLY KERN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY)

3200 Rio Mirada Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308
Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 27, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

To virtually attend the meeting and to be able to view any presentations or additional materials provided at the meeting, please join online using the link and information below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87916828311?pwd=MXovFd9w4lFdX8AnOTJBubbKBaglaC.1>

Telephone Dial-in: (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 879 1682 8311

Password: 795650

KERN NON-DISTRICTED LAND AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

This meeting is held in accordance with the Brown Act pursuant to Section 54956 of the California Government Code and the Kern Non-Districted Land Authority Joint Powers Agreement.

1. Roll Call- Quorum Determination.

In the absence of a quorum, the Board will handle only those items not needing a quorum.

2. Flag Salute

3. Public Input

This portion of the meeting is set aside to provide the public with an opportunity to bring to the attention of the Board matters of which the Board may not be aware and which are not on the current agenda. No action can be taken on any matter raised during this portion of the meeting; however, a Board member may request that the matter be placed on any future agenda for further review and possible action. Members of the public may directly address the Board of Directors on any item of interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction, before or during the Board's consideration of the item. The President may limit the time allowed for comment

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. *March 23, 2026

5. Financial Report

- a. *Financial Reports and Accounts Payables

6. Administration

- a. Executive Director Report
- b. Demand Management Update
- c. May/ June Meeting dates

-
- 7. DWR Grant Administration**
 - a. Report on Grant Administration (Jason)
 - 8. County of Kern Participation**
 - a. Kern County Participation Ad Hoc Committee Report (Royce)
 - 9. Legal (Valerie)**
 - a. Statewide Update
 - 10. New Business**
 - 11. Correspondence**
 - a. Kern Tulare- EWMA Comment letter to DWR
 - 12. Closed Session**
 - a. Technical Assistance Application Correspondence
 - b. Demand Management Ad Hoc
 - 13. Adjournment**

A person with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request the Authority provide disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in any public meeting of the Authority. Such assistance includes appropriate alternative formats for the agendas and agenda packets. Requests should be made in person, by telephone, facsimile and/or written correspondence to the Authority office, at least 48 hours before a public Authority meeting. Written materials related to an item on this agenda to be considered in open session that are public documents and that are distributed to board members after the posting of the agenda, will be made available for public inspection when they are so distributed at the location of the KNDLA meeting during normal business hours. Documents that are public documents provided by others during a meeting will be available at the same location during business hours after the meeting.

WHITE WOLF PERIODIC EVALUATION AND GSP UPDATE

WHITE WOLF GSA PUBLIC WORKSHOP
30 APRIL 2026

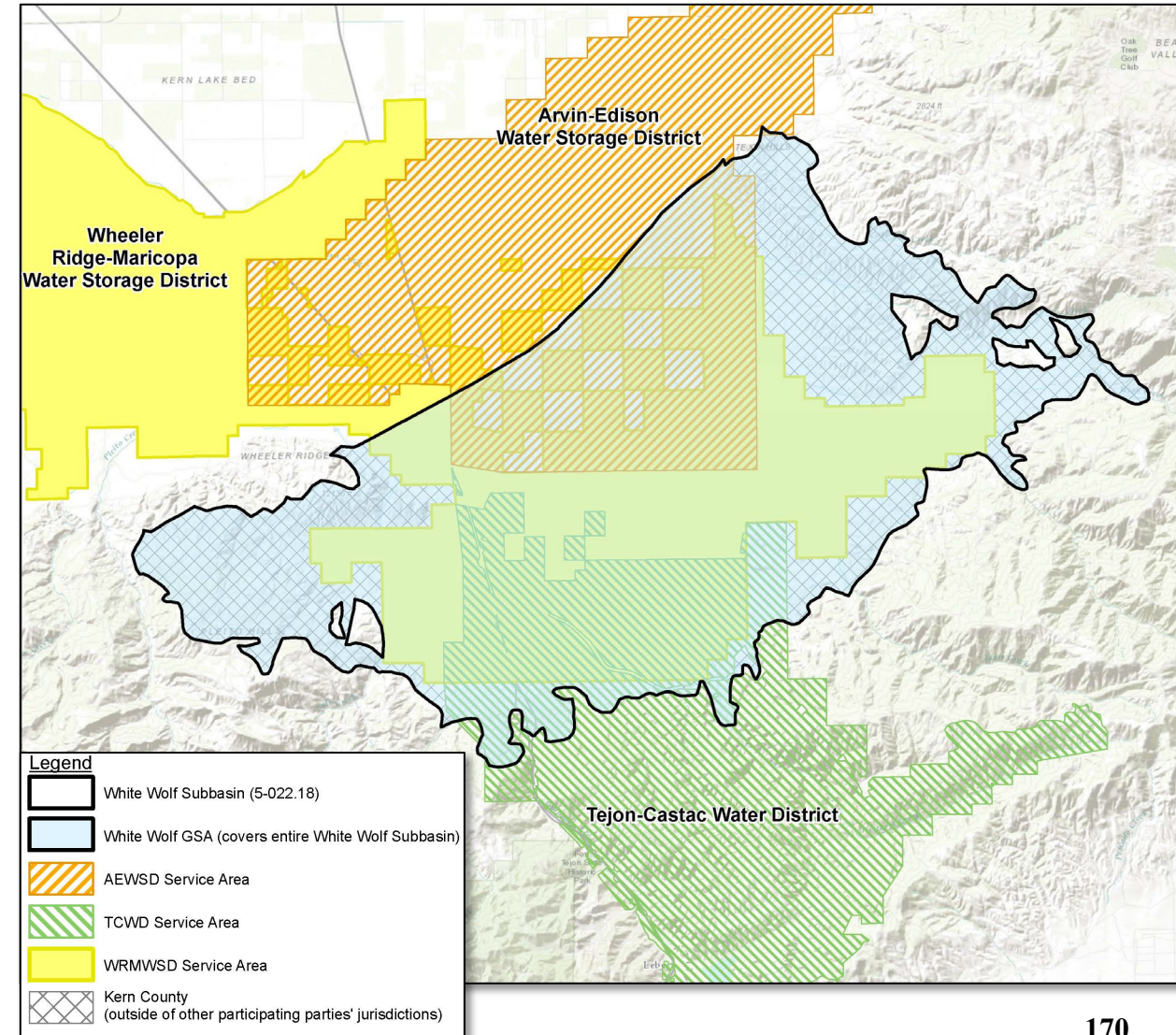


OUTLINE

- Introductions
- Periodic Evaluation and GSP Amendment Process
- Updates relative to 2022 GSP
- Ongoing engagement opportunities
- Open discussion

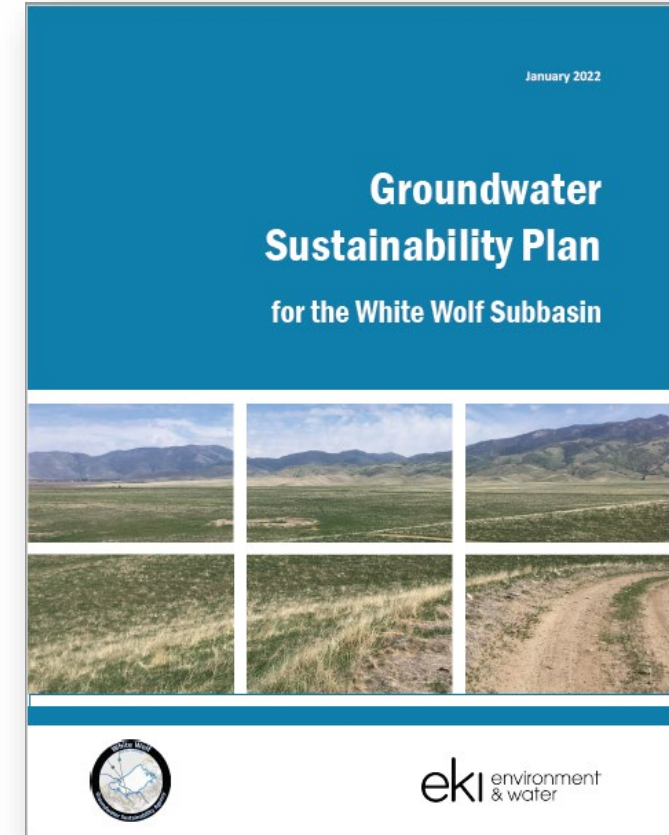
INTRODUCTIONS

- Who we are: White Wolf Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
 - Arvin-Edison Water Storage District
 - Tejon-Castac Water District
 - Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District
 - Kern County
- **Around the room – please introduce yourself!**

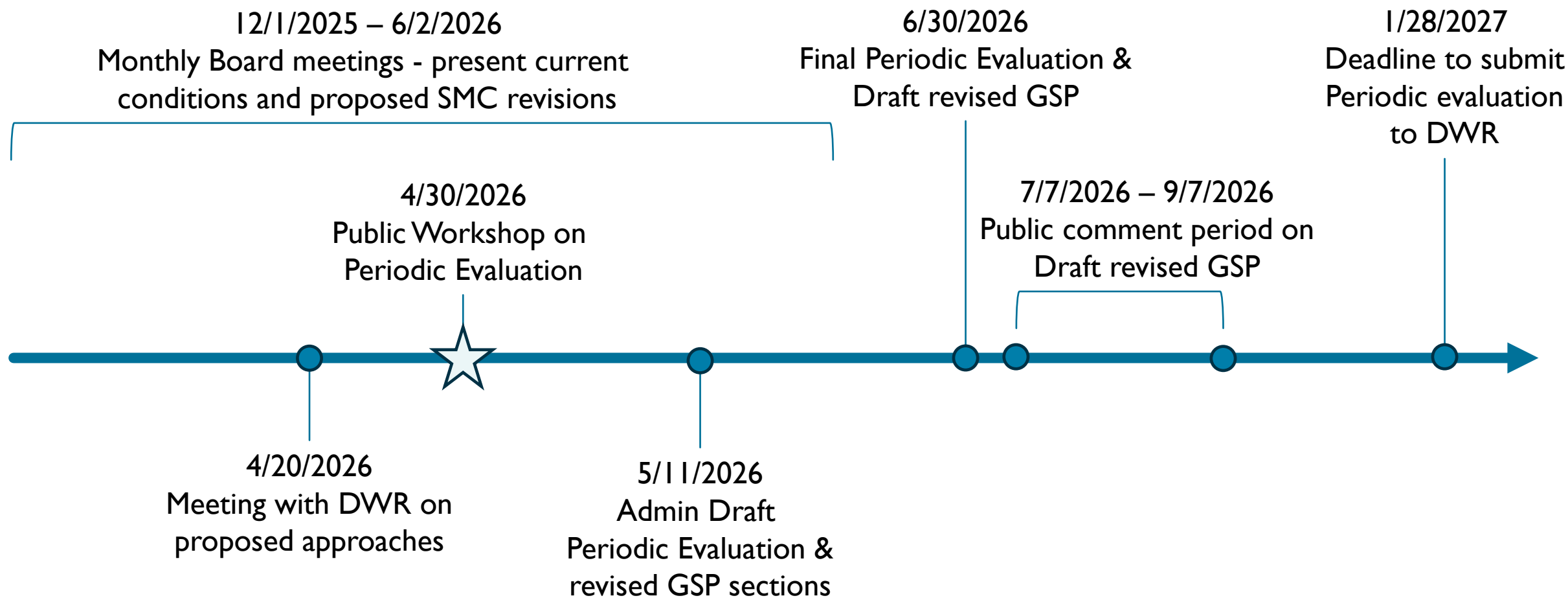


WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE GOING

- GSP adopted in 2022
- GSP approved by DWR in 2023 with 4 Recommended Corrective Actions (RCAs)
- SGMA requires a Periodic Evaluation of GSPs every 5 years (or whenever GSP is amended)
- The Periodic Evaluation is a new document that must:
 - Assess progress toward sustainability goal
 - Address RCAs
 - Be approved by DWR



PERIODIC EVALUATION TIMELINE



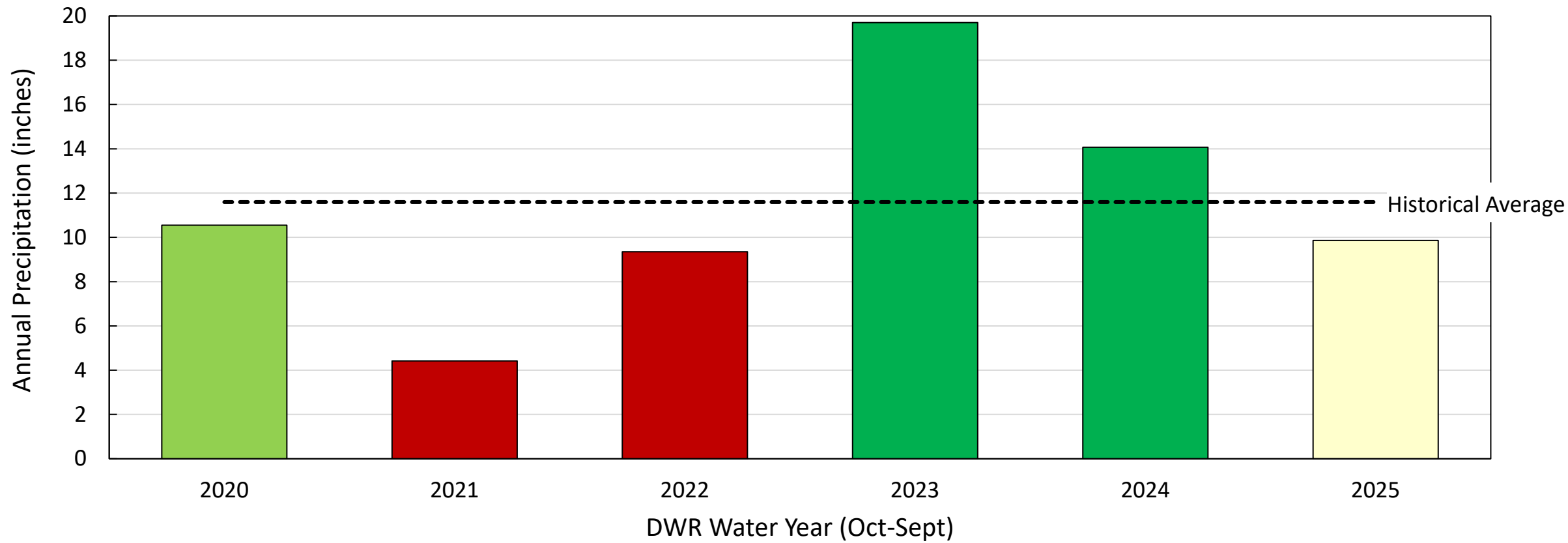
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Received \$4.8M DWR SGMA implementation grant to support ongoing planning, data gap filling efforts, and 2 projects to increase surface water deliveries:
 - Replaced two collapsed monitoring wells
 - Constructing intertie between AEWSD's system near South Canal and WRMWSD's 850 Canal
 - Constructing additional turnouts to expand Temporary Water Service Program availability
 - Revising GSP to reflect up-to-date management practices in alignment with DWR expectations



EXTREMELY VARIABLE HYDROLOGY EXPERIENCED OVER THE LAST 6 YEARS

White Wolf Precipitation



DWR Water Year Type

- Critical
- Dry
- Below Normal
- Above Normal
- Wet

Note that in district-specific contexts, AEWSD measures water years Mar-Feb, and WRMWSD measures water years Jan-Dec. DWR water years are used in this presentation.

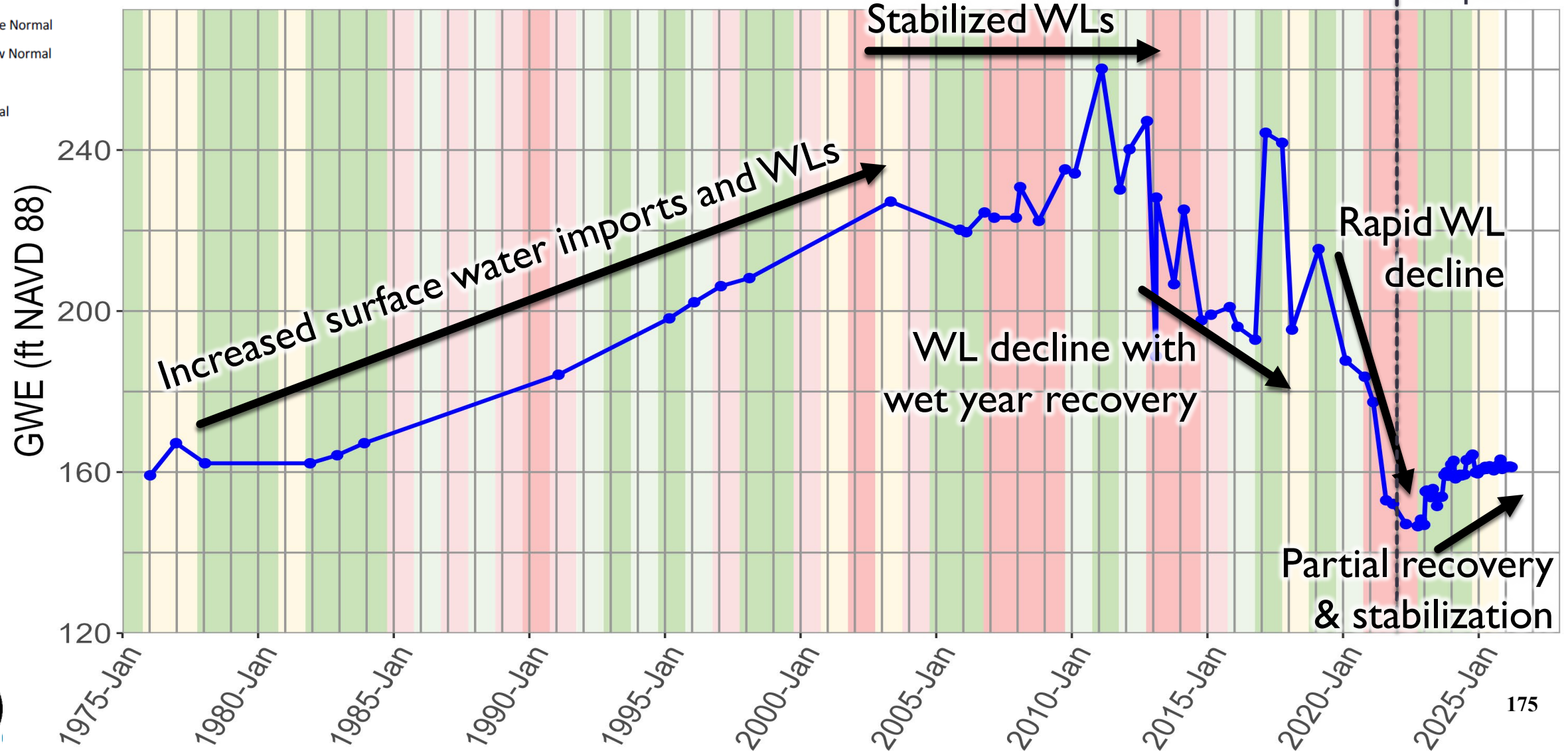


STATE OF THE WHITE WOLF SUBBASIN

RMW-WWB-010

Jan 2022:
GSP
adopted

- DWR Water Year Type
- Wet
 - Above Normal
 - Below Normal
 - Dry
 - Critical



MARCH 2026 WLs COMPARED TO EXISTING SMCs

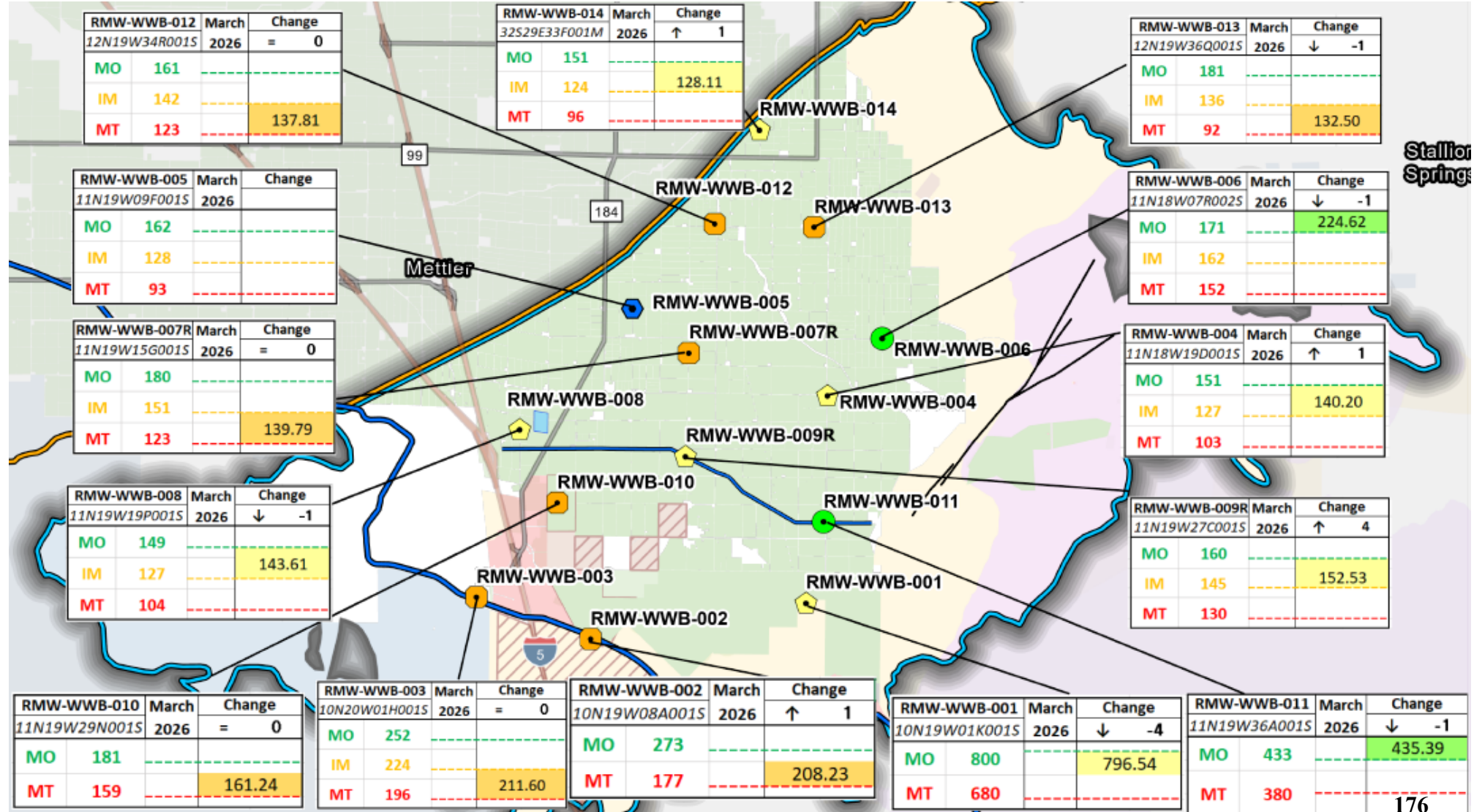
Legend

Representative Monitoring Wells and Status as of March 2026

- Water Level Above MO (2 or 14%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but above IM (5 or 36%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but below IM (6 or 42%)
- ▲ Water Level Below MT (0)
- No Water Level Measurement (1 or 7%)
- ▭ Mettler Recharge Project
- Groundwater Subbasin**
- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)

R = Replacement

- UR = MT exceedance in 40% of RMW-WVL for 2 consecutive Falls
- **URs not occurring**
- Where IM not shown, IM = MO
- RMW-WWB-005: Continue to explore data gap and pursue future grant funds to fill

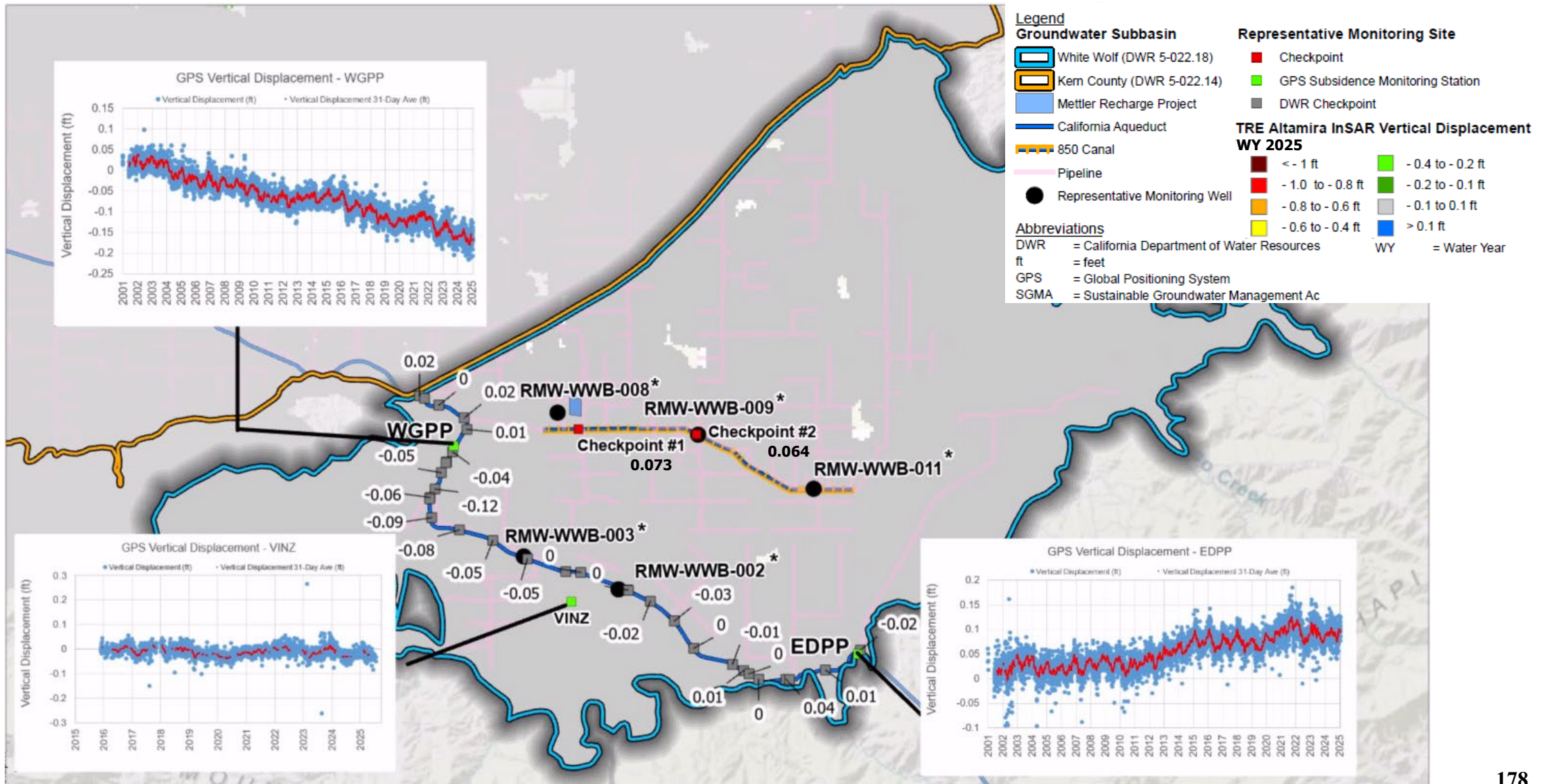


STATE OF GROUNDWATER QUALITY

- Water quality concentrations are generally stable.
- Nitrate remains a widespread issue.
- Concentrations of nitrate, arsenic, and selenium in public water supply wells in the Basin are below human health standards.
- Localized occurrences of 1,2,3-trichloropropane subject to continued monitoring.

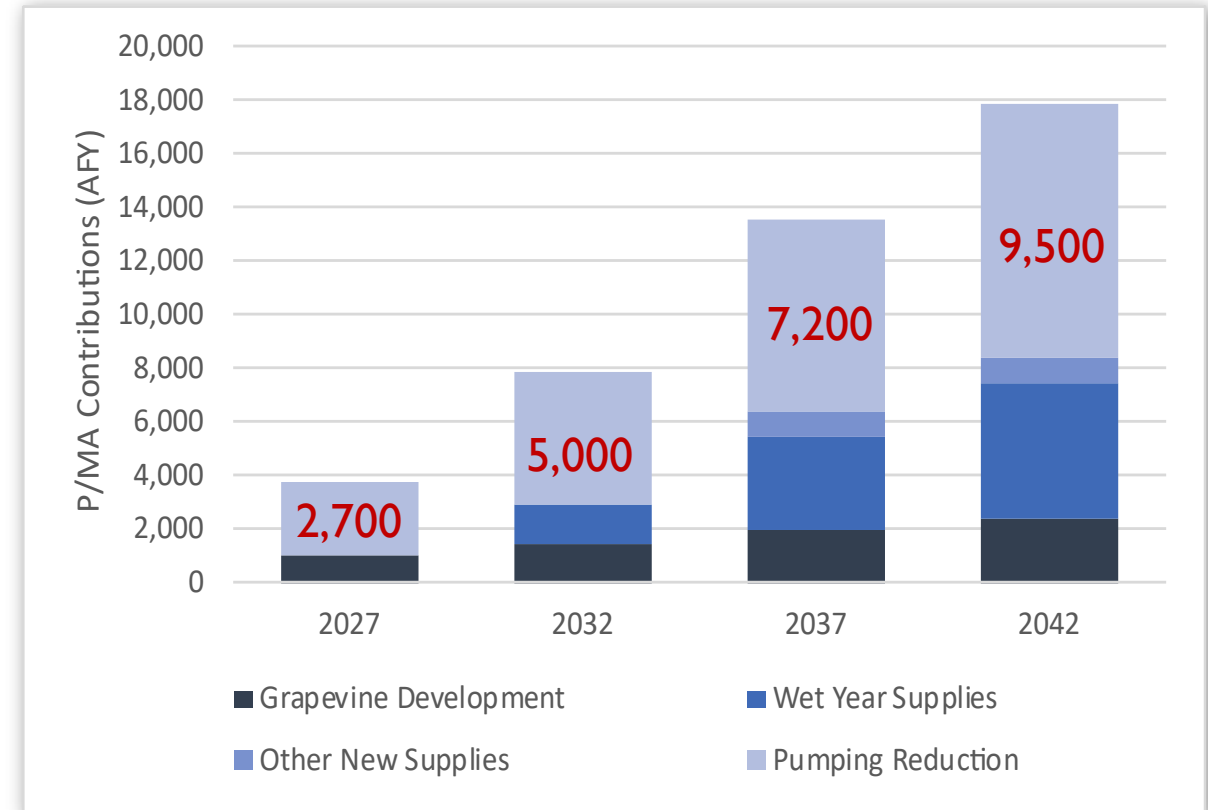


MINIMAL SUBSIDENCE OBSERVED IN BASIN



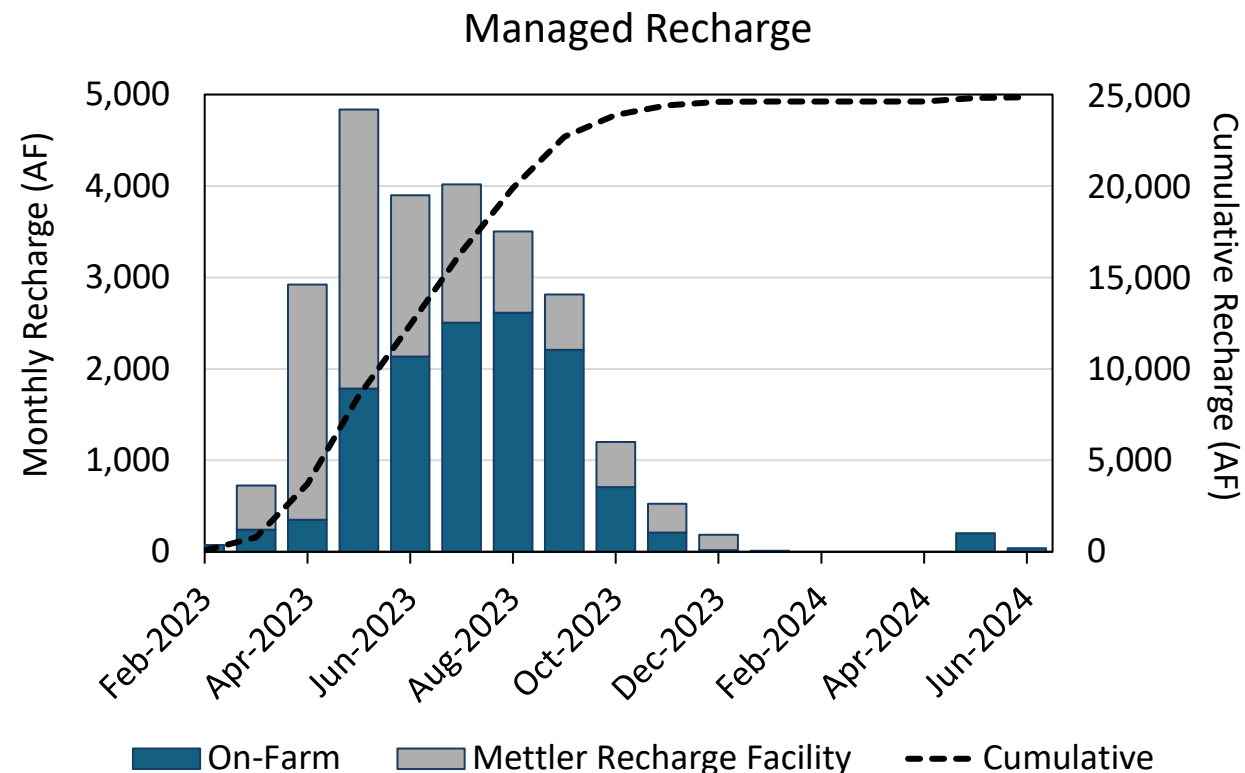
PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE GSP

- 13 Water Supply Augmentation Projects
- 8 Water Demand Reduction Management Actions
- 3 “Other” Projects and Management Actions (P/MAs)
- **Pumping reduction** identified as the first 5-year implementation action

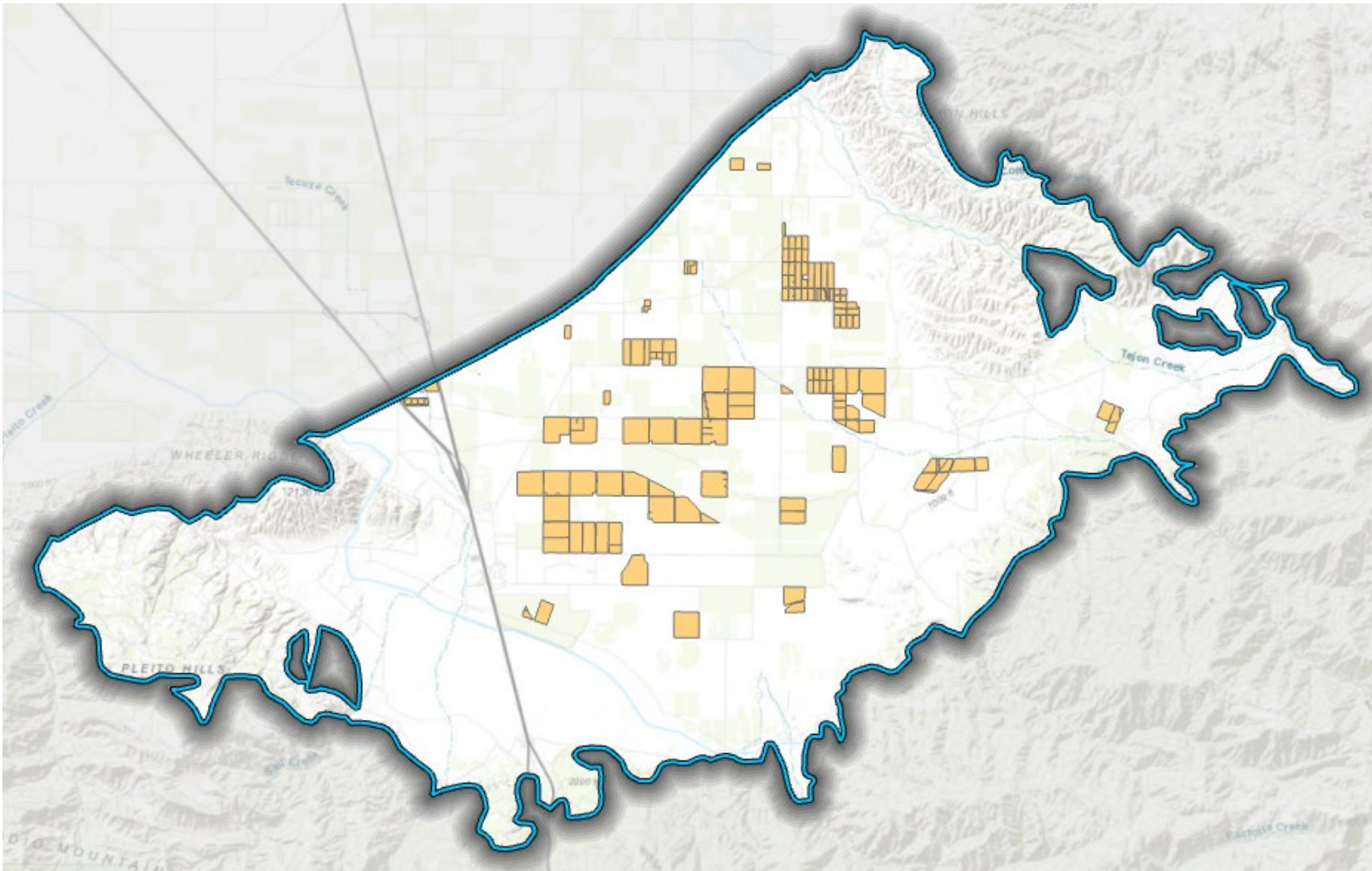


SUCCESS OF PROJECTS – 25,000 AFY RECHARGED

- Extremely wet 2023 enabled greater than planned surface water deliveries and reduced need for groundwater.
- 25,000 AF recharged in 2023-2024
 - Dedicated recharge facility received water for the first time!
 - On-farm recharge – new financial incentives



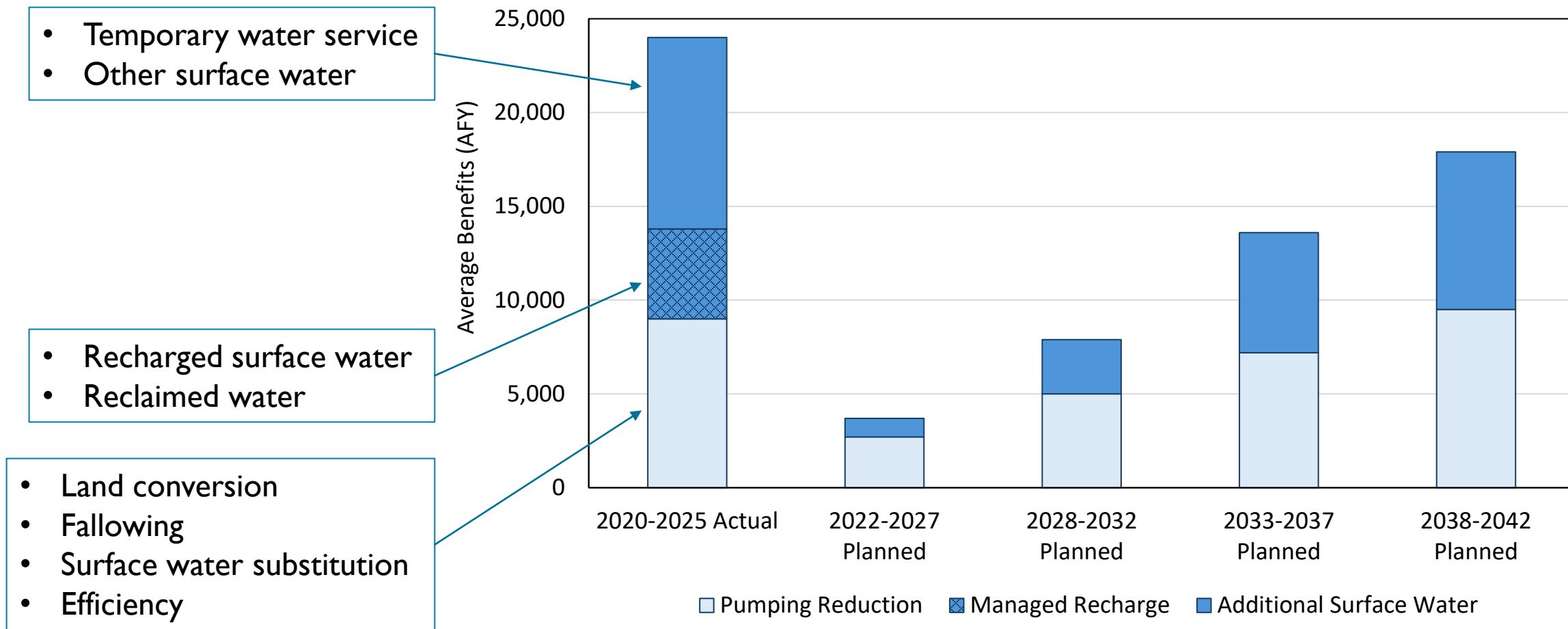
DEMAND REDUCTION – OVER 6,000 ACRES OF PERMANENT CROPLAND FALLOWED IN 2020-2025



Permanent cropland fallowed

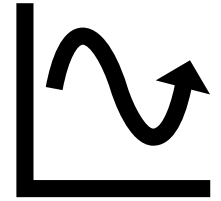
SUCCESS OF PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Project and Management Action Benefits

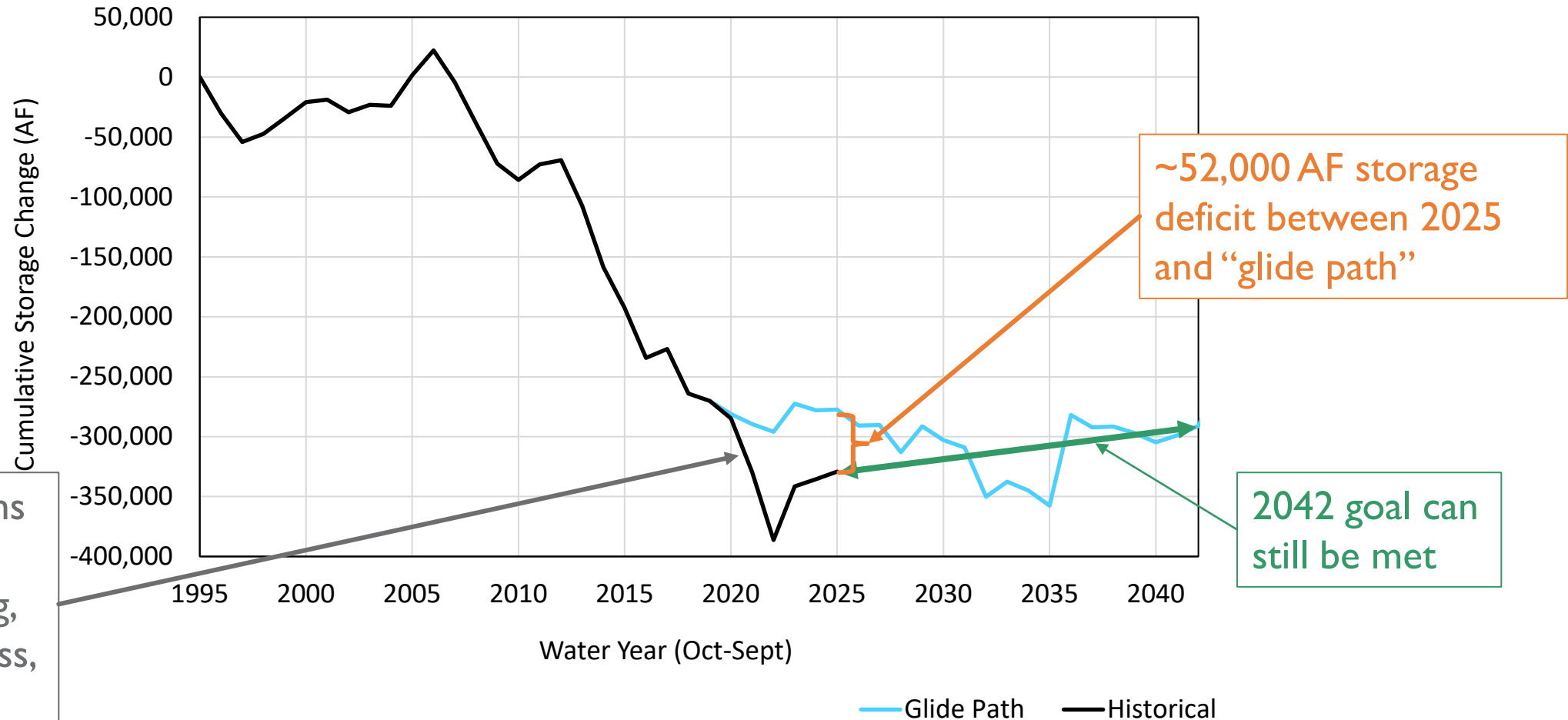


3-PART WATER BUDGET ASSESSMENT

1. Compared current modeled water budget against projected “glide path”
2. Updated sustainable yield – estimated amount of pumping that would result in no change in groundwater storage (stable conditions)
3. Assessed projected changes to imported surface water reliability



WATER BUDGET COMPARISON SHOWS DEVIATION FROM GLIDE PATH



Drought conditions resulted in increased pumping, greater storage loss, and less recharge

~52,000 AF storage deficit between 2025 and "glide path"

2042 goal can still be met

UPDATED SUSTAINABLE YIELD (SY)

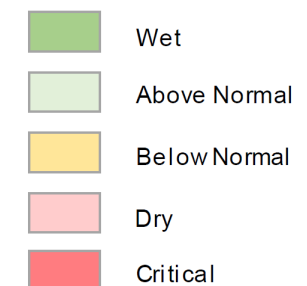
- Examined modeled water budget components in the **irrigated agricultural area** (~39,680 acres) from principal aquifer over various time periods
- Calculated SY from the model based on calculated pumping and modeled groundwater storage change = **1.0 AF/acre/year**



2022 GSP Sustainable Yield Range:
 -- Upper = 47,200 AFY
 -- Lower = 38,200 AFY

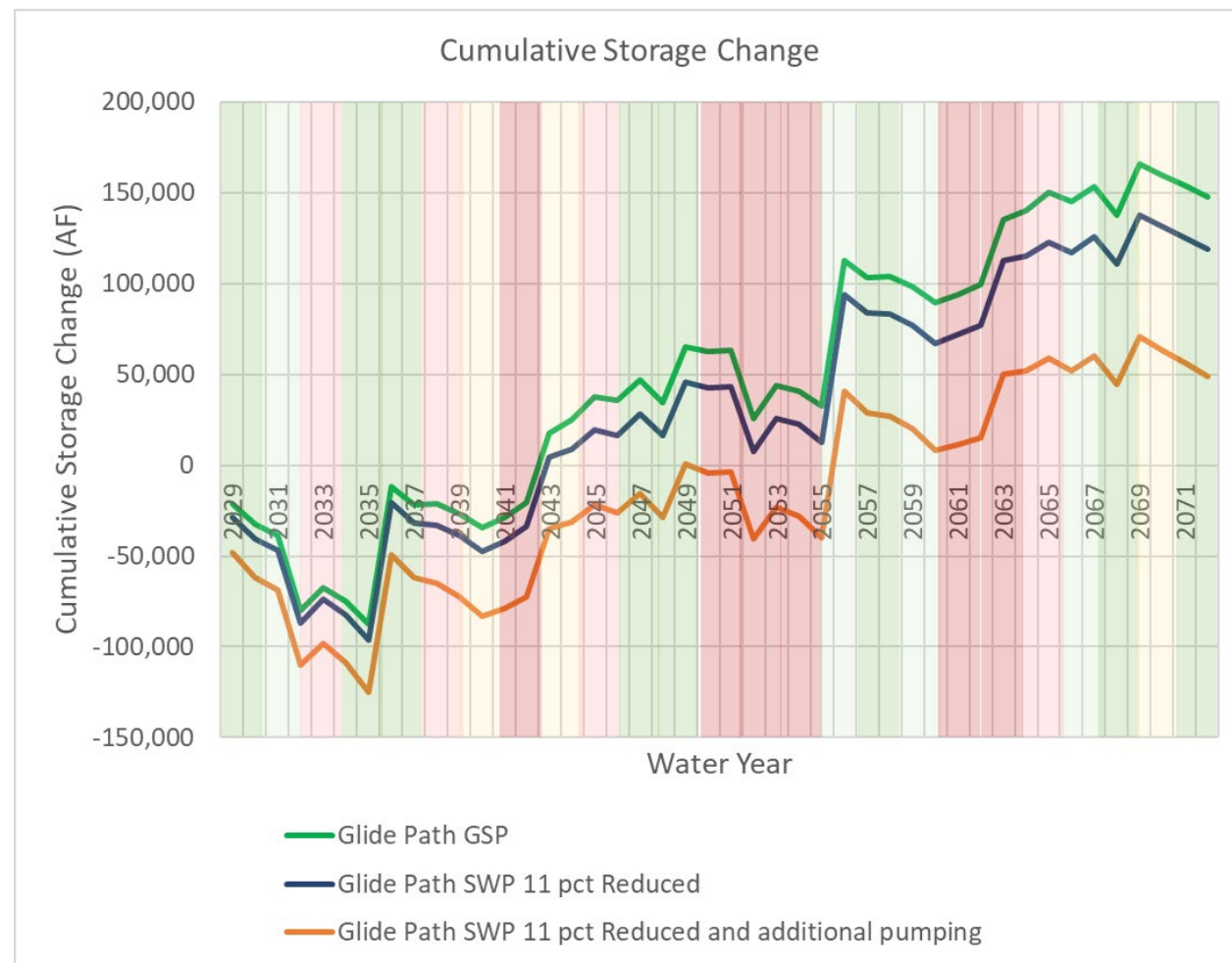
— Updated Sustainable Yield = 39,700 AFY

DWR Water Year Type



FUTURE REDUCTIONS IN STATE WATER PROJECT (SWP) RELIABILITY MAY REQUIRE INCREASED P/MAS

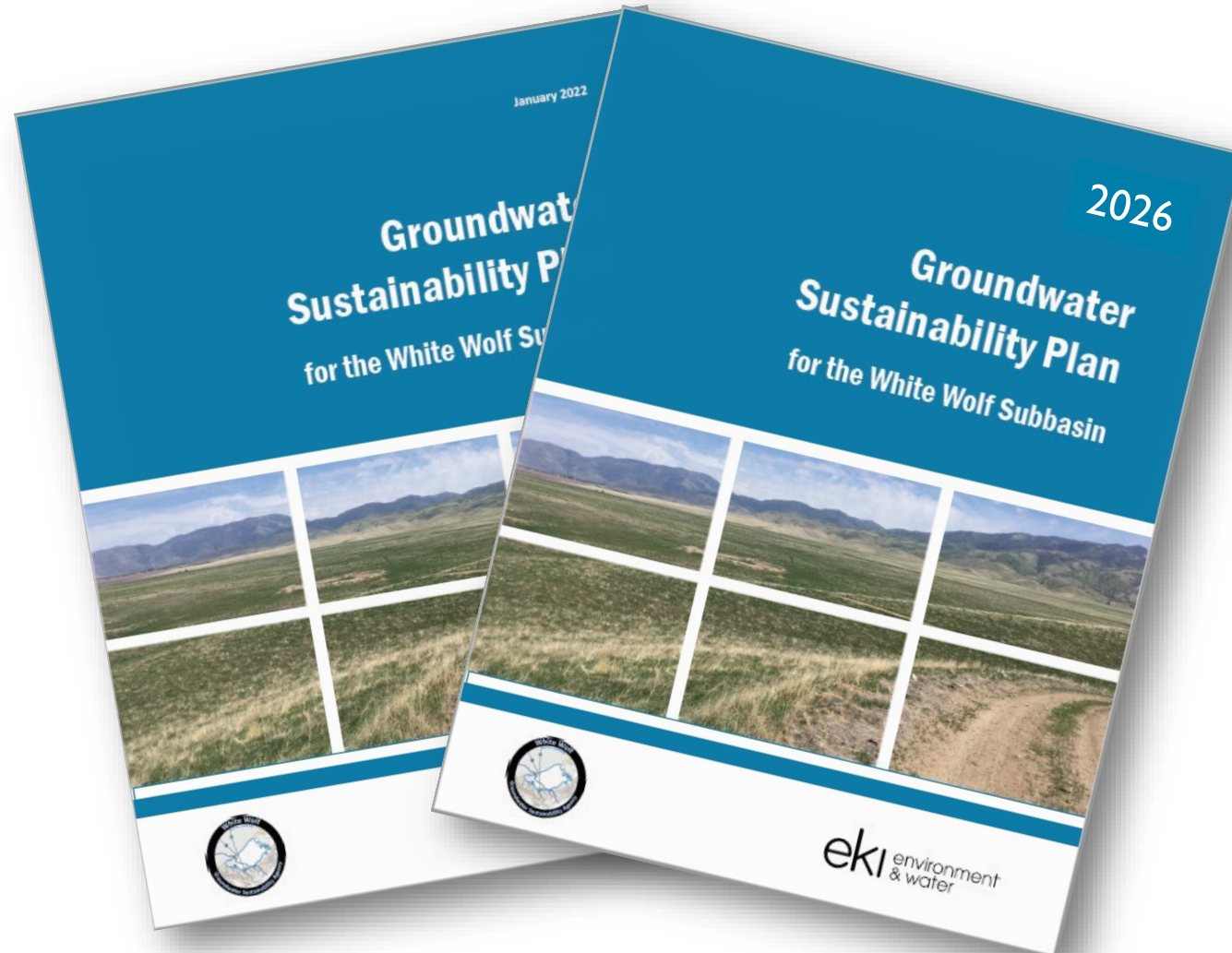
- Future SWP deliveries are projected to be approximately 11 to 21% lower than current without adaptation projects
- 11% reduced SWP reliability
 - Without extra pumping (assumes demand reduction) - nominal impact to the projected glide path
 - With extra pumping - longer period to eliminate overdraft (7-14 yrs depending on hydrology)
- May require increased P/MA implementation



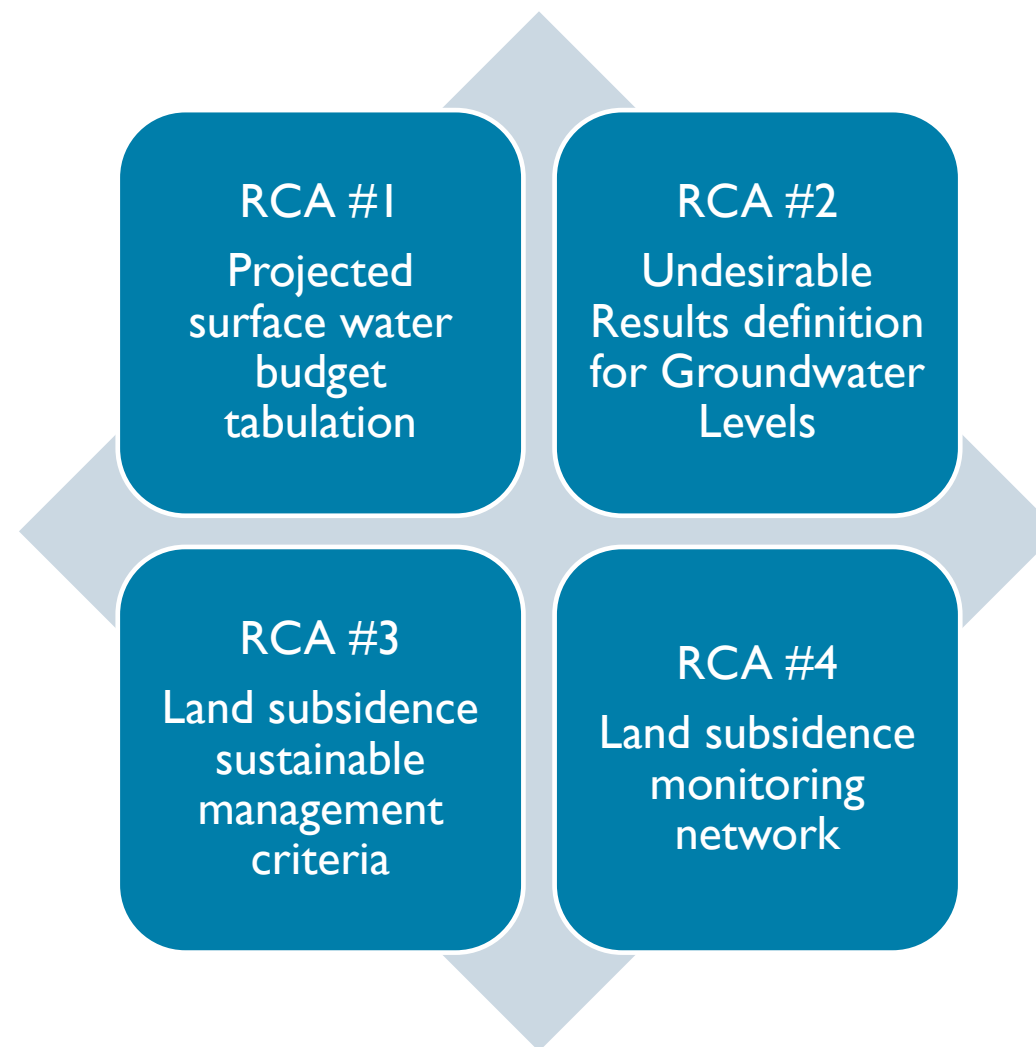
STATE OF THE BASIN - KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Groundwater levels have partially recovered from the 2021-2022 drought and remain stable
- Groundwater quality concentrations remain relatively stable
- Land subsidence is minimal
- Change in groundwater storage decreased more than planned, but recovering
- Pumping rates below sustainable yield for last 3 years
- P/MAs on track, but may require faster implementation depending on future hydrology

GSP UPDATES



SUMMARY OF DWR'S RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS



RCA #1 RESPONSE

- Projected surface water and land surface system budgets will be presented in tabular format, consistent with historical/current
- (example from Table WB-3 in 2022 GSP)

Basin Setting
Groundwater Sustainability Plan
White Wolf Subbasin

TABLE WB-3. Annual Surface Water Inflows and Outflows by Source Type



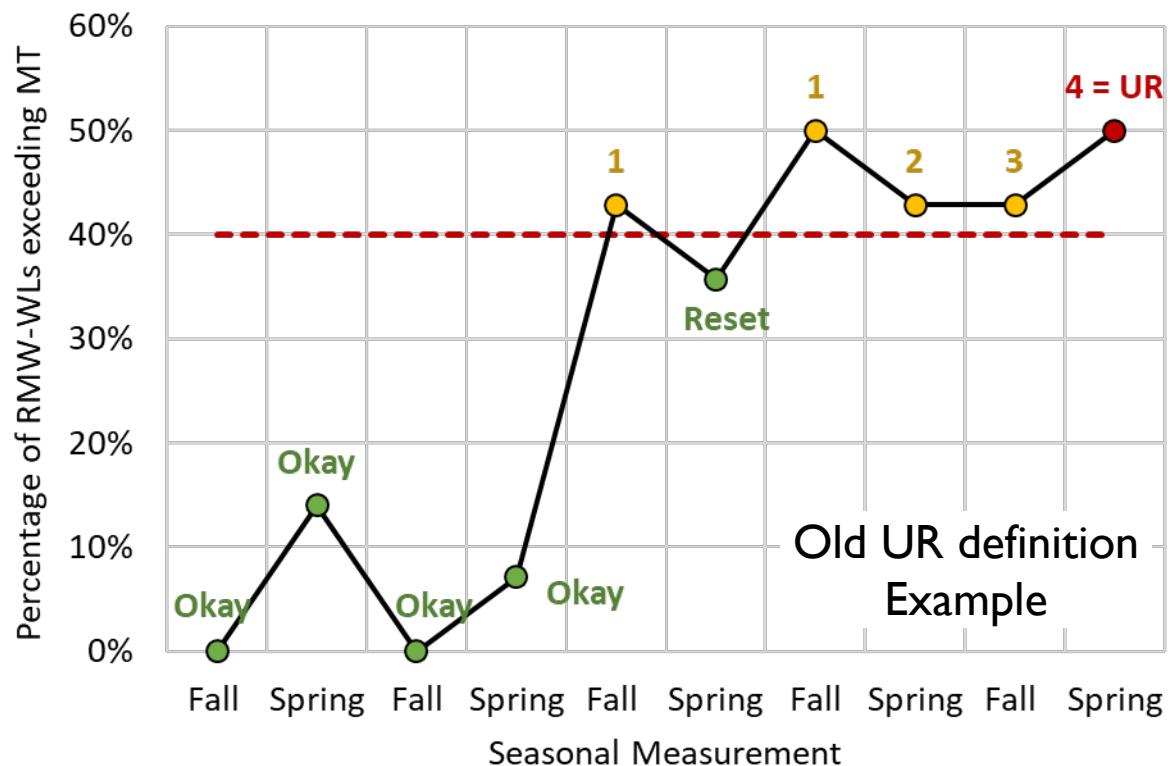
Water Year (Oct-Sept)	INFLOWS [AFY]									OUTFLOWS [AFY]						
	Surface Water Imports ^(b)							Stream Inflows		TOTAL SURFACE WATER INFLOWS	Surface Water Exports		Stream Outflows			TOTAL SURFACE WATER OUTFLOWS
	AEWSD Imports	TCWD Imports	WRMWS Imports		Total Imported Surface Water			Streamflow into Basin	Total Stream Inflows		Exports to MWD	Total Surface Water Exports	Streamflow Out of Basin	Diversions from Streams ^(d)	Total Stream Outflows	
Agricultural	M&I	Agricultural	M&I ^(c)	Agricultural	M&I	Total										
Historical Water Budget (WY1994-2014)																
1995	22,800	100	41,200	0	64,000	100	64,100	21,500	21,500	85,600	0	0	2,300	300	2,600	2,600
1996	27,200	100	50,000	0	77,200	100	77,300	6,400	6,400	83,700	0	0	0	200	200	200
1997	24,100	100	52,700	0	76,800	100	76,900	8,800	8,800	85,700	0	0	0	200	200	200
1998	19,400	100	47,200	0	66,600	100	66,700	28,000	28,000	94,700	0	0	2,500	300	2,800	2,800

Implications for Basin water users

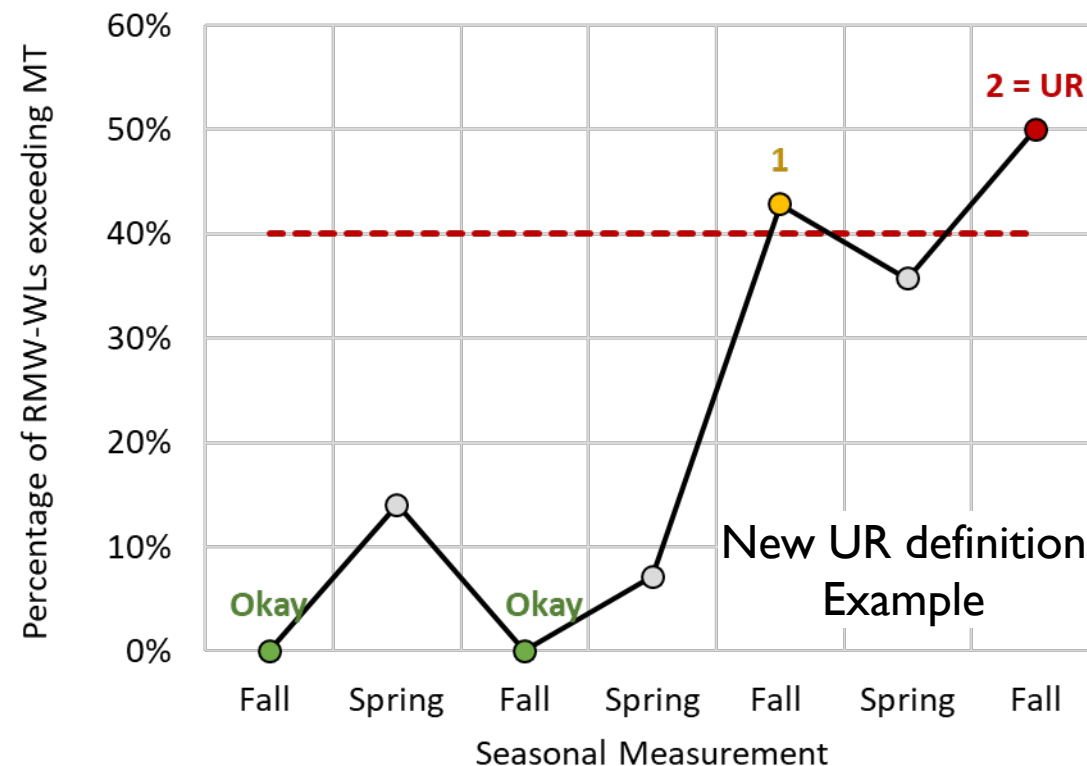
- None. Change only affects how information is presented in the GSP.

RCA #2 RESPONSE

Old UR: occurs when 40% of RMW-WLs exceed their MTs in 4 consecutive seasons



New UR: occurs when 40% of RMW-WLs exceed their MTs in 2 consecutive seasonal lows (fall)



--- UR threshold (>40% of RMW exceed the MT) ● RMW-WL

--- UR threshold (>40% of RMW exceed the MT) ● RMW-WL

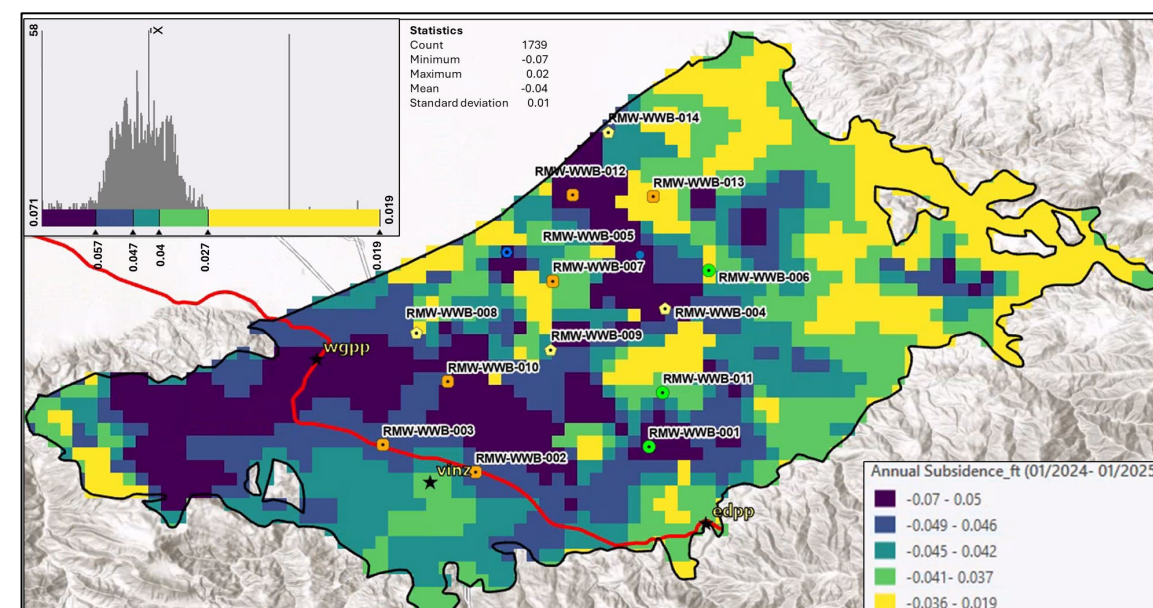
RCA #2 IMPLICATIONS FOR BASIN WATER USERS

- Stricter Undesirable Results threshold is more protective against dry season impacts to well users (e.g. dry wells in summer or fall).
- Potential earlier Undesirable Results designation could necessitate earlier implementation of Projects or Management Actions (e.g., pumping reduction measures).

RCA #3 RESPONSE

Establishing new land subsidence MT (2-part)

- **DRAFT MT Rate = 0.09 ft/yr**
 - Maximum annual subsidence rate based on historical InSAR, including local measurement uncertainty
- **DRAFT MT Cumulative Extent = 1.8 ft**
 - MT rate projected forward over the 20-yr planning horizon (Jan 1, 2022 – Jan 1, 2042).
 - $0.09 \text{ ft/yr} \times 20 \text{ years} = 1.8 \text{ ft}$
- These values are undergoing refinement.
- Localized SMCs specific to critical infrastructure under consideration.



RCA #4 RESPONSE

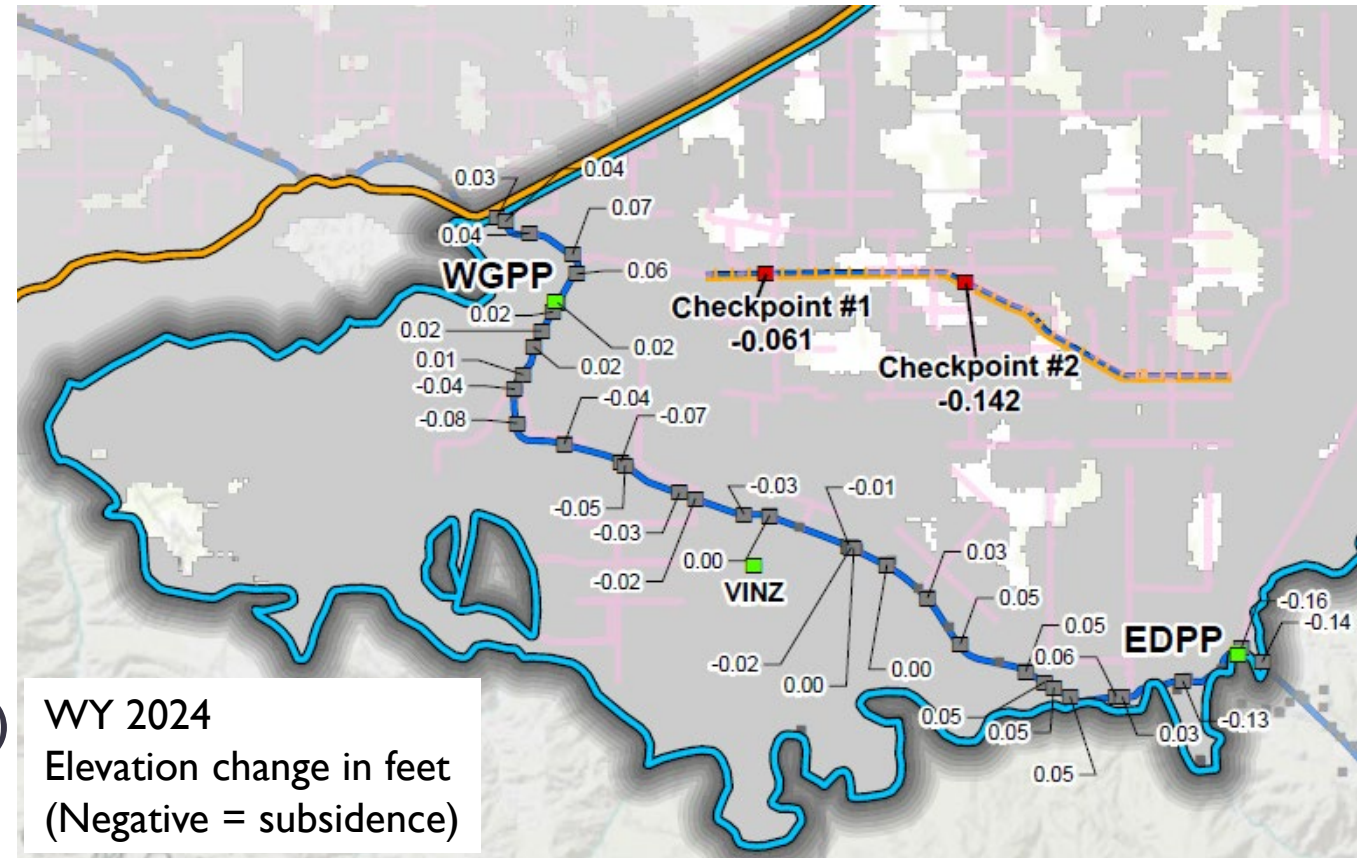
■ New Representative Monitoring Network

- 15 survey marks on California Aqueduct (at nearest whole milepost)

- Basin-wide InSAR

■ Supplemental to validate InSAR:

- 2 checkpoints on 850 Canal
- 2 UNAVCO GPS stations (WGPP and EDPP)
- SOPAC GPS station VINZ (if available)



RCA #3 & 4 IMPLICATIONS FOR BASIN WATER USERS

- Further study of local subsidence causes needed.
- Potential need for increased data collection (e.g. well metering)
- Projects and Management Actions could be necessitated depending on subsidence conditions and study findings.

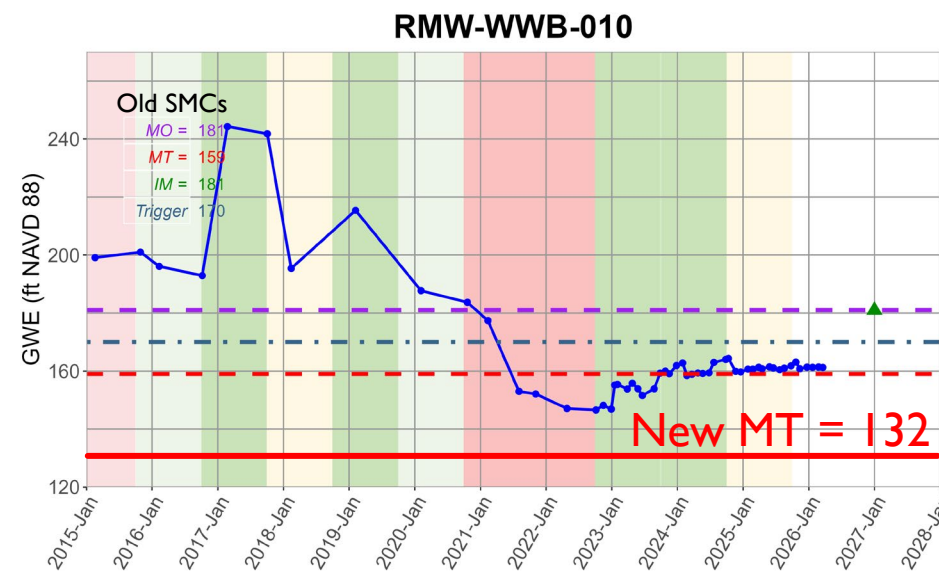
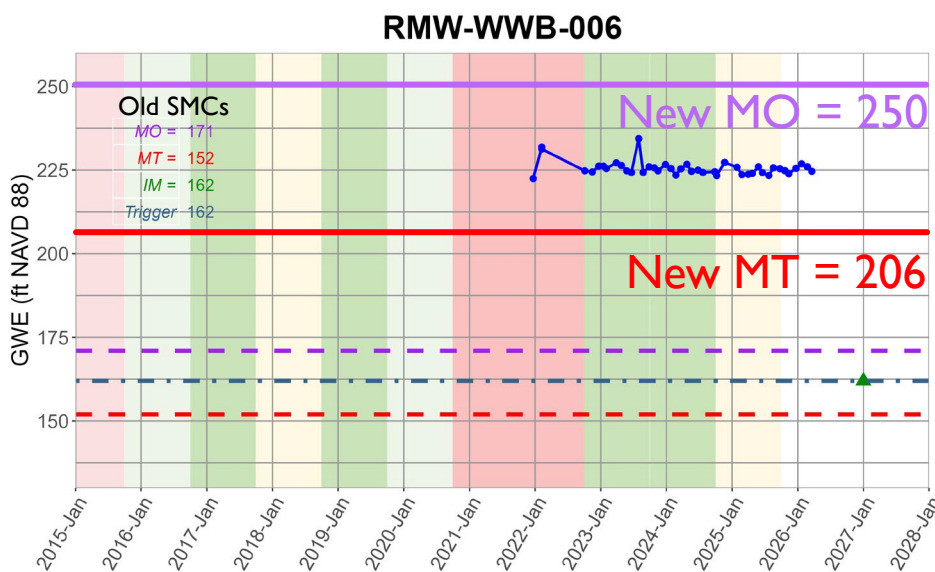
OTHER UPDATES: GROUNDWATER LEVEL SMCs

- Original SMCs for RMW-WWB-006 and RMW-WWB-010 set based on limited data.

- Update to better match observed conditions
- Using original methodology but incorporating surrogate data from nearby wells

Well	MO change	MT change
RMW-WWB-006	+79	+54
RMW-WWB-010	0	-27

- Eliminate trigger thresholds for all RMW-WLs to streamline monitoring.



OTHER UPDATES: GROUNDWATER QUALITY

- 2022 GSP
 - Identified 3 constituents of concern (COC): Arsenic, Nitrate, and Selenium
 - Established concentrations for measurable objectives, minimum thresholds (MCLs), and trigger thresholds
 - Committed to revisiting 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) as an emerging constituent
- Periodic Evaluation and GSP Amendment
 - Removes selenium as a COC, as it is not widespread
 - Replaces trigger thresholds with interim milestones to better align with SGMA (23 CCR § 354.30)
 - Calls for continued monitoring of 1,2,3-TCP but does not designate it as a COC

Implications for Basin water users

- Minimal immediate impact, as change pertains mostly to monitoring.

OTHER UPDATES: INTERCONNECTED SURFACE WATER

- 2022 GSP
 - Uncertain about the presence of interconnected surface water (ISW) and groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs)
 - Established interim sustainable management criteria for ISW at 3 shallow monitoring wells
- Periodic Evaluation and GSP Amendment approach
 - Visited and reanalyzed locations previously identified as GDEs
 - Reevaluating GDE designation
 - Surface water and associated ecosystems may not be connected to main aquifer (not interconnected)

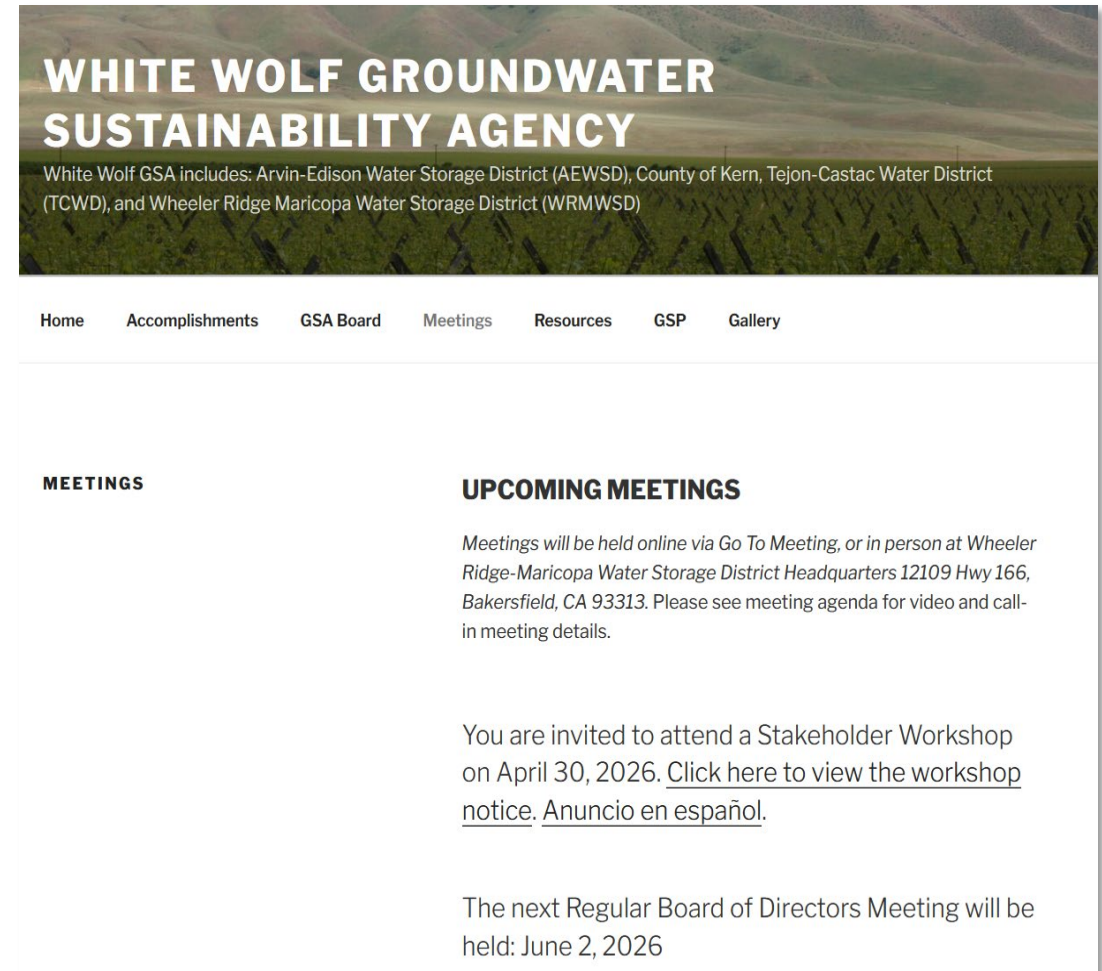
Implications for Basin water users

- Minimal immediate impact, as little water use occurs near potential ISW and GDEs.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ON-GOING ENGAGEMENT

- White Wolf GSA Board Meetings
 - Regularly, first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 AM at the WRMWSD Headquarters or virtually
 - Next regular Board meeting is Tuesday, June 2, 2026
- Ad-hoc P/MA Committee
- Public Workshops
- White Wolf GSA Website:
<http://whitewolfgsa.org/>



QUESTIONS



Christina Lucero, P.G.

clucero@ekiconsult.com

(650) 292-9116

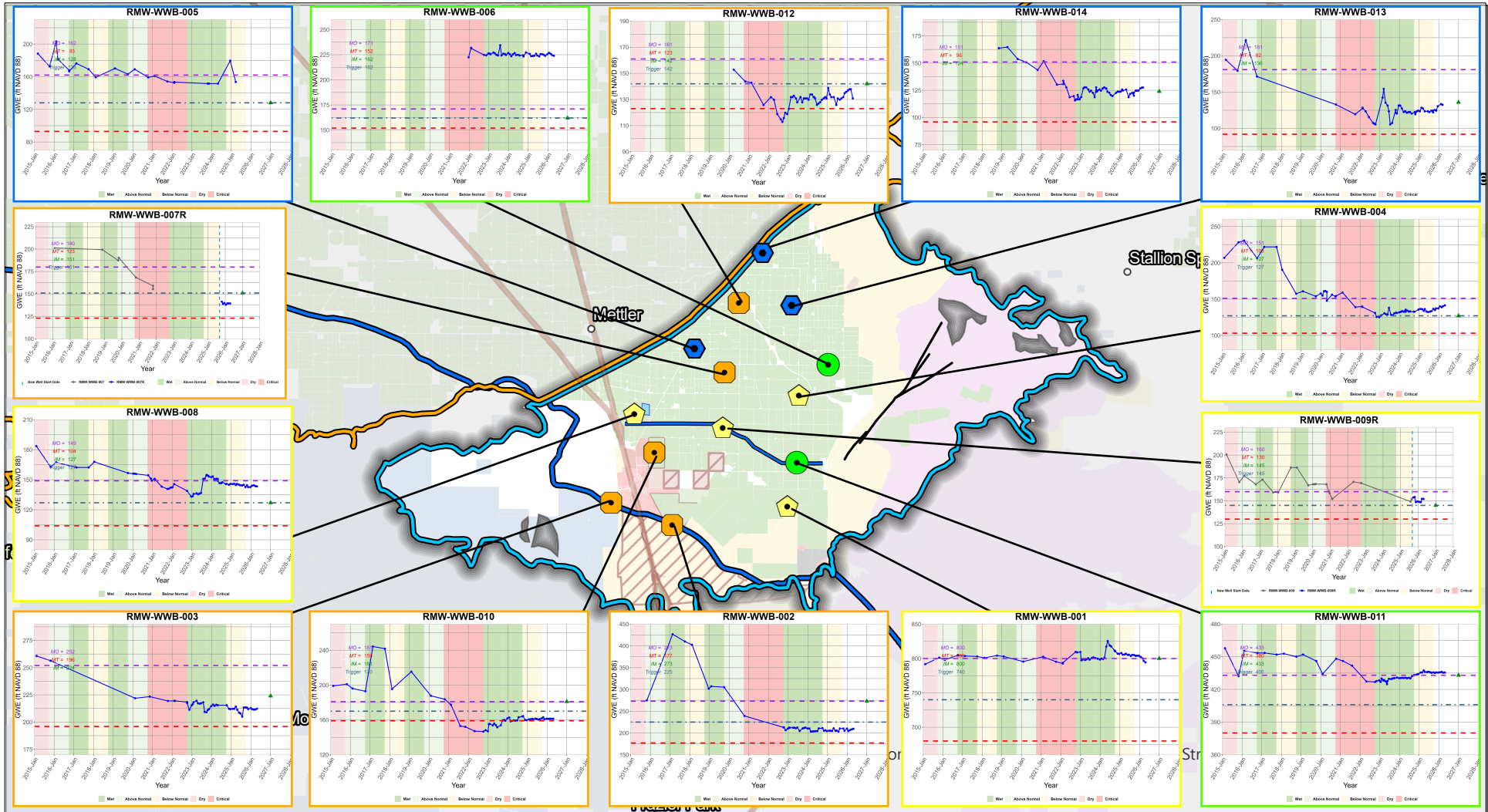
Angelica Martin

amartin@tejonranch.com

661-663-4262

<http://whitewolfgsa.org/>





Legend
Representative Monitoring Wells and Status as of April 2026

- Water Level Above MO (2 or 14%)
- ⬠ Water Level Between MO and MT but above IM (4 or 29%)
- ⬠ Water Level Between MO and MT but below IM (5 or 35%)
- ▲ Water Level Below MT (0)
- ⬠ No Water Level Measurement (3 or 21%)

- Groundwater Subbasin**
- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
 - Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- Other Features**
- Springs Fault
 - California Aqueduct
 - 850 Canal

- Land Use**
- Agricultural Land
 - Developed
 - Grazing
 - Mining
 - Oil Field
 - Conservation Easement Area
 - California Protected Areas
 - Proposed Grapevine Development
 - Mettler Recharge Project

Abbreviations

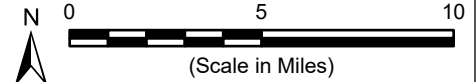
- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- MO = Measurable Objective
- ft msl = feet above mean sea level
- MT = Minimum Threshold
- GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- RMW-WL = Representative Monitoring Well for Water Level

Notes

1. All locations are approximate.
2. RMW-WWB-006 has no prior historical data on record, nor a measurement obtained during WY 2022.
3. Hydrographs show static water levels. Erroneous datapoints have been excluded.

Sources

1. Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 6 May 2026.
2. DWR groundwater basins are based on the boundaries defined in California's Groundwater Bulletin 118 - Final Prioritization, dated February 2019.
3. Land Use simplified from Figure PA-3 and Figure PA-8 of the White Wolf Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
4. Surface water features, watersheds, and springs from NHD (<https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/>).
5. Springs Fault trace from Bartow, 1984, Geological Map and Cross Sections of the Southeastern Margin of the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geological Survey Map I-1496.

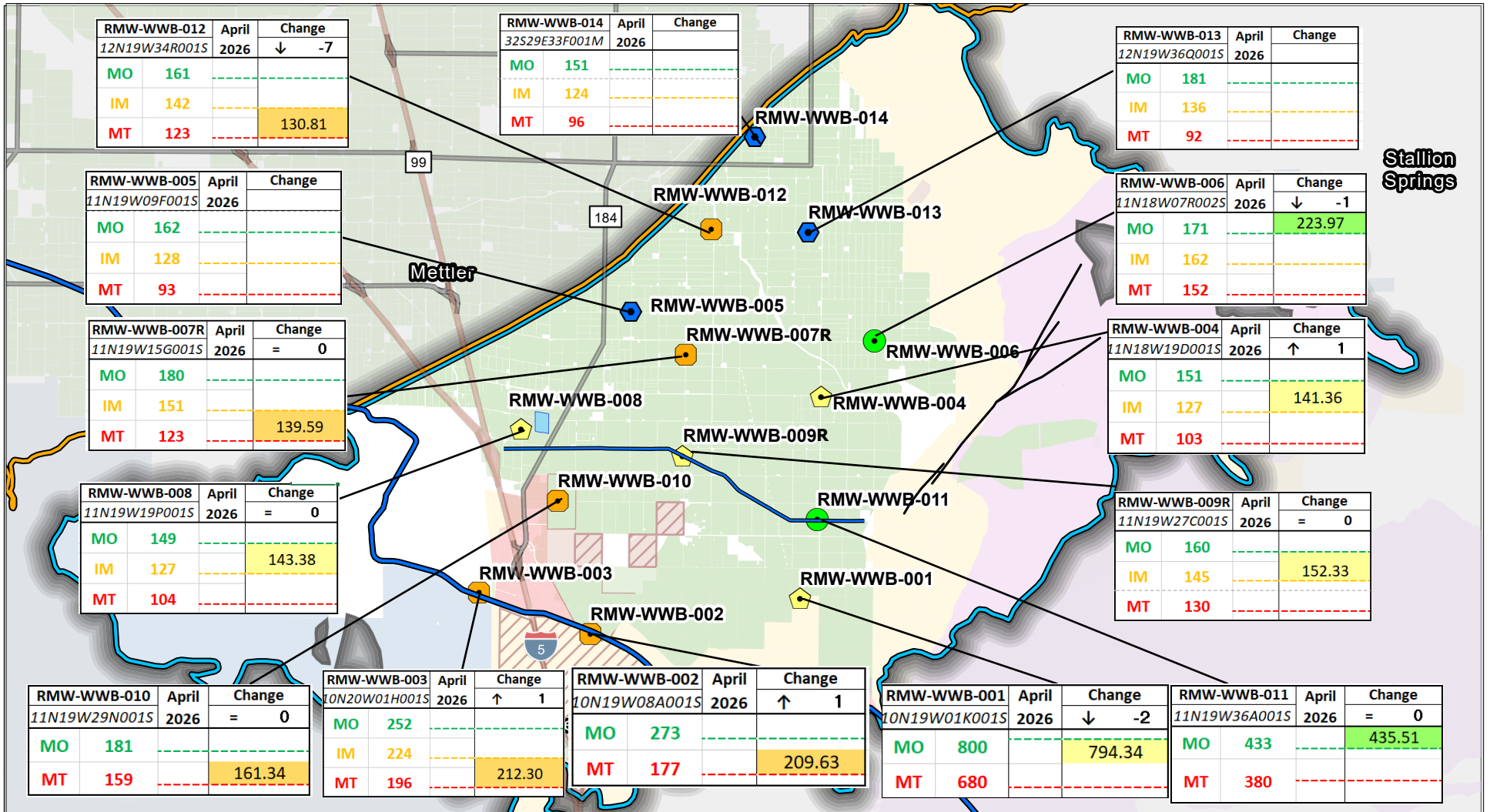


Hydrographs of Representative Monitoring Wells for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels Sustainability Indicator



White Wolf GSA
 Kern County, California
 April 2026
 C20014.01
Figure 1

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Stallion Springs

Mettler

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Legend

Representative Monitoring Wells and Status as of April 2026

- Water Level Above MO (2 or 14%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but above IM (4 or 29%)
- Water Level Between MO and MT but below IM (5 or 35%)
- Water Level Below MT (0)
- No Water Level Measurement (3 or 21%)

- Land Use
 - Agricultural Land
 - Developed
 - Grazing
 - Mining
 - Oil Field
- Conservation Easement Area
- California Protected Areas
- Proposed Grapevine Development
- Mettler Recharge Project

- Groundwater Subbasin
 - White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
 - Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)
- Springs Fault
- California Aqueduct

Abbreviations

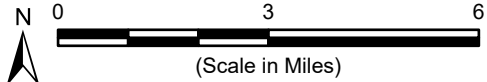
- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- RMW-WL = Representative Monitoring Well for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels
- SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- MO = Measurable Objective
- MT = Minimum Threshold
- IM = Interim Milestone

Notes

- All locations are approximate.
- RMW-WLs are designated as the SGMA Monitoring Network. Water level data from RMW-WLs will be collected and submitted to DWR per California Code of Regulations Section 354.34(c)(1)(B) and 354.40.
- IM is equal to MO unless otherwise noted in the tables

Sources

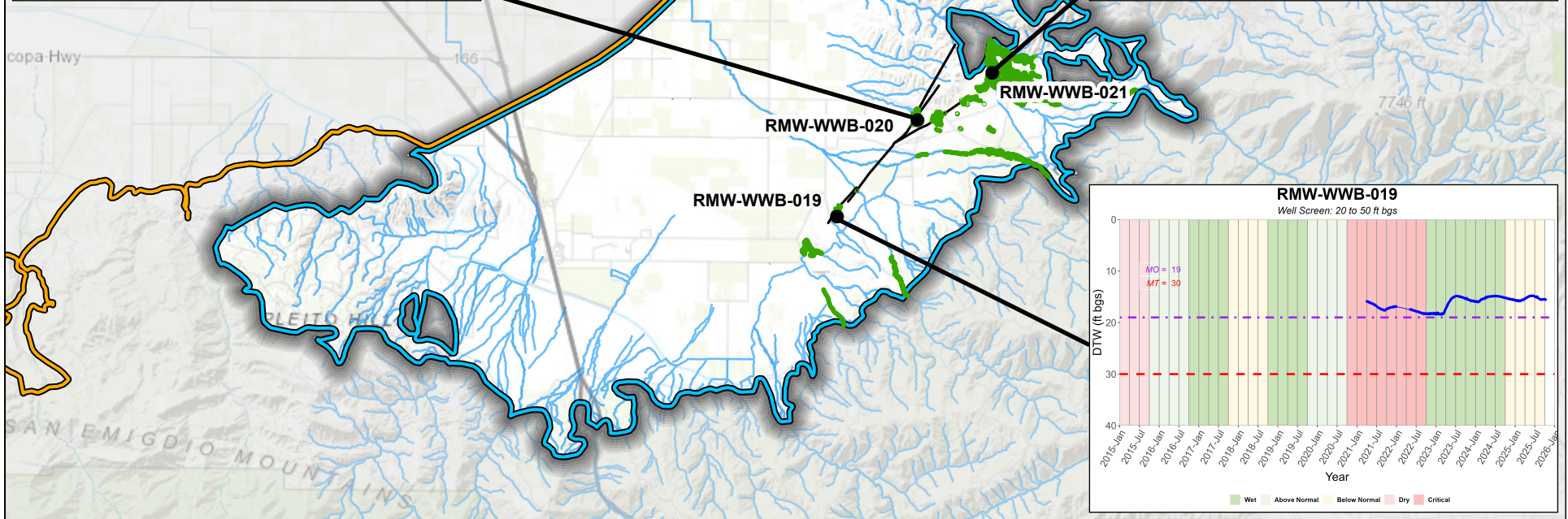
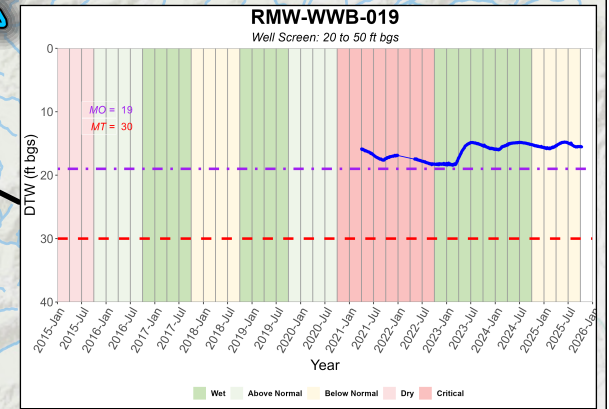
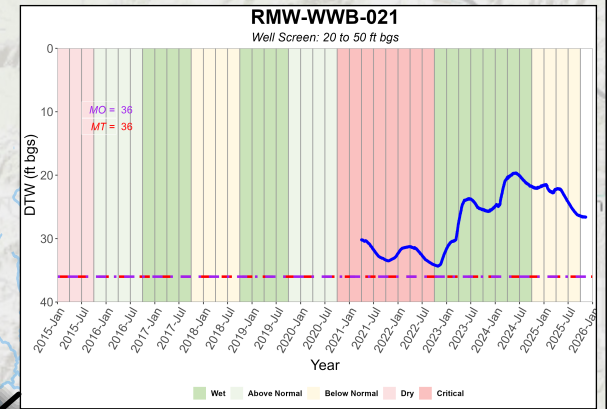
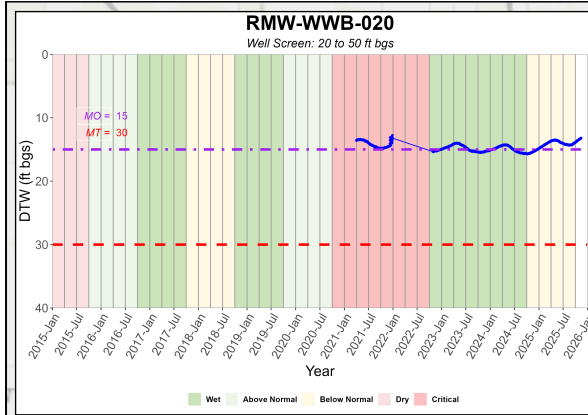
- Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 6 May 2026.
- DWR groundwater basins are based on the boundaries defined in California's Groundwater Bulletin 118 - Final Prioritization, dated February 2019.



April 2026 Groundwater Levels Relative to Sustainable Management Criteria



White Wolf GSA
Kern County, California
April 2026
C20014.01



Legend

Groundwater Subbasin

- White Wolf (DWR 5-022.18)
- Kern County (DWR 5-022.14)

Other Features

- Representative Monitoring Well
- Stream
- Springs Fault
- Measurable Objective
- Minimum Threshold
- Depth to Water (ft bgs)
- GDEs of Interest

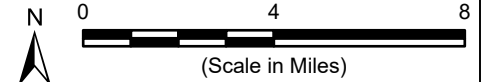
Abbreviations

- DTW = depth to water
- DWR = California Department of Water Resources
- ft bgs = feet below ground surface
- GDE = Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem
- MO = Measurable Objective
- MT = Minimum Threshold

- Notes**
- All locations are approximate.
 - MO values for RMW-WWB-019 and RMW-WWB-020 have been corrected.
 - GDEs of interest are those supported by the shallow water-bearing zone upgradient of the Springs Fault ("B") or the Regional Aquifer ("R").

- Sources**
- Basemap is ESRI's ArcGIS Online world topographic map, obtained 6 May 2026.
 - DWR groundwater basins are based on the boundaries defined in California's Groundwater Bulletin 118 - Final Prioritization, dated February 2019.
 - Surface water features from National Hydrography Dataset (<https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/>).
 - GDEs of interest shapefile provided by GeoSystems Analysis, Inc., 7 October 2020.
 - Springs Fault trace from Bartow, 1984, Geological Map and Cross Sections of the Southeastern Margin of the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geological Survey Map I-1496.

DRAFT



Hydrographs of Representative Monitoring Wells for Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water Sustainability Indicator



White Wolf GSA
Kern County, California
April 2026
C20014.01

Figure 5

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2026
Time: 1:30 P.M.
Location: Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD, 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield, CA 93314

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM

3. INTRODUCTIONS

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- a. APPROVAL of February 5, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes*

6. TREASURER/FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. February, March and April 2026 Accounts Payable/Receivable Ratification* and May 2026 Account Payable/Receivable Approval*

7. ADMINISTRATIVE

- a. New Lease Update, 5-year sublease with AEWS

8. KRWCA MANAGER REPORT/ILRP PROGRAM UPDATE

a. Administrative:

- i. Member Reporting Update
- ii. CVRWQCB Compliance
- iii. ASA, SAA and MOU Income Update
- iv. AB 2447
 - 1. AB 2447 ILRP Coalition's Opposition Letter
 - 2. AB 2447 Harter Opposition Letter
- v. 2nd Expert Panel Comment Letter

b. Outreach and Education:

- i. Winter Outreach Meetings, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM: Zoom January 13, 2026, In-Person January 15, 2026.

9. NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT ZONE

a. Kern Water Collaborative (KWC) Update:

- i. Application, Well Test and Water Delivery Update
- ii. FMZP/EAP, submission 2/16/2026



- iii. Community Outreach and Engagement <https://KWCMZ.org>
- iv. Modesto Resolution for ILRP GO Update – Hearing June 3-4, 2026
 - 1. P1 Comment Letter Package
 - 2. P2 Comment Letter
- b. SGMA Coordination:
 - i. NGO/Non-Profit Coordination Meetings
 - ii. KMEC Member

10. REPORT OF PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP

- a. General Program Updates

11. 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.

12. OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

13. ATTORNEYS REPORT

14. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Significant exposure to litigation-Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). One item.

15. RECONVENED and REPORT from CLOSED SESSION - Gov't. Code section 54957.1.

16. KRWCA & KWC MEETING ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS – INFORMATION ITEM

- a. 2/6, MZ Leadership Meeting
- b. 2/6, KWC Presentation to Delano Kiwanis
- c. 2/10, All CV ILRP Coalition's Meeting
- d. 2/11, MZ Leaders Meeting
- e. 2/11, 2nd Expert Panel Meeting
- f. 2/12, CVSALTS/CVSC Executive Committee Meeting
- g. 2/12, Meeting with CVRWQCB-Modesto Resolution
- h. 2/13, KWC Board Meeting
- i. 2/18, MZ DMS Development Meeting
- j. 2/19, MZ Leadership Meeting
- k. 2/23, CVGMC Meeting
- l. 3/4, SSJV MPEP/CVSALTS Meeting
- m. 3/11, MZ Leaders Meeting
- n. 3/11, 2nd Expert Panel Meeting
- o. 3/12, CVSALTS/CVSC Executive Committee Meeting
- p. 3/13, MZ DMS Development Meeting
- q. 3/13, KWC Annual and Board Meeting
- r. 3/20, All CV ILRP Coalition's Meeting



- s. 3/24, KWC Community Outreach FMZP Webinar
- t. 3/25, Kern Coalitions Technical Assistance Webinar
- u. 4/1, SSJV MPEP/CVSALTS Meeting
- v. 4/7, All CV Coalitions Meeting RE Modesto Resolution
- w. 4/10, KWC Board Meeting
- x. 4/10, 2nd Expert Panel Meeting
- y. 4/16, MZ Leaders Meeting
- z. 4/22, MZ Leaders Workshop
- aa. 4/22, CVSC BOD Workshop
- bb. 4/23, CVSALTS/CVSC Executive Committee Meeting
- cc. 5/6, SSJV MPEP/CVSALTS Meeting

17. NEXT MEETING

Next regularly scheduled meeting is July 2, 2026.

18. ADJOURN

“*” Notates an action item (Approval/Ratification)

It's High Time to Revisit California's Water-Year Classification System

Paul S Weiland

23 April 2026

This past month, as California experienced record high temperatures and a historic “snow drought” as reported by the *L.A. Times* and other outlets, we were reminded once again that it is perilous to manage the State's water supplies based on climate conditions from the historical record. The current October 1 to September 30 water year is an outlier in historical context. The northern Sierra Nevada has received well below median accumulated snowfall, the snow water equivalent declined precipitously more than a month before the historical median date, and snowfall occurred in three large events, each followed by immediate melt off. And, at this point in the water year, precipitation as snow and rain together is actually slightly above median level. Yet the State Water Resources Control Board has managed – and proposes to continue to manage – California's water supplies based on historical climatic conditions.

Very few policymakers have even a rudimentary appreciation of the State's water-year classification system and its role in regulations intended to protect native fish, including listed salmonids, smelts, and sturgeon, despite the fact that the system substantially influences the availability of water supplies year in and year out. Below I describe the nuts and bolts of the water-year classification system, its regulatory implications, and the rationale for reform of the classification system and its subjective categories.

Overview of the water year classification system

The State of California defines a water year (WY) as the period from October 1 through September 30 of the following calendar year. That timeframe is intended to capture a full wet season and its subsequent runoff period in order to evaluate statewide hydrologic conditions and inform and facilitate management of the state's water supplies.

For the Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley, California uses five water-year classifications: Wet (W), Above Normal (AN), Below Normal (BN), Dry (D), and Critical (C). The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) explicitly defined the five categories in Decision D-1641 and the 1995 Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

The water-year classification system is incorporated by the State Board and other regulatory agencies, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) into determinations that affect both reservoir operations upstream of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and water-export operations from the Delta, including by imposing inflow and outflow requirements. As a consequence, the water year classification system significantly influences operation of the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) and the State Water Project (SWP), the two systems of dams, reservoirs, and water conveyance facilities that supply water to the vast majority of Californians.

California cannot afford to continue to allow the current outdated WY classification system to dictate regulatory decisions that govern the State's water supplies, which are essential to public health and safety and serve as a

key driver of our economy. Accordingly, the WY classification system, how that system is integrated into regulatory decisions, the shortcomings of the system, and the first principles that should inform an alternative to the status quo warrant immediate attention.

Sacramento Valley WY Classification

The Sacramento Valley WY Index is calculated using a weighted formula based on unimpaired runoff, that is, runoff from surrounding reservoirs and water diversions –

- 40%: Forecasted April–July runoff
- 30%: Observed October–March runoff
- 30%: Prior year’s water year index (capped at 10.0 million acre-feet – MAF)

Unimpaired runoff into the Sacramento Valley is calculated as the sum of Sacramento River flow at Bend Bridge, Feather River inflow to Lake Oroville, Yuba River flow at Smartville, and American River inflow to Folsom Lake. Combined the flow elements are referred to as the Sacramento River Index. Unimpaired runoff is not a measured value; rather it is generated by empirical models, taking into account observed gauged flows at each location above and considers (a) upstream depletions, (b) adjustments for reservoir storage, and (c) adjustments for water transfers.

The California Department of Water Resources publishes preliminary water-year classifications beginning in February. The State Board makes its final determination on May 1, categorizing water-year types in million acre-feet segments.

Sacramento Valley Water Year Type & Index Value (MAF)

Wet (W)	≥ 9.2
Above Normal (AN)	> 7.8 and < 9.2
Below Normal (BN)	> 6.5 and ≤ 7.8
Dry (D)	> 5.4 and ≤ 6.5
Critical (C)	≤ 5.4

San Joaquin Valley WY Classification

The San Joaquin Valley WY Index uses a similar structure but different weighting from the Sacramento Valley Index –

- 60%: Forecasted April - July runoff
- 20%: Observed October - March runoff
- 20%: Prior year’s index (capped at 4.5 MAF)

Unimpaired runoff in the San Joaquin Valley is calculated as the sum of Stanislaus River inflow to New Melones Lake, Tuolumne River inflow to New Don Pedro Reservoir, Merced River inflow to Lake McClure, and San Joaquin River inflow to Millerton Lake. Like Sacramento Valley unimpaired runoff, San Joaquin Valley unimpaired runoff is modeled, taking into account observed gauged flows and other factors.

As with the Sacramento Valley classifications, the California Department of Water Resources publishes preliminary classifications beginning in February and the State Board makes a final determination on May 1.

San Joaquin Valley Water Year Type & Index Value (MAF)

Wet (W)	≥ 3.8
---------	------------

Above Normal (AN)	> 3.1 and < 3.8
Below Normal (BN)	> 2.1 and ≤ 3.1
Dry (D)	> 1.8 and ≤ 2.1
Critical (C)	≤ 1.8

Regulatory Implications of WY Classifications

The State Board and other regulatory agencies impose regulatory requirements on the CVP and SWP that vary depending on the WY classification, including requirements intended to benefit native fish. One example is the Delta Outflow requirement imposed by the State Board under D-1641, which sets water quality standards and flow requirements for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its tributaries. Delta Outflow is the net Delta outflow index (or NDOI) measured as a minimum monthly average in cubic feet per second. For five months of the year (July, August, October, November, and December), the Delta Outflow requirement varies by WY classification, with higher outflows required in wetter years.

A second example is river flow in the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River. River flow is measured as the minimum monthly average in cubic feet per second. In the Sacramento River, the measurement location is Rio Vista, whereas in the San Joaquin River it is at Vernalis. For three months of the year (October through December), the Sacramento River flow requirement varies by WY classification, with higher outflows required in wetter years. For six months of the year (February through June), the San Joaquin River flow requirement varies by WY classification with higher outflows required in wetter years.

A third example is the Spring Delta Outflow requirement imposed on the State Water Project (SWP) by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) under its 2024 Incidental Take Permit. Under that requirement, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) must reduce exports from April 1 through May 31 to achieve a ratio of inflow to the Delta at Vernalis to combined SWP and Central Valley Project (CVP) exports – referred to as the Vernalis I:E ratio, which varies depending on WY classification. The ratio varies from 4:1 in above normal water years to 1:1 in critical years.

A fourth example is the Summer-Fall Habitat Action imposed on the SWP by the DFW under its 2024 Incidental Take Permit. From June through October, DFW imposes different suites of actions depending on the WY classification, ranging from no action in critical years to requiring DWR to maintain the monthly average location of X2 in the upper San Francisco Estuary, which is defined as the distance from the Golden Gate, where San Francisco Bay meets the Pacific Ocean, to the location of the two parts per thousand isohaline at 80 kilometers in September and October.

The Shortcomings of the Existing WY Classification System as a Tool in Regulatory Decision-Making

A key driver of the need to move beyond the standing WY classification system as a tool in regulatory decision-making is climate change.

- Climate change confirmed to policymakers that we cannot rely on weather patterns to predict future weather patterns.
- With climate change, we are experiencing warmer winters and earlier snowmelt. March 2026 was a record year in terms of temperatures across much of the State, accompanied by accelerated snowmelt.
- With climate change, we are seeing more critically dry years. Note, about twice as many critical years occurred in the period 1975-2025, as they did in the period 1925-1975.
- With climate change, on average, we can expect to see less water carryover overall year-to-year.

One way to address the profound changes in climate and intra-year weather patterns would be to alter the weighting of different inputs into the Sacramento and San Joaquin WY indices. By reducing the relative weight given to forecasted spring and summer runoff, we could better account for the expectation that there will be reduced winter snowpack in the future, and the snowpack is likely to melt earlier in the springtime. But such a change alone cannot account for the range of ways in which scientists anticipate that climate change will lead to greater temporal and spatial variability in the weather patterns that influence the state's water supplies.

Another essential concern is the disconnect between the ecological needs of imperiled and other desired fish species, principally salmonids, smelts, and sturgeons, and application of the WY classification system as a conservation tool directing the management actions targeting listed species. The resource needs of those species and their habitats neither vary with nor can be effectively managed commensurate with the current WY categories. Yet conservation efforts targeting listed species continue to use water-year-type categories to trigger management actions and specify action criteria.

Rather than attempt to tweak the existing and decidedly broken WY classification system used to determine regulatory requirements applicable to the CVP, SWP, and other water users, the State should start from first principles and seek to design a better system. Among the principles of a fully reconsidered and redesigned programmatic approach should be –

- Taking into account ecological considerations when determining the how factors related to the forms of precipitation, resulting runoff, and storage on multiple temporal and spatial scales should inform and guide regulatory decision-making
- Moving away from the current rigid, forecast-based WY classification system and toward a system that incorporates real-time hydrological and ecological conditions as a tool to inform regulatory decisions
- Integrating carryover storage targets that serve ecological and water supply purposes into decision-making
- Considering a system that provides for dynamic management to provide functional flow releases
- Providing maximum flexibility to capture high flows during storm events
- Incentivizing development and use of surface water and groundwater storage to offset the loss of snowpack at historical volumes and on historical timeframes

We cannot afford a business-as-usual approach to this issue; we need bold State leadership. Further, we cannot wait another decade to take action. Every year we are squandering finite resources complying with ineffective regulatory obligations. A thoughtfully designed alternative should provide both water supply and conservation benefits vis-à-vis the status quo. In addition, policymakers could replace path dependence with the best available scientific information as the basis for long-term and near-term decision-making.

National Academies Committee Misses Opportunity to Improve Management Actions Targeting the Embattled Delta Smelt



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Have a Question?
contact@calwatercenter.org

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of
South Valley Water Resources Authority
Agenda**

Kern Water Bank Authority Office
1620 Mill Rock Way, Suite 500
Bakersfield, CA, 93311

April 23rd, 2026, at 10:00 am

Call to Order

- 1. 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 any matter not on the agenda and over which the Board has jurisdiction, provided no action shall be taken on any such matter unless otherwise provided.
- 2. Presentation by Bill Swanson on the Unified Water Plan for the San Joaquin Valley**
- 3. Minutes**
Approval of minutes of 1/22/26 special board meeting
- 4. Approval of KCWA and ID #4 joining South Valley Water Resources Authority as General Members subject to terms and conditions established by the Board**
- 5. Directors Forum** – discussion only, no action
 - a. SGMA
 - b. SWP & KCWA
 - c. Kern River
 - d. Water Plan for the San Joaquin Valley
 - e. Other
- 6. New Business for Consideration at Future Meetings and Announcements**
- 7. Adjournment**

**Project Management Committee (Special Activity Agreement #1)
of South Valley Water Resources Authority**

**Fish Friendly Diversion Project
Agenda**

Kern Water Bank Authority Office
1620 Mill Rock Way, Suite 500
Bakersfield, CA, 93311

April 23rd, 2026, at 10:00 am

Call to Order

- 1. Public Input**—This portion of the meeting is set aside to provide the public an opportunity to bring to the attention of the Committee members any matter not on the agenda and over which the Committee has jurisdiction, provided no action shall be taken on any such matter unless otherwise provided.
- 2. Minutes**
Approval of committee meeting minutes of 1/22/26
- 3. Approval of General Members KCWA and ID #4 becoming Project Members of Special Activity Agreement #1 [A Feasibility Analysis of the Fish Friendly Diversion Project] subject to terms and conditions fixed by existing Project Members**
- 4. Administrative Assessment for KCWA and ID #4 for 2026.**
- 5. Financial Reports**
 - a. Ratification of Payment of Vouchers for January and February, 2026
 - b. Presentation of financial reports for March, 2026
 - c. Approval of accounts payable.
- 6. Fish Friendly Diversion Demonstration Project**
 - a. Project Financial Status - Budget vs Actual
 - b. Demonstration Project permitting status
 - c. Biological Monitoring Update
 - d. Design Update
- 7. Determination of Date and Time for Next Board Meeting**
- 8. Adjournment**