

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
AND
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

849 ALLEN ROAD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314

AGENDA
May 12, 2026
8:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2026
-

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Treasurer's Report (MM)
b) Accounts Payable (MM)
c) Revenue and Expenditures (MM)
d) Water Charge Update (TT)
e) Public Hearing – Resolution 556 – Adopting 2026 District Assessment Rate (Collected 2026-2027)
-

4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

- a) District Groundwater Levels (MN)
b) Operations (ZS)
c) Maintenance (ZS)
d) Consideration of Budget For New Backhoe and Declaration of Equipment Surplus (ZS)
-

5. WATER RESOURCES REPORT

- a) State Water Project Operations (TT)
b) Delta Conveyance Project (TT)
c) Kern County Water Agency (TT)
-

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update (RE)
- b) Rosedale Recap (RE)
- c) Consideration of Resolution 557- Approval of Project and Adoption of Mitigated Negative Declaration / Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program – Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project SCH# 2026030503 (RE/DB)
- d) Consideration of Contribution of Agriculture Energy Consumers Association

7. ENGINEER’S REPORT

- a) Onyx Ranch Project (DB)
- b) Improvement Projects (MN)

8. COMMITTEE/SPECIAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (DB & TT)
- b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act / Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (DB/TT/DR)
- c) Kern Non-Districted Lands Joint Power Authority (DB/BW)
- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee (MN)
- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee (DB)
- f) Pioneer Project Committee (DB)
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (ZS)
- h) Kern Fan Authority (DB)
- i) Joint Operating Committee (DB & TT)
- j) Committee for Delta Reliability (TT)
- k) South Valley Water Resources Authority (TT)
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition (TT)
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (TT)
- n) Sites Reservoir Project (TT)
- o) Association of California Water Agencies (TT)
- p) Water Association of Kern County (TT)

9. ATTORNEY’S REPORT

10. OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

11. CORRESPONDENCE

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

13. CLOSED SESSION

- a) Conference with legal counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Significant Exposure to Litigation – *Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)*: One (1) Matter
- b) Conference with legal counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Initiation of Litigation – *Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)*: Two (2) Matters

- c) Conference with legal counsel – Pending Litigation – *Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)*:
 - i. State Water Resources Control Board – Applications to Appropriate Kern River Water
 - ii. Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interested (Validation Action)
 - iii. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, et al. vs. Kern County Water Agency, et al. (CVC Litigation)
 - iv. Buena Vista Water Storage District, et al. v. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Three Separate Suits) (Onyx Ranch CEQA Litigation)
 - v. Bring Back the Kern, et al v. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, et al. (Kern River Public Trust Litigation)
 - vi. Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, et al. vs. The Dow Chemical Company, et al. (TCP Litigation)

- d) Conference with real property negotiator – *Government Code Section 54956.8* – Negotiators: Dan Bartel / Dan Raytis
 - i. Property: Water Supply (Delta Conveyance). Negotiating parties: Various parties and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District. Under negotiation: Price & Terms of Payment
 - ii. Property: Water Supply. Negotiating parties: Various parties and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District. Under negotiation: Price & Terms of Payment
 - iii. Property: Various Parcels – Potential District Projects. Negotiating parties: Various parties and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District. Under negotiation: Price & Terms of Payment
 - iv. Property: Various Parcels – Kern Fan Project. Negotiating parties: Various parties and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, Irvine Ranch Water District and Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority. Under negotiation: Price & Terms of Payment

14. ADJOURNMENT

DECLARATION OF POSTING: I, Rachelle Echeverria, declare under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District and I posted the foregoing Agenda at the District Office and on the District's website (www.rrbwsd.com) on or before May 8, 2026. ***Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services may be made by telephoning or contacting Megan Misuraca at mmisuraca@rrbwsd.com. Please attempt to make such requests known at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting.***

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2026
8:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts and Mitch Millwee

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

District Staff / Consultants – Dan Bartel, Trent Taylor, Megan Misuraca, Zach Smith, Rachelle Echeverria, Markus Nygren & Dan Raytis. Jennifer Spaletta participated remotely in closed session.
Public – Sonia Lemus, Oscar Lopez, Ken Campbell

CALL TO ORDER

President Pierucci called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2026
- b) Special Board Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2026

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Millwee to approve the Board of Directors' regular March 10, 2026 and special March 26, 2026 meeting minutes. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Treasurer's Report – Ms. Misuraca presented the Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2026, highlighting significant payments made during the month. She reported that the County Fund account balances are currently reconciled through February 2026.
- b) Accounts Payable – Approval and Ratification (of payments made March 7, 2026 through April 10, 2026) – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board and highlighted several large or non-routine transactions. A motion was made by Director Watts and seconded by Director Unruh to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$381,922.75. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca presented the Revenue and Expenditures Report, comparing budgeted amounts to actual results through March 31, 2026. She briefly reviewed accounts with significant activity.
- d) Water Charge Update – Mr. Taylor reported that invoices have been prepared and mailed, with payment due by May 15, 2026. He also provided an update on the rollout of the accounting platform upgrade.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

- a) District Groundwater Levels – Mr. Nygren presented groundwater level data in relation to the District’s minimum thresholds under SGMA and discussed the removal of the RBG Well as a designated monitoring well.
- b) Operations Report – Mr. Smith provided an update on the District’s water supplies and recharge and recovery operations. He also reported that staff is working on the Water Quality Monitoring Plan for the Projects Operated by Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District for the pump-in program to meet the requirements of the Department of Water Resources. In addition, Mr. Smith briefed the Board on San Luis Reservoir spill updates.
- c) Maintenance Report – Mr. Smith reported on various maintenance efforts throughout the District and noted that staff is troubleshooting startup issues at several wells.

WATER RESOURCES REPORT

- a) State Water Project Operations – Mr. Taylor provided a detailed report on current State Water Project operations, including an analysis of the 8-Station Index, reservoir conditions, and snow water content reports.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest funding discussions and project status.
 - i. Consideration of DCP Participation – A motion was made by Director Watts and seconded by Director Millwee to reduce the District’s participation in the Delta Conveyance Project to 1% of the District’s Table A amount. The motion unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- c) Kern County Water Agency Board Meeting Update –
 - i. Consideration of Lower River Rights and Obligations Agreement – Mr. Taylor reviewed the agreement with the Board. A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Selvidge to approve and authorize staff to execute the Contract for a Portion of Kern County Water Agency Kern River Lower River Rights and Obligations.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None

MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria briefed the Board on staff's efforts under Goal #4 of the Strategic Plan to Live out an intentional and focused project plan for major initiatives and noted the Project Evaluation Tool has been added as an objective.
- b) Rosedale Recap – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the April Rosedale Re-Cap with the Board, noting the upcoming Land IQ Daily Field Level Tool workshops and Water Accounting Platform Update.
- c) Consideration of Resolution 555 -- Approval of Acquisition of Real Property for District Purposes – Kern County Assessor Parcel Numbers 426-031-01, 02, 08, 09, 10; 426-033-01; 426-040-09, 10, 11; 426-400-06 - Determination that the Acquisition is Exempt from CEQA Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3); and Authorization to File and Post a Notice of Exemption– A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Millwee to adopt Resolution No. 555. A roll call vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.
AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None
- d) Consideration of Contribution of Agriculture Energy Consumers Association – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the benefits associated with AECA membership. The Board requested that staff gather additional information from other districts and bring the item back for further discussion in May. No action was taken at this time.

ENGINEER'S / PROJECTS REPORT

- a) Onyx Ranch – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on Onyx Ranch operations and reported that Tom Harder has completed the no-injury update. Mr. Bartel also provided an update on the wellhead treatment for the new well.
- b) Improvement Projects – Mr. Nygren updated the Board on the status of various improvement projects across the District including progress on the design of McCaslin North and the completion of the West Superior Weir improvement project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel reported that staff briefed the Board on a couple of slides from the Alt 5 Presentation / Workshop for CVC Participants.
 - i. Consideration of Special Activities Agreement- RRB1 Channel Improvements – A motion was made by Director Millwee and second by Director Selvidge to authorize the execution of the Special Activities Agreement for the RRB1 Channel Improvements, subject to review and approval of Legal Counsel. The motion was unanimously passed.
AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None
 - ii. Consideration of Special Activities Agreement – Development of South Enns – A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Watts to authorize staff to

execute the Special Activities Agreement for the development of South Enns, subject to review and approval of Legal Counsel. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act / Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Mr. Bartel briefly reviewed a few updates to the 2025 subbasin plan.
 - i. Consideration of Subsidence SMC Technical Services – Mr. Bartel reviewed the proposals for subsidence technical work. A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Millwee to approve the District’s contribution of \$13,500 toward the Subsidence Program Implementation.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- c) Kern Non-Districted Lands Joint Power Authority – Mr. Bartel provided a brief report on KNDLA activities and ongoing discussions regarding White Land demand reduction and associated fees, including Phase 1 implementation.
- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Nygren briefed the Board on current activities.
- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – No report.
- f) Pioneer Project Committee – No report.
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report.
- h) Kern Fan Authority – No report.
- i) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – Mr. Bartel reported a possible amendment to the JOC to update the threshold for evaluating.
- j) Committee for Delta Reliability – No report.
- k) South Valley Water Resources Authority – No report.
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – No report.
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.
- n) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the water rights status update.
- o) Association of California Water Agencies – No report.
- p) Water Association of Kern County – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on recent activities.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

- a) Consideration of Election/Appointment of Officers of Board of Directors – A motion was made by Director Selvidge and seconded by Director Watts to elect the existing slate of President Pierucci, Vice-President Selvidge, Secretary Unruh, and Treasurer Millwee to continue for another year. The motion unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None

- b) SB 827 – Fiscal / Financial Training Requirements – Mr. Raytis briefed the Board on the Fiscal/Financial Training requirements that are required to be met by January 1, 2028. Mr. Raytis reported that he and certain staff will complete the training and report back to the Board on available options to meet the requirements.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 10:45 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 1:05 p.m., the Board reconvened to open session. Mr. Raytis reported that no reportable action was taken during closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:11 p.m., President Pierucci adjourned the meeting.

SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTABLE ACTION:

During the Closed Session, Director Selvidge made a motion, seconded by Director Unruh, to authorize Director Watts to finalize and execute the *Cooperation and Settlement Agreement with Buena Vista Water Storage District*. The motion unanimously passed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
April 30, 2026
1:30 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Roy Pierucci, Gary Unruh, and Mitch Millwee

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Barry Watts and Jason Selvidge

OTHERS PRESENT

District Staff / Consultants – Dan Bartel, Trent Taylor, Megan Misuraca, Zach Smith, Rachelle Echeverria, Markus Nygren & Dan Raytis
Public – Jake and Matt Cauzza

CALL TO ORDER

President Pierucci called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Project Evaluation Workshop – Mr. Bartel reviewed the project summary page, after which each individual team provided a detailed review of the How Much Water, Affordability, and Risk sections of the tool. The team also walked through the specific evaluation of the Delta Conveyance Project within the tool. The Board provided feedback and comments on the tool. No action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:10 p.m. President Pierucci adjourned the meeting.

Monthly Financial Report

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

April 2026



Prepared by

Megan Misuraca

Prepared on

May 12, 2026

Cash Balance
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
April 2026

	Transaction date	Credit	Debit	Balance
Tri-Counties Bank-Operations				
	Beginning Balance			6,244,256.33
Total for Tri-Counties Bank-Operations		\$5,642,060.59	\$5,996,581.33	\$5,889,735.59
Tri-Counties Bank-Payroll				
	Beginning Balance			120,759.39
Total for Tri-Counties Bank-Payroll		\$160,668.07	\$192,836.04	\$88,591.42
General County Fund # 8841				
	Beginning Balance			7,849,541.46
Total for General County Fund # 8841 **			\$5,500,000.00	\$2,349,541.46
Bond Debt County Fund # 8871				
	Beginning Balance			5,527.55
Total for Bond Debt County Fund # 8871 **				\$5,527.55
Operations County Fund # 8856				
	Beginning Balance			52,970.36
Total for Operations County Fund # 8856 **				\$52,970.36
Bond Reserve County Fund # 8884				
	Beginning Balance			1,010.74
Total for Bond Reserve County Fund # 8884 **				\$1,010.74
2020 COP W.F. Trust Funds M.M.				
	Beginning Balance			2,326.84
Total for 2020 COP W.F. Trust Funds M.M.		\$6.93		\$2,333.77
Goldman Sachs Money Market				
	Beginning Balance			40,721.83
Total for Goldman Sachs Money Market		\$110.35		\$40,832.18
Total Cash Balance at 4/30/2026				\$8,430,543.07

Investment / Cash Equivalent
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
April 2026

Investment AMG - Wells Fargo				
	Beginning Balance			16,937,946.61
Total for Investment AMG - Wells Fargo		\$32,542.79		\$16,970,489.40
Total Investment/Cash Equivalent at 4/30/26				\$16,970,489.40

Total Cash and Cash Equivalent/Investment at 4/30/26	\$25,401,032.47
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** Note- County fund balances are as of 3/31/2026.

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
AP for Ratification
April 11 - May 7, 2026

	Transaction Type	Num	Date	Amount	Split
ACWA JPIA (W/C,Auto,GL,Prop)	Bill Payment (Check)	5089	05/06/2026	-30,993.50	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	806	04/07/2026	30,993.50	63010 Insurance
Berchtold Equipment Company	Bill Payment (Check)	5087	05/06/2026	-476.30	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	R02268	04/02/2026	3,507.30	61500 Equipment Rental
	Vendor Credit	R02288	04/24/2026	-3,031.00	65001 Equipment Maintenance & Repair
Builders Mart	Bill Payment (Check)	5093	05/06/2026	-456.52	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	4612 Mar 26	03/31/2026	456.52	61650 Operating Supplies
Christensen, Inc.	Bill Payment (Check)	5091	05/06/2026	-9,699.67	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	453113	04/15/2026	4,795.75	-Split-
	Bill	456278	04/30/2026	4,903.92	-Split-
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD	Bill Payment (Check)	5094	05/06/2026	-12,120.00	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	352318	04/03/2026	12,120.00	61001 City of Bakersfield
Environmental Science Associates	Bill Payment (Check)	5085	05/06/2026	-14,670.00	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	217511	03/27/2026	7,123.50	66011 Technology Fees & Subscriptions
	Bill	217890	04/13/2026	7,546.50	66011 Technology Fees & Subscriptions
Esparza Enterprises, Inc	Bill Payment (Check)	5084	05/06/2026	-10,067.52	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	138078	04/22/2026	3,396.44	-Split-
	Bill	137907	04/15/2026	3,274.64	63007 Other Contracted Services
	Bill	138239	04/29/2026	3,396.44	-Split-
ESRI	Bill Payment (Check)	5081	05/06/2026	-5,434.79	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	R900233086	04/10/2026	5,434.79	66011 Technology Fees & Subscriptions
Kern County Water Agency	Bill Payment (Check)	5079	05/06/2026	-21,932.65	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	43813	04/29/2026	12,675.00	Third Party Project Operations:Cross Valley Canal
	Bill	43817	04/27/2026	9,257.65	61655 Water Quality Testing
Kern Machinery	Bill Payment (Check)	5092	05/06/2026	-575.24	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	102-1324907	04/03/2026	575.24	65001 Equipment Maintenance & Repair
Martinez Gardening Service	Bill Payment (Check)	5088	05/06/2026	-200.00	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	911727	05/01/2026	200.00	65100 Building Maintenance
PG&E (1091941045-5)	Bill Payment (Check)	5090	05/06/2026	-758.38	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	1091941045-5 Apr 26	04/15/2026	758.38	-Split-
PG&E (5462966222-9)	Bill Payment (Check)	5080	05/06/2026	-5.39	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	5462966222-9 Apr 26	04/29/2026	5.39	-Split-
PG&E 7752864149-9	Bill Payment (Check)	5082	05/06/2026	-5.39	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	7752864149-9 Apr 26	04/10/2026	5.39	-Split-

Rachelle Echeverria - Reimbursement

Bill Payment (Check)	5078	05/06/2026	-42.03	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
Bill	2026-04-14	04/16/2026	42.03	-Split-

Rincon Consultants, Inc

Bill Payment (Check)	5086	05/06/2026	-6,648.31	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
Bill	73673	04/16/2026	6,648.31	-Split-

ROSEDALE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES INC.

Bill Payment (Check)	5083	05/06/2026	-1,174.01	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
Bill	93492	02/17/2026	1,174.01	65000 Auto Maintenance & Repair

SoCalGas

Bill Payment (Check)	5077	05/06/2026	-19.34	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
Bill	11021673006 May 26	04/20/2026	19.34	66000 Utilities

Verizon Wireless

Bill Payment (Check)		05/06/2026		-Split-
Bill	6140373974	04/05/2026	660.74	66001 Phone / Internet
Vendor Credit	ACH	04/28/2026	-660.74	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations

Total AP For Ratification \$ 115,939.78

Friday, May 08, 2026 10:41:02 AM GMT-7

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
AP for Board Approval
May 8, 2026

	Transaction Type	Num	Date	Amount	Split
Abate-A-Weed	Bill Payment (Check)	5111	05/08/2026	-94.82	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	1086873	05/05/2026	94.82	61650 Operating Supplies
ACE HARDWARE	Bill Payment (Check)	5107	05/08/2026	-35.46	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	67502	04/28/2026	35.46	-Split-
ACWA - JPIA (Benefits)	Bill Payment (Check)	5117	05/08/2026	-20,550.05	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	709110	05/07/2026	20,550.05	20035 Benefit Liability
Advanced Data Storage, Inc.	Bill Payment (Check)	5132	05/08/2026	-56.39	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	237734	04/11/2026	56.39	62000 General Office
Barnes Welding Supply	Bill Payment (Check)	5112	05/08/2026	-72.84	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	91751122	04/30/2026	72.84	61500 Equipment Rental
Barry Watts	Bill Payment (Check)	5121	05/08/2026	-616.53	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	April 2026	05/06/2026	616.53	62007 Directors' Fees
Belden Blaine Raytys, LLP	Bill Payment (Check)	5110	05/08/2026	-32,987.50	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	28745	05/05/2026	3,325.00	63000 Legal Services
	Bill	28743	05/05/2026	525.00	63000 Legal Services
	Bill	28744	05/05/2026	29,137.50	-Split-
Berchtold Equipment Company	Bill Payment (Check)	5099	05/08/2026	-3,085.13	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	R02296	04/29/2026	3,085.13	61500 Equipment Rental
BSK Associates Inc	Bill Payment (Check)	5095	05/08/2026	-39.75	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	BJ01934	04/16/2026	39.75	61655 Water Quality Testing
Carroll's Tire Warehouse	Bill Payment (Check)	5124	05/08/2026	-881.85	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	106073	04/16/2026	881.85	65000 Auto Maintenance & Repair
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD	Bill Payment (Check)	5115	05/08/2026	-15,060.00	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	355404	04/29/2026	15,060.00	61001 City of Bakersfield
County Clerk	Bill Payment (Check)	5101	05/08/2026	-3,093.75	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	2026-05-06	05/06/2026	3,093.75	60200 Licenses, Permits and Fees
CPI	Bill Payment (Check)	5130	05/08/2026	-150.00	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	1648177	04/10/2026	150.00	60005 Staff Benefits
Dan's Pest Management	Bill Payment (Check)	5128	05/08/2026	-120.00	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	74305	04/15/2026	120.00	65100 Building Maintenance
Esparza Enterprises, Inc	Bill Payment (Check)	5120	05/08/2026	-3,396.44	10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations

	Bill	138307	05/06/2026	3,396.44 -Split-
Gary Unruh				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5105	05/08/2026	-730.74 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	April 2026	05/06/2026	730.74 62007 Directors' Fees
Jason Selvidge				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5119	05/08/2026	-512.52 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	April 2026	05/06/2026	512.52 62007 Directors' Fees
L&M Lumber Inc				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5122	05/08/2026	-34.59 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	400912	04/24/2026	34.59 61650 Operating Supplies
Land IQ				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5129	05/08/2026	-4,176.43 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	7871	05/01/2026	2,743.31 66011 Technology Fees & Subscriptions
	Bill	7891	05/01/2026	1,433.12 66011 Technology Fees & Subscriptions
Mission Uniform Service				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5135	05/08/2026	-299.50 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	525902011	05/01/2026	77.70 63500 Janitorial
	Bill	525945384	05/01/2026	110.90 63500 Janitorial
	Bill	525862370	04/17/2026	110.90 63500 Janitorial
Mitch Millwee				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5133	05/08/2026	-430.89 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	April 2026	05/06/2026	430.89 62007 Directors' Fees
MLJ Environmental				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5096	05/08/2026	-1,710.00 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	12712	03/09/2026	1,395.00 63007 Other Contracted Services
	Bill	12759	04/15/2026	225.00 63007 Other Contracted Services
	Bill	12775	05/07/2026	90.00 63007 Other Contracted Services
Office1				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5113	05/08/2026	-425.22 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	AR1416010	05/07/2026	212.61 62001 Printing & Reproduction
	Bill	AR1404202	04/09/2026	212.61 62001 Printing & Reproduction
PG&E (0439653883-9)				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5125	05/08/2026	-328.39 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	0439653883-9 May 26	05/01/2026	328.39 61300 Surface Water Pumping
PG&E (1338232537-4)				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5108	05/08/2026	-967.94 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	1338232537-4 May 26	05/01/2026	967.94 61301 Groundwater Pumping
PG&E (3923107207-3)				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5106	05/08/2026	-1,386.80 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	3923107207-3 May 26	05/01/2026	1,386.80 61301 Groundwater Pumping
PG&E (5592643715-7)				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5104	05/08/2026	-177.86 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	5592643715-7 May 26	05/01/2026	177.86 61301 Groundwater Pumping
PG&E (5919499601-9)				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5103	05/08/2026	-225.55 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	5919499601-9 May 26	05/01/2026	225.55 61301 Groundwater Pumping
PG&E (8190181094-5)				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5100	05/08/2026	-124.71 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	8190181094-5 May 26	05/01/2026	124.71 61301 Groundwater Pumping
PG&E 6149047433-7				
	Bill Payment (Check)	5126	05/08/2026	-41.57 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations

	Bill	6149047433-7 May 26	04/30/2026	41.57 61301 Groundwater Pumping
Roy Pierucci	Bill Payment (Check)	5118	05/08/2026	-1,071.92 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	April 2026	05/06/2026	1,071.92 62007 Directors' Fees
Southern California Edison (700102049704)	Bill Payment (Check)	5097	05/08/2026	-313.67 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	700102049704 May 26	05/01/2026	313.67 66000 Utilities
Southern California Edison (700122257127)	Bill Payment (Check)	5098	05/08/2026	-495.46 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	122257127 Apr 2026	05/01/2026	495.46 -Split-
Southern California Edison (700511405161)	Bill Payment (Check)	5131	05/08/2026	-81.02 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	700511405161 Apr 26	05/01/2026	81.02 66000 Utilities
Spectrum Business	Bill Payment (Check)	5136	05/08/2026	-161.25 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	1355119050126	05/01/2026	161.25 66001 Phone / Internet
Standard Insurance	Bill Payment (Check)	5134	05/08/2026	-613.19 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	May 2026	04/21/2026	613.19 -Split-
Stoel Rives LLP	Bill Payment (Check)	5127	05/08/2026	-1,942.50 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	8119205	04/16/2026	1,942.50 63000 Legal Services
SUPERIOR SANITATION	Bill Payment (Check)	5123	05/08/2026	-342.50 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	65100245	05/01/2026	342.50 66000 Utilities
Thomas Harder & Co., Inc.	Bill Payment (Check)	5114	05/08/2026	-7,348.75 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	25-054-140.6	04/10/2026	7,348.75 63006 Hydrogeology Services
Thomas Refuse Service, Inc	Bill Payment (Check)	5109	05/08/2026	-265.38 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	65104675	05/01/2026	265.38 66000 Utilities
Tri Counties Bank	Bill Payment (Check)	ACH	05/08/2026	-7,095.91 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	3913 Apr 26	05/06/2026	7,095.91 -Split-
Tyack's Tire Inc	Bill Payment (Check)	5102	05/08/2026	-220.24 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	249943	04/13/2026	167.12 65001 Equipment Maintenance & Repair
	Bill	250490	05/05/2026	53.12 65001 Equipment Maintenance & Repair
Workforce go!	Bill Payment (Check)	5116	05/08/2026	-19.65 10006 Tri-Counties Bank-Operations
	Bill	INV-0044468	05/01/2026	19.65 60001 Payroll Taxes and Fees

Total AP Current \$ 111,784.66

Total AP Current + Ratified \$ 227,724.44

FYE December 31, 2026 Budget vs. Actual

January - April, 2026

	Apr 2026	Total			% of Budget
	Actual	Actual	Budget	over Budget	
Income					
40000 Assessments		228,196.43	6,502,527.00	-6,274,330.57	3.51%
40010 Prior Year Assessments		16,683.54	35,000.00	-18,316.46	47.67%
40500 Water Charge	1,462,023.94	1,462,023.94	2,610,000.00	-1,147,976.06	56.02%
40501 Water Sales		0.00	0.00	0.00	
40503 SW Pumping Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	600,000.00	-600,000.00	0.00%
40507 O & M Reimbursement		0.00	120,000.00	-120,000.00	0.00%
40508 Groundwater Banking		2,973,487.00	5,932,800.00	-2,959,313.00	50.12%
40509 Lease	1,381.00	43,871.75	67,000.00	-23,128.25	65.48%
40510 GW Recovery Reimbursement		0.00	3,000,000.00	-3,000,000.00	0.00%
40511 Non-Reoccurring Water Sale		0.00	1,000,000.00	-1,000,000.00	0.00%
40600 Interest	50,822.08	250,079.73	500,000.00	-249,920.27	50.02%
41000 Other		15.00	10,000.00	-9,985.00	0.15%
41001 Refunds and Credits	1,157.76	1,157.76	150,000.00	-148,842.24	0.77%
41005 Income from Sale of Asset		41,500.00	10,000.00	31,500.00	415.00%
41050 Resource Management	41,187.61	41,337.61	150,000.00	-108,662.39	27.56%
Total Income	\$ 1,556,572.39	\$ 5,058,352.76	\$ 20,687,327.00	-\$ 15,628,974.24	24.45%
Gross Profit	\$ 1,556,572.39	\$ 5,058,352.76	\$ 20,687,327.00	-\$ 15,628,974.24	24.45%
Expenses					
60000 Wages and Salaries	189,755.46	569,109.68	1,734,276.60	-1,165,166.92	32.82%
60001 Payroll Taxes and Fees	3,108.04	15,095.47	35,000.00	-19,904.53	43.13%
60005 Staff Benefits	22,478.22	64,965.12	213,000.00	-148,034.88	30.50%
60006 Staff Retirement	20,450.73	61,009.25	274,500.00	-213,490.75	22.23%
60007 Workers Compensation Insurance	3,437.70	10,291.36	33,500.00	-23,208.64	30.72%
60100 Bank Charges	246.95	1,193.78	3,300.00	-2,106.22	36.18%
60110 Assesment Reimbursement		0.00	117,000.00	-117,000.00	0.00%
60200 Licenses, Permits and Fees	50.00	656.00	10,000.00	-9,344.00	6.56%
61000 KCWA SWP		2,757,067.00	4,150,000.00	-1,392,933.00	66.44%
61001 City of Bakersfield	27,180.00	27,180.00	2,494,400.00	-2,467,220.00	1.09%
61050 Other Water Purchase		905,216.78	2,000,000.00	-1,094,783.22	45.26%
61300 Surface Water Pumping	1,227.13	3,143.84	800,000.00	-796,856.16	0.39%
61301 Groundwater Pumping	3,580.24	11,845.30	3,750,000.00	-3,738,154.70	0.32%
61350 Well Mitigation		0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.00%
61400 Third Party Project Operations	12,675.00	719,684.85	1,150,000.00	-430,315.15	62.58%
61401 Delta Conveyance Project		0.00	180,000.00	-180,000.00	0.00%
61450 Regulatory Programs		55,073.02	100,000.00	-44,926.98	55.07%
61500 Equipment Rental	6,665.27	17,641.36	75,000.00	-57,358.64	23.52%
61650 Operating Supplies	1,216.66	8,793.15	30,000.00	-21,206.85	29.31%
61655 Water Quality Testing	10,075.10	19,143.92	25,000.00	-5,856.08	76.58%
61660 Property Lease		39,321.00	77,000.00	-37,679.00	51.07%
61800 Fuel	9,699.67	32,187.91	100,000.00	-67,812.09	32.19%
62000 General Office	2,192.81	9,078.65	38,850.00	-29,771.35	23.37%
62001 Printing & Reproduction	212.61	850.44	3,120.00	-2,269.56	27.26%
62003 Publications and Notices		0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00%
62005 Dues/Membership- Dues and Membership	0.00	42,279.00	89,162.26	-46,883.26	47.42%
62007 Directors' Fees	2,267.62	7,219.83	33,000.00	-25,780.17	21.88%
62008 Educational Fees	1,998.00	4,008.58	9,270.00	-5,261.42	43.24%
62009 Postage and Delivery		302.64	1,545.00	-1,242.36	19.59%

63000 Legal Services	31,405.50	76,431.41	500,000.00	-423,568.59	15.29%
63002 Audit and Accounting Services		0.00	41,000.00	-41,000.00	0.00%
63004 Engineering Services		0.00	25,000.00	-25,000.00	0.00%
63005 Environmental Services		0.00	30,000.00	-30,000.00	0.00%
63006 Hydrogeology Services	7,348.75	34,306.25	115,000.00	-80,693.75	29.83%
63007 Other Contracted Services	17,171.90	61,743.86	250,000.00	-188,256.14	24.70%
63010 Insurance	23,245.13	85,804.56	118,800.00	-32,995.44	72.23%
63500 Janitorial	290.13	1,877.48	9,800.00	-7,922.52	19.16%
64000 Water Transaction Fees		6,750.00	50,000.00	-43,250.00	13.50%
65000 Auto Maintenance & Repair	1,362.30	9,525.85	30,000.00	-20,474.15	31.75%
65001 Equipment Maintenance & Repair	-2,662.04	17,096.63	30,000.00	-12,903.37	56.99%
65002 Mileage Reimbursement	15.08	55.11	515.00	-459.89	10.70%
65100 Building Maintenance	120.00	14,749.83	25,000.00	-10,250.17	59.00%
65101 Water Structure Maintenance		2,555.44	20,000.00	-17,444.56	12.78%
65200 Booster Pump Maintenance		0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.00%
65201 Well Maintenance		2,875.00	40,000.00	-37,125.00	7.19%
65500 Weed Control/Chemicals		8,350.18	100,000.00	-91,649.82	8.35%
66000 Utilities	2,970.66	6,459.75	20,000.00	-13,540.25	32.30%
66001 Phone / Internet	894.86	3,514.52	15,000.00	-11,485.48	23.43%
66011 Technology Fees & Subscriptions	30,936.18	82,786.07	110,000.00	-27,213.93	75.26%
67000 Travel		0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.00%
68000 Property Taxes		56,446.20	180,000.00	-123,553.80	31.36%
70000 Capital Water Structure		109,127.80	1,310,000.00	-1,200,872.20	8.33%
70001 Capital Building		0.00	85,000.00	-85,000.00	0.00%
70100 Capital Booster Pump		0.00	12,600.00	-12,600.00	0.00%
70101 Capital Well	2,432.93	277,597.82	750,000.00	-472,402.18	37.01%
70200 Capital Engineering Services		5,712.00	180,000.00	-174,288.00	3.17%
70201 Capital Environmental Services	6,648.31	34,829.56	120,000.00	-85,170.44	29.02%
70500 Capital Auto	770.83	65,225.33	70,000.00	-4,774.67	93.18%
70501 Capital Equipment		23,665.16	225,000.00	-201,334.84	10.52%
70600 Capital Office Equipment		2,602.99	2,100.00	502.99	123.95%
70602 Capital Land	5,454,600.00	5,704,600.00	0.00	5,704,600.00	
70700 Third Party Projects- Capital	0.00	1,750,000.00	3,500,000.00	-1,750,000.00	50.00%
88004 2020 COP- Debt Service	98,033.35	3,097,133.40	3,930,295.00	-833,161.60	78.80%
88100 COP Administration		0.00	9,270.00	-9,270.00	0.00%
Total Expenses	\$ 5,994,101.08	\$ 16,924,180.13	\$ 29,522,303.86	-\$ 12,598,123.73	57.33%
Net Income	-\$ 4,437,528.69	-\$ 11,865,827.37	-\$ 8,834,976.86	-\$ 3,030,850.51	134.31%

Friday, May 08, 2026 10:50:30 AM GMT-7 - Accrual Basis

May 12, 2026

To: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Board of Directors

Agenda Item: 3e.

From: Megan Misuraca

Re: Preliminary 2027 Budget and 10-Year Projection for the Purpose of Setting the 2026-2027 Assessment Rate

Discussion:

On April 9, 2026, staff met with the Finance Committee to review the preliminary 2027 budget and 10-year financial projections. Based on current assumptions, staff recommended an assessment rate of \$168 per acre for 2026 (to be collected in December 2026 and April 2027). If these assumptions remain consistent, a Proposition 218 process for assessments is anticipated to be required beginning in 2030, along with an updated analysis of the water charge rate. The 10-year projected cash balance is based on the following key assumptions:

1. 2026 reflects average water supply and hydrologic conditions, with operations from 2026–2036 based on a 10-year average.
2. Assessment rates increase annually by approximately 3–5% to account for inflation and market adjustments.
3. The water charge rate is phased in over five years, with a projected 6% decrease in irrigated water demand and consideration of water transfers. Water charge revenue in 2026 is expected to be significantly lower than budgeted due to water being transferred in the market.
4. No revenue is assumed from the Coachella program.
5. Annual water sales are projected at \$1.0 million for 2027–2036 (representing a 10-year average and not necessarily incurred each year).
6. A City of Bakersfield (COB) settlement water purchase of \$2.5 million is included for 2026.
7. DCP participation includes costs through the next design phase in 2026–2027 at 1%, with projected construction costs based on updated modeling (in 2024 dollars) reflecting 20% participation.
8. Sites Reservoir assumptions include additional planning and design costs in 2026, with no further costs projected until additional Board direction is provided.
9. Kern Fan Project costs include Phase 1 capital, ongoing operations.
10. South Valley Project- Alt. 5 conveyance with maximum grant funding allocated and Rosedale Channel 1 Improvements.
11. Completion of key capital improvement projects, including McCaslin North, Superior Weir Gates, SCADA upgrades, and other infrastructure enhancements.

12. Capital planning includes land acquisitions of \$1.0 million annually beginning in 2027 and water purchases averaging \$1.0 million annually from 2026–2036 in support of SGMA management actions and funded through the water charge (averaged over the 10-year period and not necessarily incurred annually).
13. Implementation of the reserve policy adopted in 2025.

Variance from 2026 Projection

The adopted 2026 Budget and 10-Year Projection estimated an ending fund balance of approximately \$27 million in 2035. The current projection reflects a reduced ending fund balance of approximately \$17 million, representing a decrease of \$10 million.

This variance is primarily attributable to:

- Acquisition of the Prince Ranch property: approximately \$6.0 million
- Reduction in projected water charge revenue due to decreased water demand: approximately \$4.0 million

Additional Consideration

The Santa Clarita / Buena Vista program is projected to conclude in 2036, resulting in an estimated annual revenue reduction of approximately \$7.0 million.

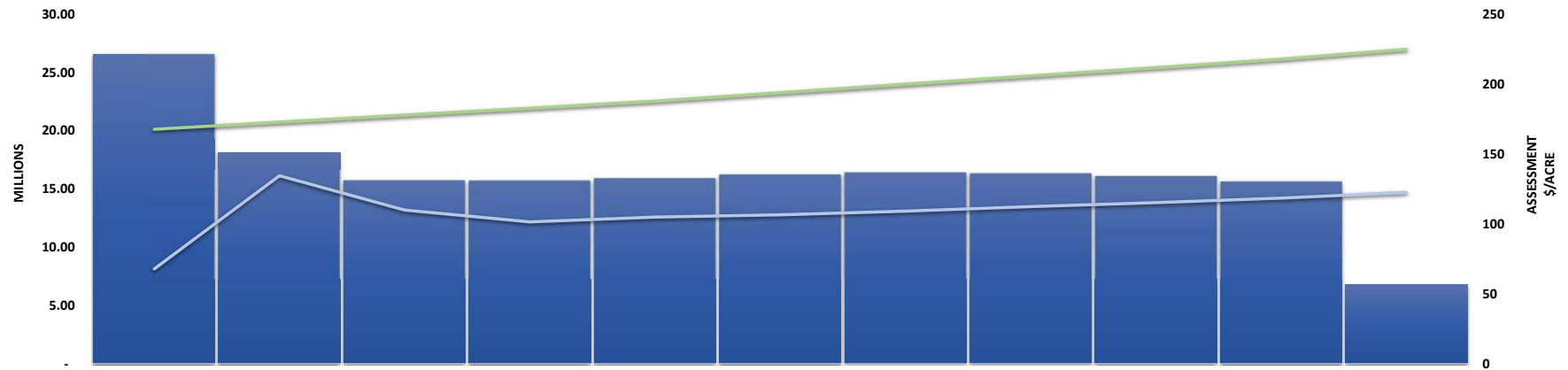
Recommendation:

The Board adopt Resolution No. 556 Adopting Assessment Rates to be Collected 2026/2027 at \$168/acre.

Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
10 Year Cash Flow Analysis
Calendar Years 2026-2036



Fund Balance Assessment (\$/Acre) Reserve Total



	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036
	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre	\$/Acre
Assessment Limit	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88	\$ 226.88
Assessment (\$/Acre)	\$168	\$173	\$178	\$183	\$188	\$194	\$200	\$206	\$212	\$218	\$225
Water Charge	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 195	\$ 195	\$ 256	\$ 256	\$ 256	\$ 256	\$ 256	\$ 256	\$ 256
Assessment Revenue	\$ 6,502,527	\$ 6,696,055	\$ 6,887,516	\$ 7,078,861	\$ 7,270,091	\$ 7,499,864	\$ 7,729,499	\$ 7,958,996	\$ 8,188,354	\$ 8,417,574	\$ 8,685,257
Water Charge Revenue	\$ 1,769,000	\$ 2,175,000	\$ 2,925,000	\$ 2,925,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,584,000
COP Reserve	\$ 3,930,295	\$ 3,929,195	\$ 2,946,426	\$ 2,958,326	\$ 2,941,662	\$ 2,950,964	\$ 2,940,611	\$ 2,951,111	\$ 2,942,378	\$ 2,945,286	\$ 2,944,080
Capital Reserve	\$ 5,073,193	\$ 4,120,218	\$ 2,426,026	\$ 1,166,423	\$ 1,290,683	\$ 1,197,274	\$ 1,230,395	\$ 1,295,119	\$ 1,301,525	\$ 1,329,645	\$ 1,359,114
Operating Reserve	\$ 8,910,518	\$ 7,901,253	\$ 7,629,921	\$ 7,877,787	\$ 8,167,891	\$ 8,450,771	\$ 8,755,393	\$ 9,071,111	\$ 9,403,786	\$ 9,768,557	\$ 10,215,420
Well Mitigation Reserve	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Reserve Total	\$ 8,161,132	\$ 16,150,666	\$ 13,202,373	\$ 12,202,535	\$ 12,600,237	\$ 12,799,010	\$ 13,126,398	\$ 13,517,341	\$ 13,847,689	\$ 14,243,488	\$ 14,718,615

RESOLUTION NO. 556
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
ADOPTING ASSESSMENT RATES TO BE COLLECTED 2026/2027

WHEREAS, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District is a California Water District (District) formed pursuant to and in accordance with Division 14 of the California Water Code (commencing with Water Code §39000);

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2018, at a duly noticed public hearing and after an assessment ballot proceeding conducted under applicable provisions of the California Constitution, Article XIII d (also referred to as “Proposition 218”), the Board of Directors of the District was authorized to levy, on an annual basis, an annual assessment in an amount up to, but not to exceed, \$205.00 per acre, subject to an authorized inflation adjustment;

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2026, the District’s Board of Directors, after providing published notice and in accordance with law, conducted a public hearing to consider the District’s proposed budget, which included presentation and consideration of estimates of the District’s revenues and expenses during the tax year, and any public comments made at such public hearing, and considered setting the rate of the District’s 2026 assessments to be collected 2026-2027;

WHEREAS, the District has elected that such assessments be collected by the County of Kern as provided in Chapter 13, Part 9 of Division 14 (commencing with Section 47000) of the California Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the assessments for lands within the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District are as set forth below.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors for the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, that the foregoing is true and correct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RRBWSD DIST ASSMT to be collected 2026-2027 for all lands within the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District is hereby set at \$_____ per acre.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the applicable provisions of California Constitution Article XIII d have been complied with by the District in adopting and setting the rates set forth herein.

All the foregoing being on the motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, was PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District at the regular meeting place of the District on May 12, 2026, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAINED:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No.556 is the Resolution of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District as duly passed and adopted by its Board of Directors at a legally convened meeting held on the 12th day of May, 2026.

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

President of the Board of Directors
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

ATTEST:

Secretary of the Board of Directors
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



April 21, 2026

Zach Smith
Operations Manager
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
P.O. Box 20820
Bakersfield, CA 93390

Re: Approval of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Integrated Banking Project Pump-in Proposal Update

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Department of Water Resources (DWR), through its Environmental Assessment Branch (EAB), has received a request for approval from Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (RRB). This request refers to an updated Pump-in Proposal (PIP) for future operations. The following information pertains to the approval of this PIP.

Staff at the EAB have reviewed the provided water quality data and project description and find that the proposed plan is in accordance with overall goals and requirements, provided in the Department of Water Resources Water Quality Policy and Implementation Process for Acceptance of Non-Project Water into the State Water Project (October 2012) (Pump-In Policy). This proposal updates the RRB PIP last submitted and reviewed in 2020 along with additional wells submitted and approved in 2020. Both the previous PIPs and the additional wells were submitted to the Facilitation Group, as established in the Pump-in Policy, for comments. All subsequent comments were addressed and these prior submissions were approved by DWR. Since this updated PIP does not include substantive changes beyond what was provided in the previously approved submissions, no further comments have been solicited from the Facilitation Group.

Staff at the EAB find no issues with the implementation of this plan and grant approval for RRB to begin operations of the RRB pump-in projects enclosed in their PIP, pursuant to the stipulations provided within the proposal.

Sincerely,

Daniel Wisheropp

Daniel Wisheropp
Manager, O&M Water Quality Section

TO: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Board of Directors
Agenda Item 4.c

FROM: Zach Smith

DATE: May 12, 2026

RE: Maintenance Report

Discussion:

Staff worked on various maintenance items throughout the District in April. Specifically:

- Applied round-up in multiple locations throughout District.
- Backhoe used to repair slope/bank erosion in multiple locations.
- Skid steer w/mower deck used on pond edges and fencelines in multiple locations.
- Rental tractor with flail used to mow ponds in Wes Selvidge Basins and Strand.
- Electrical panels and concrete pads cleaned on all recovery wells.
- Tractor with rotary mower used to clean Strand and Stockdale West Basins.
- Removal of sand from Wes Selvidge Basin area is nearly complete.



Looking west at mowed basin in Wes Selvidge Basin area.

TO: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Board of Directors
Agenda Item 4.d

FROM: Zach Smith

DATE: May 12, 2026

RE: Maintenance Report

Discussion:

District staff is requesting the Board consider the purchase of a new backhoe for Onyx Ranch. The District's current backhoe (Cat 420F) is a 2012 and was purchased used in 2015. The backhoe is still operational; however, due to its age, it is only useful for lighter projects.

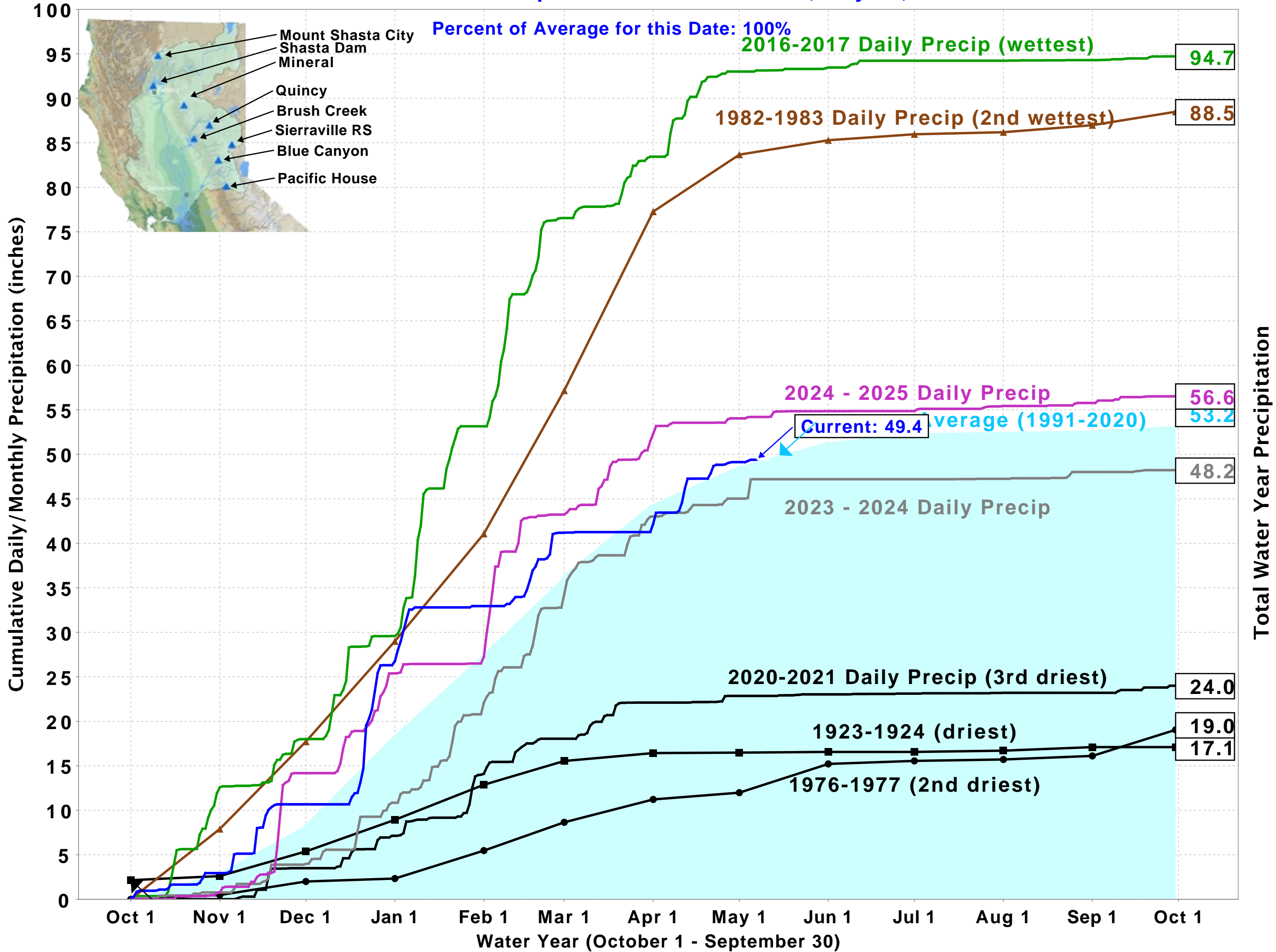
If the purchase of the new backhoe is approved, staff recommends the Board surplus the existing Cat 420F.

Staff contacted Quinn/Cat (Cat 420F), Coastline Equipment (John Deere 310 Series), and KMS (Sany SLB95) for quotations. Purchase of a new backhoe was included in the District's 2026 Budget.

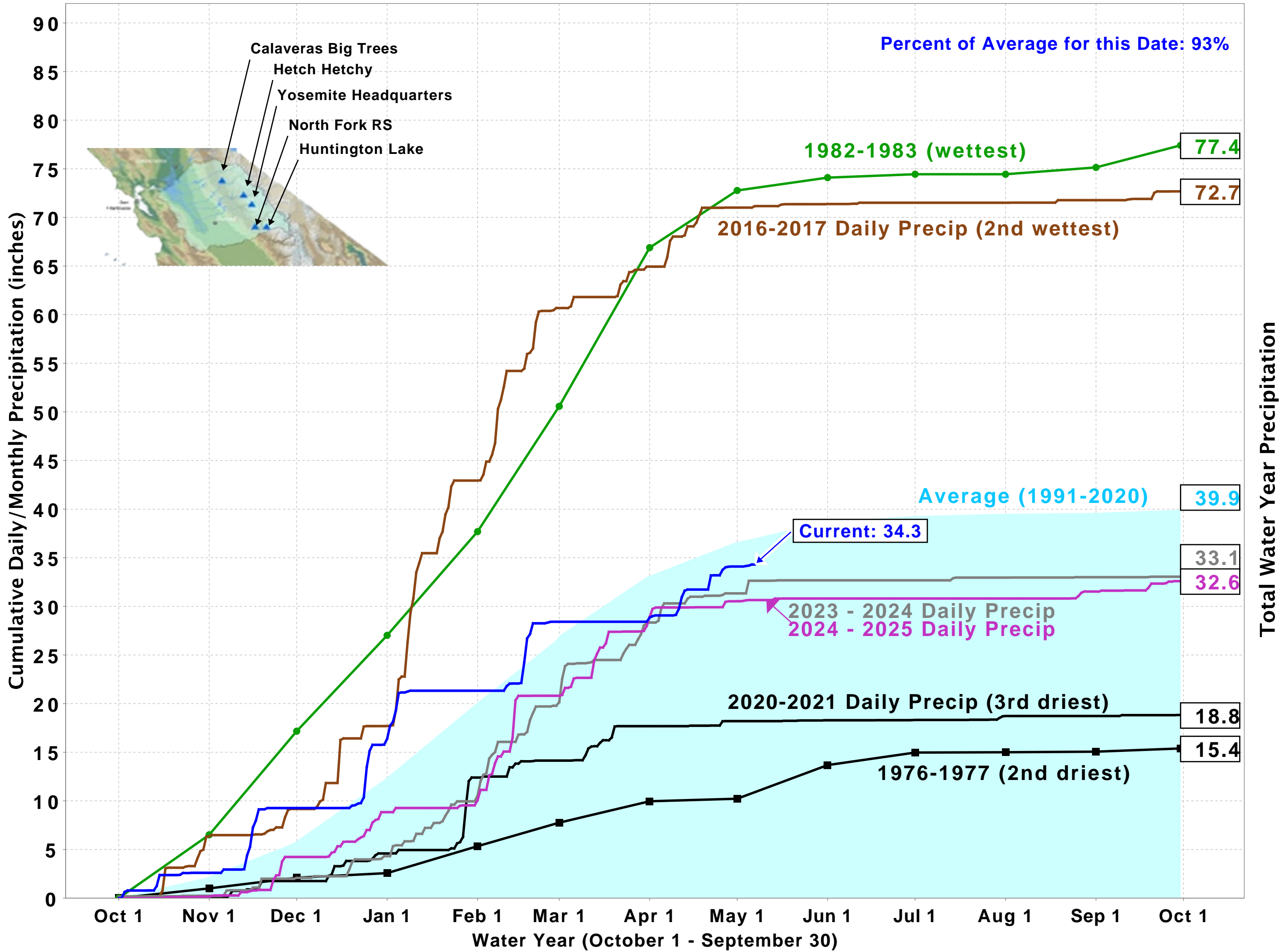
Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board authorize a budget not to exceed \$170,000 for purchase of a new backhoe and declare the 2012 Cat 420F surplus.

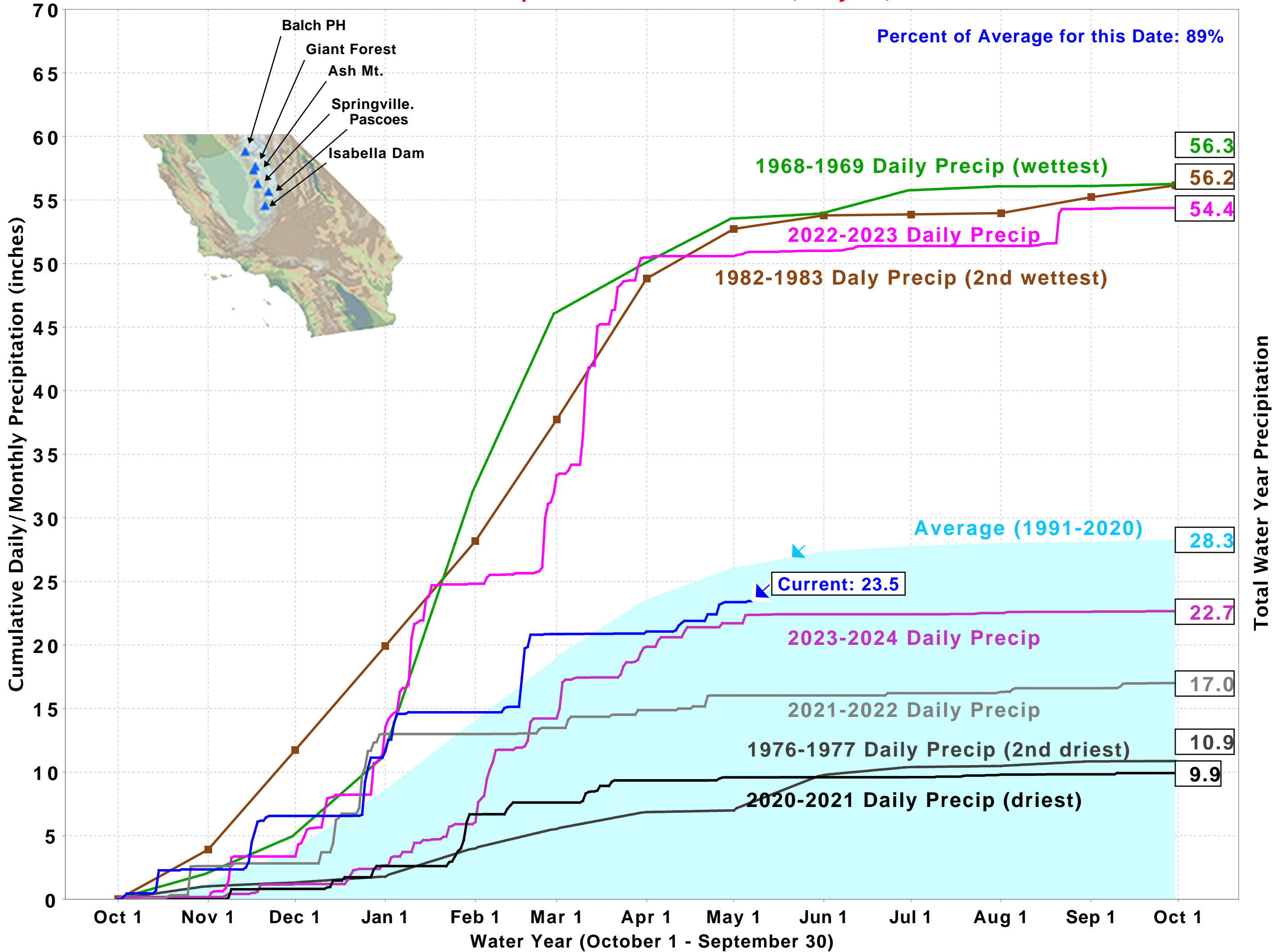
Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, May 07, 2026



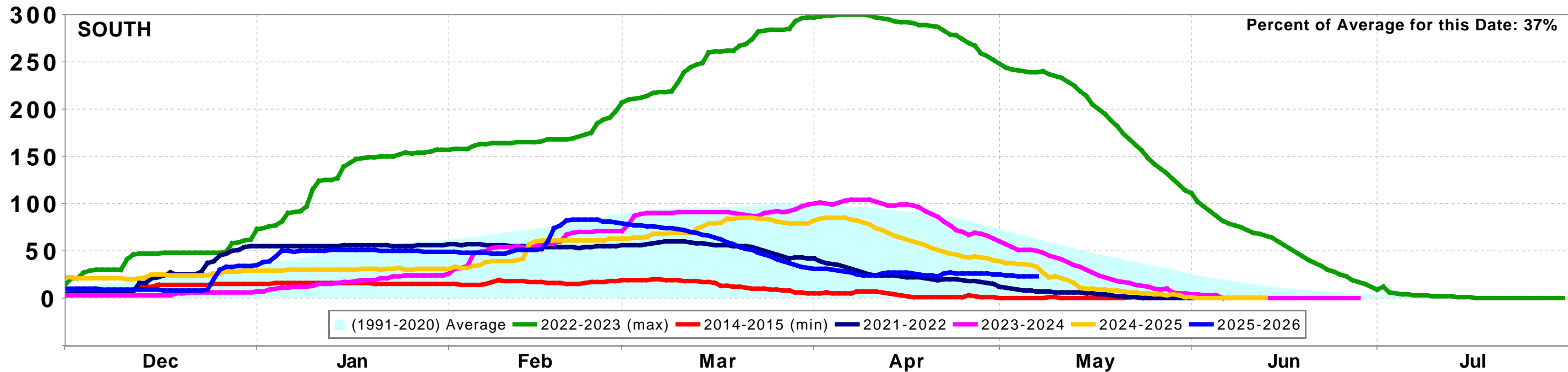
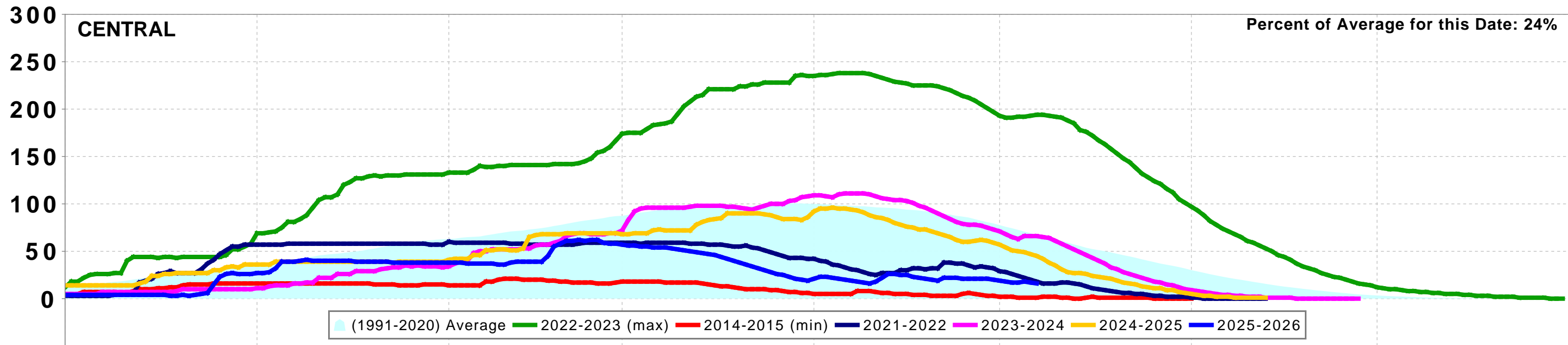
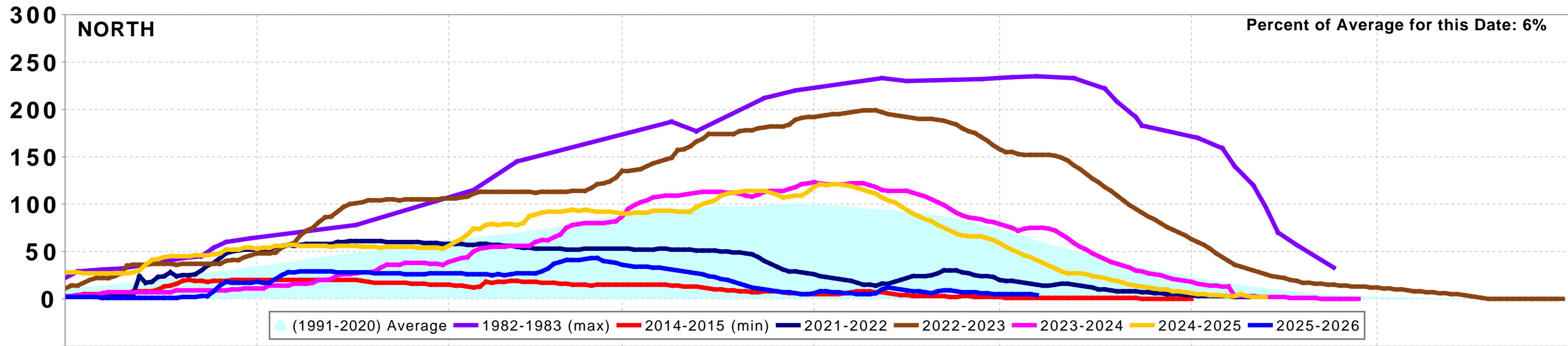
San Joaquin Precipitation: 5-Station Index, May 07, 2026



Tulare Basin Precipitation: 6-Station Index, May 07, 2026



California Snow Water Content, May 7, 2026, Percent of April 1 Average



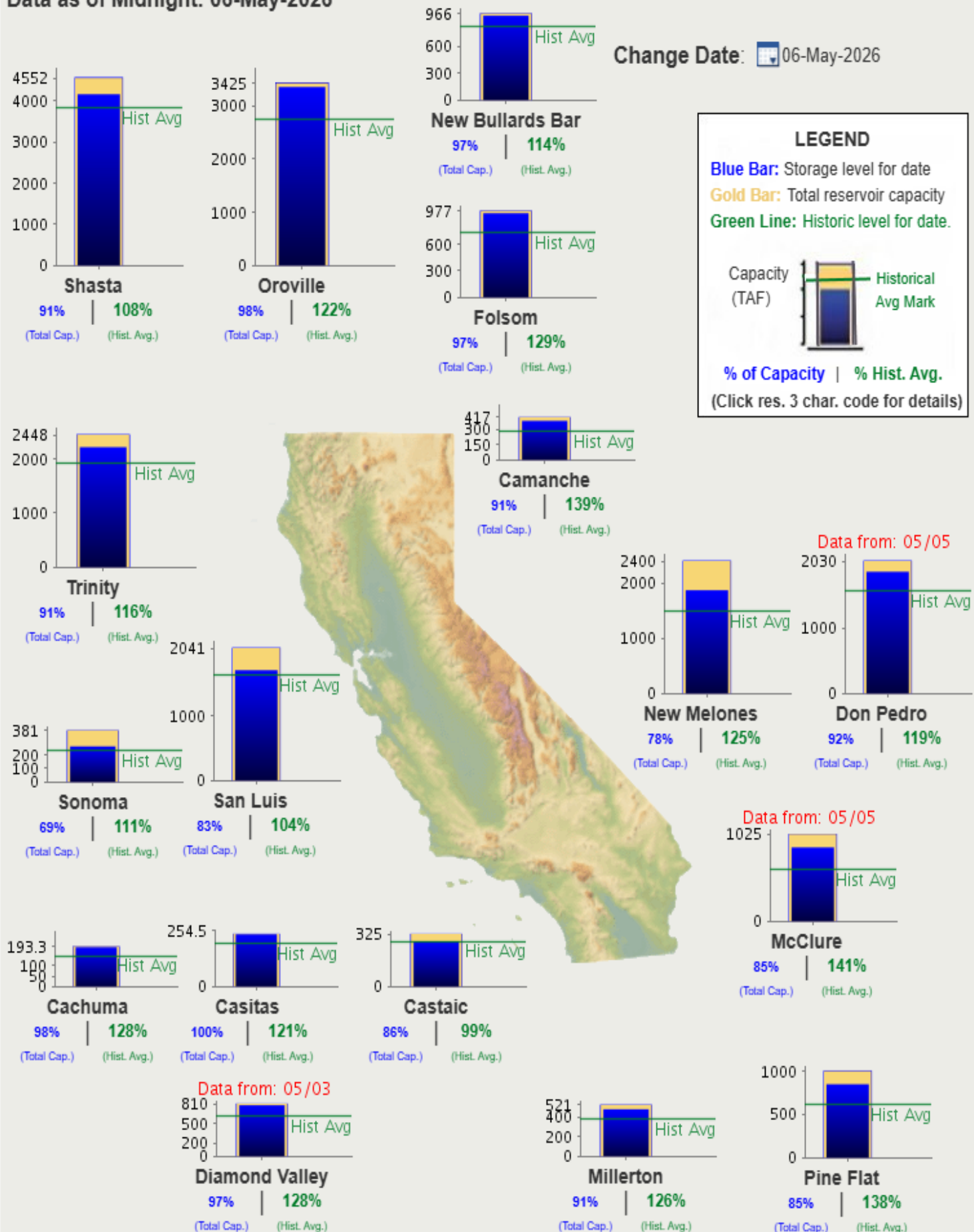
Statewide Percent of April 1: 14.0%

Statewide Percent of Average for Date: 22.0%

CURRENT CONDITIONS: MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS:06-MAY-2026

Data as of Midnight: 06-May-2026

Change Date: 06-May-2026



[Click to download printable version of current data.](#)

Report Generated: 07-May-2026 12:28 PM

The CSI link has been disabled to zoom in, for the lack of historical data.

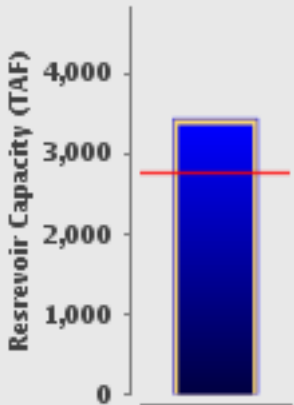


CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



Lake Oroville Conditions

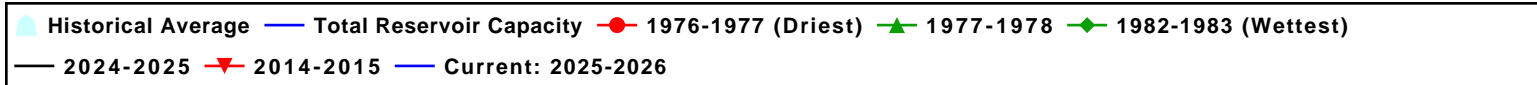
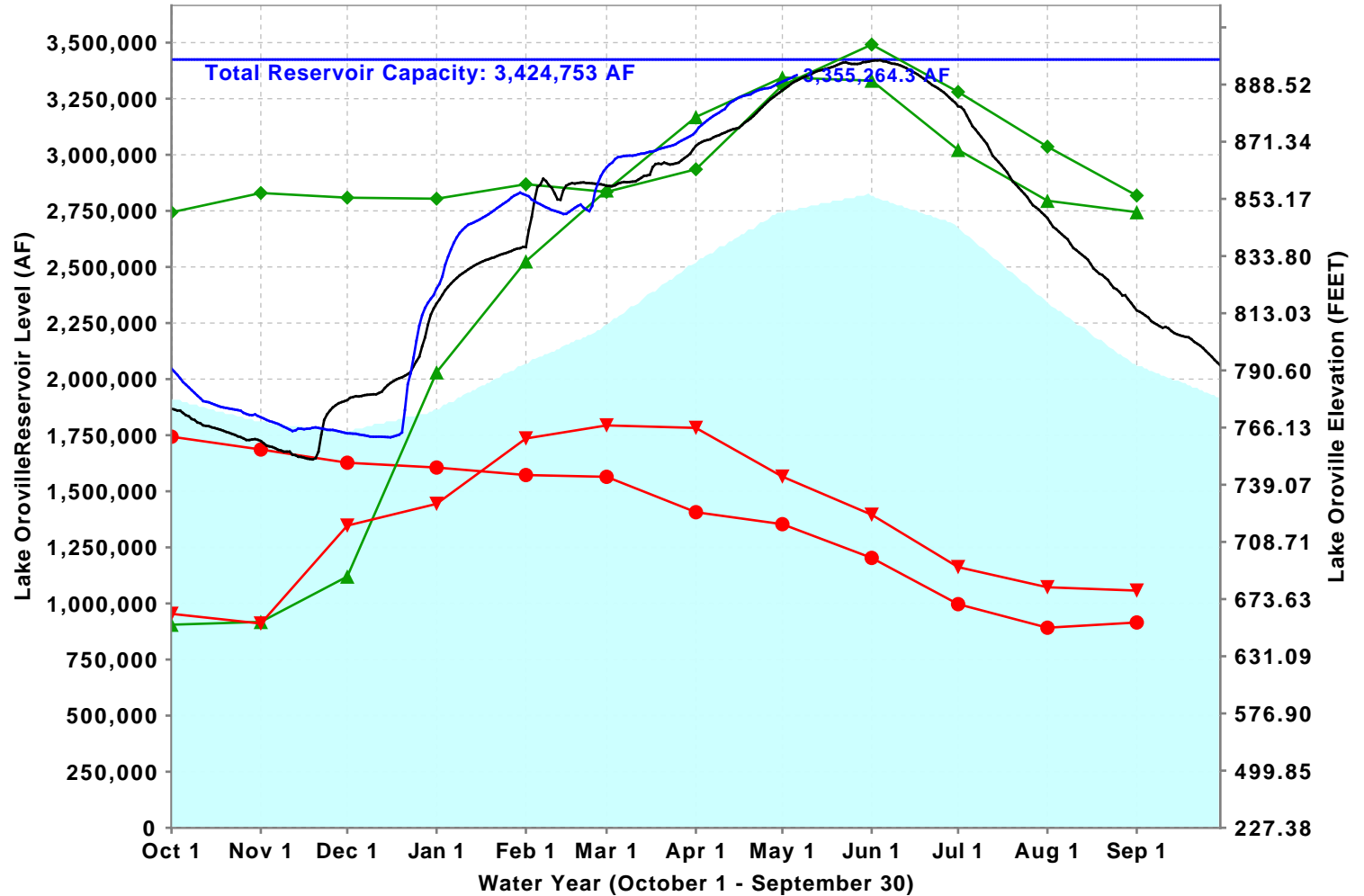
(as of Midnight - May 6, 2026)



Current Level: 3,355,264.3 AF

98% (Total Capacity) | **122%** (Historical Avg.)

Lake Oroville Levels: Various Past Water Years and Current Water Year, Ending At Midnight May 6, 2026



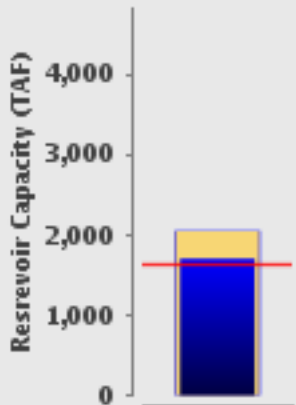


CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITONS



San Luis Res Conditions

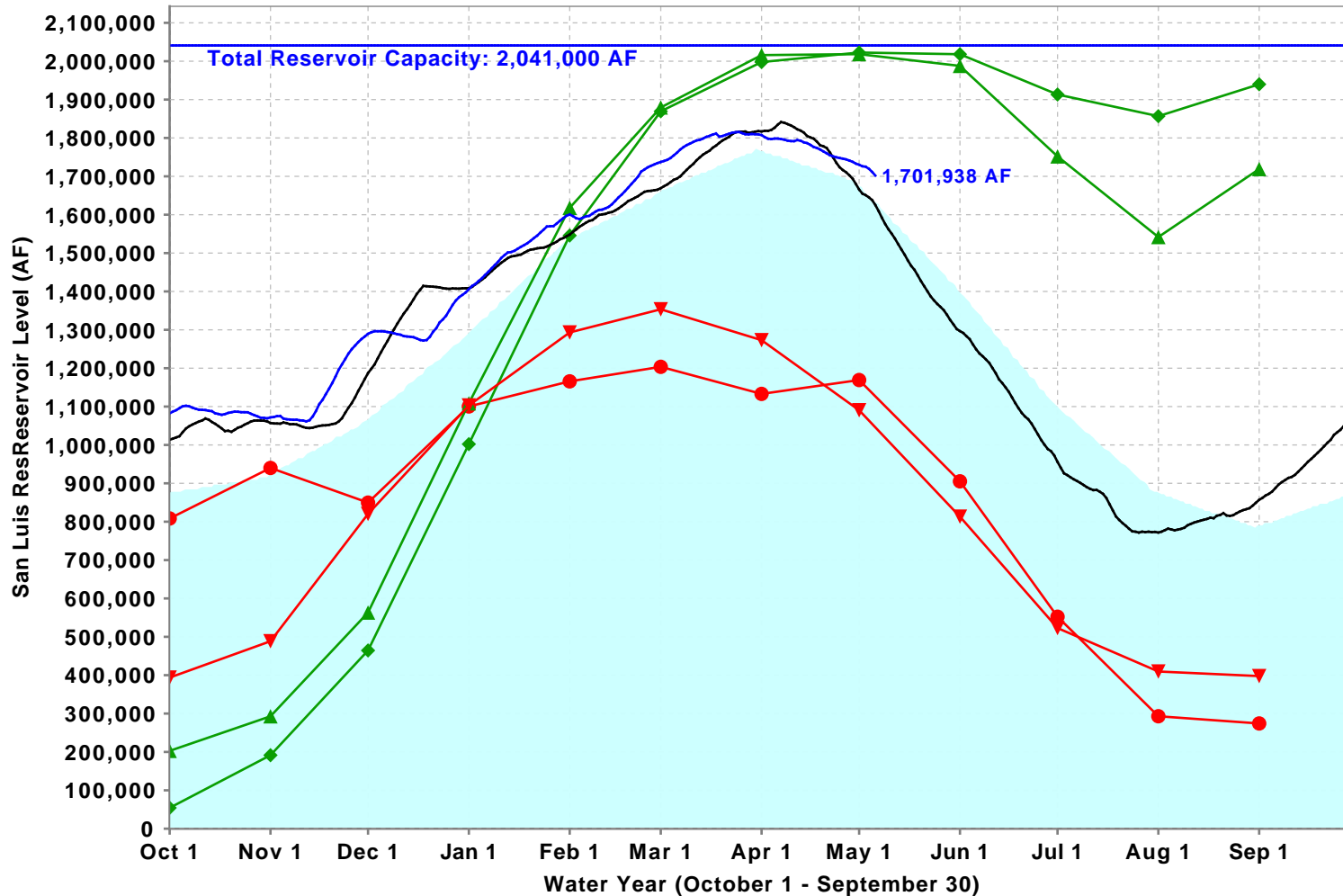
(as of Midnight - May 6, 2026)



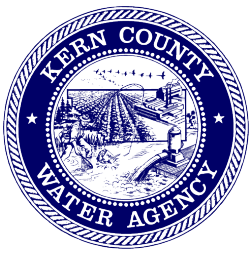
Current Level: 1,701,938 AF

83% (Total Capacity) | **104%** (Historical Avg.)

San Luis Res Levels: Various Past Water Years and Current Water Year, Ending At Midnight May 6, 2026



■ Historical Average
 — Total Reservoir Capacity
 ● 1976-1977
 ▲ 1977-1978
 ◆ 1982-1983 (Wettest)
 — 2024-2025
▼ 2014-2015 (Driest)
— Current: 2025-2026



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

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Access Code: 863-465-805#

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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)
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 - 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

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May 2026
Strategic Plan Goal Update
Goal 5



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Purpose, Mission, and Values	3
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5a. Create SOPs and Cross Train	6
5b. Implement Regular Staff Meetings	7
5c. Team Dynamics & Collaboration	9

Our Purpose

To be responsible stewards of water, a valued resource.



Our Mission

Building a sustainable water supply to help our community thrive.



Our Values

Sustainability

We are a Team that does not take from tomorrow to provide for today. We strive to cultivate relationships and vital resources for the continued benefit of our community.

Innovation

We are a Team that does not simply conform to routine patterns but seeks to transform the water business. We explore creative ideas and develop unique solutions to solve complex challenges.

Gracious

We are a Team that offers respect regardless of the circumstances, recognizing everyone is created differently with unique talents, perspectives, positions, and backgrounds.

Hard-working

We are a Team that is determined to do the job right. We embody a culture that goes the “second mile,” committed to producing efficient, accurate, and high-quality work.

Trustworthy

We are a Team that is honest, consistent, and transparent. We would never ask others to do something that we would not do ourselves.



Goals



Goal 1: Develop and Improve Long-Term Partnerships

Overall Progress

49%



Objectives

3



Goal 2: Acquire Other Water Supplies

Overall Progress

57%



Objectives

3



Goal 3: SGMA Projects and Management Actions Implementation

Overall Progress

68%



Objectives

5



Goal 4: Live out an intentional and focused project plan for major initiatives

Overall Progress

64%



Objectives

4



Goal 5: Ensure that key responsibilities within the District are sustainable and efficient

Overall Progress

58%



Objectives

3

Goals

Goal 5: Ensure that key responsibilities within the District are sustainable and efficient

Build sustainable and efficient operations through standardized procedures, cross-training, improved communication, and a strong, well-coordinated team.



Overall Progress

58% Complete



18 Milestones



- Complete **10 Milestones (56%)**
- Not Started **6 Milestones (33%)**
- On Track **2 Milestones (11%)**

Objectives

- Complete
- On Track
- Minor Disruption
- Major Disruption
- Not Started
- Future

5a. Create SOPs and Cross Train

Milestones **6**

Progress



Status



5b. Implement Regular Staff Meetings

Milestones **6**

Progress



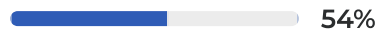
Status



5c. Team Dynamics & Collaboration

Milestones **6**

Progress



Status



Objectives

5a. Create SOPs and Cross Train





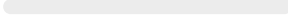
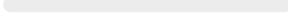
Create standard operating procedures for critical responsibilities. Determine critical responsibilities where cross-training is necessary and develop training procedures, protocols, and plans. Develop at least one procedure per staff member per year.

Overall Progress  **67%**

Overall Status 

- Complete
- On Track
- Minor Disruption
- Major Disruption
- Not Started
- Future

Milestones

5a. 2023 Update	Last Update 12/31/2023	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5a. 2024 Update	Last Update 12/31/2024	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5a. 2025 Update	Last Update 12/31/2025	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5a. 2026 Update	Last Update 05/5/2026	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5a. 2027 Update	Last Update	Progress  0%	Status ● Not Started
5a. 2028 Update	Last Update	Progress  0%	Status ● Not Started

Objectives

5b. Implement Regular Staff Meetings

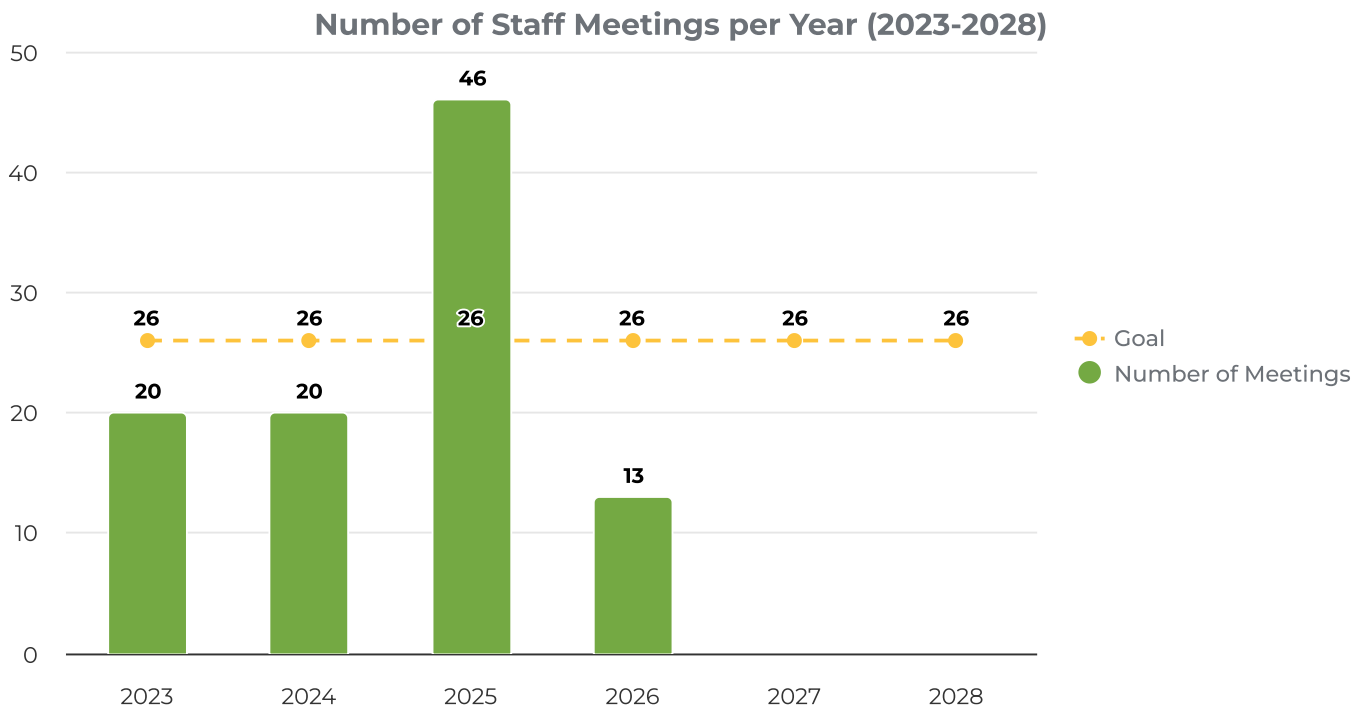
Implement bi-weekly staff meetings to improve communication. The goal is to have 26 meetings annually.

Overall Progress  **54%**

Overall Status 

- Complete
- On Track
- Minor Disruption
- Major Disruption
- Not Started
- Future

Key Performance Indicators



Milestones

5b. 2023 Update

Last Update **12/31/2023**

Progress  **85%**

Status ● Complete

5b. 2024 Update

Last Update **12/31/2024**

Progress  **90%**

Status ● Complete

5b. 2025 Update

Last Update **12/31/2025**

Progress  **100%**


Status ● Complete

5b. Implement Regular Staff Meetings

5b. 2026 Update

Last Update **05/5/2026**


Progress  **50%**

Status  On Track

5b. 2027 Update

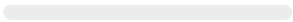
Last Update


Progress  **0%**

Status  Not Started

5b. 2028 Update

Last Update

Progress  **0%**

Status  Not Started

Objectives

5c. Team Dynamics & Collaboration







Better understand aspects of each team member's personality so we can continue to operate at a high level. Complete two team-building activities per year.

Overall Progress  **54%**

Overall Status 

- Complete
- On Track
- Minor Disruption
- Major Disruption
- Not Started
- Future

Milestones

5c. 2023 Update	Last Update 12/31/2023	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5c. 2024 Update	Last Update 12/31/2024	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5c. 2025 Update	Last Update 12/1/2025	Progress  100%	Status ● Complete
5c. 2026 Update	Last Update 05/5/2026	Progress  25%	Status ● On Track
5c. 2027 Update	Last Update	Progress  0%	Status ● Not Started
5c. 2028 Update	Last Update	Progress  0%	Status ● Not Started

May 12, 2026

To: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Board of Directors

Agenda Item: 6b

From: Rachelle Echeverria

Re: *The Rosedale Recap* - Subscriber Growth, Open Rate, Click Rate Trends, and New Logo

Discussion:

This memo provides an update on the performance of the District's Rosedale Recap, our bimonthly newsletter, including trends in subscriber growth, email open rates, and email click rates since its launch in February 2024.

Subscriber Growth

The *Rosedale Recap* continues to show steady growth in readership:

- 2024 Average Subscribers: 118
- 2025 Average Subscribers: 142
- 2026 Average Subscribers (to date): 177

This represents an overall increase of approximately 50% since 2024. The consistent upward trend reflects expanding community interest and outreach efforts.

Open Rate Performance

Email engagement remains strong, consistently meeting or exceeding industry benchmarks:

- 2024 Average Open Rate: 66%
- 2025 Average Open Rate: 57%
- 2026 Average Open Rate (to date): 40%
- Target Open Rate: 40%

While open rates have gradually decreased as the subscriber base has grown, a common trend in email communications, the newsletter continues to meet the District's 40% goal.

Click Rate Performance

Email engagement remains strong, consistently exceeding industry benchmarks:

- 2024 Average Click Rate: 10%
- 2025 Average Click Rate: 8%
- 2026 Average Click Rate (to date): 8%
- Target Click Rate: 3%

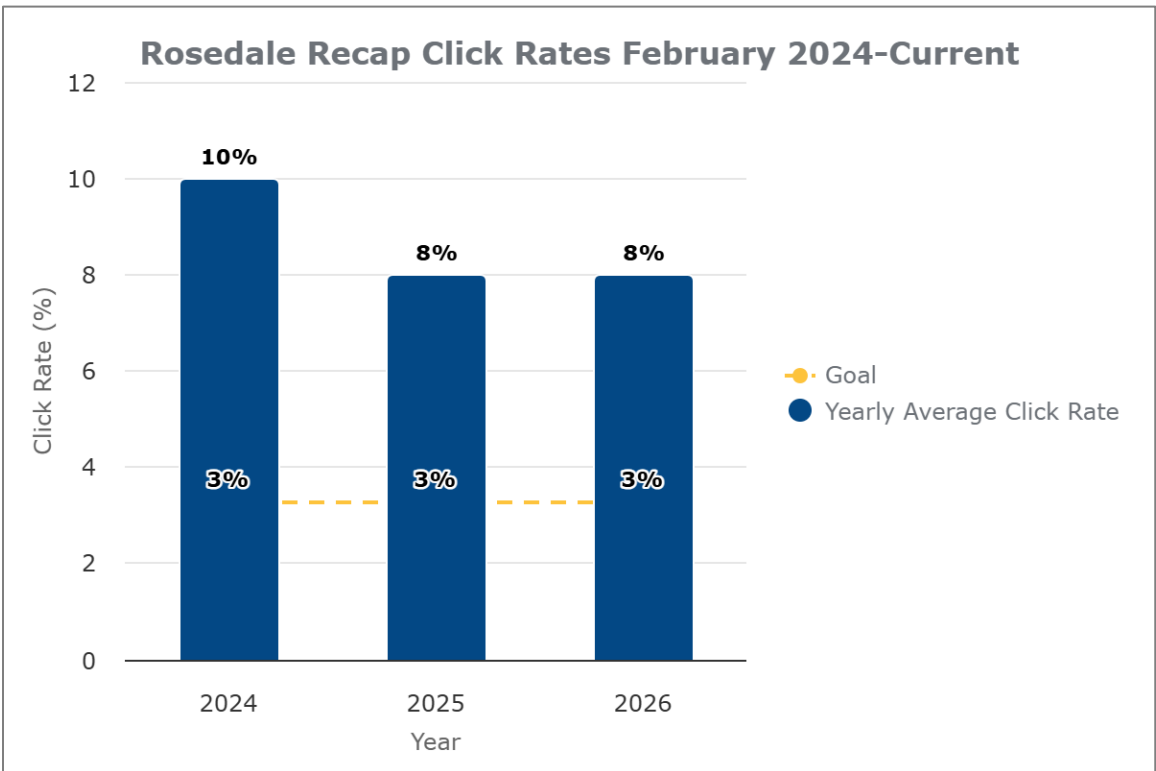
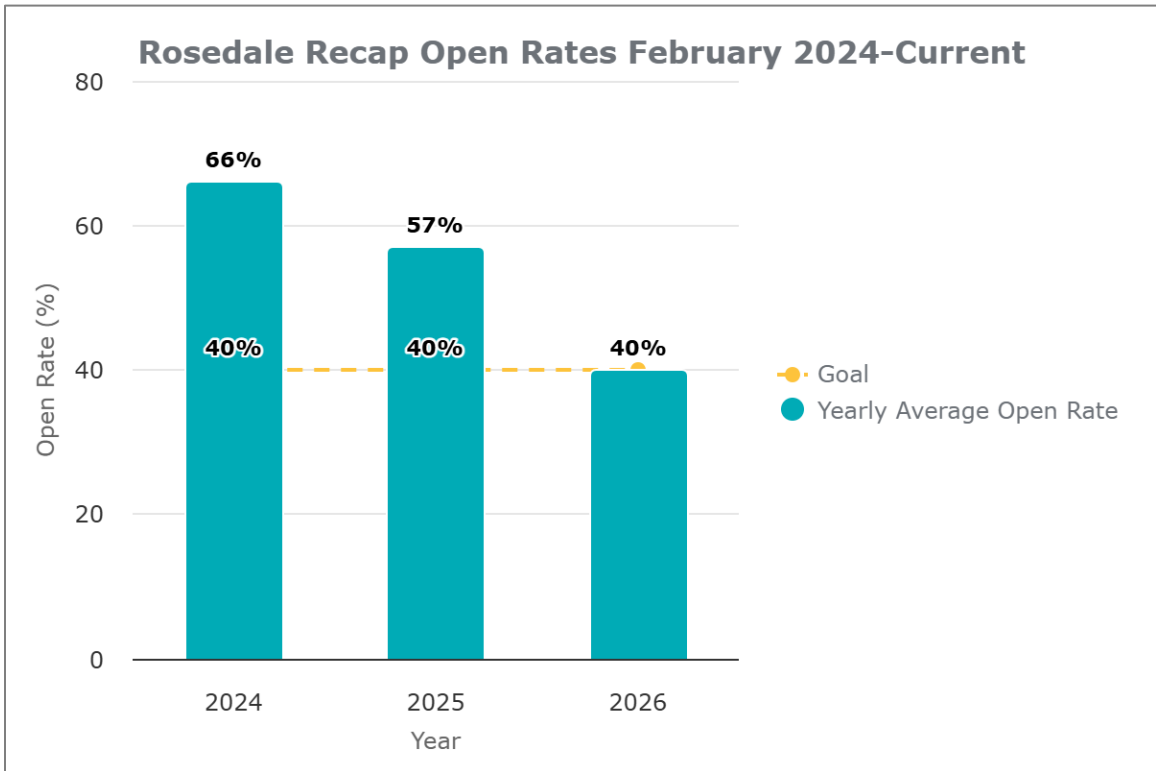
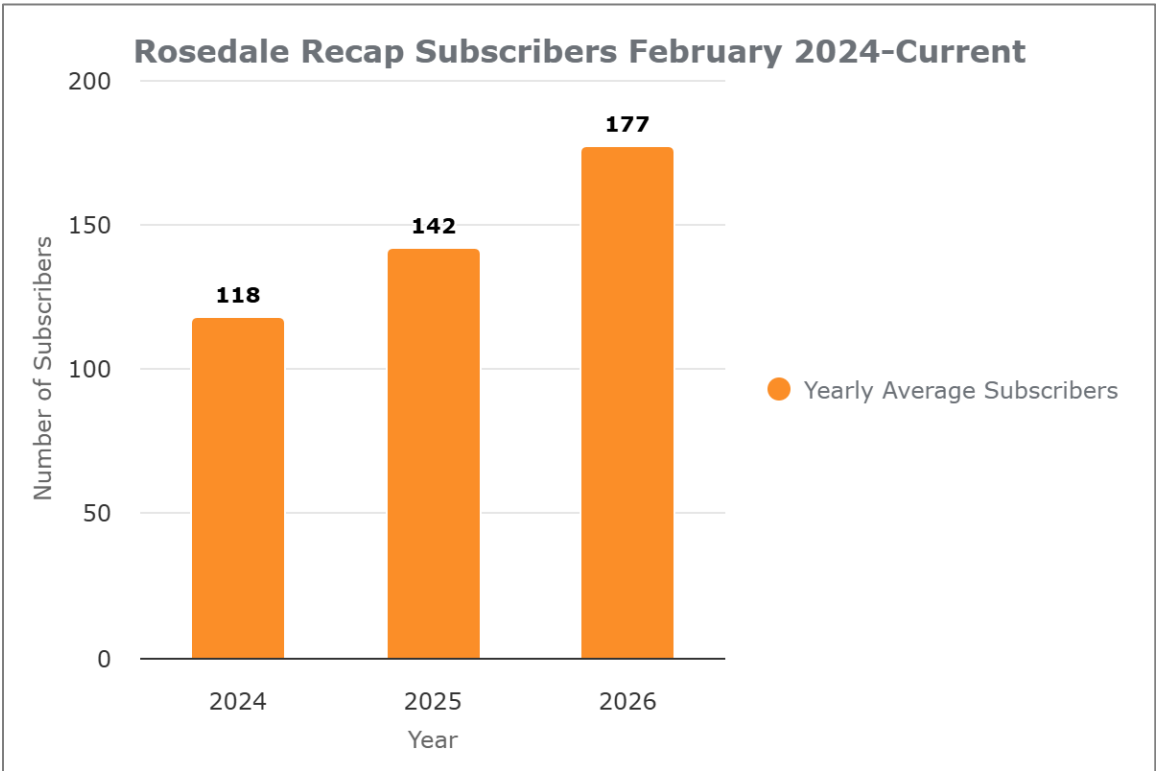
Click rates continue to exceed the District's 3% goal.

New Logo!

The Board previously approved the new logo design for *The Rosedale Recap* newsletter at the last Board meeting. Going forward, staff will implement the updated branding across all future bimonthly newsletters. The new logo incorporates the District's mascot, "Rio," and is intended to create a more engaging and recognizable visual identity for District communications.



Committed to transparency. Focused on keeping you informed.



RESOLUTION NO. 557

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
IN THE MATTER OF:**

**APPROVING THE DILLARD GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AND SOLAR ARRAY
PROJECT &
ADOPTING THE INITIAL STUDY - MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION,
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PLAN AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
FOR THE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (“District”), on May 12, 2026, will consider approval of the Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project (“Project”) and adoption of a Initial Study - Mitigated Negative Declaration (“IS-MND”), Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (“MMRP”), and Responses to Comments (“RTC”) on the Project, all pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.) and the California Code of Regulations, title 14, §15000 et seq. (“State CEQA Guidelines”), and all addressing the potential environmental impacts associated with the Project; and

WHEREAS, the District is the lead agency for the Project under CEQA;

WHEREAS, the District prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines (the IS-MND, as modified in response to comments, is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference);

WHEREAS, the District published a Notice of Intent, and posted, filed and circulated the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for public review in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines (the Notice of Intent and the proof of publication are collectively attached hereto at Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference);

WHEREAS, the Initial Study identified potentially significant environmental effects associated with the Project;

WHEREAS, mitigation measures are identified in the IS-MND and have been incorporated into the Project that would reduce all such effects to less than significant levels;

WHEREAS, two comment letters were received on the IS-MND (said comment letters are described in the response to comments attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by reference);

WHEREAS, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (“MMRP”) has been prepared in accordance with Public Resources Code §21081.6 to ensure implementation of all

mitigation measures identified in the IS-MND (the MMRP is attached hereto as Exhibit D and incorporated herein by reference);

WHEREAS, the IS-MND was circulated for public review and comment period required by law and was posted on the District's website (at <https://www.rbwbsd.com/notices/#ceqa>) for public inspection;

WHEREAS, the District has considered all comments received, and has prepared responses as appropriate;

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed and considered the IS-MND, the MMRP, the RTC, and the entire administrative record prior to taking action on the Project; and

WHEREAS, based on the whole record before it, the Board finds that there is no substantial evidence that the Project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, on the basis of substantial evidence in the whole record, as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.
2. The Board has reviewed and considered the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, comments received, the Responses to Comments, and the entire administrative record, and finds them to be complete and adequate for their intended purposes.
3. The Board finds that the IS-MND was prepared, circulated and considered in compliance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.
4. The Board finds that, with incorporation of the mitigation measures identified in the MMRP and based upon the whole record, all potentially significant environmental impacts of the Project have been reduced to a less-than-significant level, and there is no substantial evidence that the Project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment.
5. The Board hereby adopts all mitigation measures identified in the IS-MND and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project. The mitigation measures are hereby incorporated into the Project and made conditions of Project approval. The District shall implement, or cause to be implemented, each mitigation measure in accordance with the timing and requirements set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, including through incorporation into Project plans, specifications, construction contracts, permits, operational requirements, and other enforceable Project documents, as applicable. The Engineer-Manager or their designee is authorized and directed to ensure implementation of the mitigation measures and compliance with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

6. The IS-MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the District as the lead agency.
7. The Board hereby adopts the Final Initial Study - Mitigated Negative Declaration, the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and the Responses to Comments for the Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project (SCH No. 2026030503), all as attached hereto as Exhibits A, C and D, respectively.
8. The Board hereby approves the Project as described in the IS-MND.
9. The Board directs District staff to file a Notice of Determination with the County of Kern within five (5) working days of adoption of this Resolution.
10. The documents and materials that constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based, including but not limited to Exhibit A (Final Initial Study - Mitigated Negative Declaration), Exhibit B (Proof of Publication), Exhibit C (Responses to Comments), and Exhibit D (Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program), are available for public review at:

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield, CA 93314, and on the District's website at <https://www.rrbwsd.com/notices/#ceqa>. The custodian of the record on the Project is the District (acting through its Engineer-Manager).

11. District staff is hereby directed to take any and all actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution, subject to approval by General Counsel.

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

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District on the ___ day of _____, 2026.

Board President

Board Secretary

EXHIBIT A

[Click Here](#)

[Final Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration](#)

[Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project](#)

EXHIBIT B

[Click Here - Notice of Intent](#)

Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Proof of Publication

THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN
4900 CALIFORNIA AVE STE 100A
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

Ad Number: 572539 PO #:
Edition: CALC Run Times 1
Class Code LEGAL NOTICES

Start Date 03/13/2026 Stop Date 03/13/2026

RINCON CONSULTANTS
2060 KNOLL DRIVE
VENTURA CA 93003

Billing Lines 50.00 Inches 5.0440267
Total Cost \$ 452.58 Account 338833
Billing RINCON CONSULTANTS
Address 2060 KNOLL DRIVE
VENTURA CA 93003

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF KERN

Solicitor I.D.: 0

I AM A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES AND A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY AFORESAID: I AM OVER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS, AND NOT A PARTY OR INTERESTED IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER. I AM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CLERK OF THE PRINTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN, A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED DAILY IN THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD COUNTY OF KERN,

First Text
NOTICE OF INTENT DRAFT IN

Ad Number 572539

AND WHICH NEWSPAPER HAS BEEN ADJUDGED A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION BY THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COUNTY OF KERN, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, UNDER DATE OF FEBRUARY 5, 1952, CASE NUMBER 57610; THAT THE NOTICE, OF WHICH THE ANNEXED IS A PRINTED COPY, HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN EACH REGULAR AND ENTIRE ISSUE OF SAID NEWSPAPER AND NOT IN ANY SUPPLEMENT THEREOF ON THE FOLLOWING DATES, TO WIT:

NOTICE OF INTENT Draft Initial Study - Mitigated Negative Declaration

This Notice of Intent (NOI) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, interested organizations, and interested parties that the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale), as the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Draft Initial Study - Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the proposed Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project (project) that is available for review and comment. The 30-day public review period for the Draft IS-MND is from Friday March 13, 2026 to Monday April 13, 2026.

Project Location: The project site includes 50 acres on APN 104-292-09, located about 0.6 mile northeast of the SR 43/SR 58 intersection in unincorporated Kern County, along with roughly 25 miles of power transmission lines in the surrounding area. Several transmission lines would be located within 0.5 mile of the unincorporated community of Calder's Corner. No hazardous waste sites identified on lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 are present on the project site.

Project Description: The Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project would construct and operate a groundwater recharge basin with two to three recharge ponds supplied by Rosedale's existing Conjunctive Use Program, along with associated pipelines and control structures. An elevated solar array and battery energy storage system would be installed above and near the ponds to generate and store electricity for Rosedale facilities. The project also includes approximately 25 miles of new overhead and underground power lines connecting to a new PG&E interconnection point. Decommissioning of the solar and battery systems would occur at the end of their useful life.

Public Review and Comments: In accordance with Section 15073 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Draft IS-MND is available for public review from March 13, 2026 through 5:00pm on April 13, 2026 at:

- Rosedale Rio-Bravo Water Storage District website: <https://www.rbwtd.com/notices/#ceqa>
- Rosedale Rio-Bravo Water Storage District office: 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield, California 93314

Written comments on the Draft IS-MND must be received by Rosedale, at the address provided below, no later than 5:00pm on April 13, 2026.

Dan Bartel, Engineer-Manager
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
849 Allen Road
Bakersfield, California 93314
DBartel@rbwtd.com

March 13, 2026
572539

03/13/2026

ALL IN YEAR 2026

I CERTIFY (OR DECLARE) UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Krista Fisher

DATED AT BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIA

3/13/26

EXHIBIT C

[Click Here](#)

[Responses to Comments](#)

[Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project](#)

EXHIBIT D

[Click Here](#)

[Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program](#)

[Dillard Groundwater Recharge and Solar Array Project](#)



Benefits of AECA Membership

Effective representation before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), California Energy Commission (CEC), California Legislature and other state agencies on energy related issues;

- Regular updates on policy, regulatory, energy and legislative issues
- Monthly management report
- Invitations to policy and issue briefings

AECA Membership is open to all agricultural farmers, ranchers, producers and water pumpers, as well as agricultural cold storage, food production and processing operations throughout the supply chain.

Dues structure

Agricultural Production, Packing, Processing and Cold Storage

<u>Annual Power Bill</u>	<u>Annual Dues Amount</u>	
Above \$2 million	½ of 1% of annual power bill	
\$1 million - \$2 million	\$7,500	
\$500,000 - \$999,999	\$3,500	
\$250,000 - \$499,999	\$2,000	
\$125,000 - \$249,999	\$1,000	
\$50,000 - \$124,999	\$500	AECA revised request to 1/4% of annual power bill = \$4.55M x .0025 = \$11,375
Below \$50,000	\$250	

Agricultural Water Agencies and Water Pumping

Dues calculated as ½ of 1% (0.005) of annual power bill → \$4.550M

Agricultural Associations

\$5,000 annually

≈ \$22,750



Scan me!

Join us or renew your membership today as we push back on utility greed and mismanagement, as well as government bureaucrats who continue to simply rubber stamp these destructive rate increases.

www.agenergyca.org/membership



AGRICULTURAL
ENERGY
CONSUMERS
ASSOCIATION

Challenge & Opportunity

AECA is the only organization that is vigorously representing Ag water agencies, farmers, and food producers and processors on energy related matters

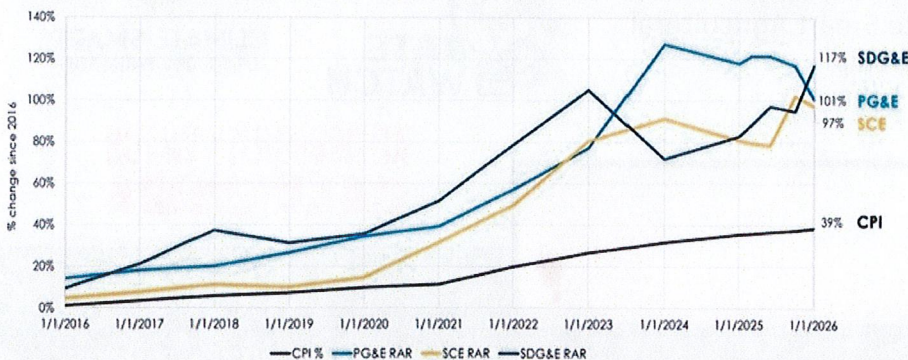
The Challenge

The Agricultural Energy Consumers Association was extremely successful during its first 25 years of involvement holding agricultural rates largely in check. However, significant rate pressures have dramatically increased energy rates for all consumers in California. As you can see from the chart below energy rates in California have risen far faster than inflation, effectively doubling in the last decade.

California's rates are also more than double the national average, and triple those found in other western states. There are a number of factors that have driven energy costs in California, including:

- Wildfire exposure and mitigation
- California's ambitious climate and renewable energy policies
- Rooftop solar

RATES HAVE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER THE LAST DECADE, SURPASSING INFLATION



*Showing latest Bundled Residential Average Rates (RAR) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) found at <https://data.bls.gov/ipa/rar-bin/000/cu> as of January 1, 2026.

Another major factor that will influence energy costs in California going forward is increased demand driven by building and transportation sector electrification and massive demand from AI and other data centers. PG&E is currently seeking an additional 44% rate increase between now and 2030.

The Opportunity is Now!

None of these costs are being driven by the food production sector. Wildfire mitigation is largely a residential issue with farmland actually providing a buffer against wildfire spread. Agricultural energy use, which is largely tied to water pumping, is actually expected to decrease due to implementation of SGMA. A preliminary analysis suggests Ag energy use for water pumping could decrease by 18-20%. Food processing and cold storage operations could see a similar decline as up to 900,000 acres of farmland is fallowed in the next 15 years.

(Continued on reverse)

AECA is planning a significant increase in its activities over the next 3-4 years to avoid expected double-digit rate increases

The Agricultural Energy Consumers Association (AECA) represents the interests of more than 40,000 agricultural operations from Redding to San Diego. 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. Combatting the out-of-control costs of energy continues to be our primary goal.

The Opportunity is Now!

(continued)

As a result, farmers, food processors, and agricultural water agencies should not be picking up the expected increases in energy costs. Telling this important story to policymakers and energy regulators now becomes critical.

AECA is planning a significant expansion of its activities over the next 3-4 years to avoid expected double-digit rate increases.

- Enhanced participation in PG&E's 2027-2030 General Rate Case to ensure Ag is not picking up costs associated with massive system growth
- Research to document expected agricultural and food product production load decline
- Continued protection of agricultural net-energy metering long-term benefits
- Exploration of legislation to expand Ag water agency powers to own and operate renewable energy projects and distribution lines
- Expansion of direct access and renewable energy programs such as RSBCT
- Enhanced lobbying at the CPUC, CEC, and state legislature
- Enhanced public affairs efforts, including:
 - Rate watch
 - Affordability watch
 - Climate Smart Agricultural Partnership



**AFFORDABILITY WATCH
CALIFORNIA**



AECA

www.agenergyca.org



SCAN ME

Contact:

Wendy Lauchland

wendy@wendylauchland.com

916.799.5046

May 12, 2026

To: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Board of Directors

Agenda Item: 7a

From: Dan Bartel

Re: Onyx Project Report

This month we:

- Continued operation of conveyance facilities.
- Verified that USGS verified South Fork station was completed in April 2.
- Did not stream gage at Doyle nor Patterson due to high flow conditions.
- Coordinated Project operations with KRI's.
- Closed Escrow on Prince Ranch
- Executed Prince Ranch lease with Hafenfeld Ranches
- Operated Project April 1-30.
- Recorded net project water was 1384 AF.

South Fork flows downstream of Bloomfield averaged 280 cfs plus calculated accretions of 5 cfs, for a total average flow of about 285 cfs.



April-2026

Daily values in SFD = Second Foot Days, Monthly total in AF = Acre-Feet

Date	South Fork				D.Prince (4,5,17,20-22,37)			Hafenfeld (5)	RRBWS (1,3,6,7,12, Wirth1, 30,33, Boone)				J.Nicoll (3)	Audubon (4,5,9,Wirth1,17,18) (20-22,Wirth2,27,29,37)		Smith (2/3 Smith)	RRBWS (1/3 Smith)		Total Diverted	South Fork		RRBWS to Isabella		
	Mean Flow	USGS - Onyx @ 0500	Accretions	Doyle Ranch Road	Mill/Hillside	Miller	Prince	Miller	Scodie/Mack	Landers	Nicoll	Redirected "Gross Project Water"	Nicoll	Cottonwood	Nicoll	Total Smith	Smith	Smith	Redirected "Gross Project Water"		Sierra Way "Flow"	Patterson "Flow"	"Net Project Water"	
1	488	489	5			2.9	7.3	2.9			16.0	33.7	3.0	5.2	33.7	8.7	5.4		3.3	43	Yes	Yes	22.99	
2	455	481	5			2.8	9.8	2.7			16.0	33.7	3.0	5.1	33.7	8.6	5.3		3.3	45	Yes	Yes	22.99	
3	406	416	5			2.8	9.3	2.7			16.0	33.7	3.0	5.1	33.7	9.8	6.5		3.3	45	Yes	Yes	22.99	
4	374	375	5			2.8	9.3	2.8			16.0	33.7	3.0	5.0	33.7	9.6	6.3		3.3	45	Yes	Yes	22.99	
5	348	353	5			2.7	9.2	2.7				33.7	3.6	5.3	33.7	8.9	5.6		3.3	29	Yes	Yes	22.99	
6	336	342	5			3.0	9.9	3.0				33.7	3.8	5.4	33.7	8.6	5.3		3.3	30	Yes	Yes	22.99	
7	313	316	5			2.9	9.9	2.9				33.7	4.5	5.2	33.7	9.3	6.0		3.3	31	Yes	Yes	22.99	
8	299	300	5			3.0	9.6	2.9				33.7	4.9	5.2	33.7	9.0	5.7		3.3	31	Yes	Yes	22.99	
9	285	283	5			3.0	3.8	2.9				33.7	4.8	5.4	33.7	8.8	5.5		3.3	25	Yes	Yes	23.37	
10	278	280	5			3.0	3.4	2.9				33.7	4.9	5.4	33.7	8.7	5.4		3.3	25	Yes	Yes	23.37	
11	281	260	5			2.9	3.1	2.8				33.7	5.8	5.1	33.7	9.1	5.8		3.3	26	Yes	Yes	23.37	
12	288	280	5			3.0	3.2	2.9				33.7	8.1	5.3	33.7	8.9	5.6		3.3	28	Yes	Yes	23.37	
13	298	286	5			2.9	3.3	2.9				33.7	7.8	5.3	33.7	8.8	5.5		3.3	28	Yes	Yes	23.37	
14	302	316	5			2.9	3.9	2.9				33.7	7.2	5.3	33.7	9.4	6.1		3.3	28	Yes	Yes	23.37	
15	282	289	5			2.9	3.1	3.0				33.7	8.5	5.4	4.0	9.0	5.7		3.3	33	Yes	Yes	23.37	
16	271	289	5			2.9	2.8	2.9				33.7	5.7	5.3	4.0	8.6	5.3		3.3	29	Yes	Yes	23.37	
17	255	254	5			2.8	2.3	2.9				33.7	9.6	5.3	4.0	8.0	4.7		3.3	32	Yes	Yes	23.37	
18	239	236	5			2.9	1.6	2.8				33.7	11.3	5.2		7.4	4.1		3.3	28	Yes	Yes	23.37	
19	223	227	5			2.8	4.4	2.8				33.7	7.5	5.1		9.5	6.2		3.3	29	Yes	Yes	23.37	
20	219	219	5			3.8	4.1	3.8				33.7	8.0	4.9		9.9	6.6	0.3	3.0	32	Yes	Yes	23.18	
21	207	210	5			4.1	3.5	4.1				33.7	8.4	4.9		7.7	4.4		3.3	29	Yes	Yes	23.37	
22	213	206	5			6.3	3.2	6.2				33.7	8.9	5.1		8.2	4.9		3.3	35	Yes	Yes	23.37	
23	236	236	5			6.4	3.8	6.4				33.7	9.8	5.5		9.4	6.1		3.3	38	Yes	Yes	23.37	
24	236	236	5			6.8	4.7	6.8				33.7	8.8	5.2		9.6	6.3		3.3	39	Yes	Yes	23.37	
25	220	217	5			3.2	4.0	3.3				33.7	8.8	5.0		9.5	6.2		3.3	31	Yes	Yes	23.37	
26	210	215	5			3.2	3.9	3.3				33.7	8.7	5.0		9.4	6.1		3.3	30	Yes	Yes	23.37	
27		210	5			6.0	3.7	6.1				33.7	2.5	5.0		9.3	6.0		3.3	29	Yes	Yes	23.37	
28		201	5			5.7	3.8	5.7				33.7	2.3	5.1		9.3	6.0		3.3	29	Yes	Yes	23.37	
29		188	5			5.6	3.5	5.6				33.7	2.3	5.0	4.0	9.0	5.7		3.3	32	Yes	Yes	23.37	
30		183	5			5.3	2.8	5.3				33.7	4.0	5.0	4.0	9.2	5.9		3.3	32	Yes	Yes	23.37	
SFD	7,561	8,393	150	0	0	111	150	111	0	0	64	1,011	183	155	20	269	170	0	99	965	0	0	698	
AF	14,998	16,648	298		0	221	298	220	0	0	127	2,005	362	308	40	348	338	1	196	1,913	0	0	1,384.26	
	291	280	5			519						2,132	362		348		5.7	0.3		32				
																	338	1						

Note:

Cottonwood via the Landers Prince Ditch issues 4/9-
 Miller ditch water is being split Prince and Haf. 50/50
 Redirected Historic Irrigation Demand Limit = 37
 USGS SFork at 0500 Nicoll RRB diversions riparian Boone deliveries only
<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/11189500/#dataTypeId=continuous-00065-0&period=P7D>
 Bold ## on USGS denotes USGS gage verification
 ## South Fork Doyle Ranch Flow measurement, value carries for next week

South Fork Kern River Annual Diversion Report - 2026

All units in AF

Date	South Fork		D.Prince (4,5,17,20-22,37)			Hafenfeld (5)	RRBWSD (1,3,6,7,12, Wirth1, 30,33, Boone)			J.Nicoll (3)	Audubon (4,5,9,Wirth1,17,18) (20-22,Wirth2,27,29,37)		Smith (Smith) 2/3	Smith (RRB) 1/3	Total South Fork Diverted All Users	South Fork		RRBWSD (Onyx Project Actual)	
	USGS - Onyx (AF)	Accretions "Estimated"	Mill/Hillside	Miller	Prince	Miller	Scodie/Mack	Landers	Nicoll	Nicoll	Cottonwood	Nicoll	Smith	Smith		Sierra Way "Flow"	Patterson Flow	Redirected "Gross Project Water"	Net Project Water
January	15,697	307	0	140	0	139	0	18	0	144	343	0	160	0	945	Yes	Yes	599	404
February	13,389	278	0	137	0	135	0	0	0	165	358	67	210	8	1,081	Yes	Yes	819	501
March	43,073	307	0	176	316	174	0	0	184	372	268	123	364	0	1,976	Yes	Yes	2,148	1,285
April	14,998	298	0	221	298	220	0	0	127	362	308	40	338	1	1,913	Yes	Yes	2,201	1,384
May																			
June																			
July																			
August																			
September																			
October																			
November																			
December																			
AF	87,156	1,190	0	674	614	668	0	18	311	1,043	1,276	230	1,072	9	5,915			5,767	3,575

MAX of 14,000 per 4.3.5

Note:

Nicoll RRB diversions riparian Boone deliveries only

Cottonwood via the Landers

May 12th, 2026

Board of Directors
 Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
 849 Allen Road
 Bakersfield, CA 93314

Improvement Projects

Engineering/Construction Consultant Updates:

See below for invoicing through December on the design work for the pond layout of McCaslin North and the Dillard property. The McCaslin North design is currently approximately 90% complete.

Dillard / McCaslin North Design & Bid					
6/11/2024	\$	128,500.00	\$	54,432.00	42% of Budget remaining
invoice:	Combined		Dillard	McNorth	
July - Aug 2024	\$	11,392.00	\$	8,450.50	\$ 2,941.50
Sep-24	\$	695.00	\$	695.00	\$ -
Oct-Dec 24	\$	13,079.00	\$	9,284.00	\$ 3,795.00
March - July 2025	\$	19,169.50			\$ 19,169.50
Aug-25	\$	7,365.25			\$ 7,365.25
Sept 25 - Nov 25	\$	15,661.50			\$ 15,661.50
Dec-25	\$	993.75			\$ 993.75
Jan26 - Feb26	\$	5,712.00			\$ 5,712.00
Total:	\$	74,068.00	\$	18,429.50	\$ 55,638.50
Pinnacles Survey (Additional)	24-Nov		\$	13,082.00	

SCADA Projects:

District staff successfully applied for and received approval to join the GOES (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites) network, a system typically reserved for select government agencies. Participation in the GOES program provides significant benefits to the District, enabling data transmission from monitoring sites in remote areas where cellular service is unavailable. Unlike radios or cellular devices, the GOES system transmits data via satellite, and is the same technology utilized by the USGS to monitor flow rates in the South Fork. Staff are currently in the process of establishing the first remote monitoring site, with an estimated implementation cost of \$10,000–\$15,000. The District’s long-term goal is to replace

all three monitoring sites, which is expected to save approximately one hour of staff time per day in addition to reducing fuel expenses.

Houghton Weir Data transmission

Pump Plant logging issues are currently being addressed

West Superior Weir Reconstruction

Retrofit of the Superior Weir Structure west of Superior Rd. and east of Enos Hwy. Staff has removed the boards and cleaned the structure to make a plan for the retrofit. West superior weir is not a critical measuring point within the Goose Lake Channel so modifications will be made to hold an upstream water surface and allow an approximate 200 cfs to flow through (see picture). The District is looking to retrofit the two middle bays with sluice gates. Cost of gates are approximately \$12,000 each, and District staff will be ordering two to go across the middle bays of the West Superior Weir. District staff will bring ratification of the gates to the September board meeting.

Project Complete

McCaslin North Recharge and Recovery Project

The District purchased 106 acres of farm ground for recharge ponds and one recovery well. An existing ag well was also included in the purchase of the property. The existing well was drilled in 2017 and may be viable to be equipped for District use. The well is 15” in diameter and approximately 800’ deep.

Plan to go out to bid in the beginning of August

Recommendation: none

Facilities





KF Project		GBJPA Project Costs									
	Budget Item Description	\$/Unit	Unit	QTY	Total Project Cost	Non-Federal Funding	Federal Funding	Projected Project Cost	Budget to Projected	Projected TOTAL Federal Funding	Unutilized Federal Funding
<i>Contractual / Construction**</i>											
a	Land Acquisition	8,995,398	LS	1	\$ 8,995,398.00	\$ 8,995,398.00	\$ -	\$ 8,995,398.00	\$ -	\$ 2,248,849.50	\$ (2,248,849.50)
b	Well Drilling	1,173,973	LS	4	\$ 4,695,890	\$ 3,141,534	\$ 1,554,356	\$ 2,348,661.00	\$ 2,347,229.47	\$ 587,165.25	\$ 967,190.75
c	Well Equipping	1,411,968	LS	4	\$ 5,647,873	\$ 3,778,408	\$ 1,869,465	\$ 3,166,060.00	\$ 2,481,813.00	\$ 791,515.00	\$ 1,077,950.00
d	Conveyance	7,323,113	LS	1	\$ 7,323,113	\$ 4,899,138	\$ 2,423,975	\$ 6,390,941.82	\$ 932,170.68	\$ 1,597,735.46	\$ 826,239.55
e	Recharge Ponds	12,706	Ac.	360	\$ 4,454,140	\$ 2,979,805	\$ 1,474,335	\$ 4,053,659.02	\$ 400,480.98	\$ 1,013,414.76	\$ 460,920.25
f	SCADA and PLC Programming	406,000	LS	1	\$ 406,000	\$ 271,613	\$ 134,387	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 256,000.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 96,887.00
g	Environmental studies, surveys, groundwater impact analysis, and biological education	130,000	LS	1	\$ 130,000	\$ 86,970	\$ 43,030	\$ 123,906.43	\$ 6,093.57	\$ 30,976.61	\$ 12,053.39
h	Engineering Design	1,245,000	LS	1	\$ 1,245,000	\$ 832,901	\$ 412,099	\$ 703,691.20	\$ 541,308.80	\$ 175,922.80	\$ 236,176.20
i	Construction Management & Inspection	1,500,000	LS	1	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,003,495	\$ 496,505	\$ 476,070.37	\$ 1,023,929.63	\$ 119,017.59	\$ 377,487.41
j	Communication Design	250,000	LS	1	\$ 200,000	\$ 133,799	\$ 66,201	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 18,750.00	\$ 47,451.00
Total Funding					\$ 34,597,414	\$ 26,123,061	\$ 8,474,353	\$ 26,483,388	\$ 8,114,026	\$ 6,620,846.96	\$ 1,853,506.04

**AGENDA
GROUNDWATER BANKING JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING**

April 27, 2026
8:30 AM

Rosedale Rio-Bravo Water Storage District
849 Allen Road
Bakersfield, CA 93314

Irvine Ranch Water District
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92618
2nd Floor Committee Room

This meeting will be made available to the public telephonically/electronically.

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:

Via Web: <https://zoom.us/j/83815086560>
Meeting Number (Access Code): 838 1508 6560
Meeting Password: 982590
Telephone Dial In: (669) 900-6833

As a courtesy to the other participants, please mute your phone when you are not speaking.

PLEASE NOTE: Participants joining the meeting will be placed into the lobby when the Board enters closed session. Participants who remain in the “lobby” will automatically be returned to the open session of the Board once the closed session has concluded. Participants who join the meeting while the Board is in closed session will be placed in the waiting room. When the Board has returned to open session, the participants will be automatically added to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Feron, Reinhart

**PUBLIC COMMENT
NOTICE**

If you wish to address the Board of Directors on any item, please submit a request to speak via the “chat” feature available when joining the meeting virtually. Remarks are limited to three minutes per speaker on each subject. You may also submit a public comment in advance of the meeting by emailing mmisuraca@rrbwsd.com before 5:00 p.m. on April 26, 2026.

ALL VOTES SHALL BE TAKEN BY A ROLL CALL VOTE

1. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- a) Written:
- b) Oral:

2. ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

3. CONSENT ITEMS

- a) Consideration of Regular Meeting Minutes February 2, 2026

4. JPA ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Consideration of Quarterly Budget to Actual Q3 2025-2026 (Chris)
- b) Consideration of Fiscal Year End June 30, 2027 Budget (Fiona)

5. KERN FAN GROUNDWATER STORAGE PROJECT

- a) Engineering
 - i. Alternative 5 Conveyance (Dan)
 - ii. Rosedale 1 Channel Improvements (Dan)
- b) Construction
 - i. West Enos/Stockdale North (Dan)
- c) State Agency Update (Fiona)

6. OTHER RELATED PROJECTS

- a) South Valley Project (Fiona)

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Consideration of Early Funding Agreement (Fiona)
- b) Consideration of Special Activities Agreement – Purchase and Development of Recharge Ground (Fiona/Dan)
- c) Consideration of Special Activities Agreement – Rosedale 1 Channel Improvements (Dan/Fiona)
- d) Consideration of Resolution 2026-02 - Approval of Acquisition of Real Property for GBJPA Purposes – Kern County Assessor Parcel Numbers 104-280-18/104-291-06 (Dan)
- e) Consideration of Orchard Removal (Dan)

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, members of the Board of Directors or staff may ask questions for clarification, make brief announcements, and make brief reports on his/her own activities. The Board or a Board member may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. Such matters may be brought up under the General Manager's Report or Directors' Comments.

9. CLOSED SESSION

a) Real Property negotiations. APNs 104-280-18/104-291-06 ~242 acres

CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY

NEGOTIATORS – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property: Parcels 104-280-18/104-291-06 and possible others all in Kern County

Agency negotiators: Dan Bartel

Negotiating parties: Various parties and Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority

Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

b) CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY
NEGOTIATORS – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property: Various Parcels – Kern Fan Project.

Negotiating parties: Various parties and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, Irvine Ranch Water District and Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority.

Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

10. OPEN SESSION

General Counsel may announce any reportable actions taken during Closed Session.

11. ADJOURN

Availability of agenda materials: Agenda exhibits and other writings that are disclosable public records distributed to all or a majority of the members of the above-named Board in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration at an open meeting of the Board are available for public inspection by contacting Megan Misuraca at mmisuraca@rrbwsd.com. If such writings are distributed to members of the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, they will be available to the public at the same time as they are distributed to Board Members, except that if such writings are distributed one hour prior to, or during, the meeting, they will be available electronically during the meeting.

Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors' Meeting

April 27, 2026

Page 4

Accommodations: Upon request, the Authority will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, and reasonable disability-related modification or accommodation to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at the meeting. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be emailed to mmisuraca@rrbwsd.com. Requests made by mail must be received at least two days before the meeting. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility.

DECLARATION OF POSTING: I, Megan Misuraca, declare under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District and I posted the foregoing Agenda at the District Office on or before April 26, 2026. I, Kristine Swan, declare under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the Irvine Ranch Water District and I posted the foregoing Agenda at the District Office on or before April 26, 2026.

April 27, 2026
Prepared by: Dulce Rocha/ Christopher
Smithson/ Fiona Nye
Reviewed by: Neveen Adly
Agenda Item: 4b

GBJPA Proposed FY2026-27 Budget and Cash Call

DISCUSSION:

The proposed \$5.1M net budget for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 is attached as Exhibit "A" and includes both capital, operating expenses and non-operating income.

As shown in Exhibit "A", the proposed \$5.1M net budget reflects a decrease of \$92K compared to the prior year's \$5.2M approved budget. The decrease is primarily due to timing of the Phase 2 capital project and an increase in approximately \$1M in grant revenues from the California Water Commission.

No cash call is recommended at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the adoption of the FY 2026-27 budget.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – GBJPA Proposed FY 2026-27 Budget

Exhibit "A"
Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority
Proposed Budget FY 2026-27

	FY 2024-25 Actual	Unaudited FY 2025-26 Actual (As of 12/31/25)	FY 2025-26 Full Year Forecast	Approved FY 2025-26 Budget	Proposed FY 2026-27 Budget	\$ Increase /(Decrease) from PY Budget	% Increase /(Decrease) from PY Budget
Kern Fan Groundwater Capital Project							
Engineering - Planning and Design Staff	\$ 72,688	\$ 41,028	\$ 78,000	\$ 85,200	\$ 82,100	\$ (3,100)	-4%
CWC and USBR Feasibility Studies	54,328	13,412	18,100	2,000	-	(2,000)	-100% Studies complete
Grant Administration and Reporting	2,890	15,996	40,000	9,800	45,000	35,200	359% Additional reporting and invoicing for EFA
JPA Administration	70,123	9,907	27,600	52,200	30,000	(22,200)	-43% Timing
Agreements with State Agencies	4,553	13,273	57,400	25,600	60,000	34,400	134% Increased work - PBAs, DWR, CWC
Engineering Design - Consultants	16,568	37,641	60,633	100,000	2,000,000	1,900,000	1900%
Engineering CA&I - Outside	68,801	80,421	138,900	96,000	150,000	54,000	56%
Construction	4,044,127	3,438,323	5,527,700	6,425,000	7,348,242	923,242	14% Completion of Phase 1, Rosedale 1 Channel and S. Enns.
Legal JPA	4,294	1,139	9,600	15,000	10,000	(5,000)	-33% Timing
Environmental	50,950	10,280	72,400	20,000	150,000	130,000	650% Alt-5 enviro and CEQA
Land	-	-	5,825,000	-	-	-	0% Purchase price of 5.75m +75k closing and DD.
Permitting	23,414	1,782	2,400	-	-	-	0%
Engineering-Alt 5 Feasibility Study		53,890	500,000	500,000	-	(500,000)	-100% Complete in FY 25/26
Capital Project Total	4,412,838	3,717,093	12,357,733	7,330,800	9,875,342	2,544,542	35%
Operating Expense							
-Phase 1 Facilities	10,377	11,334	27,800	-	50,000	50,000	100% W. Enos and Stockdale N.
Administration/Management	37,527	11,970	22,300	74,900	24,000	(50,900)	-68%
Audit	9,480	9,760	9,800	9,800	10,780	980	10%
Bank Charges	12,666	4,586	8,400	9,000	9,240	240	3%
Insurance	5,792	7,418	4,100	6,900	4,510	(2,390)	-35%
Membership	3,135	4,700	4,800	2,000	5,170	3,170	159%
Website Maintenance	1,000	1,100	900	1,100	990	(110)	-10%
Utilities	11,824	(2,569)	(3,500)	5,000	5,000	-	0% FY 25/26 refund for overbilling
Operating Expense Total	91,801	48,299	74,600	108,700	109,690	990	159%
Non-Operating Income							
Interest Revenue	(12,666)	(4,586)	(8,400)	(6,500)	(9,200)	(2,700)	42%
Special Activity Agreements	-	-	(5,825,000)	-	(2,355,000)	-	- S. Enns and Rosedale 1 Channel
Grants	424,719	(2,051,705)	(4,099,700)	(2,219,752)	(2,500,000)	(280,248)	13% \$1.5 M USBR - Rosedale 1 plus \$1M Early Funding
Non-Operating Income Total	412,053	(2,056,291)	(9,933,100)	(2,226,252)	(4,864,200)	(282,948)	13%
Total	\$ 4,916,692	\$ 1,709,101	\$ 2,499,233	\$ 5,213,248	\$ 5,120,832	\$ 2,262,584	43%

KERN WATER BANK AUTHORITY



March 12, 2026

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority
Attention: Dan Bartel, General Manager
849 Allen Road
Bakersfield, CA 93314
dbartel@rrbwsd.com

Re: Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project ALT 5 Conveyance Environmental Review –
Kern Water Bank Authority Preliminary List of Issues/Concerns

Dear Mr. Bartel:

The Kern Water Bank Authority (“KWBA”) understands that the Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (“GJPA”) is in the process of early planning and feasibility studies, including preparation of a conceptual level layout, relating the potential design, environmental review, approval, and construction the Kern Fan Storage Project ALT 5 conveyance canal/pipeline and related items extending from a turnout on the California Aqueduct to Rosedale Rio-Bravo Water Storage District (“Project”). More specifically, KWBA understands that the Project turnout may consist of expansion of the existing Cross Valley Canal (“CVC”) Aqueduct turnout located near the KWBA’s Kern Water Bank (“KWB”) Canal Aqueduct turnout, and that a portion of the Project ALT5 conveyance canal/pipeline may cross KWBA’s real property (“KWB Lands”) including protected habitat subject to the Kern Water Bank Habitat Conservation and Natural Communities Conservation Plan (“KWB HCP”). As such, the Project will require discretionary approvals from the KWBA which means the KWBA will be a responsible agency for Project environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”).

To, among other things, ensure that the scope of the Project’s environmental review is sufficient for KWBA’s consideration as a responsible agency, KWBA has prepared the following preliminary list of issues relating the Project’s potential issues and impacts that are of concern to KWBA based on available information about the Project and that will need to be addressed in a new Environmental Impact Report and made available to KWBA for review and comment. Issues of concern include, but are not limited to, the Project’s potential for impairment to the KWBA’s water conveyance from its Aqueduct Turnout to the KWB Lands, recharge and recovery operations, and related facilities including recovery wells. In addition to ensuring that the Project is designed, located, and operated such that it does not impair, impact, or otherwise interfere with Kern Water Bank operations and facilities, including its ability to maintain historic levels of conveyance, recharge and recovery, and KWBA’s commitments under the KWB HCP, the Project’s environmental review should consider alternatives to the Project that would avoid use of the KWB Lands and avoid any impacts to operation of the Kern Water Bank Canal Turnout, and/or to the conservation of covered species under the KWBA HCP. Preliminary issues and concerns relating to the environmental review of the Project include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

1. The expansion of turnout capacity in the CVC may impact the ability of the KWBA and its member entities to maximize water deliveries for recharge and recovery via the KWB Canal Turnout to the KWB. We understand DWR may have evaluated this possibility. We have not been and will need to be provided with all documents related to this evaluation, including any conclusions, in order to fully assess whether this is an issue of concern. We may require a third-party technical review to validate the conclusions. We will also require a guarantee that impacts will not happen .
2. If the Project will need to use the KWB Canal – CVC Intertie for access to the California Aqueduct during certain phases of construction, the KWBA must maintain a first priority for the use of the KWB Canal for its member entities recharge and recovery operations during such times.
3. The ALT 5 conveyance canal/pipeline alignment portion of the Project should avoid or minimize any encroachment on the existing buffers between KWB recharge basins and the current CVC alignment and not interfere with KWBA's or Kern County Water Agency's ability to comply with the enclosed agreement between the two parties titled "Cross Valley Canal / Kern Water Bank Operating Guidelines During Shallow Groundwater Conditions." As groundwater levels rise during recharge events, such an encroachment may either impact the use of these basins or exacerbate the potential for damage to CVC/ALT 5 panels. The Project will need to either avoid this area altogether, or, assuming the Project can be constructed such that it is compatible with KWB operations and facilities, provide for as alternative equivalent recharge capacity and the relocation of existing basin berms, satisfactory to KWBA, and sufficient legal protection including indemnification of KWBA in the event of any future damages to the CVC or ALT 5 canals including panels. The existing buffers have reliably prevented liner failures for the last 25 years. Piezometers may also need to be relocated.
4. The ALT 5 conveyance canal/pipeline alignment portion of the Project should be designed such that it avoids or minimizes impairment to and/or any need to relocate and replace existing recovery wells, basins, pipelines, and power lines. The timing of any such relocation and replacement cannot impair KWB recovery or other operations and would need to be at the Project's expense. Any relocated or replacement facilities must be able to achieve at least equivalent performance, as determined by the KWBA and other appropriate parties, and operational prior to the decommissioning of any existing facilities.
5. If the ALT 5 conveyance canal/pipeline alignment portion of the Project requires the modification of the Old Main Canal conveyance facilities that cross the CVC, any such modifications must not impair existing capacities. KWBA will need to approve any plans for such modifications
6. If the Project requires expansion of Rosedale's West Intake Canal that crosses the Pioneer Canal, any such modifications to Rosedale's canal must not reduce the capacity of the Pioneer Canal.
7. The Project must not reduce the number or capacity of CVC vehicle crossings currently available to the KWBA.
8. If the ALT 5 conveyance canal/pipeline alignment or the Project otherwise requires removal or disturbance of endangered species' habitat on the KWB Lands, the Project must not interfere with or impair the implementation of the KWBA HCP and KWBA's entitlements under the KWBA HCP. Compliance with the KWB HCP and State and Federal endangered species acts and associated

required approvals by the state and federal wildlife agencies will be required for any Project effects on the resources of the KWBA HCP.

The KWBA looks forward to meeting and working with representatives of the GBJPA to discuss the above and related issues concerning the proposed Project, including the GBJPA's required consultation with the KWBA on the development of the Project description, Project alternatives to avoid and minimize effects on the KWBA lands, resources, and operations, and on the preparation of a detailed scope of work for the Project's environmental analysis. Of course, the above-mentioned items address some of the environmental and technical issues that must be considered if this Project were to proceed. These do not address any policy concerns or all the legal issues and appropriate mitigation associated with any use or impairment of KWB Lands, operations, or facilities. We look forward to working with GBJPA on those items as well.

Sincerely,

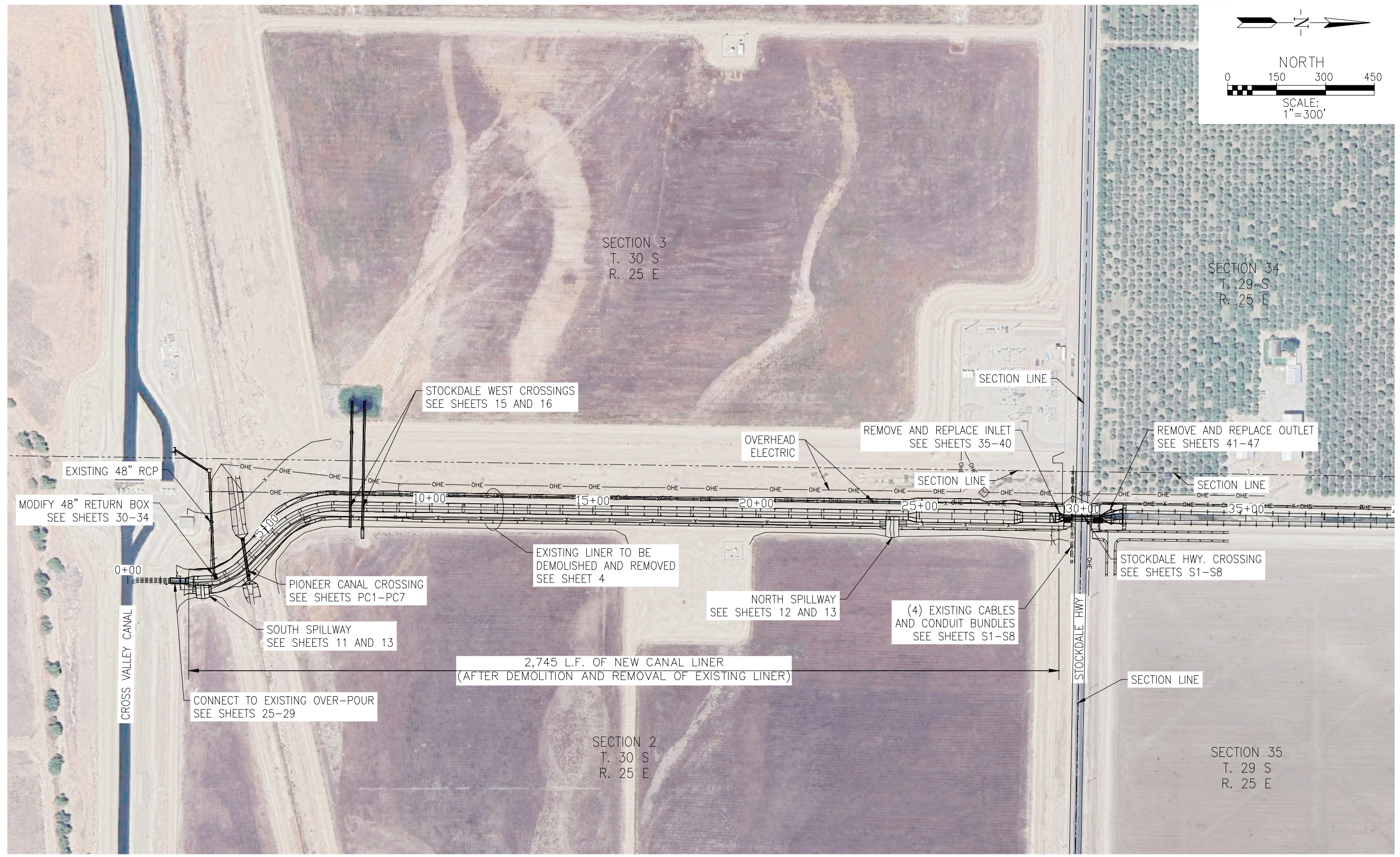
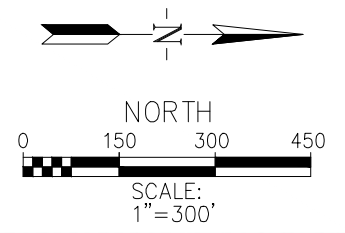
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Butkiewicz', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joseph Butkiewicz
General Manager

ENCLOSURE

cc: (by email only)

Fiona Nye
Groundwater Banking JPA
Project Manger
nye@irwd.com



LEGEND:

	DESIGN CHANNEL		STOCKDALE HIGHWAY
	OVERHEAD ELECTRIC		EXISTING FENCE
	SECTION LINE		EXISTING PIPE

(A)
3 OVERALL PLAN

95% DRAFT

REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

April 27, 2026
Prepared by: Fiona Nye
Agenda Item: 7a

Water Storage Investment Program
Early Funding Agreement

DISCUSSION:

In August 2017, IRWD and Rosedale jointly applied for Proposition 1 Water Storage Improvement Program (WSIP) funding for the Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project (Kern Fan Project) to the California Water Commission (CWC). In 2021, the CWC approved a transfer of the Kern Fan Project application and funding to the Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority. In January 2026, the CWC approved a request from the GBJPA for early funding. Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to execute an Early Funding Agreement with the CWC in the amount of \$5,570,869, subject to non-substantive changes approved by legal counsel.

Early Funding:

On January 20, 2021, the CWC adopted regulations for early funding requests. Early funding is designed to support the implementation of the project and relieve financial burdens. Eligible early funding costs include reimbursement for work performed on the project after August 14, 2017, as well as future expected costs for activities reasonably related to the completion of environmental documentation and permitting.

The CWC has awarded conditional funding to the Kern Fan Project based on a Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination (MCED) in the amount of \$111.4 million, as of August 2025. On January 21, 2026, the CWC approved an early funding award for the Kern Fan Project in the amount of \$5,570,865 which is 5% of the current MCED. A draft Early agreement and scope of work is provided as Exhibit "A".

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute an Early Funding Agreement with the CWC in the amount of \$5,570,869, subject to non-substantive changes approved by legal counsel.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Draft Early Funding Agreement.

Special Activities Agreements

DISCUSSION:

The Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (GBJPA) was formed by IRWD and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District to develop, construct, and operate the Kern Fan Project. The agreement that formed the GBJPA provides for implementation of Special Activities Agreements for components of the Kern Fan Project that are not shared on a 50-50 basis. Draft Special Activities Agreements have been prepared for the South Enns and Rosedale 1 Channel Improvement components of the Kern Fan Project. Provided below are overviews of the two Special Activities Agreement and the draft terms. Staff recommends that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the Special Activities Agreements, based on the terms presented, subject to non-substantive changes.

South Enns Special Activities Agreement:

The GBJPA is planning to acquire an additional 242 acres of property, which is referred to as the South Enns property, that would be developed and incorporated into the Kern Fan Project. IRWD will fund 100% of all costs associated with the proposed property acquisition, construction of water banking facilities at the site, and the lease of 25,000 AF of storage from Rosedale, with the right to lease an additional 25,000 AF of storage in the future as the Kern Fan Project is further developed. Terms of the agreement, included as Exhibit "A" are as follows:

- IRWD will fund 100% of the purchase, development, and operation of the South Enns Property through the GBJPA;
- The GBJPA will design, construct, and operate the facilities;
- IRWD will have exclusive use of property and associated recharge and recovery facilities;
- IRWD will receive a lease to 25,000 AF of storage capacity at a cost of \$2,400,000 or \$96 per acre-foot of storage to be used over the life of the Kern Fan Project or as long as IRWD has banking exchange partnerships with Rosedale, whichever is greater;
- IRWD would have the right to lease another 25,000 AF of storage in the future as the Kern Fan Project is further developed;

- Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) grant funds and future grant funds from the Bureau of Reclamation's Small Storage Program would first be allocated to facilities shared on a 50-50 basis;
- IRWD would receive reimbursement for the South Enns component to the extent that there are funds remaining after GBJPA non-special activities agreement projects are fully funded;
- Should the GBJPA agreement be terminated, Rosedale would cooperate with IRWD to facilitate conveyance of the property and facilities to IRWD, and detach the property from Rosedale's service area;
- Execution of this agreement is contingent upon execution of the Special Activities Agreement for the Rosedale 1 Channel Improvements; and
- All other terms of the GBJPA would apply, unless specifically modified by the Special Activities Agreement

Rosedale 1 Channel Improvements Special Activities Agreement:

To facilitate recharge and recovery operations at the South Enns Property and at existing and future properties operated in conjunction with the Kern Fan Project, improvements are necessary to the existing Rosedale 1 Channel owned by Rosedale. The GBJPA was previously awarded Small Storage Program grant funding from the Bureau of Reclamation that includes funding for improvements to the Rosedale 1 Channel. Terms of the agreement, included as Exhibit "B" are as follows:

- The GBJPA would be the contracting entity for the development of the Rosedale 1 Channel improvements;
- Rosedale would maintain exclusive interest and ownership of the Rosedale 1 Channel;
- Rosedale would lease approximately 19% of the capacity in the Rosedale 1 Channel (estimated at 55 cfs for forward flow capacity and 27 cfs for reverse flow) to IRWD at a cost of \$2.0 million;
- Small Storage Program grant proceeds approved to date would be used to reimburse any qualifying Rosedale costs;
- WSIP grant funds and future grant funds from the Small Storage Program would first be allocated to facilities shared on a 50-50 basis; and
- Rosedale would receive reimbursement for the Rosedale 1 Channel improvements to the extent that there are funds remaining after GBJPA non-special activities agreement projects are fully funded.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the Special Activities Agreements, based on the terms presented, subject to non-substantive changes.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Draft Special Activities Agreement – South Enns

Exhibit "B" – Draft Special Activities Agreement – Rosedale 1 Channel

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.



ANDREA R. HILL, CPA

An Accountancy Corporation

April 22, 2026

TO: Kern Non-Districted Land Authority

FROM: Andrea R. Hill CPA, AAC

SUBJECT: March 2026 Accountant's Report

DISCUSSION

Exhibit A is the Authority's unaudited financial statements on March 31, 2026. They include a Statement of Net Position as of March 31, 2026, and a Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the one month and three months ended March 31, 2026. We believe both statements fairly present the financial position and results of the Authority's activities for the general JPA membership and each specific Special Activity Agreements at this time.

Exhibit B is the Accountant's Report for the Authority's financial activities from March 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026. There were \$170,985.45 deposits during the month. Disbursements totaling \$34,261.79 were issued during the month. The cash balance on March 31, 2026, was \$177,557.64. There were \$36,080 of received payments during the month of March that are included in the subsequent deposits of \$90,200, as well as an additional \$72,160 of April received payments as shown on **Exhibit C**.

The Accounts Receivable balance on March 31, 2026, was \$512,077.72, which is from the retention of SGMA grant income as shown on **Exhibit D**.

Exhibit E is the details of Accounts Payable and Credit Card Payables for the month of March 2026, reflecting total payables on March 31, 2026, of \$403,984.32. Currently, invoices totaling \$37,952.69 are submitted for payment approval.

Kern Non-Districted Land Authority
Exhibit A - Statement of Net Position
As of March 31, 2026

	Mar 31, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Valley Strong Money Market	165,436.96
Valley Strong Savings	5.00
Valley Strong Checking	12,115.68
	177,557.64
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	512,077.72
	512,077.72
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	36,080.00
	36,080.00
Total Current Assets	725,715.36
TOTAL ASSETS	725,715.36
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	403,892.92
	403,892.92
Credit Cards	
Valley Strong Visa	91.40
	91.40
Total Current Liabilities	403,984.32
Total Liabilities	403,984.32
Equity	
Net Assets	
GSP - SAA#4	60,124.65
ITRC - SAA#1	(13,626.47)
KGA - General	(10,781.21)
KRGSA-RMC (Ph2)	24.69
KRGSA-Todd GW	20.00
	35,761.66
Total Net Assets	35,761.66
Net Income	285,969.38
Total Equity	321,731.04
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	725,715.36

No Assurance is Provided. All Required Disclosures Have Been Omitted.

Kern Non-Districted Land Authority
Exhibit A - Statement of Revenue & Expenses
March 2026

	<u>Mar 26</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 26</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Grant - State	0.00	492,764.50
Investment Income	375.45	1,248.20
Member Contributions	360,800.00	360,800.00
Total Income	<u>361,175.45</u>	<u>854,812.70</u>
Expense		
Administration		
Accounting	465.00	2,569.95
Auditor	0.00	8,250.00
Executive Director	4,887.75	11,778.75
Fees	41.66	45.63
General Administration Support	710.15	1,188.17
General Attorney Support	7,081.00	24,783.50
Grant Administration	0.00	9,901.40
Interest Expense	1.26	2.29
Website Hosting & Maintenance	84.00	372.00
Total Administration	<u>13,270.82</u>	<u>58,891.69</u>
Demand Management	6,727.90	7,589.80
Office Expense	90.14	407.42
Technical		
General Technical Support	0.00	5,827.19
GIS	1,282.80	4,600.60
Grant Outside Services	0.00	473,593.00
Land IQ Irrigated	841.86	892.11
Land IQ Nonirrigated	3,062.67	3,185.08
Subbasin Corrdination	11,663.70	11,663.70
Water Quality/Level Sampling	890.50	2,192.73
Total Technical	<u>17,741.53</u>	<u>501,954.41</u>
Total Expense	<u>37,830.39</u>	<u>568,843.32</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>323,345.06</u>	<u>285,969.38</u>
Net Income	<u><u>323,345.06</u></u>	<u><u>285,969.38</u></u>

No Assurance is Provided. All Required Disclosures Have Been Omitted.



KERN NON-DISTRICTED LAND AUTHORITY
1518 Mill Rock Way, Suite 100 Bakersfield, CA 93311
Phone: (661)595-5514
Email: jenny@kndla.org
Website: www.kndla.org

April, 2026

To: KNDLA Board of Directors

From: Jenny Holtermann

Re: Executive Director Report, April

Administration

- Coordination with P&P on GIS platform and mapping
- Coordination with P&P on well monitoring and collection of water level for spring timeline and deadline
- Coordination with P&P and EKI on data gaps still needing to be filled
 - o One access agreement sent to landowner, awaiting response
 - o Follow up on potential additional data gaps to fill
- Land IQ review, monthly review and analysis
- Meeting with Provost and Pritchard for Demand Management
 - o Demand Management Ad Hoc Meeting
 - o Follow up on progress
- Board Meeting Agenda and Minutes, prep and coordination
- Form 700 coordination
- Audit coordination and collection of materials
- Coordinate Financial statements, deposits and payables.

Kern Subbasin SGMA Weekly Friday Managers Meetings, Monday Policy Meetings

- Plan Updates
 - o Public Comment Letter review
- Well mitigation program review, well inventory progress
- Outreach plan, Earth Day promotion and Annual Plan workshops
- Well Permitting process with Kern County, ongoing
- Updates and reviewing of proposals on SGMA management
- EWMA Water District formation process and demand management plan
- Annual Report submittal



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Kent H. Stephens, President
Andrew Pandol, Vice President/Treasurer
Curt Holmes, Secretary
Mike Jost, Director
Andrew Hart, Director

DISTRICT STAFF:
Skye B. Grass, General Manager
Morgan Mitchell, Superintendent
Vanessa Y. Escobedo, District Engineer

April 20, 2026

Submitted via DWR SGMA Portal

Paul Gosselin
Deputy Director of Sustainable Groundwater Management
California Department of Water Resources
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Kern County Subbasin Amended GSP Comments – Eastside Water Management Area

Dear Mr. Gosselin,

The Kern-Tulare Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (KTWD GSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the 2025 Amended Kern Subbasin GSP (GSP). The Kern Subbasin GSAs worked collectively to prepare the GSP, a coordinated document that addresses the deficiencies identified in DWR’s Inadequate Determination and the additional recommendations provided by the State Water Resources Control Board. KTWD GSA supports and has adopted the GSP and believes that DWR should and can issue an Adequate determination following its review, and we recommend that it also includes specific corrective requirements for Eastside Water Management Area (EWMA). KTWD GSA’s goal in submitting these comments is to ensure the long-term success of the subbasin plan and continued effective implementation under DWR jurisdiction.

KTWD GSA strongly recommends DWR note the lack of progress made by EWMA—a groundwater-dependent, whiteland area covering 39,420 acres on the east side of the Kern Subbasin—and its insufficient projects and management actions. KTWD GSA has significant concerns regarding EWMA’s management area and its ability and willingness to sustainably manage groundwater. KTWD GSA is geographically located immediately to the west of EWMA, and KTWD GSA’s sustainability is contingent on this management area becoming sustainable. It is therefore critical that EWMA is not permitted to continue to extract groundwater in an unsustainable manner. The success of the subbasin will rely heavily upon whitelands being properly managed through demand reduction actions. To date, EWMA has not adopted management actions that will bring it into sustainability and EWMA has not made meaningful progress towards arresting overdraft in its area.

Background

EWMA is “a non-profit corporation governed by a seven-member Board of Directors that is working to become a public agency and serve as the GSA for land within its boundaries. Until EWMA can serve as its own GSA, it is treated as a separate management area within the Kern Non-Districted Lands Authority (KNDLA).” –*GSP Section 10. Management Areas*

“The EWMA was formed on May 7, 2018 and implements groundwater management through a Provision of Jurisdiction Agreements with the KNDLA GSA. Additional details are provided in the Kern Non-District Lands Authority Joint Powers Agreement governance document in Appendix C-2 [of the GSP], which formally defines EWMA’s roles and responsibilities as a partner to the other Kern Subbasin GSAs.” –GSP Section 3.4 Legal Authority of the GSAs

A description of EWMA can be found in *Kern GSP Section 5. Plan Area (p. 5-8, 5-9)*:

- “Encompasses 39,420 acres primarily in the East Margin HCM Area with a few non-districted parcels on the eastern edge of the North Basin HCM Area.”
- “Most lands are adjacent to Kern-Tulare Water District GSA, Cawelo Water District GSA and the Southern San Joaquin Municipal Utility District GSA.”
- “Land uses include oil/industrial (81 percent), trees (16 percent), urban and roads (7 percent) and idle land (2 percent).”
- Within KNDLA “Non-districted lands and EWMA are treated as separate management areas with regard to water budgets and Projects and Management Action (P/MAs).”

Figure 1 and **Figure 2**, extracted from the GSP, show all GSAs in the Kern Subbasin, with EWMA highlighted, as well as all land use within KNDLA, including EWMA.

I. GROUNDWATER EXTRACTIONS WITHIN EWMA IMPACT KTWD GSA

A. Thousands of groundwater-dependent acres were recently developed on KTWD GSA’s eastern border

Since 2014, 3,460 acres (2,564 acres in the Kern County Subbasin and 896 acres in the Tule Subbasin) of non-districted land has been developed into permanent plantings east of KTWD GSA. These grounds are solely reliant on groundwater, and extractions are from the Santa Margarita Formation and deeper confined aquifers. **Table 1** and **Figure 3** show the development of this acreage over three time periods: prior to 2014, between January 2014 to December 2019 and from January 2020 to present.

Table 1. Development of Non-Districted Lands to the East of KTWD GSA

Year Developed	Kern (acres)	Tule (acres)	Total (acres)
Pre-2014	2,110	4,641	6,752
Jan 2014 – Dec 2019	2,255	399	2,645
Jan 2020 – Present	309	497	806
Total	4,674	5,537	10,203

EWMA covers approximately 4,000 acres of the 4,674 acres east of KTWD GSA.

B. Lands in EWMA are overdrafting a confined aquifer shared with KTWD

EWMA and KTWD GSA are located within the East Margin HCM Area, where older, locally significant geologic units including the Santa Margarita Formation and Olcese Sands, are present. The Santa Margarita Formation is a primary aquifer for both KTWD GSA and EWMA. The Olcese Sands are accessed by wells on the eastern edge of KTWD GSA and within EWMA.

The Santa Margarita Formation is confined above and below by impervious silt and shale layers. As stated in the GSP, the Santa Margarita Formation is a highly permeable confined aquifer that acts as a source of freshwater in the northeast portion of the subbasin. The formation is recharged from rainfall and stream seepage where the formation outcrops from the Sierra east of KTWD GSA and EWMA.

The confined aquifers of the Santa Margarita Formation and the Olcese Sands are shallow to the east and deepen to the west as shown in cross-sections A and B of the GSP. **Figure 4** displays an additional east-west cross-section long County Line Road of KTWD GSA and EWMA, and includes both the Santa Margarita Formation and the Olcese Sands aquifers, as well as the static water level of each aquifer, the extent of freshwater, and any active wells (with total depth or perforated interval information for each). As shown in **Figure 4**, most of the wells within KTWD GSA and EWMA penetrate to the Santa Margarita Formation; wells near the eastern border of KTWD GSA and within EWMA extend to the Olcese Sands.

Figure 5 is a map of all active agricultural wells within KTWD GSA. The map references the deepest aquifer penetrated by each well, as determined by the cross-sections. The map also depicts developed land with agricultural wells within EWMA that rely on the Santa Margarita Formation and the Olcese Sands aquifers. The location and the deepest aquifer penetrated by wells within EWMA was gathered from a 2021 draft report entitled “Determination of Supply Well Production from Various Formations in the EWMA” written by Schmidt and Associates on behalf of EWMA. Although the figure displays the deepest aquifer penetrated, most wells pump from multiple aquifers. The pumping percentage of individual wells varies and ranges from 30% to 81% from the Santa Margarita and 15% to 72% from the Olcese Sands based on the findings of the draft report.

With 4,000 acres of EWMA planted into permanent crops east of KTWD GSA and solely reliant on groundwater, EWMA is heavily overdrafting the Santa Margarita Formation and the Olcese Sands aquifers and directly negatively impacting KTWD GSA’s groundwater supplies.

C. Impacts to the Santa Margarita Formation

Groundwater elevations in the Santa Margarita Formation have been monitored since the 1960’s and KTWD has been reporting water levels via CASGEM since 2012. **Figure 6** is a hydrograph of groundwater levels for the six wells with long standing periods of record that penetrate to the Santa Margarita Formation within KTWD GSA. As discussed in the GSP and shown in **Figure 6**, groundwater levels were falling prior to the formation of the Kern-Tulare Water District (District) and recovered for a period of time once the District began importing surface water.

The groundwater aquifers shared by KTWD GSA and EWMA are now however under significant stress, with the Santa Margarita Aquifer showing clear signs of overdraft. A key piece of evidence for this is the aquifer’s inability to recover its water levels; even when KTWD GSA cut its own pumping by as much as 67% between 2014 and 2020, and despite back-to-back wet years in 2023-2024, groundwater elevations

failed to rebound meaningfully. The primary driver of this decline is increased agricultural plantings and pumping within EWMA during this time period. The recent drop in KTWD’s groundwater levels directly correlates with a period of increased irrigated farming and a subsequent rise in groundwater pumping within EWMA.

This impact occurs because both KTWD GSA and landowners within EWMA draw water from the same, interconnected source. Because EWMA sits “upstream” of KTWD GSA relative to the natural groundwater flow, its pumping intercepts water that would otherwise replenish the aquifer beneath KTWD GSA. The scale of this pumping is substantial; EWMA, which relies entirely on groundwater, extracts more than **double** the amount of water as KTWD GSA during droughts and **over four times** as much during years when KTWD has access to more surface water. This continuous, high-volume pumping in the EWMA—which unlike KTWD GSA, has no surface water supplies—prevents the shared aquifer from recovering and is dewatering the formation.

II. THE GSP CONTAINS NO MANAGEMENT ACTIONS OR PROJECTS TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABILITY IN EWMA

KTWD GSA and its landowners have made significant progress towards sustainability, and the SWRCB has separately determined that KTWD GSA qualifies for an exemption from fees and reporting within the Tule Subbasin because it adequately manages groundwater. Since 2015 KTWD GSA has increased surface water deliveries through \$3M distribution system improvement projects, a comprehensive well registration and groundwater metering program, and implementation of an up to \$175 per acre-foot groundwater extraction charge. These actions have significantly reduced groundwater pumping and increased surface water deliveries by 25% within KTWD GSA. Conversely, EWMA has implemented no projects or management actions to reduce overdraft within its area east of KTWD GSA.

A. EWMA has no meaningful projects or management actions

Within the *GSP Section 14. Projects and Management Actions Table 14-7. Eastside Water Management Area P/MA*, EWMA lists nine projects and management actions (P/MAs), not including the Kern Subbasin-wide P/MAs. Excerpted information from *GSP Table 14-7* is shown here as **Table 2**. Two of the projects focus on water supply augmentation including a Produced Water Supply Project and a Surface Runoff Capture Project with an expected completion date of 2035. The remaining seven P/MAs are mainly focused on studies, monitoring, and developing programs to trade water credits and do not have any expected benefits from a water supply augmentation standpoint. EWMA has not established any meaningful projects or implemented any management actions to reduce groundwater pumping. Groundwater conditions thus continue to decline and EWMA is not on a path to achieve sustainability.

Table 2. EWMA P/MAs excerpted information from GSP Table 14-7

P/MA Number	P/MA Name	Summary Description	Status	Timetable for Completion	Water Supply Augmentation (AFY)	Demand Reduction (AFY)
EWMA-1	Produced Water Supply Project	Development of oilfield produced water supplies to potentially reduce groundwater demand	Initiating Development	2035	900	0
EWMA-2	Surface Runoff Capture Project	Surface runoff capture and enhanced infiltration in impoundments	Planning	2035	3220	0
EWMA-3	Groundwater Quality Investigation	Investigation of groundwater quality by collection and analysis of water quality data supplemented by borehole geophysical data where available	Implemented	2025	0	0
EWMA-4	Local Native Yield Estimation Study	Improved estimation of local (EWMA) native yield by use of additional field-collected data and analysis	On-going	2025	0	0
EWMA-5	Aquifer-Specific Monitoring Wells Installation	Construction of aquifer-specific monitoring wells in locations with data gaps, to better understand hydraulic heads and gradients, particularly in confined bedrock units	Planning	2025	0	0
EWMA-6	Pressure Transducers Installation	Installation of pressure transducers in selected wells of the monitoring network, to collect high-resolution cost-effective data	Planning	2025	0	0
EWMA-7	Agricultural Demand Reduction	Maintain and improve 2024 Subbasin well inventory in the DMS platform with added data from field surveys, current beneficial use determinations, and coordination with Kern County EH and DWR to track new wells, etc.	Ongoing	2024-	0	0
EWMA-8	Groundwater Usage Fee Assessment	Maintain and improve existing Subbasin consumptive-use study (ITRC Metric/LandIQ) for accurate estimates of water use by parcel within GSAs.	Ongoing	2020-	0	0
EWMA-9	Transferrable Water Credit Program	Establish a system of transferrable water credits; including legal and administrative review: effects of CEQA and water law on joint management of native yield	Initiating Development	2030	0	0

B. EWMA is Unreasonably Delaying Demand Reduction Actions

EWMA continues to delay demand reduction actions by citing the need for a basin-wide study that is already complete. EWMA's delay is plainly stated in the 2025 Kern County Subbasin Annual Report:

“Reduction in Agricultural Water Use: Reduction of irrigated acreage, or modification irrigation techniques of crop types to reduce water usage is *still being planned*. Prior to implementing demand reduction, the sustainable yield needs to be established which is expected to be completed by the end 2025 following the completion of the basin hydrologic study. One important data gap missing in the Kern C2VSim model are the deeper aquifers that many EWMA members rely on for their water supply. These aquifers include the locally productive Santa Margarita, Olcese, and Vedder/Pyramid Hills units. Staff has communicated this model deficiency with Todd Groundwater and were informed that the model would be updated during the basin hydrologic study expected to be completed in 2026.” [Emphasis added.]

“Groundwater Fees: *No progress was made* on a determination to assess fees for groundwater use to encourage reduced pumping or curtailment until the sustainable yield is established following the completion of the basin-wide hydrologic study.” [Emphasis added.]

“Water Transfer Credit System: Efforts continue to establish a system of transferrable water credits in the EWMA. The EWMA previously developed an internal sustainable yield policy and, during WY 2023, started formalizing a system via draft Rules and Regulations. The EWMA expects time implement a water transfer credit system at the conclusion of the basin hydrogeologic study in 2026.”

“Summary of Other GSP-related Special Studies or Activities: The EWMA Board and members directed staff to initiate formation of a water district for SGMA purposes, and in WY 2023 a surveyor was hired to prepare the mapping and legal descriptions required for the notice of petition. District formation efforts are ongoing and expected to conclude in 2026. Additionally, EWMA is actively participating in the Subbasin-wide activities in Section 9, Progress on Subbasin-wide coordination on GSP implementation.”

While EWMA continues to delay demand management implementation pending unknown further study, damage to the Subbasin and KTWD GSA continues by their overdraft.

III. EWMA'S PROPOSED DISTRICT FORMATION WITHOUT BINDING DEMAND REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS POSES A THREAT TO THE SUBBASIN

EWMA has stated it will seek to form a water district. Formation of the proposed district, and the creation of its own GSA without strict groundwater pumping restrictions, would only put the Kern Subbasin and KTWD GSA at further risk. The formation of the proposed district could result in increased growth in developed land use and groundwater pumping in the proposed service area as they would not be subject to any management actions.

KTWD GSA recommends that DWR consider specific corrective actions for EWMA including:

1. A requirement to implement an immediate moratorium on the drilling of new agricultural wells.
2. A requirement that EWMA implement a mandatory well registration and automated groundwater metering program (telemetry) for all active agricultural wells within 12 months, ensuring extraction data is accurate and transparent.
3. A requirement that EWMA establish and implement a groundwater extraction fee structure within 12 months to disincentivize over-pumping and fund mitigation efforts.
4. A requirement to establish a formal mitigation program to address and compensate for the continued dewatering of the Santa Margarita and Olcese confined aquifers.
5. A requirement that EWMA submit quarterly progress reports directly to DWR detailing its progress on implementing demand reduction actions, removing its ability to hide behind delayed basin-wide studies.
6. A requirement that management actions be adopted within 6 months that reduce groundwater extractions to native yield on a straight-line path by 2040.
7. A requirement that a subsidence management plan be adopted that includes cease pumping orders when quantitative thresholds are triggered.

KTWD GSA supports the GSP and believes that an Adequate determination from DWR is appropriate and including the above corrective requirements will help ensure the long-term success of the subbasin plan. We appreciate the effort of DWR to review the GSP and are thankful for the opportunity to provide comments regarding this specific management area within the subbasin. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at vanessa@kern-tulare.com or 661-327-3132.

Sincerely,



Vanessa Yap Escobedo
District Engineer, Kern-Tulare Water District
Point of Contact, Kern-Tulare Water District GSA

cc: Jenny Holtermann, KNDLA
Taylor Blakslee, EWMA
Blair Knox, Kern County LAFCo

FIGURES

Figure 1. GSA Coverage of the Kern Subbasin displaying EWMA (from GSP Figure 5-3)

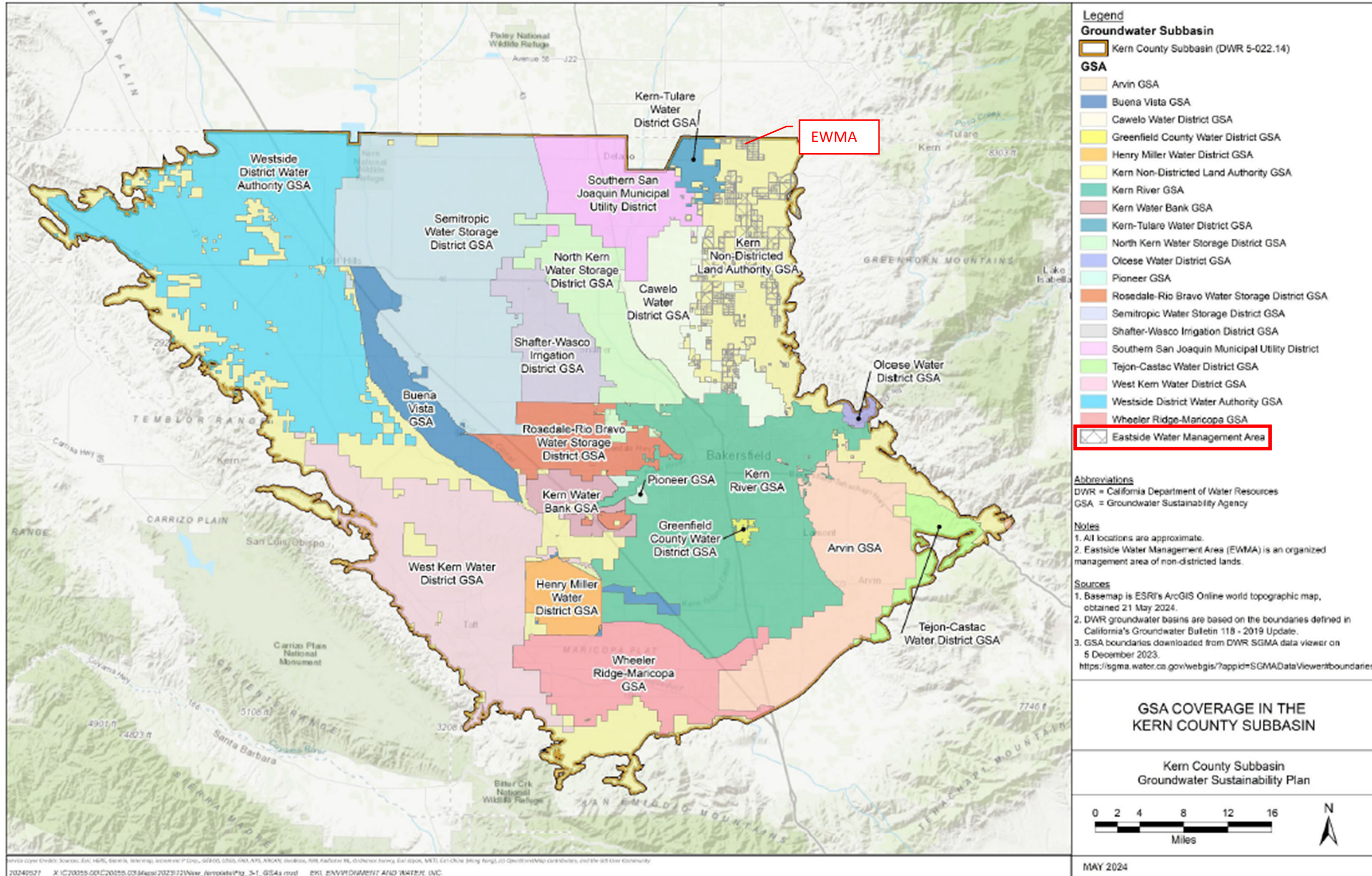


Figure 5-3. GSA Coverage of the Kern Subbasin

Figure 2. Land Use in Kern Non-Districted Land Authority (from GSP Figure 5-5)

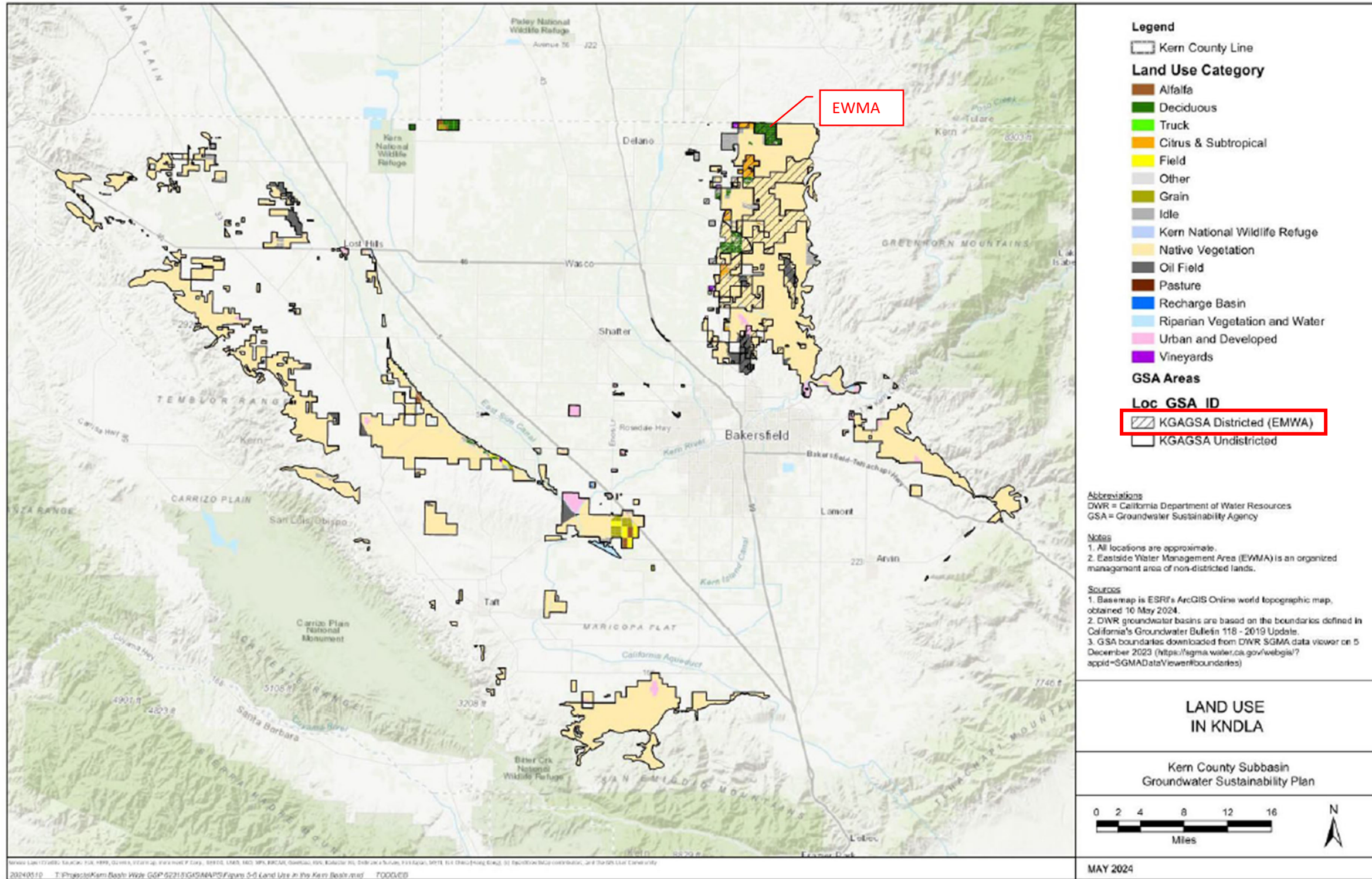


Figure 5-5. Land Use in Kern Non-Districted Land Authority

Figure 3. Whitelands East of KTWD GSA

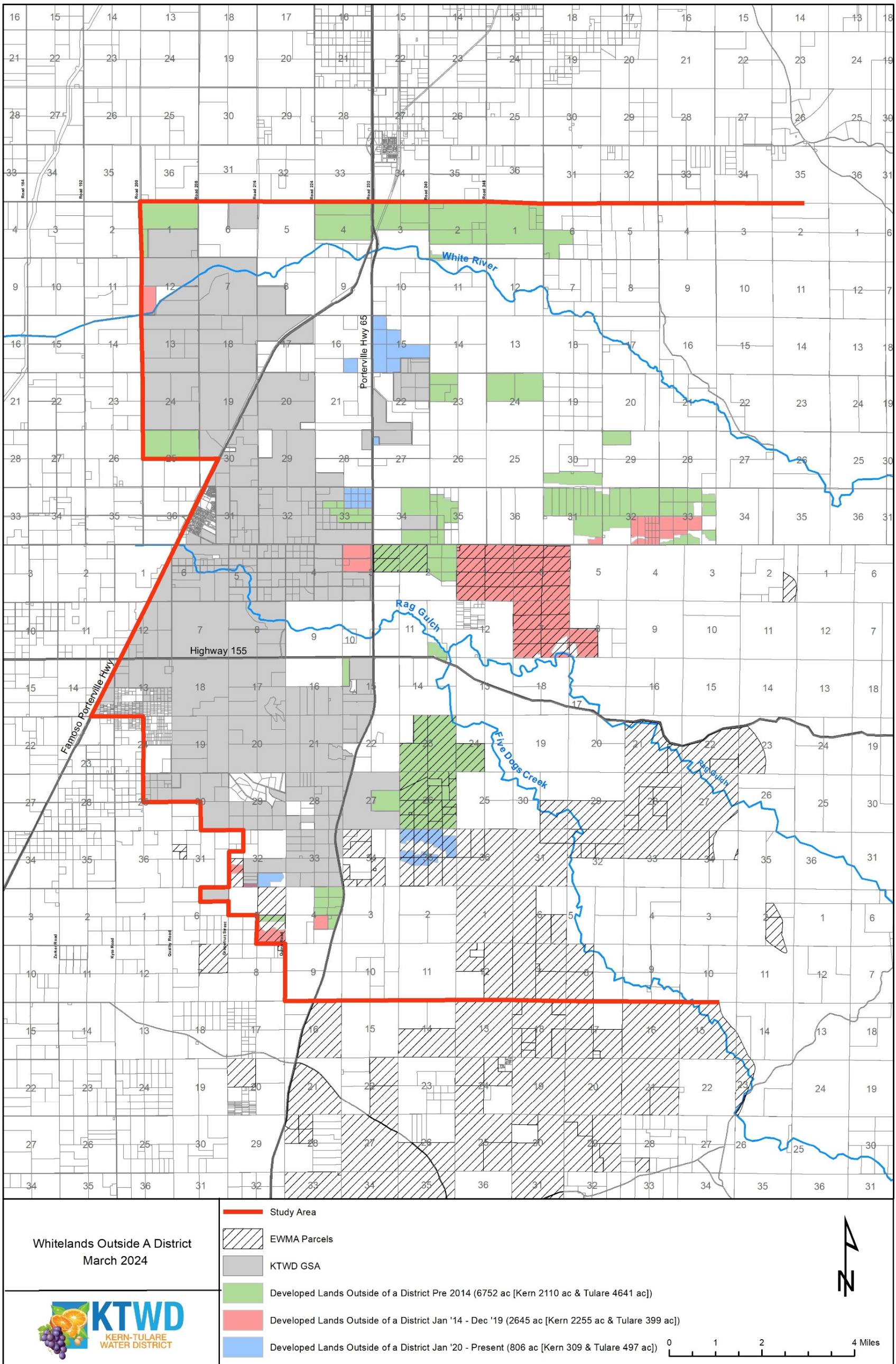


Figure 4. Cross Section along County Line Road

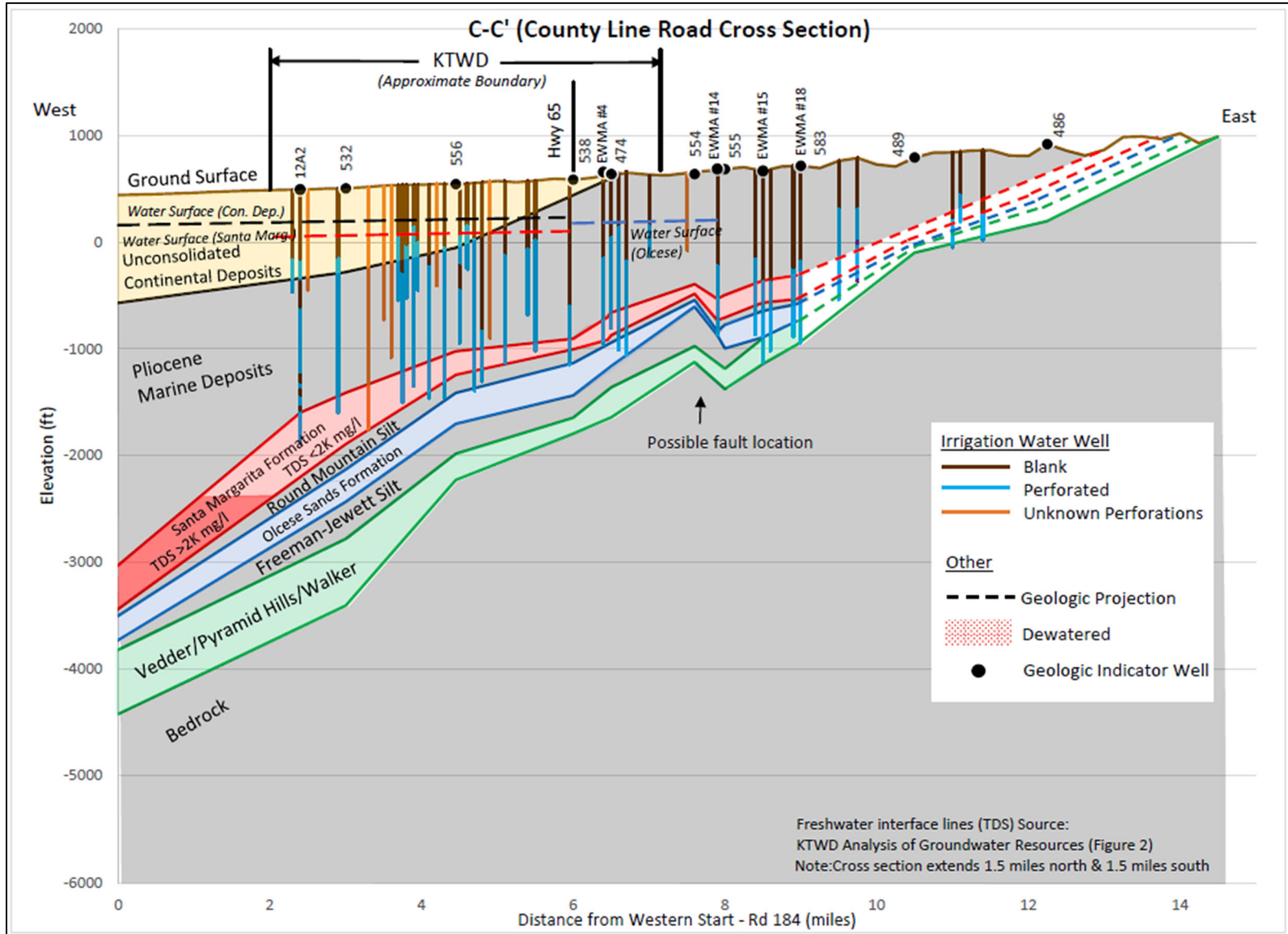


Figure 5. Deepest Aquifer Penetrated by Active Wells

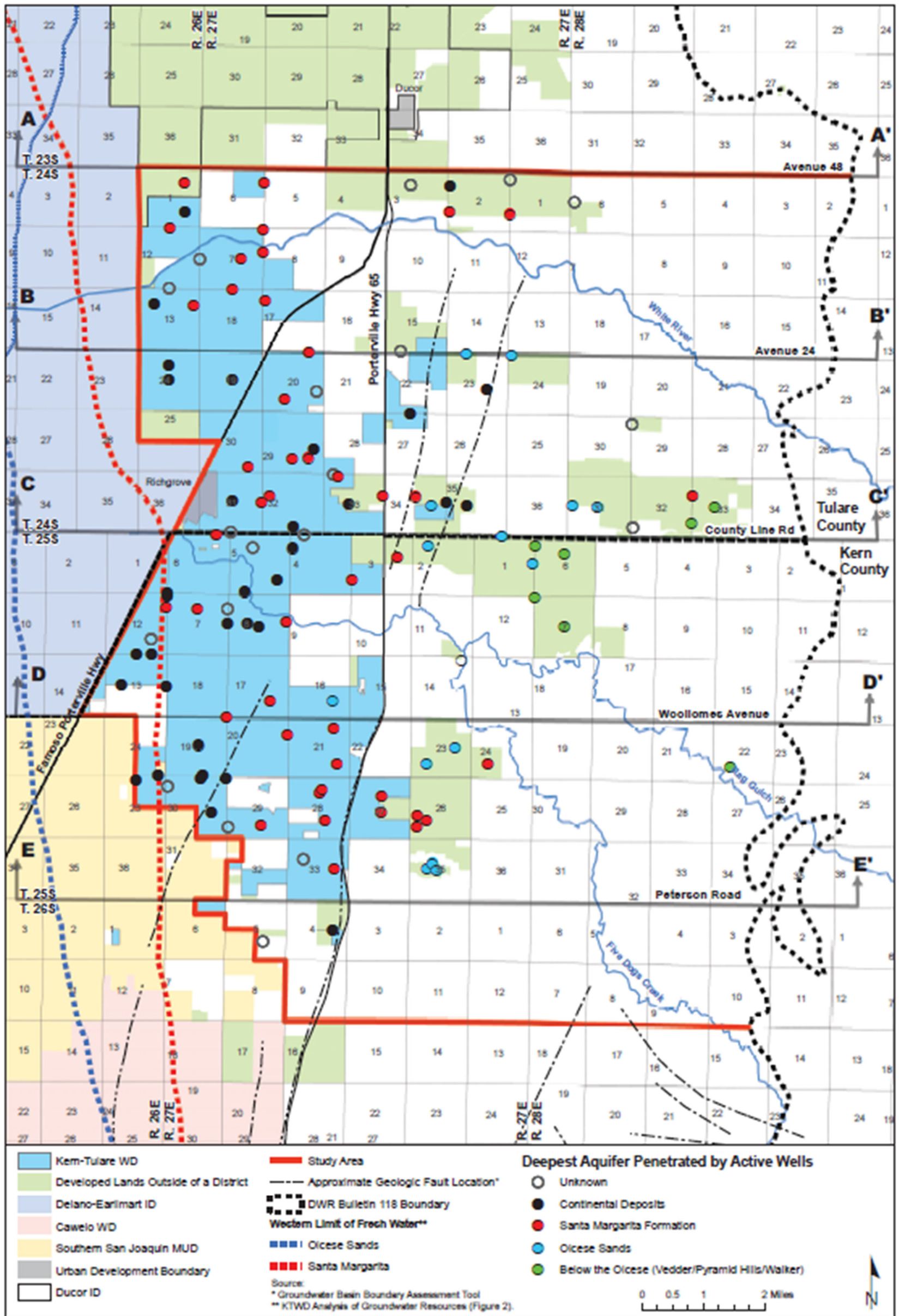
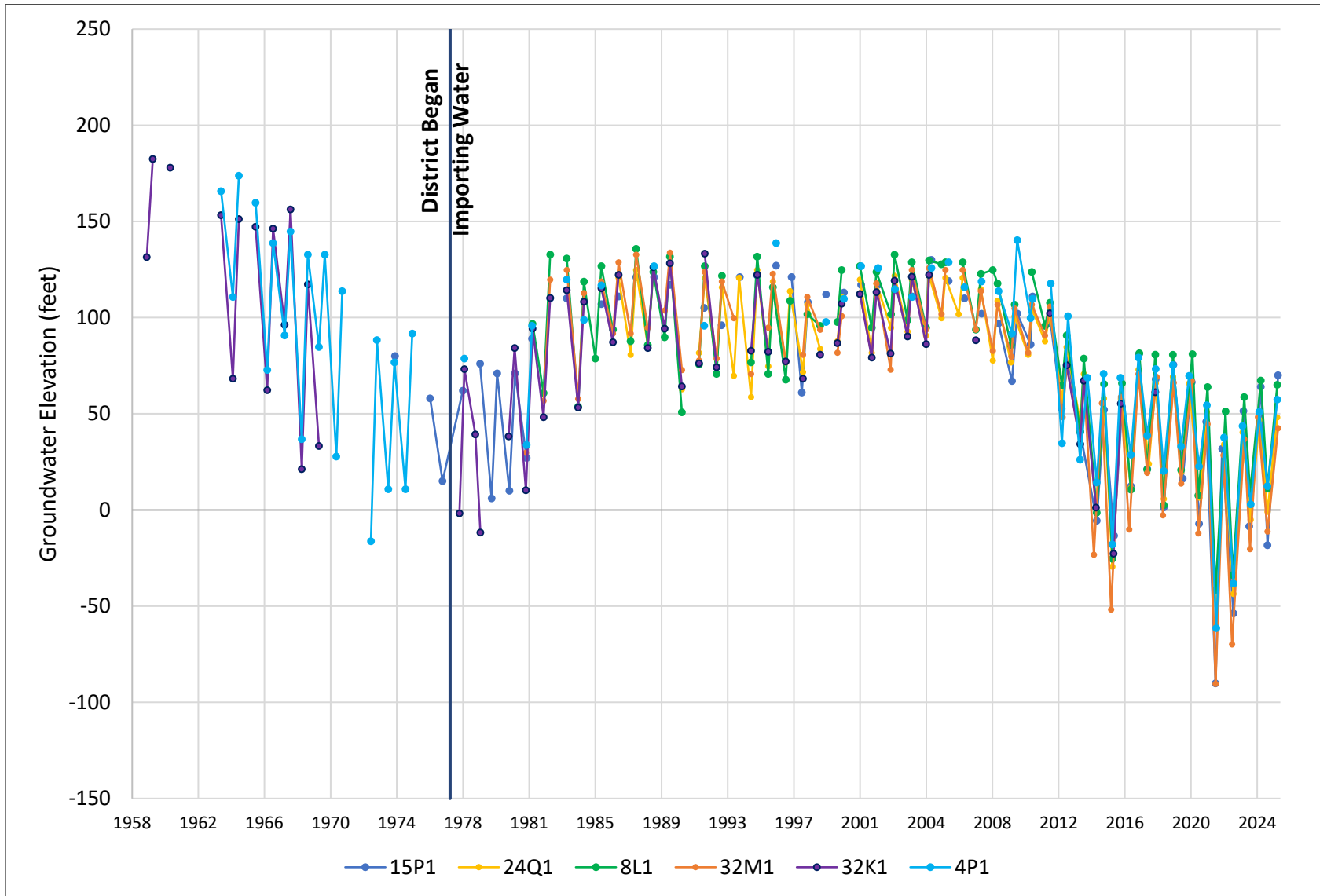


Figure 6. Historical District Groundwater Levels in the Santa Margarita Formation





KERN FAN GROUNDWATER STORAGE PROJECT
ALT 5 Feasibility Team
April 22, 2026



INITIAL MILESTONES ALT5 JOINT CONCEPT

- Oct-2022** ● Update to CVC Advisory on Alt5 Concept
- Aug-2024** ● Update to KCWA on Alt5 Progress
- Oct-2024** ● Offer of Participation to CVC Advisory
- Feb-2025** ● Presentation to Interested Parties
- June-2025** ● CVC Advisory Approves Alt5 Feasibility Reimbursement Agreement
- Aug-2025** ● Execution of Alt5 Feasibility Reimbursement Agreement



Feasibility Study Engineering Team

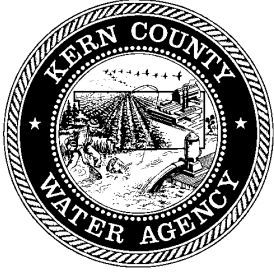




Alt5 Project Benefits

Project offers multiple to Kern County water management:

- \$150M grants to enhance high-flow water storage
 - ✓ 700 acres of new recharge ponds
 - ✓ 375 cfs of new conveyance capacity
- Increase capacity for other MU's
- Reduce limited freeboard risk
- Eliminate bifurcation oscillation in Pools 1-2
- Mitigate "B" Plant vortexing in Pools 1-2
- Improve pump submergence and performance in Pools 1-2
- Enhance reliability of CVC Pool 1
- Reduce Kern County's subsidence impacts/costs
- Provide funding for KWBA replacements and improvements
- **Possible Remediation of Pool 1 Liner Issues (new)**



MEMORANDUM

20.3.3

TO: Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7a

FROM: Steve Yoder

DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Report on Cross Valley Canal Operations and Deliveries

Issue:

Report on Cross Valley Canal operations and deliveries.

Recommended Motion:

None – information only.

Discussion:

A summary and graph of the Cross Valley Canal operations, maintenance and deliveries for March 2026 is provided as Attachment 1.

CROSS VALLEY CANAL
REPORT ON OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND DELIVERIES
APRIL 2026

CROSS VALLEY CANAL

OPERATIONS

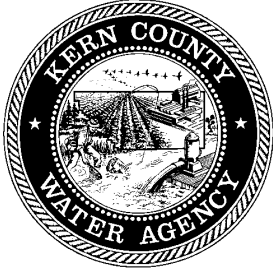
Preliminary inflows and deliveries for the month of March were as follows:

Deliveries by Turnout:	California Aqueduct SWP (AF)	CVC Total (AF)
N-2 Siphon	347	347
Strand Siphon	1,091	1,091
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Turnout No. 1	793	793
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Turnout No. 1B	793	793
Kern Water Bank P-11 Turnout	1,646	1,646
River Turnout No. 1	298	298
Arvin-Edison Turnout	2,916	2,916
Henry C. Garnett Water Purification Plant	724	724
Total	8,608	8,608

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

- Performed Golden Mussel inspection and cleaning throughout the CVC;
- Performed grading and leveling around CVC Pumping Plant No. 2 building using the Bobcat;
- Pulled pump 2M (700 HP) at CVC Pumping Plant No. 2B and had it transported to pump shop;
- Installed the spare 700 HP pump in the 2M bay at CVC Pumping Plant No. 2B;
- Assisted the roof contractor in bi-annual roof inspections at all CVC 'A' pumping plants;
- Dewatered and sealed the Pioneer Inlet stop logs;
- Replaced the photocells for the lights at CVC Pumping Plant No. 5A;
- Pulled 1A motor (100 HP) at CVC Pumping Plant No. 1A and transported it to the motor shop for repairs;
- Installed the spare 100 HP motor at CVC Pumping Plant No. 1A;
- Assisted the contractor in replacing the Uninterrupted Power Supply at CVC Pumping Plant No. 5A;
- Tested all CVC pumping plant float valves throughout the CVC;
- Performed road grading in and around CVC Pumping Plant No. 4;
- Replaced the Cawelo Pump Station radio for Pool 8 of the CVC;
- Replaced the air-conditioner filters at all CVC pumping plants;
- Performed mechanical cleaning of pumping plant forebays and walk decks using Gradall excavator;
- Assisted electrical staff with multiple motor control issues at various pumping plants;
- Continued to collect groundwater level measurements from CVC Pools 1-8 piezometers;
- Escorted Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition contractor for multiple issues on the CVC;
- Performed spare motor maintenance by spinning motor shafts on all spare motors at CVC Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Center;
- Performed post-emergent herbicide applications;
- Performed minor fence and gate repairs;
- Performed road and levee maintenance and washout repairs along CVC rights-of-way;

- Performed siphon breaker and compressor checks throughout entire CVC system;
- Performed electrical preventative maintenance checks and testing at all CVC Motor Control Centers (MCC);
- Performed routine maintenance activities that included vehicle and heavy equipment maintenance repairs, pump maintenance and interior MCC buildings cleaning; and
- Performed a monthly safety inspection at the CVC O&M Center.



MEMORANDUM

20.2.1

TO: Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7b

FROM: Kayla Hickey

DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Report on Cross Valley Canal Operations and Deliveries

Issue:

Report on Cross Valley Canal operations and deliveries.

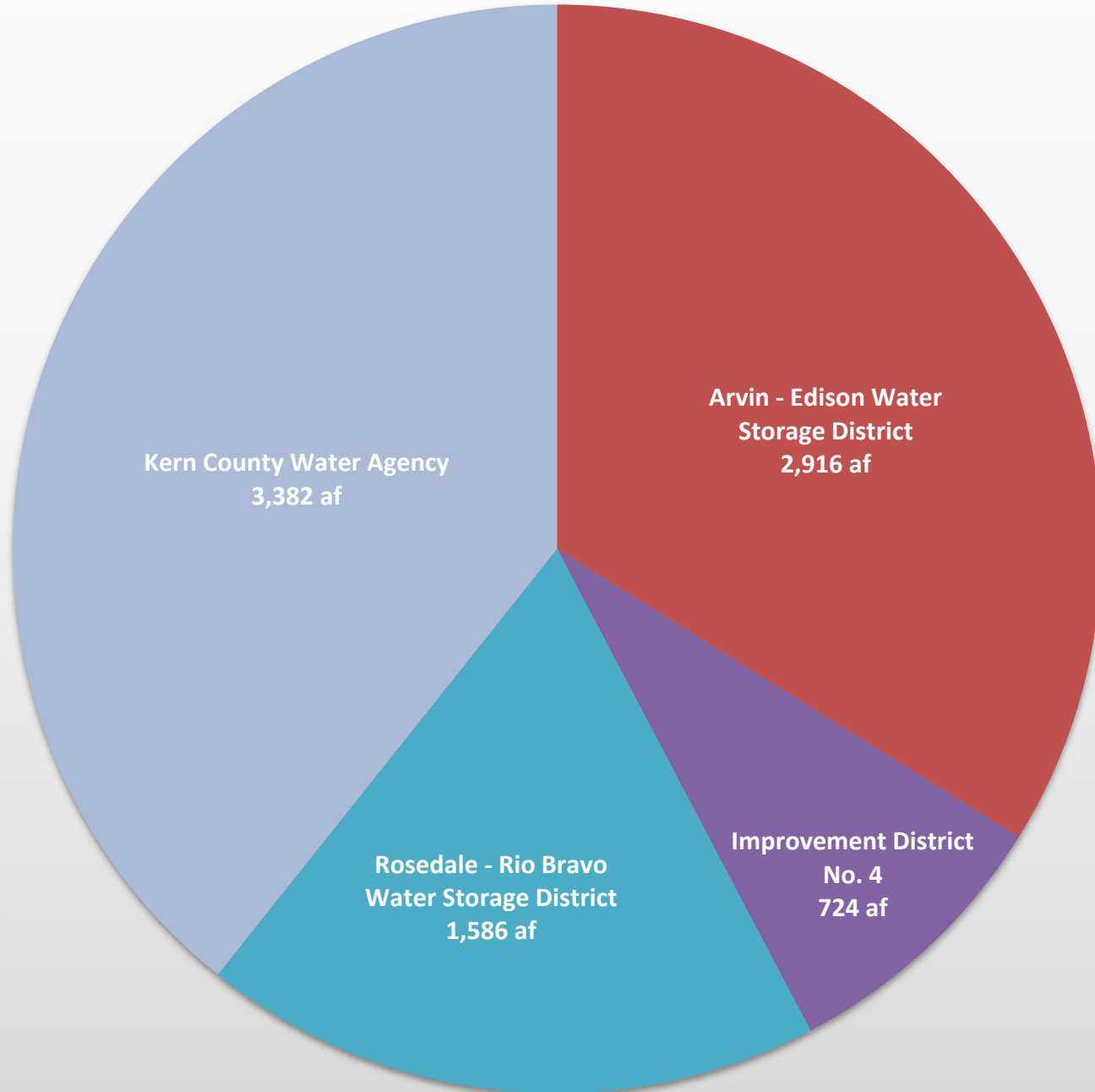
Recommended Motion:

None – information only.

Discussion:

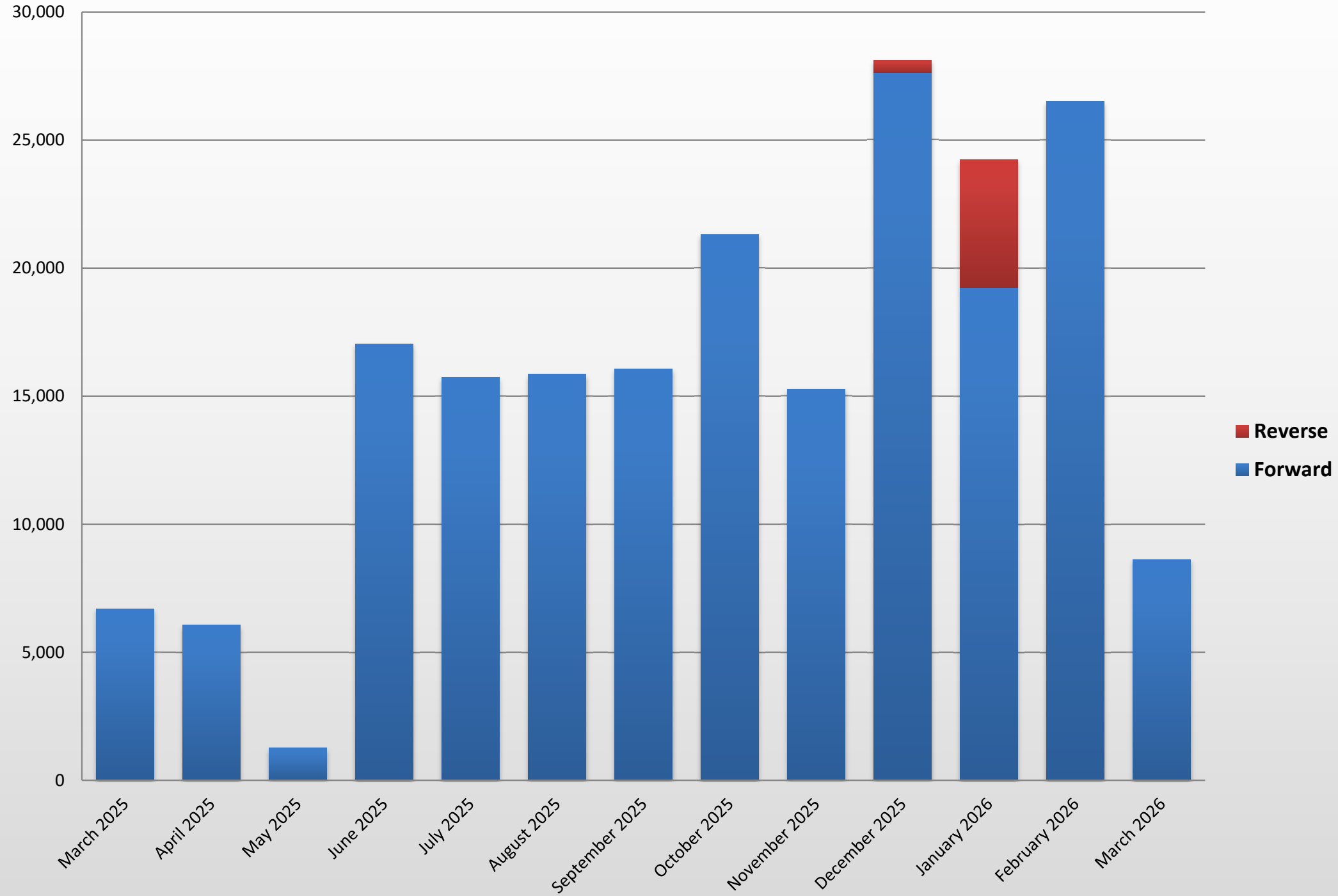
A summary and graph of the Cross Valley Canal (CVC) operations, maintenance and deliveries for March 2026 is provided as Attachment 1. Graphs illustrating deliveries by direction of flow and by source over the last 12 months are provided as Attachments 2 and 3. A schematic illustrating current CVC operations is provided as Attachment 4. A schematic illustrating the current maintenance and availability status of the pumps and motors at each pumping plant is provided as Attachment 5.

**Cross Valley Canal
March 2026 Deliveries
Total deliveries 8,608 af**

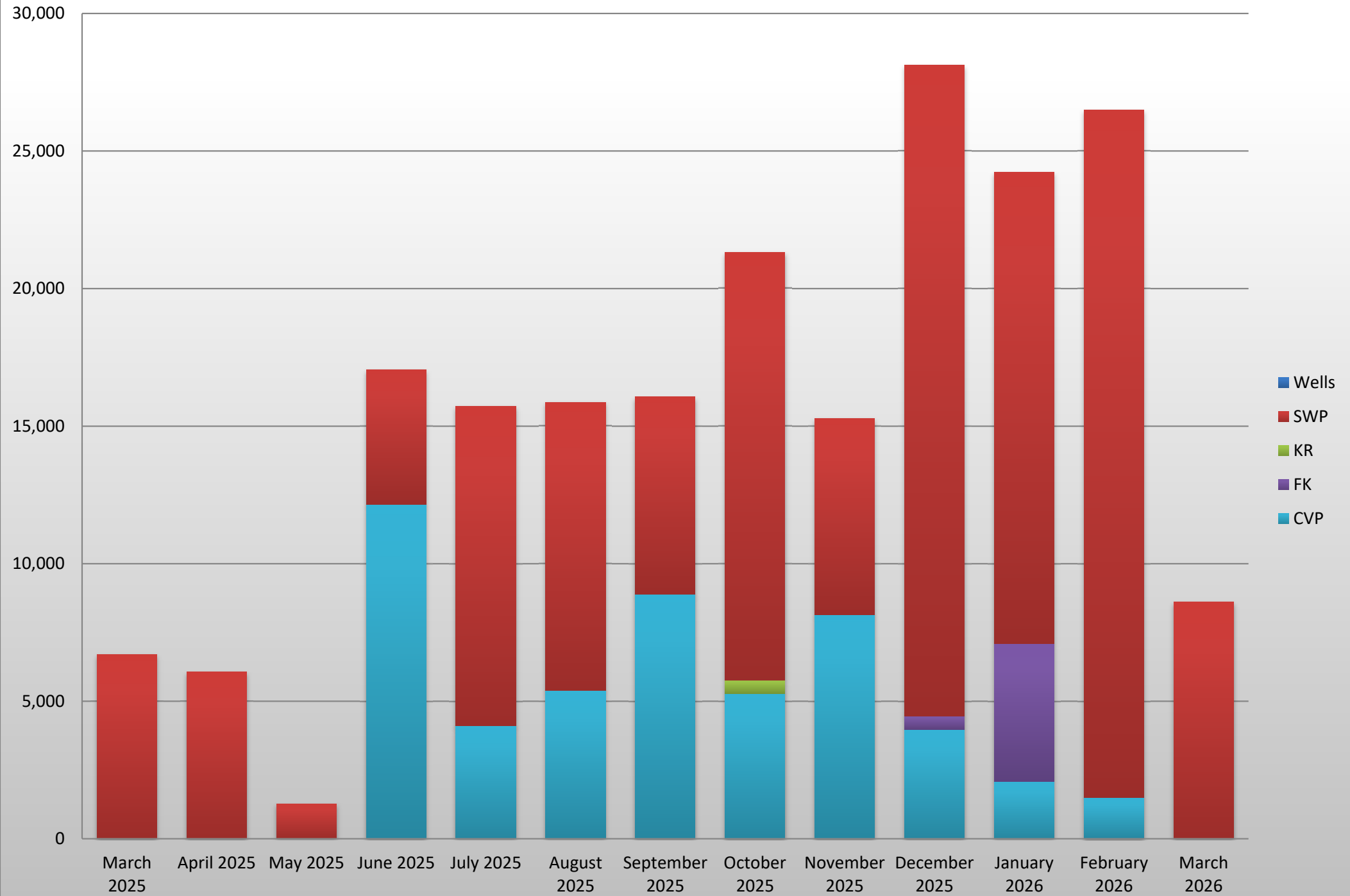


Cross Valley Canal

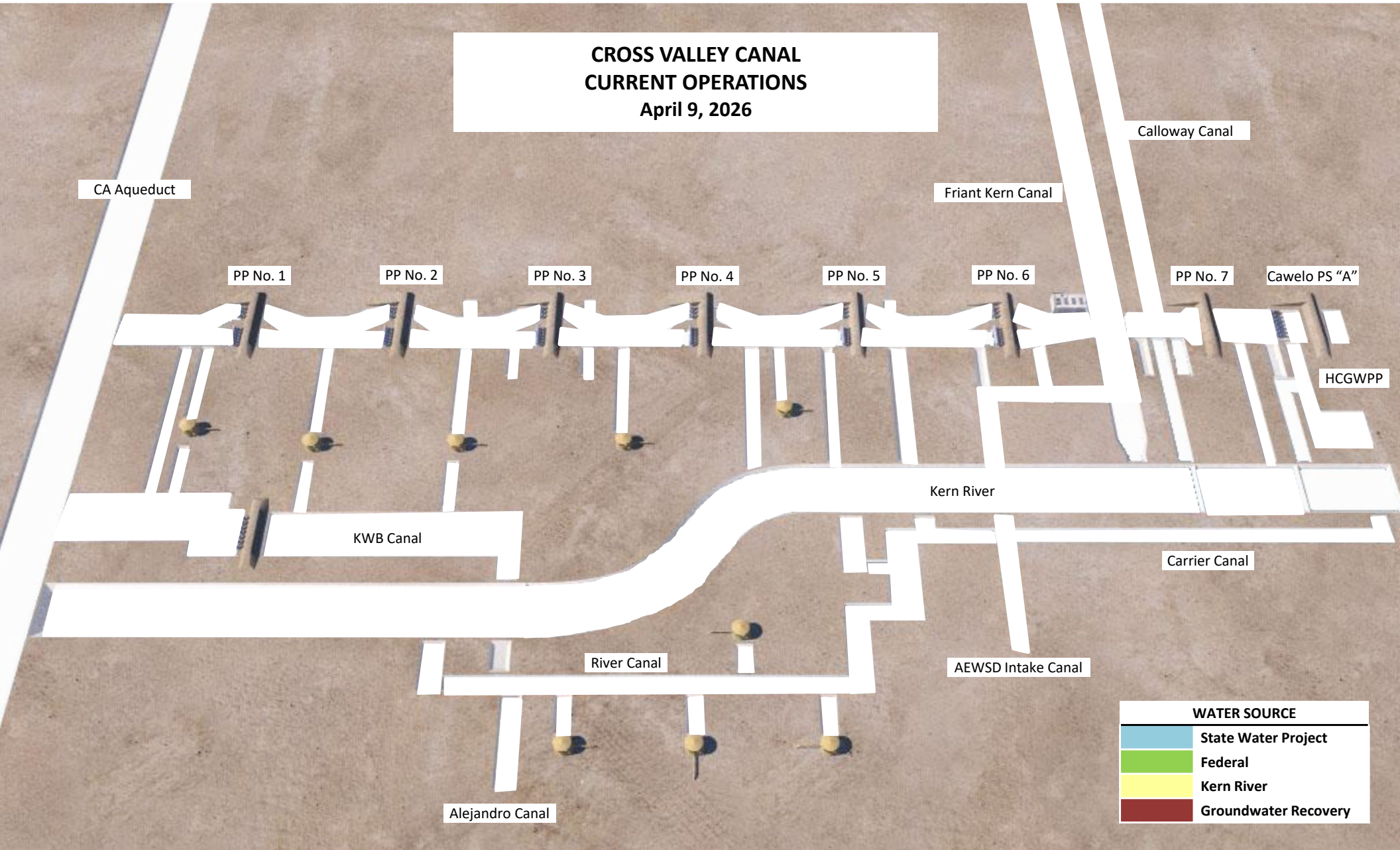
Twelve Month Delivery by Direction



Cross Valley Canal Twelve Month Delivery by Source



**CROSS VALLEY CANAL
CURRENT OPERATIONS
April 9, 2026**



Cross Valley Canal Pump and Flow Configuration Last Updated on April 9, 2026

'A' Pumping Plants												'B' Pumping Plants					Total cfs
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	Total cfs	K	L	M	N	Total cfs	
Pumping Plant No. 1	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	565	565	565	565	250	100			800	800	800			
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	70	180	180	180	180	6/1/26	31			167	167	167		500	
Pumping Plant No. 2	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	565	565	565	565	250	100			700	700	700			
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	70	180	180	180	180	70	31			167	167	167		500	
Pumping Plant No. 3	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	565	565	565	250	100	250	100		700	700	700			
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	70	180	180	180	70	31	70	31		167	167	167		500	
Pumping Plant No. 4	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	565	565	565	250	100	250	100		700	700	700			
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	7/1/26	180	180	180	70	31	70	31		167	167	167		500	
Pumping Plant No. 5	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	565	565	565	250	100	250	100		700	700	700			
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	70	180	180	180	70	31	70	31		167	167	167		500	
Pumping Plant No. 6	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	565	565	565	250	250	100			200	600	600	350		
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	70	180	180	180	70	70	31			40	185	185	90	500	
Pumping Plant No. 7	Estimated Horsepower	100	250	250	250	250	100										
	Estimated Flow Rate (cfs)	31	70	70	70	70	31									342	

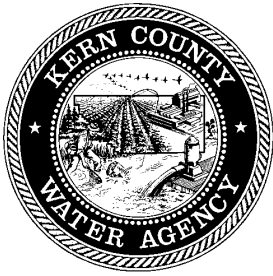
Note: Return to service dates are subject to change.

Current spares:

- Bell/Bowl/Impeller sets: 100 hp (31cfs), 250 hp (70cfs) and 400 hp (140 cfs);
- Pump/Appurtenances: 600 hp (200 cfs), 700 hp (167 cfs) and 800 hp (167 cfs); and
- Motors: 100 hp, 200 hp, 250 hp, 350 hp, 400 hp, 600 hp, 700 hp and 800 hp.

Pump out for service

Motor out for service



MEMORANDUM

20.2.1

TO: Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 8

FROM: Kayla Hickey

DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Review of the Emergency Action Regarding the Cross Valley Canal River
Turnout No. 3 Secondary Turnout

Issue:

Review of the emergency action regarding the Cross Valley Canal River Turnout No. 3 Secondary Turnout.

Recommended Motion:

Continue the emergency action regarding the Cross Valley Canal River Turnout No. 3 Secondary Turnout, as outlined in the April 23, 2026 staff memorandum to the Cross Valley Canal Committee, Agenda Item No. 8.

Discussion:

On January 22, 2026, the Kern County Water Agency (Agency) Board of Directors (Board) adopted Resolution 03-26 delegating authority to the General Manager or their designee to act in emergency conditions to repair and replace facilities as needed to rectify an emergency, a copy of which is provided as Attachment 1. As prescribed by Resolution No. 03-26, the Agency Board must be notified at its first regular meeting after the General Manager or their designee takes such action.

On January 27, 2026, the Water Resources Manager took action pursuant to Resolution No. 03-26 to authorize repairs and/or replacement of the Cross Valley Canal River Turnout No. 3 Secondary Turnout (River Turnout No. 3) within the Improvement District No. 4 (ID4) boundary which failed due to severe corrosion of the corrugated pipe. Immediate replacement of the turnout is necessary to avoid the loss of critical water supplies and to protect the Cross Valley Canal levee and associated infrastructure from potential flooding and embankment failure. The design of River Turnout No. 3 is complete, and the contractor is procuring materials for construction. Due to material production timelines, construction is anticipated to begin in early June.

Therefore, Agency staff recommend continuing the emergency action. All work associated with repair of River Turnout No. 3 will be paid for by ID4.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY

In the matter of:

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO ACT *
UNDER EMERGENCY CONDITIONS *

I, Stephanie Prince, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Kern County Water Agency, of the County of Kern, State of California, do hereby certify that the following resolution proposed by Director Lundquist, and seconded by Director Cattani, was duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors at an official meeting hereof this 22nd day of January, 2026 by the following vote, to wit:

Ayes: Fast, Wulff, Lundquist, Cattani, Johnson, Kroeker and Milobar
Noes: None
Absent: None



Secretary of the Board of Directors
of the Kern County Water Agency

Resolution No. 03-26

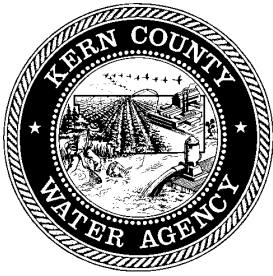
WHEREAS, California Public Contract Code section 22050 provides that a public agency may act in emergency conditions to repair or replace its facilities, take directly related and immediate action required by the emergency, and procure the necessary equipment, services and supplies to rectify the emergency, without giving notice for bids to let contracts; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the public agency is required to authorize such action, unless the authority to do so has been delegated to an appropriate individual; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Kern County Water Agency (Agency) that it grant to the General Manager the authority to take such action in an emergency without giving notice for bid or to delegate such authority to a designee appointed by the General Manager; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Kern County Water Agency as follows:

1. The foregoing is true and correct.
2. This Resolution supersedes and replaces Resolution No. 60-06 in its entirety.
3. The General Manager or their designee is authorized to act in emergency conditions to repair or replace Agency facilities, take directly related and immediate action required by the emergency, and procure the necessary equipment, services and supplies to rectify the emergency, without giving notice for bids to let contracts.
4. The fact that the General Manager or their designee has exercised the authority delegated hereunder is to be reported to this Board of Directors at its first regularly scheduled meeting following such action, or as otherwise required by law.
5. Agency staff is directed to take such other and further action as is necessary to carry out the terms and intent of this Resolution.



MEMORANDUM

20.2.1

TO: Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 9

FROM: Monica Tennant

DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Review of the Emergency Action Regarding Golden Mussels in the Cross Valley Canal

Issue:

Review of the emergency action regarding Golden Mussels in the Cross Valley Canal.

Recommended Motion:

Continue the emergency action regarding Golden Mussels in the Cross Valley Canal, as outlined in the April 23, 2026 staff memorandum to the Cross Valley Canal Committee, Agenda Item No. 9.

Discussion:

On January 22, 2026, the Kern County Water Agency (Agency) Board of Directors (Board) adopted Resolution 03-26 delegating authority to the General Manager or their designee to act in emergency conditions to repair and replace facilities as needed to rectify an emergency, a copy of which is provided as Attachment 1. As prescribed by Resolution No. 03-26, the Agency Board must be notified at its first regular meeting after the General Manager or their designee takes such action.

On March 18, 2026, the Water Resources Manager took action pursuant to Resolution No. 03-26 to declare an emergency and authorize the immediate engagement of a consultant to design golden mussel treatment facilities to protect the Cross Valley Canal (CVC), prevent water delivery disruption and maintain water service essential to public health and safety. Agency staff are coordinating with Dudek to develop short- and long-term treatment facilities for the CVC to minimize and control the spread of golden mussels. Golden mussels continue to pose a significant threat to water infrastructure and essential water deliveries; therefore, Agency staff recommend continuing the emergency action. All costs associated with the golden mussel treatment will be paid for by the CVC Participants.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY

In the matter of:

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO ACT *
UNDER EMERGENCY CONDITIONS *

I, Stephanie Prince, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Kern County Water Agency, of the County of Kern, State of California, do hereby certify that the following resolution proposed by Director Lundquist, and seconded by Director Cattani, was duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors at an official meeting hereof this 22nd day of January, 2026 by the following vote, to wit:

Ayes: Fast, Wulff, Lundquist, Cattani, Johnson, Kroeker and Milobar
Noes: None
Absent: None


Secretary of the Board of Directors
of the Kern County Water Agency

Resolution No. 03-26

WHEREAS, California Public Contract Code section 22050 provides that a public agency may act in emergency conditions to repair or replace its facilities, take directly related and immediate action required by the emergency, and procure the necessary equipment, services and supplies to rectify the emergency, without giving notice for bids to let contracts; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the public agency is required to authorize such action, unless the authority to do so has been delegated to an appropriate individual; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Kern County Water Agency (Agency) that it grant to the General Manager the authority to take such action in an emergency without giving notice for bid or to delegate such authority to a designee appointed by the General Manager; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Kern County Water Agency as follows:

1. The foregoing is true and correct.
2. This Resolution supersedes and replaces Resolution No. 60-06 in its entirety.
3. The General Manager or their designee is authorized to act in emergency conditions to repair or replace Agency facilities, take directly related and immediate action required by the emergency, and procure the necessary equipment, services and supplies to rectify the emergency, without giving notice for bids to let contracts.
4. The fact that the General Manager or their designee has exercised the authority delegated hereunder is to be reported to this Board of Directors at its first regularly scheduled meeting following such action, or as otherwise required by law.
5. Agency staff is directed to take such other and further action as is necessary to carry out the terms and intent of this Resolution.

COMMITTEE FOR DELTA RELIABILITY

AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026
Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Location: [Zoom](#)

1. Administration

- a. January 13, 2026, Meeting Notes (Brad S.)– **(Page 2)**
- b. Financial Report – WRMWSD **(Page 4)**
- c. Date of Next Meeting: July 14, 2026

2. Center for California Water Resources Policy and Management

- a. Blog Activity (Dennis M.)

3. Project Operations (Paul W.)

- a. USBR Action 5 & Lawsuit
- b. State Water Board Bay Delta Plan Update & Voluntary Agreements

4. Other Federal Efforts (Paul W.)

- a. ESA God Squad
- b. H.R. 1897 (Westerman) – ESA Amendments Act of 2025 **(Page 8)**

5. Other State Efforts (Paul W.)

- a. White Sturgeon Listing
- b. Killer Whale Listing
- c. Agency Leadership Changes

**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

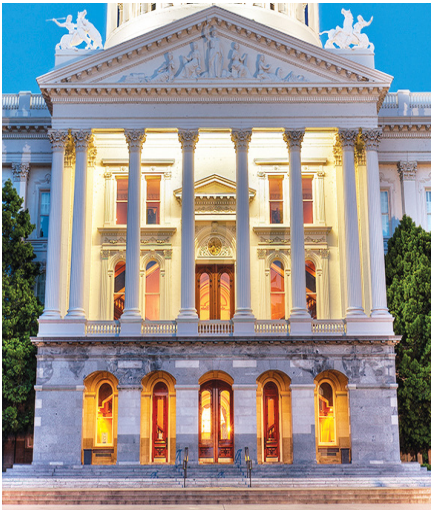
- 1. Public Input**—This portion of the meeting is set aside to provide the public an opportunity to bring to the attention of the Committee members any matter not on the agenda and over which the Committee has jurisdiction, provided no action shall be taken on any such matter unless otherwise provided.
- 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**

SACRAMENTO REPORT

April 2026



Volume 21, Issue 4



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

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.

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

See Legislation, page 2

Inside Sacramento Report

- Legislation Expanding Protections for Native Americans 3
- Fourth SJV Groundwater Region Avoids State Enforcement 5
- LAO Releases Report on Voluntary Agreements 6
- March Heatwave Wipes Snowpack Gains 7

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:

See Legislation, page 3

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

See [Native Americans](#), page 4

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](#).

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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

See Native Americans, page 5

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.



Reservoir Committee/Authority Board Meeting

April 17, 2026

9:00 AM – Noon

Virtual Link

Call in: 1-916-538-7066

122 Old Hwy 99W, Maxwell, CA 95955
(additional locations below)

Code: 405 816 418#

Authority Board Chair:	Fritz Durst (Reclamation District 108)
Authority Board Vice Chair:	Jeff Sutton (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District)
Reservoir Committee Chair:	Mike Urkov (Westside Water District)
Reservoir Committee Vice Chair:	Robert Cheng (Coachella Valley Water District)
Treasurer:	Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

AGENDA

ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER:

- Introduction
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of meeting agenda, April 17, 2026
- Announcement of Closed Session
- Period for Public Comment

People may speak about any subject of concern, provided it is within the Reservoir Committee’s (RC) and Authority Board’s (AB) jurisdiction. Before speaking, you must submit a public comment card electronically or on paper. The time allotted for receiving such public communication shall be 3 minutes per person. Note: No action shall be taken on comments made during this period. If your comment is related to a specific agenda item, please indicate this on your comment card, and you will be called upon at that time.

1. Consent Agenda

Approximate start time 9:10 am

The Executive Director reviewed the following items. To his knowledge, there is no opposition to the action. The items can be acted on in one consolidated motion as recommended or may be removed from the Consent Calendar and separately considered at the request of any person. Each item indicates the body authorized to approve such actions according to the JPA, Bylaws and Project Agreement.

- 1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of March 20, 2026, Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting Minutes.
- 1.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of April 2, 2026, Special Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting Minutes.
- 1.3 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider acceptance of the Sites Project Authority Treasurer’s Report.

1.4 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of the Sites Project Authority Payment of Claims.

1.5 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider adjusting the meeting schedule by moving the previously scheduled July 17, 2026 board meeting to July 24, 2026.

2. Action Items: Approximate start time 9:15 am

2.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of 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, with direction to the Executive Director to finalize the agreement accordingly.

2.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to enter into 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 upon no substantial changes from the terms described in this staff report.

3. Discussion and Information Items: Approximate start time 10:00 am
No action from the Reservoir Committee or Authority Board.

3.1 Review and comment on possible revisions to the Sites Project Authority Construction Workforce Policy to:

1. 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.
2. Add Solano County within the Local Area definition.
3. Implement local hauling as non-covered work as reflected in the Reservoir PLA.

3.2 Receive and comment on the status update of the Conveyance Package Construction Manager at Risk procurement process for the Sites Project.

3.3 Receive information on upcoming negotiations with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on an Excess Capacity Agreement which is expected to proceed consistent with existing federal law and policy regarding guaranteeing physical capacity in federal facilities for conveyance of Sites water.

3.4 Receive and comment on the updated conditions precedent quarterly status report.

4. Reports: Approximate start time 10:45 am

4.1 Chairpersons’ Reports:

This time is set aside to allow the Reservoir Committee & Authority Board Chair/Vice-Chair an opportunity to disclose/discuss items related to the Project.

4.2 Committee & Workgroup Chairpersons’ Reports:

This time is set aside to allow the Committee & Workgroup Chairpersons an opportunity to disclose/discuss items related to the Sites Project. Agendas are located on the project website (sitesproject.org).

4.3 Authority Board & Reservoir Committee Participant Reports:

This time is set aside to allow Representatives or their Alternates to disclose/discuss items related to the Sites Project.

4.4 Executive Director’s Reports:

- Monthly status report:
 - Benefits & Obligation Contract Workshop
 - Memo on Virtual Attendees and Agenda Standards
- Action Items from last month’s meeting.
- Work Plan Progress Report.

5. Closed Session: Approximate start time 11:00 am

5.1 Water Right Application 25517X01 (Govt. Code §54956.9(c) and §54956.9(d)(1)).

5.2 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54956.8)
 Property: [Colusa County] APNs 011-150-021-000 and 011-150-022-000
 Agency negotiators: Jerry Brown, Kevin Spesert
 Negotiating parties: Banyan Transport Systems
 Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

6. Report from Closed Session Approximate start time 11:15 pm

7. Recap: Approximate start time 11:20 pm

7.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items.

7.2 Next Board Meeting, **Friday, May 22, 2026** (9:00 am to noon).

Meetings are held virtually and in the Maxwell Project Office.

ADJOURN

ADA COMPLIANCE: Upon request, agendas will be made available in alternative formats to accommodate people with disabilities. In addition, any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation to participate or attend this meeting may request the necessary accommodation. Please contact the Board Clerk as soon as possible, preferably no later than 24 hours before the meeting begins, to request an accommodation or an alternative format.

This meeting will be recorded.

Alternate Meeting Locations:

Metropolitan Water District, 1121 L Street, Suite 900, Sacramento, CA 95814

Rosedale Rio Bravo Water District, 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield, CA 92214

San Geronio Pass Water Agency 1210 Beaumont Ave, Beaumont, CA 92223

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District, 12109 Hwy 166, Bakersfield CA 93313



**Reservoir Committee/Authority Board
Benefits & Obligations Meeting**

**May 8, 2026
8:30 AM – 6:00 PM**

Virtual Link

Call in: **1-916-538-7066**

122 Old Hwy 99W, Maxwell, CA 95955
(additional locations below)

Code: **186 230 534#**

Authority Board Chair:	Fritz Durst (Reclamation District 108)
Authority Board Vice-Chair:	Jeff Sutton (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District)
Reservoir Committee Chair:	Mike Urkov (Westside Water District)
Reservoir Committee Vice-Chair:	Robert Cheng (Coachella Valley Water District)
Treasurer:	Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

AGENDA

ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER:

- Introduction
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of meeting agenda, May 8, 2026
- Period for Public Comment

People may speak about any subject of concern, provided it is within the Reservoir Committee's (RC) and Authority Board's (AB) jurisdiction. Before speaking, you must submit a public comment card electronically or on paper. The time allotted for receiving such public communication shall be 3 minutes per person. Note: No action shall be taken on comments made during this period. If your comment is related to a specific agenda item, please indicate this on your comment card, and you will be called upon at that time.

1. Discussion and Information Items:

- 1.1 Review and comment on provisions of the draft Benefits and Obligations Contract, Amendments to the draft of the restated Joint Powers Agreement and Updates to the draft of the Phase 3/4/5 Bylaws to be implemented as part of Phase 3/4/5 of the Sites Project. Staff seeks feedback from the Board to reach consensus on issues and concerns related to topic areas identified in the staff reports and on how those matters should be reflected in the final contract documents.

ADJOURN

**Sites Reservoir Committee/Authority Board
Benefits & Obligation Workshop**

May 8, 2026

ADA COMPLIANCE: Upon request, agendas will be made available in alternative formats to accommodate people with disabilities. In addition, any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation to participate or attend this meeting may request the necessary accommodation. Please contact the Board Clerk as soon as possible, preferably no later than 24 hours before the meeting begins, to request an accommodation or an alternative format.

This meeting will be recorded.

Alternate Meeting Locations:

Metropolitan Water District, 1121 L Street, Suite 900, Sacramento, CA 95814



Department of Water Resources staff members conduct the April 1 snow survey, confirming that a dry March left sparse snowpack in the Sierra Nevada. *Photo courtesy of DWR*

ACWA Encourages Members to Support Vision for Our Water Future Policy Initiative

ACWA in April publicly launched the Vision for Our Water Future policy initiative to define the association's statewide water priorities and inform engagement with California's next Administration.

This member-driven initiative positions ACWA to engage early with gubernatorial candidates, advance a unified policy agenda and reinforce the association's role as the leading voice on water in California.

The Vision for Our Water Future initiative centers on four key priorities that are outlined within the Vision document and were approved by the ACWA Board of Directors in March. Those priority recommendations are:

- Elevating water as a statewide leadership priority
- Protecting affordability for Californians
- Delivering critical infrastructure upgrades and investments
- Modernizing water management and permitting systems

Together, these priorities aim to strengthen California's ability to capture, store and deliver water when and where it is needed, while improving coordination across state, regional and local partners.

"Water is foundational to everything California is trying to achieve, from building housing and growing our

Dry March Left No Measurable Snow for April Survey

The Department of Water Resources' (DWR) critical April snow survey at Phillips Station found no measurable snow, a stark indicator of how record-hot March temperatures and high elevation rain have erased the Sierra Nevada snowpack months ahead of schedule.

The combination of warm storms and unusually hot temperatures rapidly melted what remained of this year's already sparse snowpack. Statewide, the snowpack is now just 18 percent of average for this date, according to the automated snow sensor network.

Storms later in April marginally improved the outlook, but fell far short of

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ACWA members, associates and affiliates can view current and past issues at acwa.com/newsroom. Member login required.

ACWA Interim Executive Director
MARWAN KHALIFA

Momentum, Energy and Potential Building at ACWA for 2026



A couple of months into my role as Interim Executive Director, I attended the ACWA 2025 Spring Conference in Monterey. It was a Thursday, and most attendees were heading home for a well-earned long weekend. But my new colleagues kept working with the same intensity as if the conference had just begun.

There were trucks to be packed, post-conference surveys to go out and work projects waiting back in Sacramento and Washington D.C. ACWA staff members didn't miss a beat. I was surprised and deeply impressed. Now, a year later, I am incredibly honored to be leading this world-class organization while working alongside ACWA staff professionals to deliver results for our member agencies.

We're just a few months into 2026, yet the pace and impact of ACWA's work have been remarkable. There's a palpable sense of momentum, energy and potential being realized.

The launch of ACWA's Vision for Our Water Future has moved forward at an impressive speed. The cornerstone of this initiative is a policy document that articulates our members' unified priorities and recommended actions to secure a reliable and affordable water future for California.

Through regional board meetings, and briefings, committee and board discussions, and outreach at both the state and federal levels, this effort is already elevating water as a key priority for California's future. The professionalism, collaboration and dedication that went into launching this initiative reflects the very best of ACWA.

You can learn more about Vision for Our Water Future on page 1, including how members can access a recently distributed toolkit with messaging materials to help support and promote the initiative.

Meanwhile, we continue working hard to provide the services members expect. From planning and delivering major events such as the Legislative Symposium and D.C. Conference, to navigating the legislative season and regulatory issues, we continue to support our members.

This outstanding performance can be measured. ACWA's 2025-'29 Strategic Plan established 50 key performance indicators, or KPIs, more than 80% of which have either been completed or on track to completion in areas spanning advocacy, connections, education and organizational effectiveness.

What stands out most to me is the teamwork across our organization, and this applies both internally among staff and externally throughout our membership. The willingness of people to step up, support one another and move important work forward together is what makes ACWA such a strong and respected association.

That spirit of teamwork is what will continue to carry ACWA forward. The challenges facing California water are immense, but so is our strength, which is deeply rooted in collaboration, expertise and commitment to a water resilient future. ♡

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From Page 1 | *Vision*

economy to protecting public health and ensuring community resilience,” said Chelsea Haines, ACWA Director of State Regulatory Relations and Vision project manager. “This Vision reflects the collective expertise of water suppliers across the state and puts forward practical, actionable solutions. What is needed now is strong, coordinated leadership and partnership to move these solutions forward.”

How to Participate

ACWA is encouraging member agencies to download the toolkit and help elevate the Vision in communities across the state.

Members can:

1. Adopt a resolution or proclamation supporting the Vision; Request other local boards and councils to adopt resolutions or proclamations in support of the Vision.
2. Share your agency’s support for the Vision with local media using the sample news release.

3. Share your agency’s support for the Vision with local elected officials, legislators and other community leaders. Use the Vision fact sheet when meeting with them.
4. Share Vision for Our Water Future content on your agency’s social media platforms and use the hashtags: **#VisionforOurWaterFuture**, **#CAThrivesOnWater** and/or **#CAWater**. The toolkit includes sample social media posts and graphics.

Learn More

Members can learn more about the Vision for Our Water Future initiative by attending a members-only webinar on April 21 to review the recommendations and learn how to use the toolkit.

More information will also be available at ACWA’s 2026 Spring Conference, including a Main Stage discussion with ACWA and other partners.

For questions regarding Vision for Our Water Future, please contact ACWA Regulatory Relations Director Chelsea Haines at (916) 669-2431. For help with toolkit items, contact ACWA Communications Specialist Ellen Martin at (916) 669-2416. ♦



From Page 1 | *Snow Survey*

making up the difference, according to DWR.

“The storms in early April increased the snowpack across the Sierra. In the Central Sierra Nevada, the snowpack jumped from 16% of average to 27% of average over three days. While that is better than nothing, the storms did not make a significant dent in the major snowpack deficit California is experiencing,” stated DWR State Climatologist Dr. Michael Anderson by email. “Springtime storm systems are not uncommon in April, but they don’t usually deliver the significant precipitation we can see during the winter from atmospheric rivers.”

The April 1 results were the second lowest April measurement on record for Phillips Station, largely because there was still

some visible snow on the ground. By contrast, the lowest April reading occurred in 2015 when no snow was present at the site. Although DWR and its partners in the California Cooperative Snow Surveys Program are completing additional surveys across the Sierra Nevada, preliminary data indicates this year’s April 1 snowpack is the second lowest on record.

The April measurement is a critical marker for water managers across the state, as it is typically when the snowpack reaches its maximum volume and begins to melt. However, this year’s extremely hot and dry conditions throughout the month of March, along with a warm atmospheric river system in late February, initiated snowmelt several weeks ahead of schedule. According to automated sensors across the Sierra Nevada, this year’s statewide

snowpack likely reached its peak on or near February 24.

“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. To me, this is another reminder that aging water systems need to be retrofit for more volatile precipitation patterns. 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.”

DWR conducts four or five snow surveys at Phillips Station each winter near the first of each month, January through April and, if necessary, May. ♦



ACWA-Sponsored Bills Advancing, Advocacy Push Underway to Preserve Water Funding

ACWA advocacy staff as of mid-April were tracking and advocating in support or opposition on nearly 60 bills in the state Legislature. The bills address a wide range of topics of interest to association member agencies, including infrastructure funding, wildfire policy, invasive species and Proposition 218 reform affecting rate settings.

Additionally, ACWA is advocating in support of protecting funding for water-related areas in 2026-'27 state budget. The funding is across multiple areas, including water quality, dam safety and safe drinking water. The next stage in the state budget process is the governor's release of a revised version in May before the Legislature approves a final version in June.

A few key water-related bills and their status are summarized below.

Wildfire Liability

Author: Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)

ACWA Position: Sponsoring

What it would do: SB 1153 would clarify and declare the limited role of public water systems during wildfires. While water systems support firefighting, they are not designed or intended for wildfire defense or suppression, and it would be impractical and costly to require them to function as such. The bill would establish that water supply or pressure limitations during a wildfire are not a substantial cause of wildfire damages and that wildfire spread is not an inherent risk of water system design. It also would require certain urban water suppliers in high fire-risk areas to include wildfire specific response procedures in their emergency response plans.

Status: In Senate

Wildfire Impacts

Author: Senator Shannon Grove (D-Bakersfield)

ACWA Position: Co-sponsoring with California Forest Watershed Alliance

What it would do: SB 899 would require the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, created by Gov. Gavin Newsom, to assess the health costs and impacts of high-severity wildfire smoke to better value the importance of investing in achieving the task force's action plan goals.

Status: In Senate

Rate Setting

Author: Assemblymember Chris Ward (D-San Diego)

ACWA Position: Sponsoring

What it would do: AB 2180 would clarify how water agencies comply with Proposition 218 when setting water rates. This clarification will provide predictability for agencies, support California's water-use conservation goals and help minimize unnecessary legal disputes over water rates. ACWA is leading a coalition supporting the bill.

Status: Passed Assembly, headed to Senate

Golden Mussels

ACWA advocates are monitoring three bills in the early stages of development that could strengthen California's response to invasive species, specifically golden mussels. The bills would build on the success of a coalition formed earlier this year, and supported by ACWA, led by Metropolitan Water District and East Bay Municipal Utility District. That

Take Action

These are among dozens of priority bills that could affect ACWA member agencies. Support and strengthen ACWA's advocacy by joining a coalition today at acwa.com/coalitions.

effort resulted in a \$20 million allocation being added to a budget trailer bill from an invasive species account for use in responding to golden mussel issues such as severe damage to water infrastructure. ACWA advocacy on the issue is also focused on educating legislators about impacts to water agencies and the vital importance of funding to countering the threat of invasive species to water infrastructure.

Water Affordability

Author: Assemblymember Esmerelda Soria (D-Fresno)

ACWA Position: Support

What it would do: AB 2739 proposes a lasting funding solution to water affordability at the household, system and community levels. The bill advances a sustainable funding solution to support a statewide Low-Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) program for water while also supporting strategic investments that stabilize water systems and help reduce cost pressures before they are passed on to ratepayers.

Status: In Assembly

ACWA Looking at Policy Change on Project Positions

The ACWA Board of Directors at its March 20 meeting unanimously approved forming a new task force, received updates on state and federal advocacy and voted to approve support for the ACWA Foundation.

The newly formed ACWA Board-level task force will explore a recommendation from the association's Water Management Committee that could result in changing how ACWA takes positions on projects of statewide significance.

The Board also approved a policy document developed through ACWA's Vision for Our Water Future initiative. The initiative advanced this week with its public launch, the subject of an article on page 1.

Task Force

The task force will include a representative from the Board from each ACWA region and will provide recommendations to ACWA's Board on two points:

- Whether ACWA should establish a formal Board process to take positions on projects of statewide significance.

- The appropriate criteria and process for the Board to consider taking positions on projects of statewide significance.

Historically, ACWA has not taken positions on specific infrastructure projects. This informal practice has reflected efforts to preserve broad membership cohesion and organizational capacity. While there is no explicit policy prohibiting ACWA from establishing a formal process for such consideration, none has been formalized.

Advocacy

Board members heard updates on state and federal advocacy. On the state side, updates included progress on ACWA-sponsored bill SB 1153 (Caballero) that would clarify that water systems are designed to provide the public with safe and reliable drinking water and water service to aid in extinguishing structural fires, not to combat wildfires. ACWA is also advocating for an increase in both the water and wildfire chapters of Proposition 4 in support of member projects and investments.

On the federal side, updates for Board members included introduction the MORE Water Act by U.S Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA), supported by ACWA and seeking to reauthorize several Bureau of Reclamation programs that association members have successfully utilized in the past.

ACWA Foundation

Board members approved a memorandum of understanding with the ACWA Foundation that authorized a \$40,000 contribution from the association to the foundation, which is consistent with past annual ACWA contributions.

The ACWA Foundation works with ACWA members, associates and other organizations to provide programs and opportunities that promote workforce development. The ACWA Foundation and its Board of Trustees operate separately and independently from ACWA and the Board. ♠

Plan Ahead to Explore California Water
See the lineup of our upcoming region events.

Region	Date	Location
REGION 1	OCT 28	Location TBD
REGION 2/4	NOV 4	Winters
REGION 3	SEP 11	Lake Tahoe
REGION 5	SEP 3-4	Oxnard
REGION 6/7	OCT 8-9	Coalinga
REGION 8	JUN 26	Los Angeles
REGION 9	JUL 17	Temecula
REGION 10	Stay tuned for date on	Region 10

Interior Announces \$540 Million Investment in CA Water

The Department of the Interior announced in March \$889 million in investments for critical water infrastructure projects across the West, with \$540 million going to California projects.

The investment will support improvements to major water conveyance systems and storage projects that serve farms, communities and businesses throughout the Central Valley.

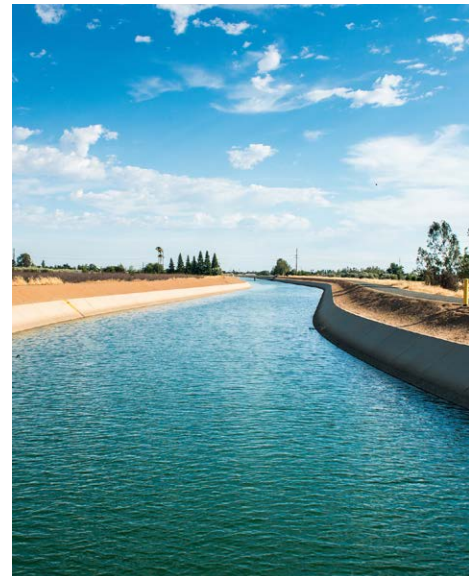
- The largest allocation, \$235 million, will fund improvements to the Delta-Mendota Canal, operated and maintained by the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority. The funding will support rehabilitation of the upper canal, including raising canal embankments, repairing check structures and advancing potential construction of a new concrete-lined canal segment.
- The Friant Water Authority will receive \$200 million for subsidence correction efforts along the Friant-Kern Canal.
- The Interior Department will invest \$50 million to address subsidence issues on the San Luis Canal affecting water delivery reliability. The canal is jointly operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources.

- The Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority will receive \$15 million to increase flow rates and improve system performance at its pumping plant.
- An additional \$40 million will support planning and preconstruction activities associated with raising Shasta Dam, operated by the Bureau, which will increase water storage capacity by approximately 634,000 acre-feet. That volume of water is enough to supply about 2.5 million people for a year.

“The Friant-Kern Canal is a lifeline for farms, communities, and groundwater recharge efforts throughout the San Joaquin Valley,” stated Johnny Amaral, Chief Executive Officer of Friant Water Authority (FWA), in a news release. “It cannot be overstated how important and lasting this funding will be for FWA and the communities we serve.”

Westlands Water District also issued a news release expressing appreciation for the funding.

“This critical funding will help put shovels in the ground and position California to better capture and store water during wet years for use during inevitable dry years,” stated General Manager Allison Febbo, in a news release. “This year’s mix of wet days followed by an unusual March heatwave only demonstrates how critical



expanding storage capacity is in the state. It is a practical, forward-looking, and essential strategy that protects necessary water supplies that sustain productive farmland and ensures that our family farmers can continue growing the food that feeds America.”

Made possible by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, the funding will support Bureau projects in California, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming that improve water conveyance, expand storage and modernize infrastructure that supports American communities and agriculture. ♡

Federal Agencies Issue Cyber Advisory to Water Systems

Federal agencies recently issued an advisory that urges water systems to ensure their cybersecurity measures are up to date. ACWA is sharing resources with member agencies they can use in heeding the advisory and remain vigilant and proactive in maintaining strong cybersecurity practices.

Cyberattacks against public water systems that diligently work to ensure a clean, safe water supply are increasing. Cyber threats continue to evolve, and water agencies remain critical infrastructure targets.

ACWA recommends reviewing and reinforcing your agency’s current security protocols — including system monitoring, access controls, employee training and incident response plans — to help prevent, detect, respond and recover from cyber incidents. ACWA also urges coordination with local, state and federal partners and to report any suspicious activity promptly.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s website [epa.gov/cyberwater](https://www.epa.gov/cyberwater) is devoted to cybersecurity in the water sector and includes several resources,

including information about funding and how to respond to a threat.

In addition, members can watch an ACWA webinar recorded last year with EPA experts discussing the topic. Access a link in the April 10 Advisory. Member login required. ♡



Scan to
access
resources

Padre Dam Decommissions Water Recycling Facility

The Ray Stoyer Water Recycling Facility was decommissioned on April 8, following more than 50 years of service in East San Diego County.

As a pioneering water reuse facility, it addressed critical water supply challenges, improved pollution control and enhanced recreational opportunities at Santee Lakes, all while serving as a model for sustainable water management both locally and globally.

Ray Stoyer, former General Manager of the Santee County Water District, paved the way for this award-winning facility and was a true trailblazer in advancing water reuse.

The facility was relocated to its current site just north of Santee Lakes in 1967, laying the foundation for future growth. In 1997, it was renovated to expand its capacity, allowing it to produce up to two million gallons of recycled water per day to support Santee Lakes and other non-potable uses throughout the community.

“The Ray Stoyer Water Recycling Facility has been a cornerstone of water sustainability in East County for more



Photo courtesy of Padre Dam MWD

than half a century,” stated Kyle Swanson, General Manager and CEO of Padre Dam Municipal Water District, in a news release. “Its legacy of innovation has set the standard for responsible water reuse. While we honor this incredible facility, we are excited to continue its pioneering spirit with the East County Advanced Water Purification (AWP) Program, providing reliable potable water for our community for generations to come.”

The East County AWP Program will create a local, sustainable and drought-proof drinking water supply using state-of-the-art technology to purify recycled water. It will treat up to 16 million gallons of wastewater per day, producing roughly 11.5 million gallons of purified potable water daily — enough to supply up to 30 percent of the region’s drinking water. Once operational, it will be one of California’s first surface water augmentation programs — bridging the region’s legacy to a leading-edge future. ♣

OCWD, OC San Unveil Commemorative GWRS Brew

The Orange County Water District (OCWD) and the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) unveiled a commemorative, limited-edition beer made with purified recycled water from the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) during the 2026 WaterReuse Symposium in Los Angeles. The beer, called GWRS Brew, was produced by Anaheim-based Brewery X and sponsored by H2O Innovations.

“GWRS Brew is a creative way to highlight the innovation behind the Groundwater Replenishment System,” stated OCWD Board President Denis R. Bilodeau,

P.E., in a news release. “For nearly two decades, GWRS has helped establish the global roadmap for potable reuse, from engineering and operations to public outreach. As the industry leader, we remain committed to advancing water recycling and strengthening reliable local water supplies.”

Online since 2008, GWRS is the world’s largest water purification system for indirect potable reuse. Developed through a partnership between OCWD and OC San, the system recycles 100% of OC San’s reclaimable wastewater and produces up to 130 million gallons of high-quality



Photo courtesy of OCWD

water each day through an advanced, multi-step treatment process. The purified water replenishes the Orange County Groundwater Basin, the primary drinking water supply for 2.5 million people in north and central Orange County. ♣

LIKE, SHARE & FOLLOW

EXPLORING THE WATER WORLD ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA

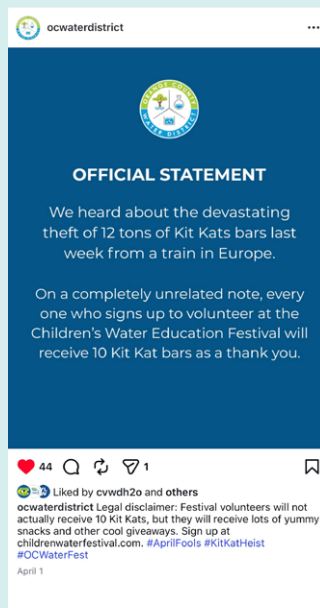
In today's crowded digital landscape, even the most important messages can get lost in the scroll. For water agencies, maintaining credibility is key, but so is finding creative ways to stand out and connect with audiences.

That's where a moment like April Fools' Day can be especially effective. It provides a chance to lean into humor and surprise while still reinforcing your agency's voice and visibility online.

The examples below highlight how ACWA and its members embraced April Fools' Day as an opportunity to engage their communities in an unexpected way, showing that even serious organizations can have a little fun.



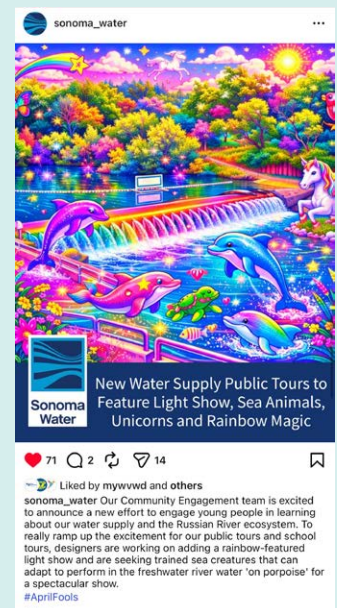
ACWA (@acwawater) pranked members by saying that ACWA Conference 2032 would be held on a cruise.



Orange County Water District (@ocwaterdistrict) combined April Fools' Day with the almost unbelievable (but true!) heist of a truckload of Formula 1 KitKats.



Coachella Valley Water District (@cvwdh2o) launched a "new" (fake) product – dehydrated water.



Sonoma Water (@sonoma_water) teased followers with a promise of a "light show, sea animals, unicorns and rainbow magic" on its public tours, making the Lisa Frank fans smile.

For more creative ways to keep your customers and followers engaged so they see your content when you really need them to, follow ACWA (@ACWAWater) on Instagram, X, LinkedIn and Facebook.



Sacramento Suburban Water Commissions New Wells

Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) has commissioned three new groundwater wells — a major infrastructure investment that strengthens water reliability for local customers while supporting broader regional water resilience in a changing climate.

The three new groundwater wells, known as the “Triplets,” and another nearby new well were made possible through support from SSWD ratepayers and an \$18.84 million grant from the Department of Water Resources. These wells will replace other wells that have reached the end of their service lives and will help increase capacity and reliability in SSWD’s North Service Area.

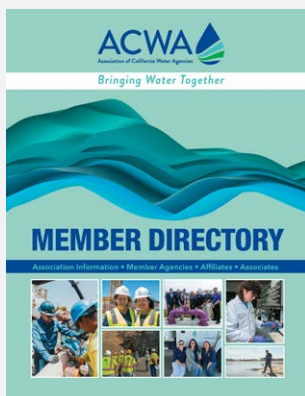
“The commissioning represents SSWD’s commitment to investing in and modernizing its infrastructure,” stated Dan York, SSWD General Manager, in a news release. “One of our ongoing, top priorities is improving and strengthening water reliability for our nearly 200,000 customers through thoughtful and careful planning. The grant funding we received from the California Department of Water Resources helped reduce costs for our ratepayers and move these projects forward.”



Pictured from left are U.S. Rep. Ami Bera, State Senator Roger Niello, SSWD General Manager Dan York, Regional Water Authority Executive Director Jim Peifer, SSWD Director Robert Wichert and Sacramento County Supervisor Rich Desmond. *Photo courtesy of SSWD*

The new wells also support the Sacramento region’s broader strategy for managing water supplies through the Sacramento Regional Water Bank. By strengthening groundwater infrastructure, local agencies gain flexibility to rely more on groundwater during dry periods and more on surface water during wet periods.

This coordinated approach improves regional water reliability while allowing more surface water to remain in the Lower American River during critically dry years, supporting fish and wildlife when they need it most. ♠



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Bay Area Members Help Build Advanced Radar Network

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), along with a coalition of other Bay Area water, wastewater and flood control agencies, is taking action to put new weather radar technology to use, bringing advanced precipitation observations and forecasts to California.

This advanced network works like a magnifying glass, giving agencies and the communities they serve a clearer, real-time view of atmospheric rivers and rainfall intensity. It helps show where the heaviest rain will fall. This improved data enables public agencies and communities to prepare and respond when dangerous storms approach the coast. And, in this drought-prone state, it provides water agencies pinpointed data to maximize water supply reservoir storage.

This system, known as Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information, or AQPI, was developed through a decade-long local, state and federal agency collaboration working with key researchers to improve monitoring of extreme weather

events within the Bay Area's complex terrain. In areas shaped by hills, valleys and coastal mountains, traditional weather radar can miss critical details where heavy rain is developing.

The San Francisco Bay Area AQPI Network uses five X-band radar installations positioned around the region to provide a much sharper picture of where rain is falling with updates every one to two minutes. This means the system can focus much closer to the ground and capture fine-scale rainfall details that broader, long-range radar systems miss.

Critical funding for the radar installations was provided by the Department of Water Resources in the form of a \$19.7 million grant. SFPUC is among a half-dozen ACWA member agencies behind the project.

"Our sewer system is at the forefront protecting public health and the environment, and 2.7 million people in the Bay Area also depend on us to deliver high-quality drinking water around



Photo courtesy of SFPUC

the clock," SFPUC General Manager Dennis Herrera stated in a news release. "This advanced radar system gives us more precise, real-time storm data so we can better manage stormwater and our reservoirs before and during major storms. Earlier and more accurate information helps us make critical operational decisions that strengthen reliability for the communities we serve." ♦

LAO Acknowledges Potential Benefits of Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program

The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) in March issued a report on the Bay-Delta Plan and Voluntary Agreements, also known as the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (HRL) Program, that acknowledges the HRL Program's potential to benefit the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed.

ACWA is a long-standing supporter of the HRL Program as the best approach to protecting, restoring and enhancing the Bay-Delta watershed. The LAO report takes a balanced approach in evaluating

the HRL Program alongside the State Water Resource Control Board's pathway that would primarily rely on enforcing unimpaired flows.

In analyzing the benefits of the HRL Program, the report acknowledges that it has potential to balance multiple competing goals in restoring the Bay-Delta's health and native fishery, while also pointing out that many of the HRL Program's habitat restoration projects are already underway.

As the State Water Board approaches a final decision on the Bay-Delta Plan Update, expected by the end of this year, ACWA will continue engaging with its Bay-Delta Working Group. ACWA's advocacy will remain focused on supporting the HRL Program's inclusion in the updated plan and ensuring its successful implementation.

The report can be found on the LAO's website at lao.ca.gov. ♦

THIS MONTH IN ACWA HISTORY

10 years ago

ACWA distributed a toolkit with talking points as the state's focus began to transition from the State Water Resources Control Board's 2015 emergency regulation to a long-term water management vision for California's future. The messaging reinforced ACWA's strong belief that any long-term policy should recognize investments in drought-resilience, emphasize ongoing water-use efficiency and leave local management discretion to local water agencies.

20 years ago

ACWA and Huell Howser added a "Flood Fight of 2006" segment to the popular television personality's "California Water" PBS series following record rainfall throughout the month. The successful series was underwritten by ACWA members and explored topics raised in the association's "No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California Water" document.

30 years ago

Testifying before the U.S. House Resources Committee, ACWA's

Endangered Species Act Workgroup Chair John Stovall called California "the endangered species capital of the United States." Stovall pointed to the endangered and threatened species list growing to more than 262 and testified in support of cooperating partnerships with a more reasonable approach to enforcement.

40 years ago

ACWA *News* announced the association's endorsement of Proposition 51. The initiative proposed limiting non-economic damage to a defendant's degree of fault as found by the court, instead of forcing the party with the deepest pockets to cover 100% of an award if other defendants couldn't pay. It went on to pass the June ballot.

50 years ago

The April edition of *ACWA News* led with the results of a survey reflecting deepening concerns over the prospect of a drought continuing into 1977. The survey of 167 water districts showed that nearly half — 48.7% — would experience a serious water shortage if 1977 was a dry year. ♦



Jennifer Cusack

Bighorn-Desert Names GM

The Board of Directors of the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency recently selected **Jennifer Cusack** as the agency's next General Manager, succeeding **Marina West**, who will remain at the agency as its Chief Engineer responsible for managing grant projects to completion.

Cusack brings more than two decades of experience in public agency leadership, utility operations, government affairs and community engagement to the Mojave Desert water supplier. She currently serves as Director of Public & Government Affairs at Hi-Desert Water District and previously served in leadership roles at Hi-Desert Water District and Joshua Basin Water District.

West's public sector career spans nearly four decades, including many years dedicated to water system operations and management. During her tenure, she helped build a strong operational and governance foundation while elevating the agency's reputation statewide as a model for small rural water systems serving disadvantaged and income-limited communities. ♦

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ACWA | '26 Spring Conference

May 5 – 7 • Sacramento

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Time Valued Material

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit acwa.com/events for complete listing and registration

MAY 2026
5-7

ACWA EVENT

ACWA 2026 Spring Conference
ACWA | Sacramento

ACWA conferences are the premier event for water industry professionals to learn, network, and engage through various programs and exhibits. It brings together experts and leaders to discuss key water issues and innovations.

MAY 2026
12-14

CWA Spring Policy Symposium
California Water Association | Sacramento

As California faces climate, affordability, and infrastructure challenges, this symposium brings together utilities, regulators, and policymakers to explore how clear, proactive communication can build trust, support informed decisions, and strengthen connections with the communities they serve.

MAY 2026
20-21

San Joaquin Valley Water Resilience Summit: From Reports to Results
Fresno State – CA Water Institute | Fresno

The San Joaquin Valley's water systems face rising stress from climate, groundwater rules, infrastructure limits, and land shifts. New studies highlight the need for alignment—driving this Summit toward coordinated strategy and action.

MAY 2026
20-22

Bay-Delta Tour
Water Education Foundation | Sacramento

This tour explores California's water hub, traveling through the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta—a 720,000-acre network vital to the state's water system. It continues to San Francisco Bay and includes a ferry ride.

JUNE 2026
26

ACWA EVENT

ACWA Region 8 Event
ACWA | Los Angeles

Discover how artificial intelligence is transforming the water industry. Experts will explore real-world impacts and emerging innovations. Join us to gain insights, ask questions, and stay ahead of the rapidly evolving role of A.I. in water management.

JULY 2026
17

ACWA EVENT

ACWA Region 9 Event
ACWA | Temecula

Save the date for the ACWA Region 9 event. More details will be shared soon, and registration is expected to open in May.

MOST CLICKED

Subscribe to ACWA's eNews at acwa.com/newsletters/ACWA-eNews for weekly email updates on the latest association news. Check out some of the top stories from the past month on ACWA's website.

Interior Announces \$540 Million Investment in California Water – Mar. 17

Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency Board Selects Jennifer Cusack as General Manager – Mar. 13

Dry March Leaves No Measurable Snow for April Survey – Apr. 1

OCWD and OC San Unveil GWRS Brew Made with Purified Recycled Water – Apr. 1

Westlands Responds to Updated CVP Allocation – Mar. 24