

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC)

Wednesday April 7, 2021

WRAC Informational Packet

1.	Determination of a Quorum and Introductions	1:30pm
2.	Approval of February 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes	1:35pm
3.	Elections for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson	1:40pm
4.	Ongoing Updates: a. Rain & Reservoir Report b. California Drought Monitor Summary c. Groundwater Basin Management Efforts d. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) e. Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) f. Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances g. Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information	1:50pm
5.	Consider updating State Water Project Water Management Tools Ad Hoc Sub-Committee membership	2:10pm
6.	Discuss water supply efforts status update and provide feedback to staff	2:20pm
7.	Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda	2:40pm
8.	Future Agenda Items	2:45pm

This agenda packet and attachments are available online at www.slocounty.ca.gov/wrac

Next Regular Meeting: May 5, 2021, 1:30 pm
 Teleconference

Please contact WRAC Secretary, Brendan Clark, with any questions. bclark@co.slo.ca.us

Purpose of the Committee:

To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. To recommend to the Board of Supervisors specific water resource and water conservation programs with recognition of the economic and environmental values of the programs. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated September 1, 2020

MINUTES (Draft)

Chairperson: Andy Pease
Vice Chairperson: Eric Greening
Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) and as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **February 3rd, 2020** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

The audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted to the WRAC are available online: [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC).aspx)

Call to order at 1:30 PM

1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions

A quorum of 18 is established.

2) Approval of December 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

H. Graves moves for the approval of the previous meeting minutes which is seconded by C. Mulholland (17-0-1). Motion carries.

3) Membership Updates

B. Clark comments that there are many new members that have been appointed by their respective agencies, but these appointments need to be approved by the BOS. The BOS will review the new member appointments on March 2nd. New members' votes cannot be counted during this meeting (February 3rd, 2021), but they will be counted during the next meeting (March 3rd, 2021).

4) Ongoing Updates:

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

No comment

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comment

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

D. Chipping comments on the Los Osos Basin and chloride levels. He also mentions water offsets that are not in the impact area. K. Hensley states that water offsets can come from the sewer service area and outside the sewer surface area, but all come from within the groundwater basin.

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

E. Eby asks a question about the finances which is answered by B. Clark who states they are working on an agreement with DWR which will be followed by an agreement with the district and finally an invoice can be submitted. He states that it will probably be completed by Fall 2021.

e) Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP)

B. Clark comments that if an agency or group is looking for state funding on a stormwater project it must be on a SWRP. If projects need to be added B. Clark directs agencies to contact Sarah Crable to add them to the SWRP so they can receive funding.

f) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

K. Hensley provides an update for the Paso Robles Ground Basin and states that the BOS provided direction to staff to develop land use ordinance to require permitting for new and expanded irrigated crop planting through year 2045 with a 3-tiered approach.

g) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

No comment

5) Receive Update from Stormwater Capture Sub-Committee

R. Munds provides an update from the subcommittee's meeting. They first discussed objectives for SWC. Then they received a presentation by George Kendall on his Santa Rosa Creek groundwater recharge project leading to more discussion of opportunity of small-scale projects and overcoming barriers of those projects. The next meeting will be February 25th, 2021.

6) Consider recommendation approval of the Water Management Tools contract amendment to the State Water Project Contract.

H. Graves introduces the main discussion points from the subcommittee and comments on the value of water management towards not only recharge and stabilization but also greater flexibility and tools for future water shortage. It ensures more stable and reliable water supply to support all the county, not just state water contractors, and has potential to reduce cost and generate revenue from transfers.

C. Howard gives a presentation on Water Management Tools development. The main points of the presentation are as follows:

- An overview of Draft WM Tools study including the overall goal to develop WM strategies to optimize State Water use and a Draft Needs Assessment.
- Introduction of a potential pilot program.
- Recommendations by the ad-hoc subcommittee for the board to approve the Water Management Tools contract amendment to the State Water Project Contract.

C. Mulholland asks what the issues in each lawsuit are. C. Howard responds they are CEQA issues and referral to the Delta Stewardship Council.

D. Chipping asks where storage is expected to be located. C. Howard responds that the consultant is going to include reviews of local water storage.

E. Greening asks if the assumption is that those receiving water will be purveyors and distribution systems instead of groundwater basins. Also, what are advantages and disadvantages if WRAC members joined the CCWA. C. Howard responds that Water Management strategies will include direct delivery to water purveyors or groundwater storage programs that exists, and the consultant will review terms of water storage program partnerships. Appropriate governance options will be explored as Water Management strategies are narrowed.

C. Bourbeau asks about levels of interest in this project. C. Howard states that recovery of cost through selling unused water poses an interest for County wide taxpayers.

E. Greening makes a motion for WRAC to recommend the Board approve the Water Management Amendment on February 9th which is seconded by T. Walters. Verbal vote. Motion carries.

E. Greening asks about details of what the pilot study would include. C. Howards responds that staff would be directed to come back with details of what the pilot program entails.

H. Graves makes a motion to recommend getting additional information on a potential water transfer pilot program for 2021 which is seconded by S. Gibson. Verbal vote. Motion carries.

7) Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

No comment

8) Future Agenda Items

No comment

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2021

Organization	Representative	Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT														
District 1	Dennis Loucks	M	/	X					/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
District 2	(Vacant)	M	/						/	/				
	Neal MacDougall	A	/						/	/				
District 3	Paavo Ogren	M	/	X					/	/				
	Natalie Risner	A	/						/	/				
District 4	(Vacant)	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
District 5	(Vacant)	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
AT-LARGE														
Agriculture At-Large	Kurt Bollinger	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Agriculture At-Large	(Vacant)	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Development At-Large	Greg Nester	M	/						/	/				
	Tim Walters	A	/	X					/	/				
Environmental At-Large	Christine Mulholland	M	/	X					/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Environmental At-Large	Eric Greening	M	/	X					/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Environmental At-Large	David Chipping	M	/	X					/	/				
	Stephnie Wald	A	/						/	/				
RCDs														
Coastal San Luis RCD	Linda Chipping	M	/	X					/	/				
	Rob Rutherford	A	/						/	/				
Upper Salinas RCD	Michael Broadhurst	M	/						/	/				
	Tom Mora	A	/						/	/				
OTHERS														
Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M	/						/	/				
	Jaime Hendrickson	A	/	X					/	/				
California Men's Colony	Scott Buffaloe	M	/						/	/				
	Mike Schwartz	A	/						/	/				
Camp SLO	John Reid	M	/						/	/				
	Jubilee Satele	A	/						/	/				
County Farm Bureau	Steve Carter	M	/	X					/	/				
	Brent Burchett	A	/	X					/	/				
Cuesta College	(Vacant)	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Golden State Water	Anthony Lindstrom	M	/	X					/	/				
	Matthew Hubbard	A	/						/	/				
Shandon-San Juan Water District	Stephen Sinton	M	/	X					/	/				
	Kevin Peck	A	/						/	/				
Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District	Lee Nesbit	M	/						/	/				
	Hilary Graves	A	/	X					/	/				
CITIES														
City of Arroyo Grande	Lan George	M	/						/	/				
	Kristen Barneich	A	/						/	/				
City of Atascadero	Charles Bourbeau	M	/	X					/	/				
	Nick DeBar	A	/						/	/				
City of Grover Beach	(Vacant)	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
City of Morro Bay	Marlys McPherson	M	/						/	/				
	Rob Livick	A	/						/	/				
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel	M	/						/	/				
	Kirk Gonzalez	A	/						/	/				
City of Pismo Beach	Marcia Guthrie	M	/						/	/				
	Sheila Blake	A	/						/	/				
City of San Luis Obispo	Andy Pease	M	/	X					/	/				
	Carlyn Christianson	A	/						/	/				
CSDs														
Avila Beach CSD	Brad Hagemann	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Cambria CSD	Ray Dienzo	M	/	X					/	/				
	Melissa Bland	A	/						/	/				
Heritage Ranch CSD	Scott Duffield	M	/						/	/				
	Jason Molinari	A	/						/	/				
Los Osos CSD	Chuck Cesena	M	/						/	/				
	Ron Munds	A	/	X					/	/				
Nipomo CSD	Craig Armstrong	M	/						/	/				
	Ed Eby	A	/	X					/	/				
Oceano CSD	Shirley Gibson	M	/	X					/	/				
	Linda Austin	A	/						/	/				
San Miguel CSD	Anthony Kalvans	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
San Simeon CSD	Charles Grace	M	/						/	/				
	(Vacant)	A	/						/	/				
Templeton CSD	Tina Mayer	M	/						/	/				
	Geoff English	A	/						/	/				
STAFF														
Agricultural Commissioner	Lynda Auchinachie	Staff	/	X					/	/				
Planning and Building	Kylie Hensley	Staff	/	X					/	/				
Public Works	Courtney Howard	Staff	/	X					/	/				
	Mladen Bandov	Staff	/	X					/	/				
	Brendan Clark	Staff	/	X					/	/				
	Sarah Crable	Staff	/	X					/	/				
	Lucia Mercado	Staff	/	X					/	/				
	Mark Chiramonte	Staff	/	X					/	/				

Notes: M = Member; A = Alternate Member

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 3: Elections for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Recommendation

Elect Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the 2021-2022 term.

Discussion

As stated in the WRAC By-laws, Article V, the WRAC shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the March meeting. These officers shall be selected from the members of the WRAC and elected by a majority vote of the members present.

There are no official rules adopted by the WRAC to conduct elections, but historically, Roberts Rules of Order were used as a good guideline to conduct nominations and elections.

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 4: Ongoing Updates

Recommendation

Receive updates on various ongoing efforts.

Discussion

- a) **Rain & Reservoir Report:** See attached report.
- b) **California Drought Monitor Summary.** See attached summaries. This analysis is released each Thursday.
- c) **Groundwater Management Efforts**

On December 18, 2019, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Final Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) 2019 Prioritization¹ that designates each groundwater basin and subbasin (collectively, basins) as high, medium, low or very low priority. Groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) are required to develop and implement groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) for each high or medium priority basin.

BASIN UPDATES:

Basin	Update:
<p>Los Osos Basin</p>	<p>Los Osos Area Subbasin (adjudicated area) is designated as a very low priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. SGMA does not apply to the portions of Los Osos Basin that are adjudicated provided that certain requirements are met (Water Code §10720.8). The fringe areas of the Los Osos Area Subbasin are not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization. The Los Osos Basin Management Committee (BMC) oversees implementation of the Los Osos Basin Plan for the area.</p> <p>A regular BMC Board of Directors meeting was held on March 25, 2021 and included the following key items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation about nitrate removal improvements and efficiencies from the groundwater from Puro-lite • Update on preliminary findings of the Draft 2020 Annual Report, which is anticipated to be released soon for public review • Approval of the proposed approach and resolution for formalizing the procedures of implementing the Adaptive Management Plan (Section 16.2.4 of the Los Osos Basin Plan)

¹ <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Basin-Prioritization>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next BMC meeting is scheduled on April 21, 2021 <p>Warden Creek Subbasin is designated as a very low priority and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/losososbasin</p>
<p>Atascadero Basin</p>	<p>Atascadero Basin is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) has committed to developing a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) by 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next regular GSA Executive Committee meetings are set for April 7, 2021 and July 7, 2021. <p>For more information, please visit: www.atascaderobasin.com</p>
<p>Santa Maria Basin</p>	<p>Santa Maria Area Subbasin (adjudicated area) is designated as a very low priority basin. The adjudicated areas of the Santa Maria Basin are managed by the Northern Cities Management Area, Nipomo Mesa Management Area, and Santa Maria Valley Management Area. The Santa Maria Basin Fringe Areas – County of San Luis Obispo GSA is the GSA for the non-adjudicated fringe areas of the basin within the County. This subbasin consists of an adjudicated area and other non-adjudicated fringe areas. However, only the priority of the non-adjudicated fringe areas was assessed, which include the Ziegler Canyon Fringe Area in San Luis Obispo County and other fringe areas in Santa Barbara County.</p> <p>Arroyo Grande Subbasin is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the County and City of Arroyo Grande as GSAs in the basin are committed to developing a GSP by 2022.</p> <p>A second public workshop meeting for the GSP is scheduled for Fall 2021. Topics will be as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a preliminary set of basin sustainability goals. Define the undesirable results and the sustainable management criteria. Present an overview on preliminary basin groundwater conditions and water budget to support discussions on the sustainable management criteria. <p>Draft GSP Chapter 1 – Introduction and Chapter 2 – Agency Information have been released for public comments at the BOS on March 16, 2021. Comment period closes on April 30, 2021.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin</p>
<p>Paso Basin</p>	<p>Paso Basin is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA and three other GSAs within the basin entered into an agreement to develop a single GSP for the basin and coordinate via the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the PBCC’s March 17, 2021 approval, the Paso Basin Water Year 2020 Annual Report was submitted to DWR by the April 1, 2021 SGMA deadline. The next PBCC meeting is scheduled on April 28, 2021. <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</p>

<p>Cuyama Basin</p>	<p>Cuyama Basin is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Cuyama Basin GSA was formed through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and is an independent agency governed by a Board of Directors for Cuyama Basin.</p> <p>The regular Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting was held on March 3, 2021 and included the following key items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about options for long-term equity related to the SGMA regulatory fee established to fund GSP implementation • Approval of the 2021 Annual Report, which is required to be submitted to the State by the April 1, 2021 deadline. • Adoption of the Model Refinement Technical Memo • Consideration of applying for a USBR WaterSMART grant • Various administrative and technical GSP implementation updates <p>The next Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting is May 5, 2021.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: www.cuyamabasin.org</p>
<p>San Luis Obispo Basin</p>	<p>San Luis Obispo Basin is designated as a high priority basin. The County and City of San Luis Obispo as GSAs in the basin are developing a GSP for the SLO Basin and coordinating as the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) with other basin partners.</p> <p>A continuation of the regular virtual GSC meeting on February 17, 2021 was held March 1, 2021 to complete the discussions in the agenda. The topics presented and discussed were as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented potential projects and management actions for further vetting and prioritization. <p>A regular virtual GSC meeting was held March 31, 2021. The topics presented and discussed were as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented the preliminary model results of the proposed projects to achieve sustainability as related to the recommended sustainable management criteria. • Presented and discussed the recommended sustainable management criteria. • Presented various concepts as to how State Water Project water may be delivered and utilized as an alternative source to supplement SLO Basin water supply. <p>Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the basin specific efforts by attending workshops and meetings of the GSC for the San Luis Obispo Basin. Please visit: www.slowaterbasin.com</p>
<p>Adelaida Area</p>	<p>The Adelaida Area is not a DWR designated groundwater basin; however, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District is coordinating with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resources Conservation District (RCD) to conduct a hydrogeologic study within the Adelaida area. The goal of the study is to provide a better understanding of the of the groundwater conditions in the Adelaida area so that informed decisions can be made about managing local water resources.</p>

- Efforts for Task 1 have been underway since March of 2020. These efforts consist of compiling and analyzing existing hydrogeologic data from publicly available sources and private landowners residing within the study area.
- On August 6, 2020, RCD hosted a community meeting where USGS provided the scope of work for Task 1 and requested participation from landowners for groundwater well data.
- Data of interest includes well construction information, groundwater level data, water use information, groundwater chemistry data, and geological data.
- Through January 2021, USGS and RCD conducted landowner outreach and site visits with interested parties to collect data and supplemental information for the study.
- USGS' evaluation of existing data for Task 1 concluded in March 2021.
- A follow-up community meeting has been scheduled for Friday, April 23, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. where USGS staff will provide a summary of work efforts and data collected during Task 1.
- Public Works Staff will return to the County Board of Supervisors in summer 2021 to provide USGS' findings from Task 1 and additional recommendations.

For more information, please visit:

- <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/adelaidastudy>
- https://www.usgs.gov/centers/ca-water/science/evaluation-groundwater-resources-adelaida-area-san-luis-obispo-county?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects

County SGMA website – The County has a SGMA website with an interactive mapping tool available for each medium and high priority basin in the county. Residents can verify whether a specific parcel is within a priority basin boundary and, therefore, whether the parcel is subject to SGMA requirements. The following websites include other informative materials, such as SGMA fact sheets and recent presentation materials. Visit the websites and basin-specific page links to learn more and to sign up for the County's SGMA email list.

WRAC members and interested stakeholders are encouraged to join the various mailing lists for groundwater basin management efforts:

San Luis Obispo County's SGMA Website and Mailing List Sign-up

<http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma>

California Department of Water Resources (DWR) SGMA Website and Mailing List

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management>

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

The 2019 IRWM Plan was adopted by the Board of Supervisors, for both the County and the Flood Control & Water Conservation District on September 1st, 2020. Members of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) are encouraged to adopt the latest plan. For additional information, please visit www.slocounty.ca.gov/irwm.

A summary of open and pending IRWM grants is below:

Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Mgmt Grant (2011)	\$2,797,000	In Progress	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011)	\$10,401,000	In Progress	
Los Osos Wastewater Project	\$5,945,444	Complete	County of San Luis Obispo
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3c Project	\$2,200,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
Nipomo Supplemental Water Project	\$2,200,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Grant Administration	\$55,556	In Progress	Flood Control District
Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement (2017)	\$877,563	In Progress	
FCD Funding Administration	\$20,700	In Progress	Flood Control District
Disadvantaged Community Needs Assessment	\$67,738	In Progress	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Program, Phase 2	\$177,750	In Progress	Oceano CSD
Turnout Pump Station Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	In Progress	City of Grover Beach
Water Res. Recovery Facility, SLO Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of SLO
Reservoir Expansion Project & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	In Progress	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Study and Recharge Basin Study	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1 (final award received 7/3/2020)	\$3,282,130		
Grant Administration	\$155,000	Final Award	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	Final Award	City of SLO
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	Final Award	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	Final Award	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects #1-1, #1-9	\$274,500	Final Award	Oceano CSD
Reservoir Expansion Project, Phase 1 Distribution System	\$500,000	Final Award	San Simeon CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2 (est. 2021)	\$3,282,129		
TBD	TBD	TBD	Project Sponsors

To stay up-to-date on all things IRWM, sign up for the email list, located at: www.slocounty.ca.gov/irwm.

For questions, contact:
 Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager
 Email: bclark@co.slo.ca.us
 Phone: (805) 788-2316

e) Stormwater Resource Plan

On February 12, The State Water Resources Control Board announced the Funding List for the Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant Program's (SWGP's) Round 2 Implementation Grant solicitation. Grants were awarded to 24 projects totaling \$98 million. Oceano Community Services District was preliminarily awarded approximately \$2.45 million for their Stormwater Capture and Groundwater Recharge Project that was included in the County's Stormwater Resource Plan.

The list of Prop 1 SWGP Preliminary Award Projects is found here:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/propositions/prop1_prelim_proj.html

The solicitation period for DWR's Proposition 68 Floodplain Management, Protection, and Risk Awareness Grant Program will open Summer 2021. Approximately \$25 million will become available statewide for both planning or implementation projects that reduce flood risk associated with stormwater flooding, mudslides, and flash flooding. Having a Stormwater Resource Plan is a requirement.

The Draft Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation and Ranking Process can be found at:

<https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Flood-Management-Protection-Risk-Awareness-Program>.

To submit a project to the County's Stormwater Resource Plan visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/pw/swrp

For questions, contact:

Sarah Crable, County Public Works

Email: scrable@co.slo.ca.us

Phone: (805) 788-2760

f) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

Nipomo Mesa

Offset Programs. The County is continuing to process building permits subject to the County's water offset fees at a 1:1 ratio to fund the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available for both residential and commercial uses. Applicants in the Nipomo CSD service area may pay the CSD's supplemental water fee to meet the County's offset requirement. For more information, visit: www.slocountywwcp.org

Paso Basin

Offset Programs. The County is continuing to require new construction projects to offset water use at a 1:1 ratio by funding the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available for both residential and commercial uses. The County also continues to manage the Agricultural Offset Program in the Paso Basin that requires property owners to verify that new and expanded irrigated commercial crops are not increasing their existing water use on-site, based on a 5 year look back period, with a 5 AFY exemption for sites that do not have existing irrigation and are outside of the area of severe decline. For more information, visit: www.slocountywwcp.org.

New Land Use Policy Requiring Planting Permits until 2045. On **Tuesday, January 26, 2021**, the County Board of Supervisors directed staff to develop a new land use policy to require planting

permits for irrigated crops using water from the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin **until 2045** with a 3-tiered framework:

- Tier 1: Exemption Clearance Permit for plantings using up to 25 AFY/site of irrigation
- Tier 2: Ministerial Permit for plantings maintaining neutral water use with a 6-year lookback
- Tier 3: Discretionary Permit with CEQA review for plantings that do not fall under Tier 1 or 2

On **Tuesday, April 6, 2021**, the County Board of Supervisors will consider a request to: 1) receive an update on the proposed Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Ordinance and provide additional direction, as necessary; 2) approve a contract with Rincon Consultants in the amount of \$244,668 for the preparation for an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed ordinance; 3) adopt a resolution amending the Position Allocation List for Fund Center 142 – Department of Planning and Building, by adding 1.00 FTE Limited-Term Planner III for 14 months; 4) approve a corresponding budget adjustment in the amount of \$266,388 from General Fund Contingencies to Fund Center 142 by 4/5 vote; and 5) direct staff to return with an ordinance amendment extending the expiration date of the Agricultural Offset Requirements to at least April 2022.

[Click here to see the staff report and supporting documents.](#) [Click here to see the agenda and instructions to participate in the virtual meeting \(agenda item #26 during the afternoon session\).](#)

Staff will provide a verbal update during the April 7th WRAC meeting.

Los Osos

Offset Requirement. The retrofit-to-build program within the community of Los Osos is allowing property owners to retrofit washers within and outside the prohibition zone to acquire retrofit credits to offset water use for new development at a 2:1 ratio. Program information is available at: www.slocountywwcp.org/plumbing-retrofit-to-build.

Los Osos Community Plan. The Los Osos Community Plan ("LOCP") is being reviewed by the California Coastal Commission and a hearing date has not yet been scheduled. On December 15, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Osos Community Plan update and Final Environmental Impact Report and tentatively adopted amendments to the Growth Management Ordinance that would establish a residential growth rate for the Los Osos urban area. The LOCP policies are still subject to change based on California Coastal Commission review. If the LOCP is certified by Coastal Commission with no changes, the Growth Management Ordinance amendments to establish a growth rate for Los Osos are effective upon certification. If the LOCP requires changes, then the growth rate would need to be established at another Board hearing. The LOCP and Growth Management Ordinance policies considered by the Board on December 15 are available at: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/12683>.

The Board authorized preparation of this update on December 11, 2012. A series of community outreach meetings to unveil the Community Plan were conducted in the Spring of 2015. The plan was prepared to be consistent and coordinated with the draft groundwater basin management plan and the draft Habitat Conservation Plan ("HCP"). The draft Environmental Impact Report was released on September 12, 2019; comments were due December 11, 2019. A Community Meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the LOCP, HCP, and associated Environmental Documents was held on October 28, 2019. The Final Environmental Impact Report and Public Hearing Draft were

released on June 8, 2020. The Planning Commission held hearings on July 9, 2020, August 13, 2020, and October 8, 2020. At the October 8, 2020 hearing, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Plan to the Board of Supervisors.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). On January 28, 2020, the Board of Supervisors considered and adopted a resolution to amend Title 22 and 23 for the replacement of the Secondary Dwelling Ordinance with a new ordinance for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). The Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to Table "O" of the Coastal Framework on June 16, 2020. These amendments would allow ADUs to be established in the Community of Los Osos. The amendments to Title 23 and Table "O" of the Coastal Framework for Planning are currently under review by the California Coastal Commission. Until such amendments are approved by the California Coastal Commission, the County will review ADU applications for consistency with State ADU law, which would allow for the construction of ADUs in the Coastal Zone. On March 12, 2021, Coastal Commission found that Los Osos ADU projects approved by the County thus far raise a substantial issue and did not hold a hearing on the question. The Commission took jurisdiction over the projects and voided the County's prior approval. The next step in the process is the de novo hearing, which has not yet been scheduled. The Commission would prefer to take an action on the County's proposed ADU Ordinance before taking an action on individual projects. The Commission has requested additional information from the County about the ADU Ordinance. The County is preparing a response, which includes coordinating with the Los Osos water purveyors regarding ADUs.

Please contact Kylie Hensley at khensley@co.slo.ca.us for more information.

Rainfall and Reservoir Updates

Sub-Region	Area / Rain Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2019-20 Water Year Total Rainfall	2020-21 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average	
				July 20 21	Aug 20 21	Sep 20 21	Oct 20 21	Nov 20 21	Dec 20 21	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21			
North Coast	Cambria Area (ALERT #717)	22.0	15.60 (71%)	0	0.12	0	0	0.59	1.30	12.13	0.28	1.42 ^A					15.84	72%
	Whale Rock Reservoir (County Site #166.1)	16.0	14.45 (90%)	0	0.23	0	0	0.22	1.23	6.17	0.18	0 ^C					8.03	50%
	Paso Robles (County Site #10.0)	14.1	12.42 (88%)	0	0.11	0	0	0.29	0.89	6.07	0.01	0.90 ^A					8.27	59%
	NE Alessandro (ALERT #711)	17.0	11.07 (65%)	0	0.04	0	0	0.28	0.86	4.93	0	0.78 ^A					6.89	41%
Inland	Aleascadero MWC (County Site #34.0)	17.5	13.45 (77%)	0.05	0	0	0	0.36	1.10	6.10	0.04	1.10 ^A					8.75	50%
	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	14.34 (60%)	0	0	0	0	0.44	1.85	7.37	0.12	1.18 ^A					10.96	46%
	Salinas Dam (ALERT #719)	20.9	16.13 (77%)	0	0	0	0	0.28	1.18	8.08	0.08	1.57 ^A					11.19	54%
	Rocky Butte (ALERT #703)	40.0	28.13 (70%)	0	0	0.08	0	1.02	1.66	15.20	0.16	1.77 ^A					19.89	50%
	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	15.60 (65%)	0	0	0	0.12	0.75	1.38	7.67	0.40	1.18 ^A					11.50	48%
	Lopez Dam (ALERT #737)	21.0	16.67 (79%)	0	0.30	0	0.02	0.70	1.52	6.00	0.30	1.64 ^A					10.48	50%
South Coast	Nipomo South (ALERT #730)	16.0	11.66 (73%)	0	0.08	0.08	0	0.39	0.91	3.78	0.27	1.30 ^A					6.81	43%
	Nipomo East (ALERT #729)	18.0	13.91 (77%)	0	0	0.04	0	0.43	1.18	4.30	0.27	1.19 ^A					7.41	41%

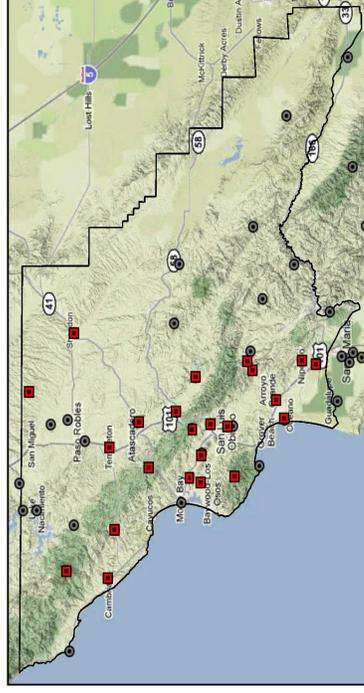
Notes:
 A - Report generated at 11:00 AM on 4-1-2021
 B - Due to an equipment malfunction, not all rain was recorded at this site.
 C - Information not available at time of update
 D - Missing Data

Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento Reservoir	April 1, 2021	750.8	787.75 - 800.0 (negative by raised)	152,848	40%
	March 31, 2020	762.1		195,195	52%
San Antonio Reservoir	April 1, 2021	702.1	780.0	67,182	20%
	March 31, 2020	727.8		124,150	37%
Lopez Reservoir	April 1, 2021	479.2	522.7	19,321	39%
	March 31, 2020	490.9		25,481	52%
Salinas Reservoir (Santa Margarita Lake)	April 1, 2021	1,290.3	1300.7	17,014	71%
	March 31, 2020	1,294.7		19,683	83%
Whale Rock Reservoir	April 1, 2021	200.2	218.3	30,400	78%
	April 1, 2020	204.8		32,763	84%
Twitchell Reservoir	April 1, 2021	541.1	651.5	3,150	2%
	April 1, 2020	538.9		2,295	1%

Note 1: Historically, Twitchell Reservoir elevation gauge does not report values below 539 ft. Twitchell Reservoir was designed for protection from flood and drought. Excess rain runoff is stored in the reservoir protecting the valley from flood, then water is released as quickly as possible while still allowing it to recharge the groundwater basin.
 Note 2: In May 2014, the Whale Rock Commission adopted a new Bathymetric Study and Volumetric Analysis with new lake capacity and spillway elevation values. Those new values are reflected in this report.

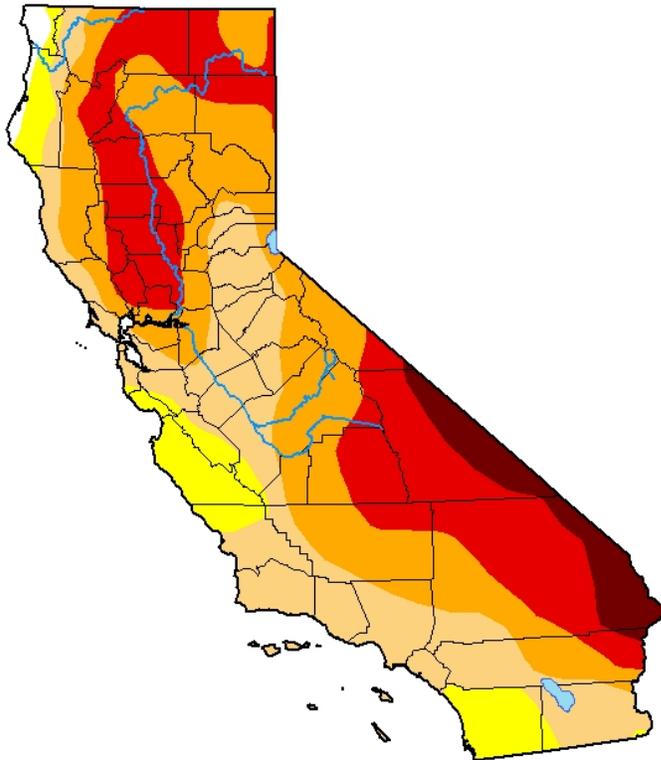
Select Real-Time Rain Gauges in SLO County



Notes:
 Sites maintained by County staff are identified with red squares.
 Sites maintained by other agencies are identified with black circles.
 For more information, please contact Joe Belancourt, (805)781-2767.

U.S. Drought Monitor California

March 30, 2021
(Released Thursday, Apr. 1, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.77	99.23	90.66	64.02	31.76	5.36
Last Week 03-23-2021	0.70	99.30	90.66	64.02	31.76	5.36
3 Months Ago 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	95.17	74.34	33.75	1.19
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	95.17	74.34	33.75	1.19
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	15.35	84.65	67.65	35.62	12.74	0.00
One Year Ago 03-31-2020	24.86	75.14	43.31	1.30	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

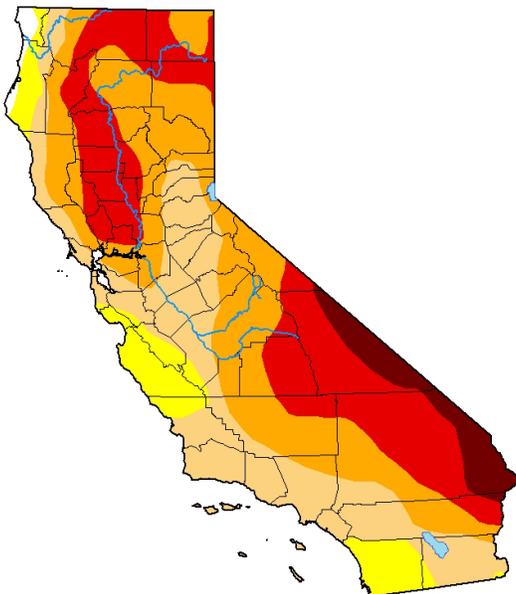
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

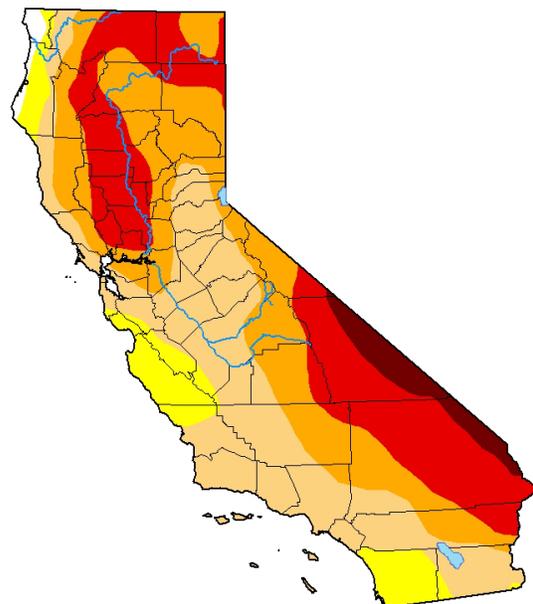
Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



March 23, 2021



March 16, 2021

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 5: Consider Updating Membership of State Water Project Water Management Tools Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Recommendation

Consider updating membership of the State Water Project Water Management Tools (WMT) Study ad hoc Subcommittee.

Background

There has recently been multiple WRAC and BOS items related to the Water Management Tools:

- June 3, 2020: WRAC recommended that the District BOS approve participating in a joint WMT study with the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA).
- August 17, 2020: BOS approves funding agreement for joint WMT study with CCWA.
- Nov. 4, 2020: WRAC formed an ad hoc subcommittee to participate in the WMT joint study process.
- Feb. 3, 2021: WRAC receives update on WMT study and recommends that the BOS approve the State Water Contract Water Management Amendment.
- March 2, 2021: State Water Contract Water Management Amendment was approved by District Board of Supervisors.

The purpose of the ad hoc subcommittee (from the Nov. 4, 2020 staff report) is “to participate in more detail in the [WMT study] process by attending public meetings, reporting back to the WRAC and helping to develop WRAC recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.”

The ad hoc subcommittee was formed with the following members:

- Chair – Hilary Graves, EPC Water District
- Geoff English, Templeton CSD
- Anthony Lindstrom, Golden State Water Company
- Shirley Gibson, Oceano CSD

With the membership changes as of 3/2/2021, Geoff English and Anthony Lindstrom are no longer WRAC members. Staff is recommending that WRAC consider adding additional members to the ad hoc subcommittee.

The current study coordination approach is represented below. Engagement of the WRAC ad hoc subcommittee would fall under Coastal Branch Stakeholder Meetings. The next Coastal Branch Stakeholder meeting will take place on April 8th, 2021 at 9AM. The meeting link and details can be found on the [SWP WMT Study County Project Webpage](#).



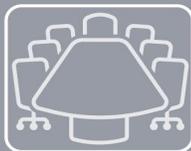
Coastal Branch Project Managers Meeting (Monthly)

- Project Status / Deliverables
- Recommendation Development and Vetting of Information
- Prepare for Stakeholder and Board of Director Meetings



Coastal Branch Stakeholder Meeting (4)

- Member Agencies Communication and Engagement
- Provide Deliverables
- Policy Guidance



Coastal Branch Boards of Directors

- Report out to Board of Directors by Coastal Branch Staff

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 6: Discuss water supply efforts status update and provide feedback to staff

Discussion

At the March 16th Board of Supervisors meeting, staff presented a comprehensive status of 11 various water supply opportunities – with an emphasis on past activities, current activities, and future opportunities. WRAC members and interested stakeholders are encouraged to see the staff report, attachments and watch the presentation for the full status update.

Links to the BOS letter, attachments, presentation and recording of meeting item are below.

Traditionally, staff presentations come to the WRAC first, and then go to the Board. In this case, staff wanted to receive BOS feedback first in case any specific directions were received, and then return to the WRAC for additional feedback.

In lieu of repeating the entire presentation at the WRAC meeting, staff will provide a one-page document on the WRAC website that summarizes the opportunities with past actions, present activities, and potential next steps. Many of these next steps depend on the Board's direction related to SGMA staffing, which is anticipated to be considered again at the April 20th BOS meeting.

Attachments / References:

1. One-page summary, to be provided ahead of meeting on WRAC website.
2. 3/16 BOS Item, attachments and presentation:
<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/13094>
3. 3/16 BOS Video link (skip to item 44):
https://slocounty.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=48&clip_id=3741

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 8: Future Agenda Items

The WRAC Secretary, in cooperation with the Chairperson, prepares the agenda for each WRAC meeting. Inclusion of suggested future agenda items on the agenda will be limited to include review for consistency with District and Board of Supervisors priorities, the mandate of the WRAC, and available time.

May 5, 2021 - Expected Topic

- Proposed District FY2021-2022 Budget – County Staff
- Sustainable Groundwater Projects – Creek Lands Conservation

June 2, 2021 - Expected Topic

- Adelaida Area Hydrogeologic Study Update – County Staff

Areas of Interest - Future

- Consider Recreational use of water resources to be under purview of WRAC
- Update on policies and studies related to groundwater in fractured rock
- Update on Salinas Reservoir Dam Project
- Well permitting regulation as a tool for groundwater management
- Desalination opportunities
- Nacimiento and San Antonio Lake Tunnel Project
- Regional Water Quality Control Board – Ag Order 4.0
- Regional Water Quality Control Board – Stormwater Capture
- Biosolids Updates (i.e. barriers, regulations, etc.)

Excerpt from WRAC By-laws dated September 1, 2020

Administration: The Secretary, in cooperation with the Chairperson, shall prepare the agenda for each regular and special meeting of the WRAC. Any WRAC member may contact the Secretary and Chairperson and request that an item be placed on the regular meeting agenda no later than 4:30 p.m. twelve calendar days prior to the applicable meeting date. Such a request must be also submitted in writing either at the time of communication with the Secretary or delivered to the County Public Works Department within the next working day. Consideration of the request by the Secretary, in cooperation with the Chairperson, for inclusion on the agenda will be limited to include review for consistency with District and Board of Supervisors priorities, the mandate of the WRAC, and available time.