

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: March 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Item 2: Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually

Summary

On March 4, 2020, California State Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. That proclamation remains in effect to date. On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting Law, the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 et seq.). On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, clarifying the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, noting that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021.

On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), which allows legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue meeting by teleconference, provided they make certain findings, including that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. AB 361 requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every 30 days.

This staff report is presented today for the WRAC to consider the finding that holding in person meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of board members, staff and all attendees of WRAC public meetings.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Committee adopt the attached resolution, invoking the provisions of AB 361 related to the holding of teleconferencing/virtual public meetings.

Attachment

- Resolution acknowledging the Governor's State of Emergency and Authorizing Teleconference Meetings for 30 Days per AB 361

In The WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-002

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACKNOWLEDGING
GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING
MEETINGS BY TELECONFERENCE FOR A PERIOD OF
THIRTY DAYS PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT**

The following Resolution is now offered and read:

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the proclaimed state of emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code Section 54950 *et seq.* (the "Brown Act"), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21 that clarified the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, and further provided that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), allowing legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue meeting by teleconference if the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health and the federal Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Omicron variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than the original SARS-CoV-2 variant of the virus, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can be infected and may spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html>); and

WHEREAS, the CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Luis Obispo currently has a Community Transmission metric of “high” which is the most serious of the tiers; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Water Resources Advisory Committee (the “WRAC”) deems it necessary to find holding in person meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the WRAC that:

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic issued by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, remains in effect.
3. The WRAC finds that the proclaimed state of emergency continues to impact the ability of members to meet safely in person and meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
4. Staff is directed to return with an item for the WRAC to consider making the findings required by AB 361 to continue meeting under its provisions.

Upon motion of Member _____, seconded by Member _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

the foregoing resolution is hereby adopted on the 2nd day of March, 2022.

Andy Pease
Chairperson of the Water Resources Advisory
Committee

ATTEST:

Brendan Clark
Secretary of the Water Resources Advisory Committee

MINUTES (Draft)

Chairperson: Andy Pease
Vice Chairperson: Ray Dienzo
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 **January 5, 2022** 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) Consider Adopting Resolution Regarding Virtual Meetings (AB 361)

B. Clark introduces the item and provides a summary of Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), which allows legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue meeting by teleconference, provided they make certain findings, including that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

Staff recommends that the Committee adopt the resolution attached to the agenda packet, invoking the provisions of AB 361 and authorizing the WRAC to continue meeting by teleconference for a period of thirty days

C. Mulholland moves to adopt the resolution and D. Logan seconds the motion. Motion carries (18-0-0).

3) Approval of October 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

A. Pease introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.

D. Chipping comments on the format of the meeting minutes and requests that both questions and responses be included. A. Pease responds.

C. Mulholland moves to approve the October 6th, 2021 meeting minutes and T. Walters seconds the motion. Motion carries (18-0-1).

4) Receive Staff update regarding State Water Project Water Management Tools and associated WRAC Subcommittee, and Consider Actions

A. Pease introduces the item and C. Howard provides an update on the State Water Project Water Management Tools and associated WRAC subcommittee.

C. Howard details the purpose and current membership status of the WRAC formed ad-hoc subcommittee (2 current members) and asks if the WRAC would like to add more members to participate in the Water Management Tool Study process.

A. Pease asks for questions or comments from the Committee, and then from the public.

G. Grewal comments on State Water delivery and the associated costs to the State Water subcontractors and resident taxpayers.

P. Wilmore asks when the next online stakeholder meeting will be held. C. Howard responds.

H. Graves volunteers to remain on the ad-hoc subcommittee.

5) Receive Presentation from Staff regarding the Master Water Report Update

A. Pease introduces the item and B. Clark provides an update on the Master Water Report (MWR) update. The following topics were presented:

- Project background:
 - 2012 MWR content and recommendations
 - Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grant funding
 - How the MWR update relates to the Resource Management System and Regional Water Infrastructure Resiliency Plan
- Goals and scope of work:
 - RFP goal, project goals, and preliminary scope of work outline
- Schedule:
 - RFP, REAP Grant deliverables, and span of project (2+ years)

A. Pease asks for questions or comments from the Committee.

D. Chipping asks about the language used in the REAP Grant regarding individual analysis for projects and if there are any considerations to include redlines for basin monitoring. B. Clark responds.

C. Bourbeau asks for clarification on the REAP Grant funding and allocation process. B. Clark responds.

C. Mulholland comments on efforts related to digitizing water information and the benefits of making water data more accessible for public use.

A. Pease asks for questions or comments from the public.

G. Grewal comments on the state building moratorium, Nacimiento uses, wastewater reuse, water duty factors, county well data, grant funds related to critically overdrafted basins, and County Groundwater Sustainability Department. B. Clark responds.

S. Carter asks if work related to the Master Water Report update will duplicate GSA efforts that are already required by SGMA. B. Clark and C. Howard respond.

D. Chipping asks if a key well index can be developed for local basins. C. Howard responds.

A. Pease comments on the benefit of having an interconnective and maintainable water data tool and asks about the process of stakeholder engagement while the tool is being developed. B. Clark responds.

6) **Ongoing Updates:**

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

No comment

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comment

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

C. Mulholland comments on a news article highlighting flaws in the SGMA legislation and concerns pertaining to the 40-year implementation timeline.

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

B. Clark comments on the DWR's draft guidelines for the next funding round which will be reviewed at the January 19th RWMG meeting.

e) Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP)

A. Pease asks if it is necessary for the WRAC to continue receiving updates on the Stormwater Resource Plan. B. Clark responds.

f) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

No comment

g) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

No Comment

7) Future Agenda Items

A. Pease comments that the next WRAC meeting will be held on March 2, 2022 and will include a presentation from the SLO Beaver Brigade and thanks WRAC members for participating in the recent survey for gauging interest for future agenda items and meeting preferences.

B. Clark comments that future WRAC meetings will be held via Zoom.

P. Willmore requests an introduction from the County Groundwater Sustainability Director to discuss how the County Groundwater Sustainability Department aligns with the Water Resources Division.

8) Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

G. Grewal comments on a Brown act violation related to the Shandon-San Juan Water District and discusses public comments that were submitted to Army Corps of Engineers for the Salinas Reservoir disposition study.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2022

Organization	Representative	Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT														
District 1	Dennis Loucks	M		/										
	Melanie Blankenship	A		/										
District 2	(Vacant)	M		/										
	Neal MacDougall	A		/										
District 3	(Vacant)	M		/										
	Natalie Risner	A		/										
District 4	(Vacant)	M		/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
District 5	Allen Duckworth	M	X	/										
	Fred Hoey	A		/										
AT-LARGE														
Agriculture At-Large	Kurt Bollinger	M		/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
Agriculture At-Large	(Vacant)	M		/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
Development At-Large	Tim Walters	M	X	/										
	Greg Nester	A		/										
Environmental At-Large	Christine Mulholland	M	X	/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
Environmental At-Large	Eric Greening	M		/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
Environmental At-Large	David Chipping	M	X	/										
	Stephnie Wald	A		/										
RCDs														
Coastal San Luis RCD	Linda Chipping	M	X	/										
	Kevin Piper	A	X	/										
Upper Salinas RCD	George Kendall	M	X	/										
	Tom Mora	A		/										
OTHERS														
Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M		/										
	Jaime Hendrickson	A		/										
California Men's Colony	Scott Buffaloe	M		/										
	Mike Schwartz	A		/										
Camp SLO	Vacant	M		/										
	Jubilee Satele	A		/										
County Farm Bureau	Steve Carter	M	X	/										
	Brent Burchett	A	X	/										
Cuesta College	(Vacant)	M		/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
Golden State Water	Joshua Alvidrez	M		/										
	Mark Zimmer	A	X	/										
Shandon-San Juan Water District	Stephen Sinton	M		/										
	Kevin Peck	A		/										
Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District	Lee Nesbit	M	X	/										
	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	Robert Robert	M	X	/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
City of Morro Bay	Laurel Barton	M		/										
	Rob Livick	A		/										
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel	M		/										
	Kirk Gonzalez	A	X	/										
City of Pismo Beach	Marcia Guthrie	M		/										
	Sheila Blake	A	X	/										
City of San Luis Obispo	Andy Pease	M	X	/										
	Jan Marx	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	Ed Eby	M	X	/										
	Richard Malvarose	A		/										
Oceano CSD	Shirley Gibson	M		/										
	Linda Austin	A		/										
San Miguel CSD	Anthony Kalvans	M		/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
San Simeon CSD	Charles Grace	M	X	/										
	(Vacant)	A		/										
Templeton CSD	Debra Logan	M	X	/										
	Tina Mayer	A		/										
STAFF														
Planning and Building	Kylie Hensley	Staff		/										
	Claire Momberger	Staff		/										
Public Works	Courtney Howard	Staff	X	/										
	Brandon Zuniga	Staff	X	/										
	Brendan Clark	Staff	X	/										
	Joey Stell	Staff	X	/										
	Jennifer Casey	Staff		/										

Notes: M = Member; A = Alternate Member

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TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: March 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Item 6: Consider Endorsing Application by Dolores Howard for Alternate Member, Environmental At-Large

Recommendation

Consider endorsing Dolores Howard's application for selection by Board of Supervisors.

Discussion

The WRAC Secretary received the attached application on January 31st, 2022, from Dolores Howard for one of the vacant Environmental At-large Alternate Member positions.

As stated in the By-Laws (adopted 9/1/2020):

Applications submitted for members or alternates representing [environmental, Development and Agriculture At-Large] shall be agendized for consideration and input by the Committee prior to selection by the Board of Supervisors.

It is anticipated the application would be go before the Board on April 19th, 2022.



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO A
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE

Date January 31, 2022

Applying for appointment to Water Resources Advisory Committee
(Name of Board, Commission or Committee)

General Information

Name Dolores Howard
Environmental At-large Alternate

Address _____

Business Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

il Address _____

Supervisorial District 5

Years resided in County 6

Employment & Education

Employer Name (if retired/unemployed list previous employer) _____

Santa Barbara
City College

High School Graduate or General Education (GED) Test passed? Yes No

If no, list the highest grade completed _____

List any/all College, Business School, and/or Military experience (most recent first)

In-progress A.S. Environmental Horticulture, Ecological Restoration
2020 Permaculture Design Certificate
1986 MA Hispanic Literature, UC Santa Barbara
1984 BA Spanish, UC Santa Barbara

Qualifications

List work experience, training, volunteer activities, and skills relevant to this appointment

- Volunteer - SLO Beaver Brigade - river/creek cleanups, planning
- Designed/installed native plant hedgerows, riparian buffer strips, roof rainwater catchment swales & other soil/water conservation measures/carbon reduction & capture on certified organic farm in collaboration with/funded by National Resource Conservation Services, CDFA State Water and Energy Efficiency and Healthy Soils programs, SLO County Air Pollution Control District, &

List dates/names of positions you have held on any advisory body or elected office

1997 to present - Santa Barbara City College
Division Representative on Curriculum Advisory,
Program Evaluation, Academic Policies, Planning
and Resources Committees
2014 to 2017 - Academic Senator

List Membership to Organizations Partial list:

- Conservation Committee, Santa Lucia (SLO) Chapter, Club Sierra
- SLO Beaver Brigade
- California Native Plant Society & Audubon Society
- Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society

Please explain why you would like to serve in this capacity

I possess a deep love for and unending curiosity about creeks, rivers, vernal ponds, watersheds, oceans, and their inhabitants and concern about the water resource challenges faced by our county, state & planet. As SLO County embarks on updating the Master Water report in the context of drought, wildfire and loss of habitat, it is an ideal time to serve on WRAC, in communication with the public, and considering the needs of our non-human cohabitants, human communities that can be disproportionately

If appointed, are you willing to participate in the majority of meetings each year, and if necessary, in numerous related meetings or subcommittees?

Yes No Comments _____

If appointed, are you willing to file a Statement of Disclosure as a Public Official Under the standards of the Fair Political Practice Commission?

Yes No Comments _____

If appointed, do you want to have your address or telephone number(s) published?

Yes No Comments _____

Please mail this application to:

Board of Supervisors
1055 Monterey St., Rm. D430
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

↓ impacted by harm to the environment, and future generations of SLO County inhabitants. Thank you for your consideration.

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: March 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Item 7: Ongoing Updates

Recommendation

Receive updates on various ongoing efforts.

Discussion

- a) **Rain & Reservoir Report:** See attached report.
- b) **Drought Updates.**
 - See attached Drought Monitor Summary
 - County of SLO Office of Emergency Services went to the Board on December 14, 2021.
 - The Staff report can be found here: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14101>
 - The Board extended the Drought Declaration for 60 days.
 - For more drought information, please visit <https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/slo-county-drought-information.aspx>
- 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.

The quarterly financial update for SGMA went to the Board on December 14, 2021. The report can be accessed here: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14052>

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>

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

	<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) Executive Committee (EC) elected to develop, and submit to DWR, a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) by January 31, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 19, 2022, the EC held a meeting that included: adopting the GSP, appointing officers, amending the conflict of interest code and receiving updates on the Annual Report and Prop 1 Grant progress. • The next EC meeting is March 9, 2022. <p>For more information or to view meeting material, 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>The third public workshop meeting for the GSP is anticipated to take place in early April. Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects and management actions to achieving basin sustainability • An implementation plan for that keeps the approach flexible and on track • Recap of Chapter 7: Monitoring Network & Chapter 8: Sustainable Management Criteria <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin or www.slocounty.ca.gov/agbasin</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"> • The PBCC and Paso Basin GSAs are working to address deficiencies identified in DWR's initial assessment of the Paso Basin GSP. • The next PBCC meeting is anticipated March 4, 2022. <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>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 GSAs, in coordination with other basin partners through the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) have developed a GSP for the SLO Basin that will be submitted to DWR by the January 31, 2022 statutory deadline.</p> <p>On December 7, 2021 the County Board of Supervisors, acting as the San Luis Obispo Valley Basin – County of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency, adopted a resolution adopting the SLO Valley Basin GSP, authorizing the County Groundwater Sustainability Director, or designee, to serve as Plan Manager, and found the project was exempt from CEQA. The GSP was uploaded to DWR's SGMA portal on January 26, 2022.</p> <p>The next GSC meeting is anticipated March 9, 2022.</p> <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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts for Task 1 have been underway since March of 2020. • On June 8, 2021, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to proceed with Task 2 which consists of new data collection, including but not limited to: groundwater level data, water quality sampling, and surface-water monitoring. • Staff returned to the Board on January 25, 2022 to authorize a Joint Funding Agreement between the District and USGS to begin work on Task 2. • Staff anticipates hosting a public workshop in late March to solicit participation for Task 2 of the study. <p>For more information, please visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)

DWR released the Draft Proposition 1, Round 2 Implementation grant documents for a 60-day review period, which closed on 2/18. The files can be accessed here: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Proposition-1/Implementation-Grants>

We will be hosting an RWMG meeting on April 6, 2022 to finalize and kick-off the project selection process. To be notified of the upcoming meetings and project selection process, sign up for the email list, located at: 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	Close-out	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	Close-out	Flood Control District
Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011)	\$10,401,000	Complete	
Los Osos Wastewater Project	\$5,945,444	Complete	County of SLO
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3c Project	\$2,200,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Nipomo Supplemental Water Project	\$2,200,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Grant Administration	\$55,556	Complete	Flood Control District
Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement 2017	\$877,563	Close-out	
FCD Funding Administration	\$20,700	Close-out	Flood Control District
Disadvantaged Community Needs Assessment	\$67,738	Complete	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Program, Phase 2	\$177,750	Complete	Oceano CSD
Turnout Pump Station Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	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	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Study and Recharge Basin Study	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1	\$2,782,130	In Progress	

Grant Administration	\$155,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	In Progress	City of SLO
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	In Progress	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	In Progress	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects #1-1, #1-9	\$274,500	In Progress	Oceano CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2 (est. 2022)	\$3,782,129		
TBD	TBD	TBD	Project Sponsors

For questions, contact:

Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager

Email: bclark@co.slo.ca.us

Phone: (805) 788-2316

e) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

The County Department of Planning & Building has a new website for its water conservation programs in Nipomo Mesa, Paso Basin, and Los Osos:

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Countywide-Water-Conservation-Program.aspx>

The old website (www.slocountywwcp.org) will no longer be available, effective January 12, 2022.

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: [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Nipomo-Mesa-Water-Conservation-Area-\(NMWCA\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Nipomo-Mesa-Water-Conservation-Area-(NMWCA).aspx)

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 1:1 water offset requirement for new construction expired on January 1, 2022. Any construction permits submitted after this date will not be required to offset their water use or to install a well meter.

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: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department->

[Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin-\(PRGWB\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Paso-Basin-Land-Use-Planting-Ordinance.aspx)

Paso Basin Land Use Management Area Planting Ordinance. The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors has directed staff to develop a land use ordinance and amend General Plan policies to require ministerial land use approval (“a planting permit”) until 2045 for new or expanded planting of irrigated crops irrigated with water from groundwater wells located within the Paso Basin Land Use Management Area (PBLUMA), with a two-tier framework: 1) plantings using up to 25 acre-feet per year (AFY) of total groundwater per site, and 2) plantings maintaining neutral groundwater use on site with a 6-year rolling lookback period. Plantings using groundwater outside of these two tiers would not be allowed. General Plan elements to be revised include the Agricultural Element and Conservation and Open Space Element. A map of the PLUMA, project timeline, Initial Study, Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report, and a draft version of the ordinance are available on the project website at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Paso-Basin-Land-Use-Planting-Ordinance.aspx>

Los Osos

Updated Guide to Planning Information for Development in Los Osos. This website is intended to provide planning information outlining what type of development is currently allowed within Los Osos: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Communities-Villages/Los-Osos.aspx>. Topics covered include but are not limited to:

- Which types of permit applications are currently being accepted for processing;
- Status of the building moratorium and waitlist for undeveloped parcels in the sewer service area (still in place); and
- Status of the Communitywide Habitat Conservation Plan.

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: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Los-Osos-Groundwater-Basin-Plumbing-Retrofit-to-Bu.aspx>

Water Offset Study. The County has hired [Maddaus Water Management Inc.](#) to prepare a study to update water usage estimates for urban and rural residences sourcing water from the Los Osos Groundwater Basin, propose new water conservation measures for the retrofit-to-build program, and estimate remaining water savings potential for the community. The project schedule has been delayed due to difficulties obtaining historic consumption data. Once this data is available, the estimated project timeline is 3 months. Updates will be posted at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Los-Osos-Water-Offset-Study.aspx>

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. In the meantime, the County is meeting with BMC staff to discuss potential policy changes considering ongoing basin

monitoring and Basin Plan program implementation efforts. On December 15, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Osos Community Plan ("LOCP") update and Final Environmental Impact Report ("FEIR"). The LOCP policies are still subject to change based on California Coastal Commission review. The LOCP and FEIR considered by the Board on December 15 are available at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/LosOsosPlan-1.aspx>.

Background. 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. On December 15, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Osos Community Plan update and Final Environmental Impact Report.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). On February 11, 2022, the California Coastal Commission voted to approve the County's Coastal ADU Ordinance with staff suggested modifications, including not allowing ADUs in Los Osos and Cambria, outlined in the staff report available at: <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/meetings/agenda/#/2022/2> (agenda item #16d). The County has 6 months to adopt the suggested modifications for the ordinance to take effect.

Background. The Board of Supervisors adopted a Coastal Zone Accessory Dwelling Unit ("ADU") Ordinance in June 2020 to allow ADUs in Los Osos. Since the County has received conflicting information from state agencies regarding the application of State ADU laws when they conflict with existing Local Coastal Program standards, the County has been attempting to harmonizing State ADU Law and Coastal Act by implementing each to the greatest extent without lessening the effect of each. While the County will accept and ministerially process applications for ADUs in accordance with State ADU law, it does not represent or warrant that any such local ministerial approvals ensure compliance with the Coastal Act. The County has approved several ADU applications in Los Osos. However, appeals were filed against the applications; and in March 2021, the Coastal Commission determined that substantial issues exist with respect to the grounds of the appeals, and thus took over jurisdiction of the applications.

Please contact waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us for more information.

Rainfall and Reservoir Updates

Sub-Region	Area / Rain Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2020-21 Water Year Total Rainfall	2021-22 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average	
				July 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22			
North Coast	Cambita Area (ALERT #717)	22.0	15.84 (72%)	0	0	0	2.09	0.47	9.45	0.12	0						12.13	55%
	Whale Rock Reservoir (County Site #166.1)	16.0	9.36 (58%)	0	0	0	1.43	0	7.91	0.36	0	c					9.70	61%
	Paso Robles (County Site #10.0)	14.1	8.27 (59%)	0	0	0	2.02	0.05	7.70	0.11	0	0					9.88	70%
	NE Alascadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	6.89 (41%)	0	0	0	1.65	0.08	5.40	0.16	0	0					7.29	43%
Inland	Alascadero MWC (County Site #34.0)	17.5	8.80 (50%)	0.01	0	0	2.01	0.15	8.34	0.12	0	0					10.63	61%
	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	11.31 (47%)	0	0	0	2.32	0.20	7.49	0.04	0	0					10.05	42%
	Salinas Dam (ALERT #719)	20.9	11.54 (55%)	0	0	0	2.76	0.16	9.29	0.12	0	0					12.33	59%
	Rocky Butte (ALERT #703)	40.0	19.89 (50%)	0	0.12	0.04	5.75	1.34	19.10	0.08	0	0					26.43	66%
South Coast	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	11.50 (48%)	0.08	0	0	1.77	0.32	9.90	0	0	0					12.07	50%
	Lopez Dam (ALERT #737)	21.0	10.65 (51%)	0.04	0.02	0	2.79	0.28	8.45	0.04	0	0					11.60	55%
	Nipomo South (ALERT #730)	16.0	6.81 (43%)	0	0.04	0.08	1.42	0.19	5.09	0.07	0	0					6.89	43%
	Nipomo East (ALERT #728)	18.0	7.41 (41%)	0	0	0	1.64	0.16	6.93	0.04	0	0					8.77	49%

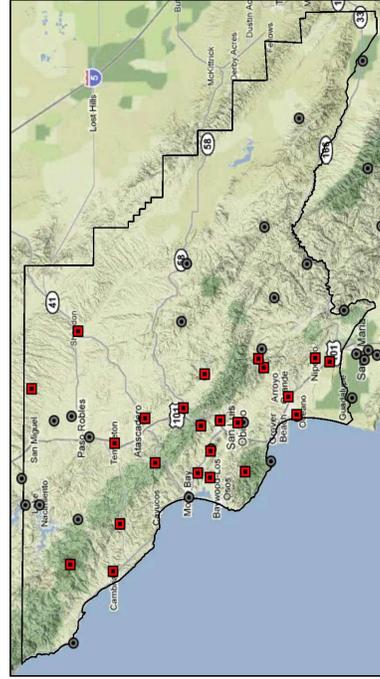
A - Report generated at 10:00 AM on 2-2-2022
 B - SLO Reservoir spillway elevation was recorded at this site.
 C - Information not available at time of update
 D - Missing Data

Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento Reservoir	February 22, 2022	736.4	787.75 - 800.0	105,963	29%
	February 19, 2021	751.3	(negative 5.71 mtr/feet)	155,435	41%
San Antonio Reservoir	February 22, 2022	681.6	780.0	38,132	11%
	February 19, 2021	701.7		66,605	20%
Lopez Reservoir	February 22, 2022	468.0	522.7	14,634	30%
	February 19, 2021	480.2		19,764	40%
Salinas Reservoir (Santa Margarita Lake)	February 22, 2022	1,286.9	1300.7	15,121	63%
	February 19, 2021	1,291.2		17,516	73%
Whale Rock Reservoir	February 16, 2022	199.1	218.3	29,852	77%
	February 19, 2021	200.7		30,652	79%
Twitchell Reservoir	February 22, 2022	n/a	651.5	0	0%
	February 19, 2021	541.2		3,188	2%

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.

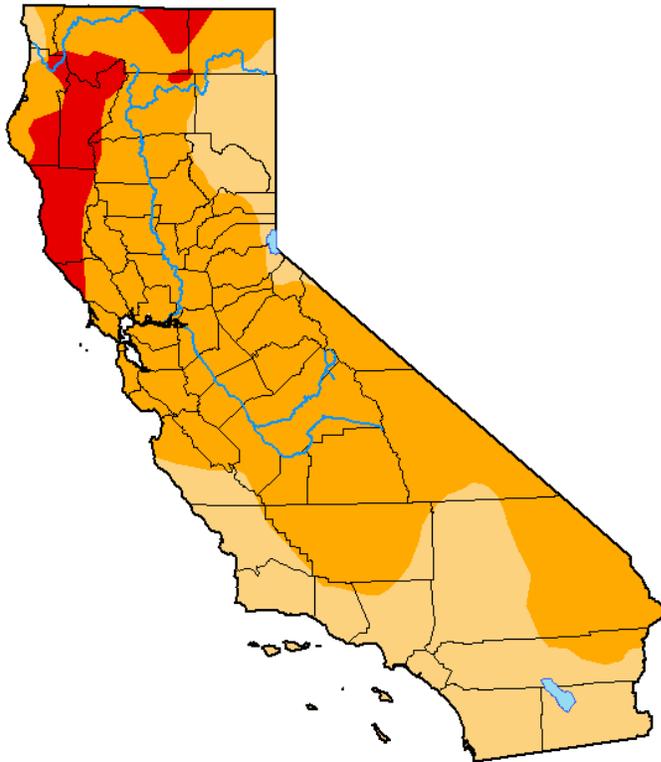
Select Real-Time Rain Gauges in SLO County



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 Belencourt, (805) 781-2767.

U.S. Drought Monitor California

February 22, 2022
(Released Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	68.77	6.70	0.00
Last Week 02-15-2022	0.00	100.00	99.57	66.39	1.39	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-23-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	92.43	80.28	28.27
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	99.30	67.62	16.60	0.84
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
One Year Ago 02-23-2021	0.70	99.30	84.88	56.98	29.54	3.75

Intensity:

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

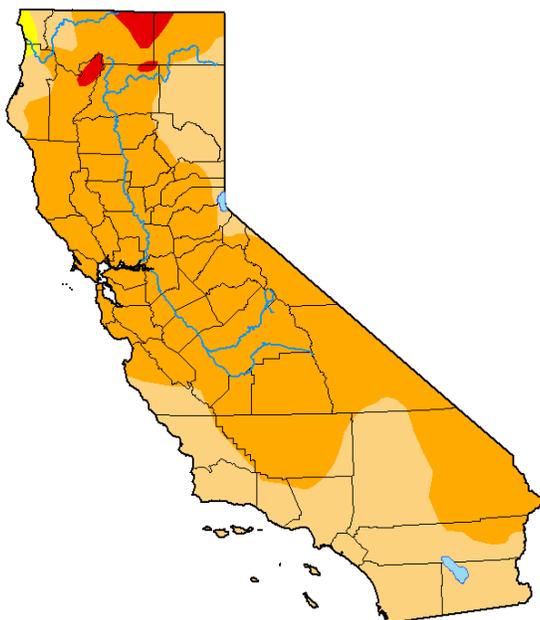
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

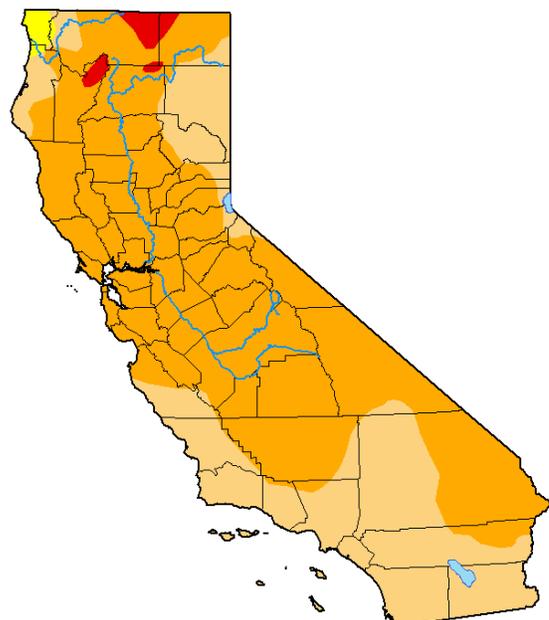
Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



February 15, 2022



February 8, 2022

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: March 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Item 8: Future Agenda Items

Upcoming Meetings

April 6 – Topics TBD.

Areas of Interest – Future

- Sustainable Groundwater Projects – Creek Lands Conservation
- 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 – Stormwater Capture
- Biosolids Updates (i.e. barriers, regulations, etc.)
- Flood Control District’s Master Water Report update
- City and/or Sector panel discussions
- Nursery & landscape panel discussion

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.