SLO City/County Library Community Room 995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo CA Wednesday, April 2, 2025 1:30 pm

Via Zoom Teleconference:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88647250277?pwd=NDRwQXVqMjZkVzN2Z0x5RkR3QmNDUT09

Call-in information: 1 (669) 900 6833, Meeting ID: 886 4725 0277, Passcode: 181580

Note: Members must be physically present in order to count toward the quorum and cast votes.

WRAC Agenda

1.	Introductions & Welcome	1:30pm
2.	Approval of March 5, 2025 WRAC Meeting Minutes	1:35pm
3.	Receive Presentation from Stantec on SB-552 Water System Consolidation Analysis and Provide Feedback	1:40pm
4.	Discuss the County's Legislative Platform and Consider Forming an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to Review	2:30pm
5.	Election for Vice-Chairperson	2:40pm
6.	Ongoing Updates: a. Rain & Reservoir Report b. Drought Updates c. Groundwater Basin Management Efforts d. Flood Control Zones e. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) f. Master Water Report (MWR) Update g. State Water Project (SWP) h. Desalination i. Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances j. Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information	2:45pm
7.	Future Agenda Items	2:55pm
8.	Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda	3:00pm
9.	Adjourn Meeting	3:05pm

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

Next Regular Meeting: May 7, 2025, 1:30 pm

SLO City/County Library Community Room

995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo CA

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 January 23, 2024

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Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 1:30PM

MINUTES (DRAFT)

Chairperson: Thomas Burhenn

Vice Chairperson: Vacant

Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **March 5, 2025** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

The video 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

Call to order at 1:30 PM

1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions

The number of voting Members present is 22. Quorum met.

2) Approval of February 5, 2025, WRAC Meeting Minutes

Item start time ~ 00:05:25

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.
- E. Greening provides clarifying language regarding his comment on Agenda Item 3: DESAL Plan updates.
- C. Mulholland requests a correction to the misspelling of her last name under Agenda Item 5.d.

An unknown attendee requests a correction to the listing of Vice-Chair Guthrie, as he was not present.

- C. Mulholland moves to approve the February 5, 2025, meeting minutes, as amended.
- E. Greening seconds the motion.

Motion carries 19-0-3-0.

3) Receive Presentation from WSP on the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Item start time ~ 00:08:12

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and . Brislawn from WSP provides a presentation on the Multi- urisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- E. Greening asks about the use of geological markers or other tools to assess tsunami risks. . Brislawn responds.
- G. Grewal comments on the legal definition of overdraft and discusses groundwater management programs, stormwater capture, greywater reuse, fire and flood risk mitigation, and well monitoring networks.
- D. Chipping comments on the inclusion of building code changes and associated cost evaluations for urban flood mitigation, and also comments on the term well-deepening and the issue of declining groundwater levels.
- M. van Ryn asks about the funding mechanism for domestic well monitoring and the planned size of the monitoring network. M. Baum responds.
- D. Crater comments that increased aquifer recharge would reduce or eliminate the need for a well assistance program. M. Baum responds.
- G. Grewal comments on the potential of stormwater capture to recharge the Paso Basin, using average rainfall data, and noted the size difference between the GSA-managed area and the DWR-defined boundary.
- . Marx asks which Water Planning Area includes the San Luis Obispo Aquifer and if injection well fields have been considered as a method for artificial aquifer recharge. M. Baum responds.
- M. Blankenship comments on the damage and impacts in Paso Robles following the 2003 San Simeon earthquake, and asks if there is any recorded history or data regarding the earthquake s effect on Paso Robles water sources/supply. . Brislawn responds.

4) Receive Update from County Staff regarding State Water Policies

Item start time ~ 00:47:00

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and W. Thompson provides an update on State Water Policies.
- E. Greening asks if State Water's chloramination process makes it unsuitable for groundwater injection/percolation and inquires about the existence and cost of portable de-chloramination. W. Thompson responds.
- . Marx comments on the City of San Luis Obispo's past decisions to turn down State Water due to issues of cost and reliability.

- G. Grewal comments on the allocation of county tax dollars for State Water funding, fair compensation, and distribution of priority rights.
- C. Mulholland comments that increased focus should be placed on water use reduction as a strategy for basin recharge.
- D. Chipping asks if the District could inquire with the State about using their chlorinated water for basin injection purposes. W. Thompson responds.

Unidentified asks if the SWP allocation of 35 would also apply to Los Osos, for example, if they had a contract with the District. W. Thompson responds.

P. Brown comments on the purpose of the presentation and reminds WRAC members to provide additional feedback directly to W. Thompson.

5) Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Item start time ~ 01:19:22

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for Chair and Vice-Chair nominations from the Committee.
- C. Mulholland moves to nominate T. Burhenn for WRAC Chairperson.
- T. Burhenn states his willingness to continue serving as WRAC Chairperson.
- R. Munds seconds the motion.

Motion carries 20-0-0-2

Nominations for Vice-Chair will be considered at a future meeting.

6) Consider Submitting the 2024 Annual Report to the District Board of Supervisors | Item start time ~ 01:21:17

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.
- T. Walters moves to submit the 2024 Annual Report to the District Board of Supervisors.
- C. Mulholland seconds the motion.

Motion carries 20-0-0-2

7) Ongoing Updates

Item start time ~ 01:22:13

- a) Rain & Reservoir Report
 No comments.
- b) <u>California Drought Monitor Summary</u> No comments.

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

G. Grewal comments on the efforts of the Paso Basin GSAs to execute a PA.

d) Flood Control Zones

No comments.

e) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

B. Clark comments on Proposition 4 (passed November 2024).

f) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

No comments.

g) State Water Project (SWP)

No comments.

h) <u>Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics Plan (DESAL Plan)</u>

No comments.

i) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

No comments.

j) <u>Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information</u>

No comments.

8) Future Agenda Items

Item start time ~ 01:25:45

T. Burhenn notes a follow up to the Western Growers item which was previously suggested.

E. Greening comments on federal agency staff reductions, including those at the National Weather Service and Bureau of Reclamation, which affect their essential functions and asks if the WRAC would be interested in agendizing a letter to the Board of Supervisors, utilizing the County's legislative platform, to advocate for preserving agency staffing. B. Clark responds.

B. Clark comments that the Central Coast Water Board has been invited to present at a future meeting.

9) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda

G. Grewal comments on arranging tours of the Central Coast Water Authority facilities in North County.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2025

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Water Resources Advisory Committee - Roll Call Vote Form Meeting Date: 03/05/2025

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WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) GUEST LIST 2025

Signing-in is voluntary. You may attend the meeting regardless of whether you sign-in.

NAME	AFFI ITATION (if any)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MA	JUN	JU	AU	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
A Maul	County of SLO												
Alejandra Celio	County of SLO												
Brian Neff	WSP												
Carolyn Berg	Koble Collaborative												
Greg Grewal	SLO County Cattlemans Association												
Harold Wright	County of SLO												
eff Brislawn	WSP												
eff Edwards	Resident												
essica Sucheki	County of SLO												
im Marderosian	Bee Sweet Citrus												
osh Porter	County of SLO												
uliana Prosperi	WSP												
ulie Tacker	Resident												
Kellie Fortner	City of SLO												
Kyle Anderson	City of SLO												
Lauren Gauschi	County of SLO												
Louis Lafebvre	Carollo												
Mark Battany	Resident												
Matt Watkins	Bee Sweet Citrus												
Melissa Baum	WSP												
Nick Teague	City of SLO												
Nola Engelskirger	County of SLO												
Paul Donnelly	Resident												
Peter Brown	Oceano CSD												
Peter Hague	County of SLO												
Ramy Wahba	County of SLO												
Ray Dienzo	Nipomo CSD												
Rosemarie Gaglione	City of Pismo Beach												
Scott Milner	County of SLO												
Tim Kershaw	Cleath-Harris												
Troy Barnhart	County of SLO												
Wes Thompson	County of SLO												

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TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Item 4: Discuss the County's Legislative Platform and Consider Forming an Ad-Hoc

Subcommittee to Review

Recommendation

Discuss the County's Legislative Platform and Consider Forming and Ad-hoc Subcommittee to Review.

Discussion

During the March 5, 2025 meeting, members expressed interest in providing advisement to the Board of Supervisors regarding the current Legislative Platform. This Platform covers the full gamut of County interests: housing policy, Diablo Canyon Power Plant, roads, justice, health and social services, and more.

District-related topics such as flooding, water supply projects, State Water, etc., are included in the document and may be of interest to the WRAC to propose amendments or additions. It is not in the purview of the Committee to comment on specific basins managed under SGMA or an adjudication.

An update to the Legislative Platform was considered by the Board on January 13, 2025, but was sent back to staff to be re-worked. It is not known when the Platform will be returning to the Board.

Link to 2023 Legislative Platform: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/administrative-office/forms-documents/legislation (Too large for packet)

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TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Item 5: Election for Vice-Chairperson

Recommendation

Elect Vice-Chairperson for the 2025-2026 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 <u>members</u> of the WRAC and elected by a majority vote of the <u>members present</u>.

During the March 5, 2025 meeting, a Chairperson was elected, but not a Vice-Chairperson.

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

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TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 6: Ongoing Updates

a) Rain & Reservoir Report. See attached report.

b) Drought Updates.

- As part of SB-552, counties are required to have a standing Drought Task Force. Ours is led by the County of SLO Office of Emergency Services (OES).
 - The Drought Task Force has been involved with and reviewing completion of the 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP).

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:
Los Osos Basin	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 very-low prioritization. The Los Osos Basin Management Committee (BMC) oversees implementation of the Los Osos Basin Plan for the area. March 2025 Basin Management Committee (BMC) Update • The regularly scheduled BMC Meeting for March 19 th , 2025 was canceled. • The next regular BMC Meeting is scheduled for April 16 th , 2025. Meeting notices, minutes, and recordings are available on the BMC's website: https://www.losososbmc.org/ .
Atascadero Basin	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

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

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. The GSP was submitted on January 30, 2022.

- The EC met on March 19, 2025 regarding the following items:
 - o Approval of WY 2024 Annual Report
- The next EC meeting date has not been scheduled yet.

For more information or to view meeting material, visit: www.AtascaderoBasin.com

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 County is implementing wellhead improvements at coastal monitoring well cluster 11N/36W-12C (Dunes Well 12C). The main purpose of the work is to raise the wellhead, which is covered by dune sand, and to re-equip the well with new, dedicated pumps for water quality monitoring.

Santa Maria Basin

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.

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 have prepared a GSP. DWR conducted Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys over the Arroyo Grande Subbasin in November 2023. All data collected as a part of the Statewide AEM Surveys will be made publicly available through the <u>California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Portal</u>.

For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin or www.slocounty.ca.gov/agbasin

Paso Basin

Paso Basin is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA, City of Paso Robles GSA, Estrella-El Pomar-Creston WD GSA, San Miguel CSD GSA, and Shandon San Juan WD GSA, entered into an agreement to develop and implement a single GSP for the basin and coordinate via the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC).

• The regular PBCC meeting scheduled for **March 26**, **2025** was canceled.

Cuyama Basin	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. An amended GSP was submitted to DWR on July 20, 2022 and on March 3, 2023, DWR issued a recommended "approval" of the GSP. The final approval with proposed corrective actions was received on May 25, 2023. • The Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors met on March 5, 2025, regarding the following items:
	For more information, please visit: www.cuyamabasin.org
San Luis Obispo Basin	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 stakeholders, formed the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) to develop and submit a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the SLO Basin to DWR by the January 31, 2022 statutory deadline. The GSP was approved by DWR on April 27, 2023, and per the GSC MOA, the GSC terminated on March 18, 2024. DWR recommended four corrective actions and the County GSA and City GSA will be addressing these ahead of the next GSP periodic evaluation due January 26, 2027. Moving forward, the County GSA will work with local stakeholders to receive relevant feedback on the implementation of the GSP. • No meetings are currently scheduled at this time. For more information, please visit: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin
Adelaida Area	The Adelaida Area is not a DWR designated groundwater basin; however, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) has been coordinating with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) on a hydrogeologic study to increase understanding of the groundwater conditions, availability, and sustainability in the fractured rock area. Currently, the USGS is working to integrate and analyze the hydrogeologic system using data gathered in the initial study tasks, which commenced in 2019, to produce an interpretive report that is anticipated late 2026.
	For more information, please visit: • https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/adelaidastudy

 https://www.usgs.gov/centers/ca-water/science/evaluation-groundwaterresources-adelaida-area-san-luis-obispo-county?qtscience center objects=0#qt-science center objects

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) County Flood Control Zones

The San Luis Obispo Flood Control and Water Conservation District is a resource to help individuals and communities in San Luis Obispo County identify and address flooding problems with the purpose "to provide for control, disposition and distribution of the flood and storm waters of the district and of streams flowing into the district..."

Updates by Zone:

Updates by Zone:	
Zone	Update:
Zone 1/1A Arroyo Grande Creek Channel	Flood Control Zone 1/1A includes the maintenance and operations of the Arroyo Grande and Los Berros Channels to provide flood protection within the Zone located near the City of Arroyo Grande and the community of Oceano. The Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee last met on March 18th, 2025. The agenda and meeting materials can be accessed here: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Flood-Control-Zones/Zone-1-1A-Arroyo-Grande-Creek-Channel/Meeting-Calendar.aspx The next meeting of the Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17th, 2025, at 3:00 PM. Meetings are held at the Sheriff's South Patrol Station, 1681 Front Street, Oceano, CA. For more information, please visit: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1A
Zone 9 San Luis Obispo Creek	Flood Control Zone 9 provides flood control data and planning for the area encompassing San Luis Obispo Creek and its tributaries. The next meeting of the Zone 9 Advisory Committee is scheduled for April 9, 2024, at the City of San Luis Obispo Community Development Conference Room 1, 919 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA. For more information, please visit: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone9

e) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

The District and State completed the Prop. 1, Round 2 Grant Agreement in December 2023. All other grant agreements have been closed out.

To be notified of the upcoming meetings or any project-related documents, visit www.slocounty.ca.gov/irwm.

A summary of open and pending IRWM grants is below:

			ı
Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Mgmt Grant (2011)	\$2,797,000	Complete	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	Complete	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	Complete	
FCD Funding Administration	\$20,700	Complete	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 Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	City of Grover Beach
WRRF Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of SLO
Reservoir Exp. Project & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade & Recharge Basin Studies	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1	\$2,782,130	Complete	
Grant Administration	\$155,000	Complete	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	Complete	City of SLO
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	Complete	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects 1-1, 1-9	\$274,500	Complete	Oceano CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2	\$3,782,129	In Progress	
Grant Administration	\$132,374	In Progress	Flood Control District
Indirect Potable Reuse	\$1,200,000	In Progress	City of Morro Bay
Central Coast Blue, Phase 1	\$1,000,000	TBD	City of Pismo Beach
Master Water Report Information System	\$549,755	In Progress	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Projects	\$600,000	In Progress	Oceano CSD
Water Reliability Projects	\$300,000	In Progress	San Miguel CSD

For questions, contact:

Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager

Email: bclark@co.slo.ca.us
Phone: (805) 788-2316

f) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

April 2025 Update:

County staff and the consultant team are planning the expansion of the Master Water Report Data and Information Management System (DIMS) to the rest of the County. This includes integration with ongoing GSPs & associated annual reports and the Planning Department's annual housing projections. We anticipate the next WRAC update to be September 2025.

Background:

On June 7, 2022, the District Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Carollo Engineers, Inc. to develop the Master Water Report Update and Information System. Board Item: https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14655

For more information, please visit the project website:

https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Current-Public-Works-Projects/Master-Water-Report-and-Data-Information-System.aspx

g) State Water Project (SWP)

- Current 2025 SWP water supply & demand:
 - For calendar year 2025, the SWP allocation set by DWR (3/25/2025) is <u>currently at 40%</u>, which is <u>10,000 AF</u> (i.e., the 40% applies to the District's 25,000 AF "Table A" contract with DWR).
 - Carryover storage for the District was <u>6,294 AF</u> on January 1, 2025 (the start of the new SWP delivery year).
 - o The District as <u>16,294 AF</u> of SWP water available to fulfill this year's total scheduled delivery requests for <u>3,685 AF</u> (of the 4,830 AF subcontracted).
- State Water Subcontractors Advisory Committee (SWSAC): There is a special SWSAC meeting on Friday, April 4, 2025, to review the latest updates on the draft SWP Transfer Policy. More information, once available, will be posted to the SWSAC website: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/State-Water-Project-and-Subcontractors-Advisory-Co.aspx

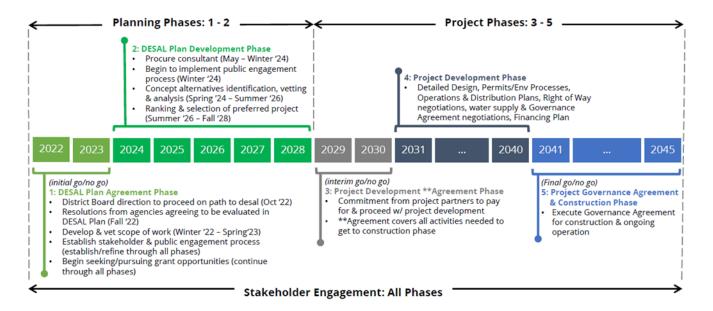
h) Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics Plan (DESAL Plan)

Desalination, the process of removing salt from saltwater to make it freshwater, can offer a safe, long term, resilient water supply. The District, in collaboration with partner agencies, is beginning a planning effort to explore a potential regional desalination project in San Luis Obispo County. The District has been awarded a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to support development of the DESAL Plan and, this past January, the District Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Carollo Engineers to start this desalination planning work.

One of the first consultant tasks is to develop a stakeholder engagement plan that outlines the periodic meetings and communication tools with the District and involved and interested parties, including the WRAC, to present progress and gather input on the project at key milestones.

More information is available on the County's DESAL Plan webpage at https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL.

Desalination Executable Solution And Logistics Plan <u>DESAL Plan*</u>



i) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

The County Department of Planning & Building's website for the 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

Current Los Osos Happenings

In order for the Community of Los Osos to develop, two programs need to be running: the Allocation Program and the Los Osos Habitat Conservation Plan (LOHCP). While there are 25 allocations available to the community of Los Osos in 2025 (19 allocations available within the Community Sewer Service Area, 6 allocations available outside the Community Sewer Service Area), there have been delays with implementation of the LOHCP. This ultimately means Los Osos development is on hold until LOHCP Mitigation Credits are available. Those who own vacant lots can work towards obtaining a Title 19 Retrofit-to-Build certificate (available at title-19-logwb-retrofit-to-build-requirement 1230 2024-update). This certificate does not expire and is tied to the parcel it is applied for. This certificate is not a requirement to apply, but is a requirement prior to permit issuance.

Additionally, the Waitlist to Build (available to vacant parcels within the Community Sewer Service Area) closed at the end of November. There are 361 parcels on the single-family waitlist and 180 requested units on the multi-family waitlist.

Timelines for permitting and additional information can be found on the Planning and Building website at Los Osos.

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. Funding is currently limited for the rebate programs and applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. 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: <a href="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. In the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin, there are funds available for the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available to both residential and commercial property owners. A well meter is required for compliance with Title 19.

The Ag Offset ordinance 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.

Los Osos

Guide to Planning Information for Development in Los Osos. This website is currently the best resource for FAQ concerning 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

Offset Requirement.

The retrofit-to-build program within the community of Los Osos is allowing property owners to retrofit washers and/or hot water recirculation pumps 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

Los Osos Community Plan:

On June 13, 2024, the California Coastal Commission issued suggested modifications to the Estero Area Plan and the proposed Los Osos Community Plan, including a maximum residential growth rate of 1% for the sustainable buildout of Los Osos if groundwater production remains below sustainable yield, based on the best available science. On October 29th, 2024, the County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to accept the California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications.

The Los Osos Community Plan (LOCP) can be found here. The LOCP is part of the County's General Plan and is not included in the County's Local Coastal Program. The LOCP provides a greater level of specificity for the community of Los Osos.

Excerpt from Chapter 1.1 Purpose of the LOCP:

"The purpose of this [LOCP] is to establish a vision for the future of Los Osos that will guide growth and development over the next 20 years...This plan is intended to be the community's plan...Continued community involvement is needed to achieve the vision."

Los Osos Growth Rate Implementation through County Code Title 26 Growth Management Ordinance:

On October 29th, 2024, the County Board of Supervisors approved amendments to County Code Title 26 County Growth Management Ordinance <u>available here</u> and including the following:

- A conservative growth management strategy consistent with California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications (see below),
- New Los Osos Waitlist to Build regulations,
- Streamlined ordinance administration procedures, including transitioning tracking the annual growth from a fiscal year basis to a calendar year to better align with annual resource data.

County staff returned to the Board of Supervisors on December 10th, 2024, with a resolution to approve the maximum annual allocation for calendar year 2025 for Los Osos and other communities in the unincorporated county. County staff (i.e., the Department of Planning & Building) coordinated with the Los Osos Basin Management Committee staff on the below approach.

The Los Osos Basin Management Committee (LOBMC) published the Los Osos Basin Plan in 2015 and produces annual monitoring reports of the Los Osos Groundwater Basin (Basin). The Basin Plan created a process to establish the sustainable yield estimate for the Basin based on infrastructure and pumping distribution combinations and aims to maintain groundwater production at 80 percent or less of the sustainable yield estimate to provide a conservative buffer to account for uncertainty in the groundwater modeling assumptions. The sustainable yield estimate is the maximum amount of water that may be extracted from the Basin in a given year (a) using available infrastructure, (b) without causing seawater to intrude further than the current extent, and (c) without active wells producing water with a chloride concentration exceeding 250 mg/L (BMC Annual Report, 2022). This method for determining the sustainable yield estimate was first implemented in calendar year 2022.

The Basin Yield Metric (BYM) is another metric used to annually monitor basin conditions and compares annual groundwater production with the sustainable yield estimate in a given year. The BYM is the primary indicator of sustainable pumping volume.

The amendments to the Title 26 Growth Management Ordinance as approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 29th, 2024, and as it relates to Los Osos, include the following:

- Requirement of annual review of the best available groundwater monitoring data;
- Establishment of an annual growth rate that may not exceed a rate of 1%, including accessory dwelling units and deed-restricted affordable dwelling units;

- Utilization of the Los Osos Waitlist to Build to determine the priority of allocation within the community sewer service area;
- Coordination with the Los Osos Basin Management Committee on an annual basis, in accord with the annual review of the growth rate;
- Establishment of a metered approach to allowable development based on recent available groundwater data where,
 - Remainder of Calendar Year 2024: Growth rate of 0%,
 - Calendar Year 2025: Annual growth rate of 0.4%,
 - Calendar Year 2026: Annual growth rate of 0.6%,
 - Calendar Year 2027: Annual growth rate of 0.8%,
 - Calendar Year 2028 and beyond: Annual growth rate shall be established based on a 5-year rolling average of the BYM (see Table 1).

Table 1. Annual Growth Rate based on Basin Yield Metric.

5-Year Rolling Average of Annual Basin Yield Metric	Annual Growth Rate
≤80%	1.0%
>80% to 81%	0.8%
>81% to 82%	0.6%
>82% to 83%	0.4%
>83% to 84%	0.2%
>84%	0.0%

The purpose of a 5-year rolling average of the BYM as the basis for determining the annual growth rate is to provide a safeguard against any irregularities in annual basin conditions that could misrepresent the Basin sustainable yield (for example, high precipitation values). The BYM average for years 2019 through 2024 (despite the sustainable yield methodology change in 2022) reports a 5-year average below 80% (LOBMC Annual Reports, 2019-2023) and could allow for a 1.0% growth rate in Calendar Year 2025. However, it is recommended that a growth rate of 0.4% be applied in Calendar Year 2025, 0.6% in Calendar Year 2026, and 0.8% in Calendar Year 2027 until Calendar 2028 when a 5-year dataset of the BYM, based on the updated sustainable yield methodology, is available.

Please contact <u>waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us</u> for further information or questions.

j) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Rainfall and Reservoir Report

Generated: 3/28/2025

Notes

All data from automated sensors and preliminary (subject to verification and/or revision). All rainfall data in inches.

* denotes data not available at time of generation.

- SLO County FCWCD defines each Water Year from July 1 to the subsequent June 30.
- 2 Rainfall data for month of generation is partial (only to time of generation).
- 3 Water Planning Areas as defined by 2018 County IWRM update.
- 4 Per County Standard Drawing H-1, calculated over 42 year period from WY1955-56 to 1997-98.
- 5 Elevation datums vary; refer to operating agency materials for detail.
- Salinas Reservoir was resurveyed in April 2024, with max storage decreasing from 23,843 in 1991. In May 2024, the elevation
- datum was updated along with the storage-elevation curve. 2023 values use previous datum and storage-elevation
- 7 n/a (no elevation) is reported for Twitchell when the pool elevation is below 535 feet.





								Water \	ear 202	4-25 ^{1,2}						Average	Water Yea	ar 2023-24
WPA ³	Station	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Year-to-	% of	Annual ⁴	% of	Total
		24	24	24	24	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	25	Date	Year Avg		Year Avg	
	Hog Canyon	0	0	0.02	0	1.45	0.44	0.09	1.96	1.97				5.9	37%	16	104%	16.7
	Rocky Butte	0	0	0	0	8.39	1.97	0.28	15.84	4.17				30.7	77%	40	181%	72.3
	Shandon	0	0	0	0	1.37	0.29	0.19	1.16	2.77				5.8	48%	12	105%	12.7
North	Templeton	0	0.01	0	0	1.82	0.74	0.33	3.69	2.31				8.9	49%	18	99%	17.8
County	Creston	0	0	0	0	1.82	*	*	*	*				1.8	15%	12	135%	16.2
	Atascadero	0	0	0.20	0	1.53	0.75	0.24	3.74	2.29				8.8	49%	18	86%	15.6
	Santa Margarita	0	0	0.04	0	2.34	0.88	0.52	5.09	3.34				12.2	51%	24	103%	24.8
	Salinas Dam	0	0	0.08	0	0	2.16	1.24	7.53	3.03				14.0	64%	22	129%	28.5
San Simeon	San Simeon	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.08	1.57	1.16	0.32	5.37	2.59				11.2	47%	24	95%	22.8
/ Cambria	Santa Rosa at Main	0	0.01	0.05	0.05	2.92	1.27	0.21	4.70	3.03				12.2	56%	22	114%	25.1
/ Cambria	Hwy 46 W 7 Mile	0.02	0.01	0.11	0	3.02	1.31	0.18	4.34	2.91				11.9	40%	30	80%	23.9
	Morro Toro	0	0	0.04	0	3.70	1.62	0.23	7.29	4.65				17.5	63%	28	118%	33.2
Cayucos /	Canet	0	0.01	0.04	0.07	2.16	1.17	0.16	4.16	2.81				10.6	48%	22	96%	21.1
Morro Bay /	Camp San Luis	0	0	0	0.08	2.05	1.53	0.40	6.78	2.99				13.8	69%	20	127%	25.5
Los Osos	Los Osos Landfill	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.10	1.81	1.41	0.24	4.76	2.72				11.2	62%	18	120%	21.6
	Davis Peak	0	0	0	0	3.19	1.07	0.39	5.71	2.17				12.5	70%	18	140%	25.2
	South Portal	0	0.03	0.08	0.02	3.68	1.92	0.60	9.32	4.21				19.9	71%	28	116%	32.4
	SLO Reservoir	0	0	0.03	0.08	2.52	1.39	0.09	6.80	2.81				13.7	57%	24	102%	24.4
	Gas Company	0	0	0.01	0	2.64	1.37	0.21	5.39	2.41				12.0	55%	22	99%	21.8
	Upper Lopez	0	0	0	0	3.82	0.87	0.43	5.64	3.35				14.1	47%	30	89%	26.7
51.0.4	Lopez Rec Area	0	0	0	0	3.75	0.91	0.64	4.54	3.76				13.6	62%	22	107%	23.4
SLO / South	Lopez Dam	0	0	0.01	0.02	3.91	1.19	0.72	4.36	3.90				14.1	71%	20	145%	28.9
	Lopez WTP	0	0	0.02	0.02	3.00	0.82	0.30	2.33	3.06				9.6	48%	20	105%	20.9
County	Arroyo Grande	0	0	0	0	2.43	0.84	0.28	2.29	2.74				8.6	48%	18	116%	20.9
	Los Berros	0	0	0.16	0.04	2.79	1.19	0.35	4.02	3.27				11.8	59%	20	136%	27.2
	Oceano	0	0.01	0.02	0.04	2.80	0.97	0.20	1.73	2.50				8.3	52%	16	109%	17.4
	Nipomo East	0	0	0	0	3.15	0.65	0.12	3.81	2.92				10.7	59%	18	135%	24.3
	Nipomo South	0	0.01	0.01	0	2.20	0.64	0.18	2.20	2.33				7.6	54%	14	131%	18.4

Non-County Rain Stations

									Water \	ear 202	4-25 ^{1,2}						Average	Water Yea	ar 2023-24
WPA ³	Operating Agency	Station	July 24	Aug 24	Sep 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Year-to- Date	% of Year Avg	Annual	% of Year Avg	Total
North	City of Paso Robles	Paso Robles	0	0	0	0	1.97	0.73	0.22	3.88	2.44				9.2	66%	14	151%	21.2
County	Atascadero Mutual Water Company	Atascadero MWC	0	0	0.06	0	2.04	1.13	0.28	4.94	3.15				11.6	66%	17.5	131%	22.9
Cayucos / Morro Bay / Los Osos	City of SLO	Whale Rock	0	0	0	0	2.57	1.19	0.46	*	*				4.2	26%	16	119%	19.0

Reservoirs

WPA ³	Operating Agency	Facility	Spillway Elevation ⁵	Data Date	Pool Elevation ⁵	Capacity	Storage [acre-feet]	Max Storage [acre-feet]
		Nacimiento	787.75 - 800.00	3/27/2025	776.95	68%	258,568	377,900
	Monterey County	Reservoir	(gate-dependent)	3/28/2024	793.65	91%	342,560	377,500
North	Water Agency	San Antonio	780.00	3/27/2025	761.15	72%	241,160	335,000
County		Reservoir	760.00	3/28/2024	766.50	79%	265,350	333,000
	SLO County FCWCD	Salinas Reservoir /	1303.59	3/28/2025	1303.10	98%	21,971	22,320
	3LO County PCWCD	Santa Margarita Lake ⁶	1303.39	3/28/2024	1301.13	102%	24,127	22,520
Cayucos / Morro Bay /	City of SLO	Whale Rock	216.00	3/28/2025	210.90	93%	36,060	38,967
Los Osos	City of 3EO	Reservoir	210.00	3/28/2024	216.00	100%	38,967	30,307
SLO / South	SLO County FCWCD	Lopez Reservoir	522.66	3/28/2025	519.08	94%	46,313	49,476
County	SEO County Tewes	Lopez Reservoii	322.00	3/28/2024	522.73	100%	49,595	45,470
Cuyama	Santa Barbara County	Twitchell Reservoir ⁷	651.50	3/28/2025	538.44	1%	1,943	194,971
Cuyama	FCD	i witchell Reservoir	631.30	3/28/2024	571.93	13%	24,455	194,971

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TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #7: Future Agenda Items

May 7 Anticipated Topics:

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 SLO County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Budget

DESAL Plan

June 4 Anticipated Topics:

Central Coast Water Board

• SB-552: Draft Consolidation Plan

<u>Areas of Interest - Future</u>

• Master Water Report

- Considering Recreational use of water resources as part of the District's policies.
- 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
- Nacimiento and San Antonio Lake Tunnel Project
- Biosolids Updates (i.e. barriers, regulations, etc.)
- City and/or Sector panel discussions
- Nursery & landscape panel discussion

Excerpt from WRAC By-laws dated January 23, 2024

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.