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

SLO City/County Library Community Room 995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo CA Wednesday, May 7, 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 April 2, 2025 WRAC Meeting Minutes	1:35pm
3.	Review and Discuss Proposed San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Budget for FY 2025/2026 and Consider Actions	1:40pm
4.	Receive Presentation on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the DESAL Plan	2:05pm
5.	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
6.	Future Agenda Items	2:55pm
7.	Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda	3:00pm
8.	Adjourn Meeting	3:05pm

This agenda packet and attachments are available online at <a href="www.slocounty.ca.gov/wrac">www.slocounty.ca.gov/wrac</a>

Next Regular Meeting: June 4, 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

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

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### **MINUTES (DRAFT)**

Chairperson: Thomas Burhenn Vice Chairperson: Christine Mulholland

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 **April 2, 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: <a href="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</a>

Call to order at 1:30 PM

### 1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions

The number of voting Members present is 17. Quorum met.

### 2) Approval of March 5, 2025, WRAC Meeting Minutes

*Item start time ~ 00:04:47* 

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.
- C. Mulholland moves to approve the March 5, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.
- D. Roques seconds the motion.

Motion carries 17-0-0-0.

### 3) Receive Presentation Stantec on SB-552 Water System Consolidation Analysis and Provide Feedback

*Item start time ~ 00:05:16* 

- T. Burhenn and B. Clark introduce the item and C. Poytress presents on the SB-552 Water System Consolidation Analysis and related efforts.
- M. Van Ryn asks if the presentation will be made available to the WRAC membership. C. Poytress responds.
- E. Greening asks if the costs of a merger would require a vote under Prop 218. C. Poytress responds.

- D. Chipping asks if the criteria for water deliveries has been developed beyond the conceptual stage. C. Poytress responds.
- J. Green asks if funding is currently available for consolidation. C. Poytress responds.
- J. Marx notes the demolition of the Hidden Hills Mobilodge (listed on the small water systems spreadsheet), suggests a need to reevaluate the accuracy of the currently available data, and comments that the project concept should also consider existing land use policies designed to curb urban sprawl. C. Poytress and B. Clark respond.
- P. Brown highlights Oceano CSD's current domestic water consolidation efforts with small systems and offers feedback to members seeking clarity on the scope of work and funding opportunities related to consolidation analysis.
- D. Crater asks if there are underlying assumptions that consolidated domestic wells will be abandoned when consumption is provided by the receiving system. P. Brown responds.
- L. Azeem asks where the connection cost estimates originated. C. Poytress responds.
- G. Grewal asks what cost considerations are being given to property owners. C. Poytress responds.
- J. Edwards suggests using recent consolidation efforts by S&T Mutual Water Company in the Los Osos basin as a case study. C. Poytress responds.

## 4) <u>Discuss County's Legislative Platform and Consider Forming an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee</u> to Review

*Item start time ~ 00:45:07* 

T. Burhenn introduces the item and requests feedback from Committee Members.

Committee Members discuss the purpose, timing, and intent of forming an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee, and explored alternative methods for WRAC Membership to provide feedback on the County's Legislative Platform, both individually and collectively.

No action taken.

### 5) Election of Vice-Chairperson

*Item start time ~ 01:06:30* 

- T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for Vice-Chair nominations from the Committee.
- C. Mulholland volunteers to serve as the Committee Vice-Chairperson.
- P. Brown moves to nominate C. Mulholland as the Committee Vice-Chairperson.
- J. Guthrie seconds the motion.

Motion carries 17-0-0-0.

### 6) Ongoing Updates

*Item start time ~ 01:08:20* 

### a) Rain & Reservoir Report

B. Clark comments that hard copies of the report have been printed for in-person attendees.

### b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comments.

### c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

- G. Grewal comments on the efforts of the Paso Basin GSAs to form a JPA.
- J. Marx comments that the SLO Basin GSA Committee has explored the costs and feasibility of providing vintners and other parties access to the City's excess treated water.

### d) Flood Control Zones

No comments.

### e) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

J. Edwards asks if funding for the Central Coast Blue Project is being withdrawn due to viability concerns. B. Clark responds.

### f) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

No comments.

### g) State Water Project (SWP)

B. Clark notes that the State Water Project Subcontractors Advisory Committee meeting that was scheduled for Friday, April  $4^{th}$  has been canceled.

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

B. Clark notes that updates for the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be provided at the next WRAC meeting in May.

### i) <u>Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances</u>

No comments.

### j) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

D. Chipping comments on the Maven's List Newsletter.

### 7) <u>Future Agenda Items</u>

*Item start time* ~ 01:19:30

- G. Grewal comments on the history of the Santa Margarita Nacimiento pipeline repairs and the loss of supplemental water.
- E. Greening asks if the Nacimiento pipeline in Santa Margarita has been fixed. G. Grewal responds.
- M. van Ryn asks about the source of the 5-year rolling annual yield metric and who compiled the statistics. Committee Members discuss.
- D. Chipping requests an update on the State Water Project take-out from the Morro Bay pipeline to Los Osos, along with information on the cost and environmental analysis. B. Clark responds.

### 8) Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

- E. Greening comments that the SLO Beaver Brigade will be hosting their Third Annual Beaver Festival on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm at SLO Mission Plaza.
- E. Eby comments that the Central Coast Greenhouse Growers Association is hosting its 22nd Annual Open House & Scholarship Fundraiser on Saturday, April 12th, 9am-2pm at Nipomo High School.

# Water Resources Advisory Committee - Roll Call Vote Form Meeting Date: 04/02/2025

		ITEM#2	ITEM #2: Approval of the March 2025 Meeting Minutes		ITEM #5: Elect	ITEM#5: Election of Vice-Chairperson									
DISTRICT			NO ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE NO	ABSTAIN ABSENT	AYE NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT			AYE	NO ABSTAIN	ABSENT	Z): II
District 1	Melanie Blankenship M														MOTION 1
District 2															Item#: 2 Pass/Fail?: Pass
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District 4		×			×										AYE: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0
District 5	Allen Duckworth M														Motion to approve the March 5, 2025 WRAC Meeting Minutes
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Agriculture At-Large	Jon Winstead	×			×										
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Development At-Large	(Vacant) M														VITOIBOUT
Environmental At-Large		×	-		×			I	1	-			-		MOTION 2
	Dolores Howard A														Item #: 5 Pass/Fail?: Pass
Environmental At-Large		×			×										Motion Maker. P. Brown Second: J. Guthrie
Environmental At-Large		×			×										
å															AYE: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0
	Dominic Roques M	×			×										Motion to elect Christine Mulholland as WRAC Vice-Chairperson
Upper Salinas RCD	George Kendall M Tom Mora														
OTHERS									Ħ						
Atascadero Mutual															
California Men's Colony	Scott Buffaloe M												-		MOTION 3
Camp SLO	(Vacant) M														Item #: Pass/Fail?:
County Farm Bureau															Motion Maker: Second:
															AYE: NO: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:
Golden State Water	Matt Cook M	×			×										
Shandon-San Juan Water District	Mark Zimmer A Stephen Sinton M	×	-		×				1						
Estrella El Pomar Creston Water District	Lee Nesbit M														
CITIES															
	Aileen Loe M														
City of Atascadero		×			×										MOTION 4
															Item #: Pass/Fail?:
City of Grover Beach	Jules Tuggle M Robert Robert A	×			×										Motion Maker: Second:
City of Morro Bay															
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel M								1						AYE: NO: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:
City of Pismo Beach															
City of San Luis Obispo	Jan Marx M	×			×										
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	Brad Hagemann M														
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	Jim Green Tristan Reaper A	×			×										Item #: Pass/Fall?:
Heritage Ranch CSD		×			×										
Los Osos CSD	Chuck Cesena M														
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### WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2025

Organization	Representative	Member	Jan	Feb	Mar		May	Jun J	ıl Aııo	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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District 1	Melanie Blankenship	M			0								
District 1	Elizabeth Covert	A								_			
District 2	(Vacant)	M								_			
District 2	Neal MacDougall	A								_			
District 3	Jim Marderosian	M				0							
5164.161.0	Natalie Risner	A											
District 4	Thomas Burhenn	М		Х	Х	Х							
	David Crater	Α		Х	Х	Х				_			
District 5	Allen Duckworth	M		Х	Х								
	(Vacant)	Α											
A1	T-LARGE												
Agriculture At-Large	Jon Winstead	M		Х	Х	Х							
	Patricia Wilmore	Α		0	0								
Agriculture At-Large	Mary van Ryn	М		Х	Х	Х							
	Jason Yeager	А			Х								
Development At-Large	(Vacant)	M											
	Tim Walters	Α		Х	Х								
Environmental At-Large	Christine Mulholland	M		Х	X	Х							
	Dolores Howard	Α											
Environmental At-Large	Eric Greening	М		Х	X	Х							
	(Vacant)	Α											
Environmental At-Large	David Chipping	M		Х	Х	X							
	Stephnie Wald	А											
	RCDs					.,							
Coastal San Luis RCD	Dominic Roques	M		Х	Х	Х							
Harris Outline BOD	Linda Chipping	A											
Upper Salinas RCD	George Kendall	M											
_	Tom Mora	Α											
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Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M		v									
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California Men's Colony	Mike Schwartz	A								_			
Camp SLO	(Vacant)	M											
Camp SEO	Jubilee Satele	A								_			
County Farm Bureau	Steve Carter	M		Х		0				_			
County Farm Bareau	Paul Clark	A			Х					_			
Cuesta College	(Vacant)	M								_			
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Golden State Water	Matt Cook	M		0	Х	Х							
	Mark Zimmer	А		0	0	0							
Shandon-San Juan Water District	Stephen Sinton	М		Х		Х							
	Ray Shady	Α			Х								
Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water	Lee Nesbit	М		0	Х	0							
District	Hilary Graves	Α											
	CITIES												
City of Arroyo Grande	Aileen Loe	M		Х	Х								
	Jim Guthrie	Α				Х							
City of Atascadero	Seth Peek	M				0							
	Nick DeBar	Α		Х									
City of Grover Beach	Jules Tuggle	M		Х	Х	Х							
	Robert Robert	Α											
City of Morro Bay	Zara Landrum	M		Х	X								
0.4	Cyndee Edwards	A											
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel	M											
City of Diame, Day	Kirk Gonzalez	A											
City of Pismo Beach	Marcia Guthrie	M											
City of San Luis Obispo	Stacy Inman Jan Marx	A M		Х	Х	Х							
City of San Luis Obispo	Emily Francis	A		^	^	^							
	CSDs	А											
Avila Beach CSD	Brad Hagemann	M											
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Cambria CSD	Jim Green	M		0	Х	Х							
	Tristan Reaper	A											
Heritage Ranch CSD	Scott Duffield	M		Х	Х	Х							
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Los Osos CSD	Chuck Cesena	M											
	Ron Munds	Α		Х	Х	0							
Nipomo CSD	Ed Eby	М		Х	Х	Х							
	Phil Henry	А											
Oceano CSD	Allene Villa	М			0	0							
	Peter Brown	Α				Х							
San Miguel CSD	Kelly Dodds	M		0	0								
	Tamara Parent	A											
San Simeon CSD	(Vacant)	M											
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Templeton CSD	Jeff Briltz	M			Х	V							
	Lori Azeem	Α		0		Х							
	STAFF	O: ==											
Public Works	Courtney Howard	Staff		X	X	0							-
	Brendan Clark	Staff		X	X	X				_			-
	Jenny Wililamson	Staff		0	0	0				_			
Notes: M=Member; A=Alternate Me	Joey Steil	Staff	Aira au	27	33	29							
Nules Malviernner AfAlternaté Mei													

# WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) GUEST LIST 2025

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

NAME	AFFILITATION (if any)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
AJ Maul	County of SLO		1	Х									
Alejandra Celio	County of SLO			Х	Х								
Brian Neff	WSP		1	Х									
Carolyn Berg	Koble Collaborative		Х										
Carrie Poytress	Stantex				Х								
Charlotte Arnao	Confluence Engineering Solutions		1		Х								
Eric Johnson	Cambria CSD				Х								
Greg Grewal	SLO County Cattlemans Association		Х	Х	Х								
Harold Wright	County of SLO			Х									
Jeff Brislawn	WSP			Х									
Jeff Edwards	Resident		Х	Х	Х								
Jessica Sucheki	County of SLO		1	Х									
Jim Marderosian	Bee Sweet Citrus		Х										
John Hollenbeck	Hollenbeck Consulting		1		Х								
Josh Porter	County of SLO		Х	Х	Х								
Juliana Prosperi	WSP		1	Х									
Julie Tacker	Resident		Х										
Kellie Fortner	City of SLO		Х										
Kyle Anderson	City of SLO		Х										
Lauren Gauschi	County of SLO		1	Х	Х								
Louis Lafebvre	Carollo		Х		Х								
Mark Battany	Resident		1	Х									
Mark Madison	Edna Valley Growers MWC		1		Х								
Mathew Scrudato	County of Santa Barbara												
Matt Watkins	Bee Sweet Citrus		Х		Х								
Melissa Baum	WSP		1	Х									
Nick Teague	City of SLO		Х	Х	Х								
Nola Engelskirger	County of SLO		1	Х									
Paul Donnelly	Resident		Х	Х									
Peter Brown	Oceano CSD		Х	Х									
Peter Hague	County of SLO		1	Х									
Ramy Wahba	County of SLO		1	Х									
Ray Dienzo	Nipomo CSD		Х	Х									
Rosemarie Gaglione	City of Pismo Beach			Х									
Sarah Ko	DWR		1		Х								
Scott Milner	County of SLO		1	Х									
Tim Kershaw	Cleath-Harris		Х		х								
Troy Barnhart	County of SLO		Х										
Wes Thompson	County of SLO		Х	Х									

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

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**TO:** Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Courtney Howard, Water Resources Division Manager

DATE: May 7, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #3: Review and Discuss Proposed San Luis Obispo

**County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Budget for FY** 

2025/2026 and Consider Actions

### **Recommendations**

Receive a presentation (Attachment 1) from Public Works Department Staff on the proposed Flood Control and Water Conservation District (FCD) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 budget request and consider taking related actions.

### Discussion

The proposed FY 2025/26 budget for "Flood Control Zone General" is being prepared in accordance with the District policies adopted by the Board on November 1, 2016 (Attachment 2) and is in the form of an updated 5-year plan. The detailed financial information will be provided to the WRAC for review separately when available. Attachment 3 provides a general description of the work programs included in the budget request. In the past, the WRAC has opined on whether it supports the proposed budget, sometimes through an ad-hoc subcommittee.

The annual budgeting practices have continued, including:

- Requesting funding consistent with 5-year plan rather than on solely a case-bycase basis
- Providing information on regional commitments and services, organizational needs and specific efforts in water planning areas
- Designation of two reserves one to isolate \$3.1M for emergencies and one to isolate the balance of reserves that are available for special projects and/or additional priorities

The following is of note this year:

 Zone General reserves are being used as a cash flow loan to pay for Zone 1/1A storm damage repairs and other mitigation activities required by the permits. It is anticipated that Zone General reserves will be reimbursed when FEMA and Cal OES provide funding and after an anticipated Prop 218 process, at which time it will be accounted for in the budget.

Please note that the proposed budget may be subject to modification to address any unanticipated needs prior to Board budget hearings that are scheduled for June 9-11, 2025.

### Attachments:

- 1. Presentation
- 2. FCD Policy
- 3. FCD Work Programs



# **Proposed Flood Control District FY 2025/26 Budget Draft Presentation**

Water Resources Advisory Committee May 7, 2025

www.slocounty.ca.gov

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### **Overview**

- Budget Management Policy
- Priority Efforts
- FY 2025/26 Proposed Budget and 5-Year Plan





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# The Budget Management Policy calls for funding activities that support the following:

- Understanding Conditions
- Establishing Sustainability Goals
- Identifying Opportunities
- Supporting Solution Start-Up



Existing Needs, Resiliency, and the Future



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# The Budget Management Policy calls for the following funding priority order:

First Funding Priority:

Existing **regional** programmatic services and commitments

Second Funding Priority:

District **financing needs** and other County-provided services related to water resources

Third Funding Priority:

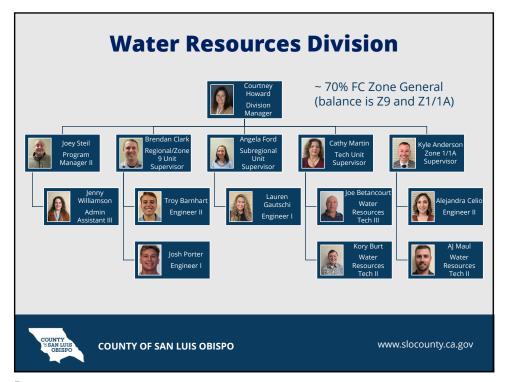
Other **sub-regional** projects and programs

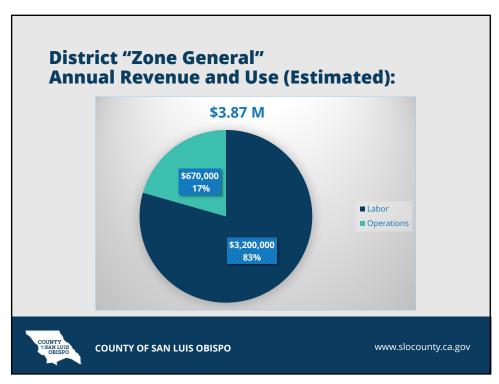


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### **Priority Efforts**



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# The following slides summarize efforts for Fiscal Year 2025/26 based on:

- Existing contractual obligations and commitments
- Board of Supervisors direction
- Grant eligibility requirements
- Organizational needs



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# Ongoing Regional Services and Commitments

- Countywide Hydrologic Data Collection
  - Over 50 rain and stream level sites
  - Over 150 volunteer groundwater wells
    - Recently added Adelaida area and Carrizo Plains area wells
- Initiatives
  - Grant for new stream gage site in Tar Spring Creek
  - Developing a program for understanding flow at key sites
  - Groundwater level reporting tool in unmanaged basins



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# Ongoing Regional Services and Commitments (cont'd)

- Regional Water Supply Efforts
  - Master Water Report and Data & Information Management System
  - Integrated Regional Water Management Program
  - Salinas Dam Local Ownership Feasibility Planning
  - Desalination Project Opportunities Planning
- Initiatives
  - Monitoring opportunities under Prop 4



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# Ongoing Regional Services and Commitments (cont'd)

- Flood Planning Efforts
  - Countywide Stormwater Resources Plan/Drainage Studies
  - Monitoring grant opportunities under Prop 4 and other sources
- Coordination/Administrative Activities
  - Budget planning, WRAC, interagency discussions, public requests, conservation program contributions, etc.



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### **Organizational Needs**

- Cash Flow for Zones of Benefit/County System Needs
  - Zone 1/1A Arroyo Grande Creek Channel
  - Potentially others
- · Grant Pass-Through Accounting
  - Integrated Regional Water Management Grants



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### FY 2025/26 Proposed Budget and 5-Year Plan



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# Several documents have been provided to communicate budget information and work efforts.

- Budget Summary and 5-Year Plan
  - To be provided at a later date
- Budget Management Policy
- Description of District Work Programs



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# A Regional Resiliency Reserve has been established to support:

- Special studies/grant cash flow/local match
  - Drainage studies
  - Groundwater area studies
  - Supply project alternatives studies
- Cash-flow loans for other County efforts
  - Currently Zone 1/1A for cash flow
- Future cost match for regional infrastructure partnerships

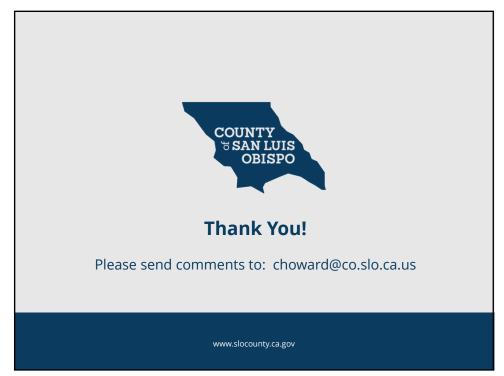
One-time money



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### BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

of the

### SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

**PRESENT:** Supervisors

Frank R. Mecham, Bruce S. Gibson, Adam Hill, Debbie Arnold,

and Chairperson Lynn Compton

ABSENT:

None

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2016-281**

# RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICY REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND RESERVES

The following resolution is now offered and read:

WHEREAS, in 1968, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) Board of Supervisors approved Resolution No. 68-223 which established a policy regarding surveillance of potential drainage problems within the District and the manner in which any necessary remedial measures (planning, design, construction, financing and maintenance of drainage facilities) would be funded (1968 Policy); and

WHEREAS, consistent with the objects and purposes of the District set forth in the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act, the District provides services that extend beyond drainage and flood control services, including, without limitation, services related to the prevention of waste or diminution of the water supply in the District; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being narrowly focused, the 1968 Policy contains provisions, particularly provisions related to financing, that have not been updated to reflect changes in law, including, without limitation, Proposition 218; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the District has determined that the 1968 Policy should be replaced with an updated policy that reflects the broad range of services provided or anticipated to be provided by the District to help achieve sustainable water resources in all areas of the District and that is consistent with public financing laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ORDERED AND DETERMINED by the Board of Supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, State of California, that the District General Fund budget and reserves shall be managed in accordance with the following principles:

- 1. The District shall use available funds for services intended to result in the following:
  - a. Development of a common understanding of conditions (e.g. regional data collection, technical studies);
  - b. Definition of sustainability goals (e.g. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program implementation);
  - c. Identification of feasible solutions to meet goals (e.g. feasibility studies); and
  - d. Facilitation of the initial implementation of identified solutions (e.g. District zones of benefit)
- 2. In its determination of the manner in which various services falling within Section 1 will be funded through the development of the annual District General Fund budget, the District shall allocate funding in accordance with the following priority order:
  - a. Existing regional programmatic services and commitments;
  - b. District financing needs and other County-provided services related to water resources; and
  - c. Other projects and programs that come forward through the IRWM project solicitation and grant application process or are otherwise identified by regional and/or sub-regional stakeholder groups and are financially supported by entities other than the District (e.g. cost-shared, grant-funded or otherwise cost-recoverable areaspecific services such as basin characterizations/models and drainage studies).
- 3. When a long-term solution(s) is identified for implementation, such as an infrastructure project, management of a shared source of supply or management of flood and/or storm waters, use of the annual District General Fund budget shall be limited to facilitating services related to its initial implementation, including institutional structure formation (e.g. creation of a zone of benefit of the District) and funding processes (e.g. establishment of a fee, assessment or tax), preliminary project

development and cash flow/start-up costs. If such services become funded, the District shall seek reimbursement (e.g. from a successfully formed and funded zone of benefit of the District) to the extent possible.

- 4. The annual District General Fund budget shall be developed and managed in a manner that builds reserves in times while needs beyond existing regional programmatic services are still being identified so that funding is available when services to address such needs are ready for implementation.
- 5. For annual budgeting and emergency preparedness purposes, the minimum threshold for District reserves shall be \$3,100,000.
- 6. This policy shall supersede the 1968 Policy.

Upon motion of Supervisor Gibson Supervisor Mecham, and on the following	, seconded by g roll call vote, to wit:
AYES: Supervisors Gibson, Mecham, Hill, Arnold and Chairp	person Compton
NOES: None	
ABSENT: None	
ABSTAINING: None	
the foregoing Resolution is hereby adopted on the 1st day of	November, 2016.
<u>Lynn Compt</u> Chairperson c	on of the Board of Supervisors
ATTEST:	
Tommy Gong	
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  By: <u>Sandy Currens</u> Deputy Clerk	

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EF	-FEGT:
RITA L. NEAL County Counsel	
By: /s/Erica Stuckey Deputy County Counsel	
Dated: October 14, 2016	
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, } County of San Luis Obispo,	
I, Tommy Gong Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the San Luis C District, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full of Supervisors, as the same appears spread upon the	, County Clerk and ex-officio Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation , true and correct copy of an order made by the Board ir minute book.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board of day of November, 2016.	of Supervisors, affixed this 15th
(SEAL)	Tommy Gong County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  By Currens Deputy Clerk

# San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Zone General Work Programs

### A. Management Program

Efforts in this program include supporting the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC), District strategic planning and budgeting efforts, public and partner engagement and inter/intra-department coordination. Staff has created a multi-department water "superteam" that meets monthly to discuss key interrelated water management efforts such as community plan development, groundwater sustainability plan implementation, data collection and organization efforts and other projects and programs with water resources implications. Its mission is to influence and create consistency amongst water-related policies and programs for the purpose of achieving sustainable communities in alignment with the County's values.

### a. Water Conservation Education

A condition of obtaining an IRWM grant includes compliance with AB 1420, which requires implementation of certain conservation best management practices (BMPs) by wholesalers. Certain BMPs are best implemented by the District on a regional basis, while others should be addressed in the Lopez Zone 3 Funds. For example, BMPs 1.11, 2.1, 2.2 – Conservation Coordinator, Public Information and School Education should be implemented regionally, while BMP 1.13– Wholesale Agency Assistance Programs and BMP 1.2 – System Water Audits, Leak Detection/Repair are specific to the wholesale operations. In addition to labor, funding is included to cover the cost of outreach materials and programs, and supporting the Resource Conservation Districts' mobile lab irrigation audit programs.

### b. Public and Partner Engagement

This effort includes communicating about program and project activities through meetings, web postings and other methods; tracking and communicating about water-related grant opportunities; and supporting the effort to improve storage of and access to water-related data and information.

### B. Regional Program

### a. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program

IRWM Program efforts include implementing and updating the Plan, coordinating with the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), monitoring State and funding area activities relevant to IRWM, administration of the implementation and planning grant agreements with the State and project proponents, and the development of implementation grant applications. The District is the lead agency for the program in accordance with State regulations and the Memorandum of Understanding between the RWMG member organizations. Participation in the IRWM Program has resulted in over \$32M in grant awards for local needs.

### b. Master Water Report and Regional Resiliency Planning

This effort includes updating the compilation of analyses that communicates the current and projected future ability of water supplies to meet demands on a county-wide basis. A data and information system will be developed and maintained and updated on a regular basis to ensure that these analyses can be kept up to date which will support timely decision making. The reporting system will also include information on the status of resiliency project implementation and the potential for future strategies to address needs, and address county-wide drought planning requirements.

### c. <u>Stormwater Resources Plan Program</u>

This effort includes maintaining the countywide stormwater resources plan, which identifies stormwater strategies, programs and projects. Stormwater projects need to be in the plan to qualify for applicable State grants.

### d. Flood Mapping

This effort includes coordinating with FEMA, and local entities implementing projects that may influence the floodplain, to keep local floodplain maps updated.

### C. Technical Program

Overall, the Program, as described below, includes ongoing Hydrologic Data collection and management efforts, California Statewide Groundwater Elevation

Monitoring (CASGEM) Program compliance efforts and a contract with the US Geological Survey to share the cost of 3 stream gauges. The data is used by entities charged with water resource management and technical analysis, including the State, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, and other local entities.

<u>Hydrologic Data Management</u>. This includes processing and entering all historical hydrologic data into the data management software and web interface, developing standardized reports for the data to support water conditions reporting efforts, and utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to report and organize the information. Other efforts include trouble shooting data errors as well producing guidance manuals for the overall program.

<u>Groundwater Data</u>. This includes groundwater data collection efforts in unmanaged areas which involves groundwater level measuring, records management, and both field and office work related to groundwater sites and the associated data.

<u>Stream Data</u>. This includes stream data collection efforts including stream calibrating, management, and analysis, and both field and office work related to stream gauging sites and the associated data.

<u>Precipitation Data</u>. This includes rain data collection efforts including rain gauge maintenance, management, and rainfall/intensity analysis, and both field and office work related to rain sites and the associated data.

<u>Office Technical Support</u>. This includes technical support of computer software and equipment related to the automated collection and reporting of groundwater data, stream data, or precipitation, and other office-related efforts such as maintenance and enhancement of the SLOCountyWater website.

<u>CIMIS</u> (California Irrigation Management Information System) Stations. This includes working on existing CIMIS station maintenance efforts.

### D. <u>Subregional Program</u>

### a. Water Supply Studies

Work efforts under this component include studying the feasibility of specific water

supply strategies such as stormwater capture, desalination and optimizing the use of Salinas Reservoir to meet needs in various areas of the county.

### b. **Groundwater Studies**

Work efforts under this component include coordination with stakeholders in unmanaged groundwater basins/areas to understand conditions by conducting technical studies.

### c. Watershed Studies

This allocation supports general drainage and flood control efforts in 25 watersheds including responding to constituents, investigating drainage issues, programs, and flooding problems for all County areas, consistent with the Board of Supervisors adopted policy on surveillance of drainage and flood control problems. Efforts to update drainage studies are anticipated to involve consideration of integrated water management objectives of supply enhancement and water quality improvement. The intent of the program is to provide the technical support needed should communities wish to pursue grants and/or establish Zones of Benefit that would fund maintenance, design, and implementation of watershed/drainage/flood management projects.

### Zones of Benefit

The following is a brief description of the various funding efforts for the established Zones of Benefit. Please note that Water Resources Division staff are assigned to support Zone 1/1A and Zone 9, which may impact the availability of staff for District Zone General efforts.

- a) Zone 1/1A This zone's budget includes annual vegetation and maintenance for the 3.5 miles of the Arroyo Grande Creek Levee system.
- b) *Zone 3 -* This budget includes all tasks related to Lopez dam maintenance, the Lopez water treatment plant, water deliveries, and associated water distribution system.
- c) *Zone 4 -* Funding transferred to Santa Barbara County for the maintenance of the Santa Maria levee system.
- d) Zone 9 Funding for the San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed. The City

- of San Luis Obispo and County coordinate on vegetation and sediment management of San Luis Obispo Creek and its tributaries as well as project development of flood control improvement projects such as the Mid-Higuera By-Pass project.
- e) *Zone 16* Provides for maintenance of thirty-five (35) drainage basins throughout the District.
- f) Zone 18 Funding for maintenance of the Cambria detention basin. The basin was constructed with FEMA grant funding and is required to have separate funding for its maintenance and environmental compliance measures.

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

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**TO:** Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Angela Ford, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: May 7, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4: Receive presentation on the Stakeholder Engagement

Plan for the DESAL Plan

### Recommendation

Receive a presentation on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the DESAL Plan and consider providing feedback.

### **Background**

In January 2025, with grant funding support from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Carollo Engineers for development of the Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics (DESAL) Plan, a water resource resiliency planning effort to explore a potential regional desalination project in San Luis Obispo County. Following this, on February 5, 2025, District staff presented a project update to the WRAC, outlining the scope and timeline, with the intent to return to the WRAC with a draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for review and comment.

The February 5, 2025 WRAC presentation, including the general DESAL Plan project update, is available here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uT7NV107ZXI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uT7NV107ZXI</a>

### Discussion

The draft SEP has now been developed and is available for review and comment at the website linked below; it outlines strategies for engaging stakeholders throughout the DESAL Plan project to ensure transparency, build community trust, and gather feedback and public input. The WRAC and interested parties are invited to review and provide feedback on the DESAL Plan Stakeholder Engagement Plan by submitting a Public Comment Form available on the DESAL Plan website linked below, or by emailing <a href="https://pww.desau.co.slo.ca.us">PW.DESAL@co.slo.ca.us</a>. Input received on the draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan by May 23, 2025 will be considered as the document gets finalized.

For more information, to join the DESAL Plan email list, submit public comments, or view project materials as it becomes available, please visit the County's DESAL Plan webpage at: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL</a>

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

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**TO:** Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

**DATE:** April 2, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item 5: 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 Prioritization<sup>1</sup> 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 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.
Los Osos Basin	<ul> <li>March 2025 Basin Management Committee (BMC) Update</li> <li>The BMC met on April 16, 2025, regarding the following items:         <ul> <li>Approval of 2024 annual operating budget closeout and proposed Procedure Modifications to BMC Rules and Regulations to Incorporate the Budget Reserve Target</li> <li>Presentation of Preliminary 2024 AMR Findings</li> <li>The next regular BMC Meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2025.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Meeting notices, minutes, and recordings are available on the BMC's website: <a href="https://www.losososbmc.org/">https://www.losososbmc.org/</a>.</li> </ul>

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

### **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. The GSP was submitted on January 30, 2022 and approved by DWR on April 14, 2025. Atascadero Basin • 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. 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. Santa However, only the priority of the non-adjudicated fringe areas was assessed, Maria which include the Ziegler Canyon Fringe Area in San Luis Obispo County and Basin 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 California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Portal. For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin or www.slocounty.ca.gov/agbasin 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 **Paso Basin** 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). In April 2025, the County of San Luis Obispo GSA, City of Paso Robles GSA,

Estrella-El Pomar-Creston WD GSA, and Shandon San Juan WD GSA formed the Paso Authority through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), which supersedes the PBCC and is the new governing body of Paso Basin.

- The regular PBCC meeting scheduled for March 26, 2025 was canceled.
- The Paso Authority held its first special meeting on April 7, 2025, regarding the following items:
  - o Election of Officers
  - o Discussion of fiscal year 2024-2025 funding
  - o Approval of water year 2023-2024 Annual Report
- There is a special Paso Authority meeting scheduled for **April 30**, **2025** and the next regular meeting is scheduled for **May 28**, **2025**, respectively.

**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.

### Cuyama Basin

- The Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors met on March 5, 2025, regarding the following items:
  - o Water Year 2023-2024 Annual Report
  - o 2024 Central Management Area Allocation Use
  - o GSA Project Prioritization/Schedule
  - o Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Components
  - o And more
- The next regular Cuyama Basin GSA Advisory and Board meetings are scheduled for **May 1, 2025**, and **May 7, 2025**, respectively.

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: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin</a>

# 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-groundwater-resources-adelaida-area-san-luis-obispo-county?qt-

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

science center objects=0#qt-science center objects

San Luis Obispo County's SGMA Website and Mailing List Sign-up <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma">http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/sgma</a>

California Department of Water Resources (DWR) SGMA Website and Mailing List <a href="https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management">https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management</a>

### 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:

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. County staff provided key updates to the Committee on Phases 2A and 2B of the Levee Rehabilitation Project, the Meadow Creek Lagoon Habitat Restoration Project, the Emergency Watershed Protection Program - Property Buyout Option, annual maintenance, a Waterway Management Plan Hydraulic Performance Update, and other flood planning efforts.
	The staff report for these topics can be viewed 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: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1A">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1A</a>
	<b>Flood Control Zone 9</b> provides flood control data and planning for the area encompassing San Luis Obispo Creek and its tributaries.
Zone 9 San Luis Obispo Creek	The next meeting of the Zone 9 Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 11, 2025, at the City of San Luis Obispo Community Development Conference Room 1, 919 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA.
	For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone9">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone9</a>

### 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.

On April 15, 2025, the District notified the City of Pismo Beach that the District intends to seek removal and replacement of Central Coast Blue, Phase 1 from the Prop. 1, Round 2 Implementation Grant.

This process will begin with a meeting of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), then come to the WRAC, and lastly, be considered by the District Board of Supervisors.

To be notified of the upcoming meetings, 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	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: <a href="mailto:bclark@co.slo.ca.us">bclark@co.slo.ca.us</a> Phone: (805) 788-2316

### f) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

### May 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 after having started with the Morro Bay Watershed. 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: <a href="https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14655">https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14655</a>

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:

2025 SWP Supply		
The District's "Carryover" water in storage at San Luis	6,294 AF	Carryover Water
Reservoir on January 1, 2025 (the start of the new SWP		
delivery year) was:		
<b>The current SWP allocation %</b> (and date) set by DWR:	<u>50%</u>	(4/29/2025)
The Table A water amount based on the current SWP	12,500 AF	Table A Water
allocation % applied to the District's 25,000 AF "Table A"		
contract translates to:		
<b>Total Project Water available</b> to the District:	18,794 AF	<b>Total Supply</b>
2025 SWP Demand		
<b>Total Project Water scheduled</b> for delivery to the District	3,685 AF	Scheduled
within the Coastal Branch (under the District's 4,830 AF		Deliveries
capacity share):		

State Water Subcontractors Advisory Committee (SWSAC): There is a regular SWSAC meeting on Friday, May 9, 2025, to review the latest updates on the draft SWP Transfer Policy. More information, once available, will be posted to the SWSAC website: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/State-Water-Project-and-Subcontractors-Advisory-Co.aspx">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/State-Water-Project-and-Subcontractors-Advisory-Co.aspx</a>

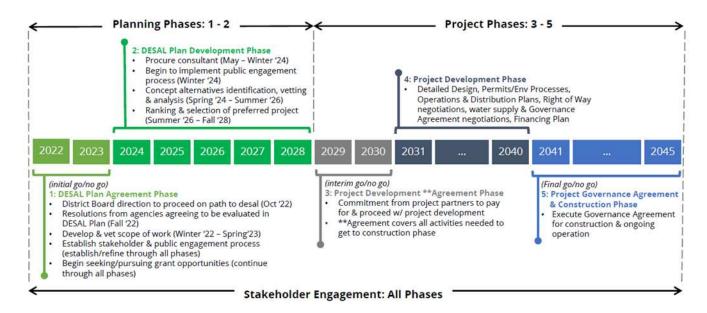
### h) Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics Plan (DESAL Plan)

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 conducting 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 was to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) outlining 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. A draft of this plan is available at the DESAL Plan website (linked below) for public review and comment until May 23, 2025, and today's WRAC meeting includes a presentation on the SEP.

For more information, to join the DESAL Plan email list, submit public comments, or view project materials—including the public draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan—please visit the County's DESAL Plan webpage at: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL</a>

# Desalination Executable Solution And Logistics Plan DESAL Plan\*



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

### **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 <a href="title-19-logwb-retrofit-to-build-requirement">title-19-logwb-retrofit-to-build-requirement</a> 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 <u>Los Osos</u>.

### 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</a>

### **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: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/planning-building/grid-items/community-engagement/communities-villages/los-osos">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/planning-building/grid-items/community-engagement/communities-villages/los-osos</a>

### 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: <a href="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">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</a>

### **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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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:

https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/planning-building/forms-documents/plans-and-elements/community-plans/los-osos-community-plan/cert-los-osos-community-plan. 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 5year 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 waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us 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: 5/1/2025

### 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 late May 2024, the elevation datum was updated along with the storage-elevation curve. 2023 values use previous datum and storage-elevation
- assumptions.
- 7 n/a (no elevation) is reported for Twitchell when the pool elevation is below 535 feet.





								Water \	ear 202	4-25 <sup>1,2</sup>	Average	Water Yea	ar 2023-24					
WPA <sup>3</sup>	Station	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Year-to-	% of	Annual <sup>4</sup>	% of	Total
		24	24	24	24	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	25	Date	Year Avg	Ailliuai	Year Avg	Total
	Hog Canyon	0	0	0.02	0	1.45	0.44	25         25         25         25         25         25         25         Date         Year Avg         Year Avg           0.09         1.96         2.10         0.27         6.3         40%         16         104%         16.7           0.28         15.84         7.99         0.44         34.9         87%         40         181%         72.3           0.19         1.16         2.82         0.74         6.6         55%         12         105%         12.7           0.33         3.69         2.64         0.16         9.4         52%         18         99%         17.8           *         *         *         *         *         1.8         15%         12         135%         16.2           0.24         3.74         2.56         0.20         9.2         51%         18         86%         15.6           0.52         5.09         3.84         0.42         13.1         55%         24         103%         24.8           1.24         7.53         3.31         0.02         14.3         65%         22         129%         28.5           0.32         5.37         3.19         0.25										
	Rocky Butte	0	0	0	0	8.39	1.97	0.28	15.84	7.99	0.44			34.9	87%	40	181%	72.3
	Shandon	0	0	0	0	1.37	0.29	0.19	1.16	2.82	0.74			6.6		12	105%	12.7
North	Templeton	0	0.01	0	0	1.82	0.74	0.33	3.69	2.64	0.16			9.4	52%	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		0.20					18	86%	15.6
	Santa Margarita	0	0	0.04	0	2.34	0.88									24		
	Salinas Dam	0	0	0.08	0	0	2.16	1.24	7.53	3.31	0.02			14.3	65%	22	129%	28.5
San Simeon	San Simeon	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.08	1.57	1.16	0.32	5.37	3.19	0.25			12.1	50%	24	95%	22.8
/ Cambria	Santa Rosa at Main	0	0.01	0.05	0.05	2.92	1.27	0.21	4.70	3.79	0.22			13.2	60%	22	114%	25.1
/ Carribria	Hwy 46 W 7 Mile	0.02	0.01	0.11	0	3.02	1.31	0.18	4.34	4.00	0.23			13.2	44%	30	80%	23.9
	Morro Toro	0	0	0.04	0	3.70	1.62	0.23	7.29	5.87	0.36			19.1	68%	28	118%	33.2
Cayucos /	Canet	0	0.01	0.04	0.07	2.16	1.17	0.16	4.16	3.15	0.30			11.2	51%	22	96%	21.1
Morro Bay /	Camp San Luis	0	0	0	0.08	2.05	1.53	0.40	6.78	3.42	0.28			14.5	73%	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	3.01	0.50			12.0	66%	18	120%	21.6
	Davis Peak	0	0	0	0	3.19	1.07	0.39	5.71	3.19	0.43			14.0	78%	18	140%	25.2
	South Portal	0	0.03	0.08	0.02	3.68	1.92	0.60	9.32	5.11	0.52			21.3	76%	28	116%	32.4
	SLO Reservoir	0	0	0.03	0.08	2.52	1.39	0.09	6.80	3.26	0.40			14.6	61%	24	102%	24.4
	Gas Company	0	0	0.01	0	2.64	1.37	0.21	5.39	2.85	0.34			12.8	58%	22	99%	21.8
	Upper Lopez	0	0	0	0	3.82	0.87	0.43	5.64	4.37	0.35			15.5	52%	30	89%	26.7
SLO /	Lopez Rec Area	0	0	0	0	3.75	0.91	0.64	4.54	4.44	0.38			14.7	67%	22	107%	23.4
South	Lopez Dam	0	0	0.01	0.02	3.91	1.19	0.72	4.36	4.51	0.41			15.1	76%	20	145%	28.9
County	Lopez WTP	0	0	0.02	0.02	3.00	0.82	0.30	2.33	3.42	0.48			10.4	52%	20	105%	20.9
County	Arroyo Grande	0	0	0	0	2.43	0.84	0.28	2.29	3.02	0.44			9.3	52%	18	116%	20.9
	Los Berros	0	0	0.16	0.04	2.79	1.19	0.35	4.02	4.10	0.43			13.1	65%	20	136%	27.2
	Oceano	0	0.01	0.02	0.04	2.80	0.97	0.20	1.73	2.74	0.53			9.0	57%	16	109%	17.4
	Nipomo East	0	0	0	0	3.15	0.65	0.12	3.81	3.32	0.23			11.3	63%	18	135%	24.3
	Nipomo South	0	0.01	0.01	0	2.20	0.64	0.18	2.20	2.60	0.28			8.1	58%	14	131%	18.4

### Non-County Rain Stations

									Water Y	ear 202	4-25 <sup>1,2</sup>						Average	Water Year 2023-24	
WPA <sup>3</sup>	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	2.67	0.24			9.7	69%	14	151%	21.2
County	Atascadero Mutual Water Company	Atascadero MWC	0	0	0.06	0	2.04	1.13	0.28	4.94	3.58	0.01			12.0	69%	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 <sup>3</sup>	Operating Agency	Facility	Spillway Elevation⁵	Data Date	Pool Elevation <sup>5</sup>	Capacity	Storage [acre-feet]	Max Storage [acre-feet]	
		Nacimiento	787.75 - 800.00	5/1/2025	774.31	65%	246,400	377,900	
	Monterey County	Reservoir	(gate-dependent)	5/1/2024	792.30	89%	335,305	377,900	
North	Water Agency	San Antonio	780.00	5/1/2025	761.42	72%	242,260	335,000	
County	Reservoir	780.00	5/1/2024	768.60	82%	275,380	333,000		
	SLO County FCWCD	Salinas Reservoir /	1303.59	5/1/2025	1302.93	98%	21,850	22,320	
	SEO County I CWCD	Santa Margarita Lake <sup>6</sup>	1303.39	5/1/2024	1301.18	102%	24,167	22,320	
Cayucos / Morro Bay /	City of SLO	Whale Rock	216.00	5/1/2025	211.10	93%	36,172	38,967	
Los Osos		Reservoir	210.00	5/1/2024	216.00	100%	38,967		
SLO / South		Lopez Reservoir	522.66	5/1/2025	518.63	93%	45,916	49,476	
South SLO County FCWCD County	SEO County PCWCD	Lopez Neservon	322.00	5/1/2024	522.69	100%	49,559	45,470	
Cuyama	Santa Barbara County	Twitchell Reservoir <sup>7</sup>	651.50	5/1/2025	n/a	n/a	n/a	194,971	
Cuyama	FCD	i witchen Reservoir	057.50	5/1/2024	578.51	16%	31,154	194,971	

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

**DATE:** April 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #6: Future Agenda Items

### June 4 Anticipated Topics:

• Central Coast Water Board (Board Chair & Executive Officer)

• SB-552: Draft Consolidation Plan (Stantec)

### Areas of Interest - Future

• 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.