

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2021

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

Summary

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

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

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

Recommendation

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

Attachment

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

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

_____ day _____, 20__

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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

The following Resolution is now offered and read:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

the foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

Andy Pease
Chairperson of the Water Resources Advisory
Committee

ATTEST:

Brendan Clark
Secretary of the Water Resources Advisory Committee

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

Dated: _____

MINUTES (Draft)

Chairperson: Andy Pease
Vice Chairperson: Ray Dienzo
Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) and as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **September 1st, 2021** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

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

Call to order at 1:30 PM

1) **Determination of a Quorum and Introductions**

A quorum of 18 is established.

2) **Approval of June 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

S. Sinton moves to approve the June 2nd, 2021 meeting minutes and C. Mulholland seconds the motion. Motion carries (18-0-0).

3) **Ongoing Updates:**

a) Rain & Reservoir Report
No comment

b) California Drought Monitor Summary
No comment

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts
M. Bandov provides an update on the Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting schedule and the SLO Basin draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Public comments on the draft Plan can be submitted at slowaterbasin.com through September 19, 2021.

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

B. Clark comments on upcoming DWR grant programs and guidelines for urban and non-urban water suppliers. Program funding is specific for water supply needs.

e) Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP)

No comment

f) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

D. Chipping comments on the Paso Basin Planting Ordinance and asks what “per site” means and why additional water use is being allowed for up to 25 AF per parcel; comments on the Los Osos Community Plan and allowing mitigation for taking washing machines outside of the basin. M. Bandov responds.

E. Greening comments on the definition of de minimis use. M. Bandov responds.

W. Cunha comments on the Planning Department’s upcoming meeting which will discuss the scope and focus of the EIR for the Paso Basin Planting Ordinance.

g) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

E. Greening comments on the reorganization of the County Water Resources Division and asks if it will affect the functioning of the WRAC. M. Bandov and C. Howard respond.

4) Drought in San Luis Obispo County, Panel Discussion: Scotty Jalbert, County of SLO Office of Emergency Services; Ben Fine, City of Pismo Beach; Ray Dienzo, Cambria Community Services District

A. Pease introduces the item and B. Clark facilitates the panel discussion. A recording of the panel discussion is available at <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/wrac>.

The following topics were discussed:

- Panelist introductions, roles, and history with water.
- The role and intent of the Countywide Drought Task Force, the goals and indicators that will be used, and what to expect from the Task Force moving forward.
- The status of Cambria’s water supply compared to a year ago, plans to help guide Cambria CSD’s Board of Directors and staff through drought, the State’s requirements for 2020 UWMP planning, and the status of the Water Reclamation Facility.
- The status of Pismo Beach’s water supply compared to a year ago, plans to help the City of Pismo Beach get through drought, the State’s requirements for 2020 UWMP planning, the Lopez Lake Low Reservoir Response Plan, and an update on Central Coast Blue.

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

D. Chipping asks how far the cities and Countywide Drought Task Force are looking ahead, if there will be intercity collaboration, and what a worst-case scenario may look like. B. Fine responds.

A. Pease comments on drought conservation measures and watering restrictions and asks what types of conservation strategies are being considered for effectively reducing water use. R. Dienzo responds.

C. Mulholland comments on water conservation habits, California's historical drought conditions and responses, and asks what will happen when current conservation efforts are not enough. R. Dienzo responds.

E. Greening asks about the timing for drought reaffirmation. S. Jalbert responds.

5) Receive Presentation from Staff regarding Draft Regional Water Infrastructure Resiliency Plan

A. Pease introduces the item.

B. Clark presents on the Draft Regional Water Infrastructure Plan. Presentation topics include:

- A background on the 2012 Master Water Report, 2011-2017 drought response, and the creation of the Countywide Water Action Team and its approach towards regional resiliency and priorities.
- The purpose of the Regional Water Infrastructure Resiliency Plan (RWIRP) to address Master Water Report recommendations, preempt upcoming State Drought Planning requirements, provide a launching pad for project planning and collaboration, and support drought preparedness.
- An outline of the RWIRP Methods, including the Supply and Demand Assessment, Drought Risk Assessment, Supply Source Risk Assessment, Resiliency Risk Score, and Resiliency Risk Mitigation Opportunities Evaluation.
- Next steps for relevant agencies to take the lead, the State Water Management Tools process, and the Master Water Report update.

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

E. Greening comments on project funding and asks if there is a process to ensure that projects focus on increased resiliency and follows-up about connection to the IRWM program. B. Clark responds.

A. Pease asks if there are any actions or if the WRAC could provide a role in providing recommendations; also asks when the WRAC will hear more about the Master Water Report update. B. Clark and C. Howard respond.

D. Chipping comments on the highest-ranking Resiliency Risk Mitigation Opportunity identified for San Miguel (page 1-3 of the RWIRP) and asks about the probability or likelihood of implementing the improvements. C. Howard responds.

J. Reid asks for an update on Cambria's desalination treatment permit. R. Dienzo responds.

E. Greening asks if Cambria's permit process include a supplemental EIR. R. Dienzo responds.

6) Future Agenda Items

A. Pease comments that an agriculture panel discussion will be agendized for the October WRAC meeting.

B. Clark comments on an IRWM Grant item that may be agendized for the October WRAC meeting.

E. Greening suggests agendizing a discussion on the EIR for Diablo Canyon Decommissioning and inviting the SLO Beaver Brigade to provide a presentation.

J. Reid asks about the status of returning to in-person meetings. B. Clark responds.

C. Mulholland asks if there is a way to advocate for extending the ability to continue meeting via teleconference. E. Greening asks if there are any outdoor meeting options available. B. Clark responds.

7) Comment for Items not on the Agenda

A. Pease asks if there are any comments for items not on the agenda from the Committee or the public; there are none.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2021

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

Notes: M = Member; A = Alternate Member

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WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC)

GUEST LIST 2021

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	OCT	NOV	DEC
Patricia Wilmore	Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance	/	X	/	X	X		/	/	X			
Willy Cunha	Shandon-San Juan Water District	/	X	/			X	/	/	X			
Matthew Scrudato	Santa Barbara County Water Agency	/		/		X	X	/	/	X			
Toby Moore	Golden State Water Company	/	X	/			X	/	/	X			
Nick Teague	City of SLO	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	X			
Will Clemens	OSCD	/	X	/	X			/	/				
Mark Battany	UCCE	/	X	/	X		X	/	/	X			
Jeff Edwards		/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	X			
Greg Grewal		/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/				
Eric Thomas		/	X	/				/	/				
Julie Ridgeway		/		/	X	X	X	/	/	X			
Louis Lefebvre		/		/	X			/	/				
Charlie Cote	S&T Mutual Water Company	/		/	X			/	/				
Dana Merrill	EPCWD	/		/	X			/	/				
Seth Stevens	GHD	/		/	X			/	/				
Chad Stoehler	City of Pismo Beach	/		/		X		/	/				
Tim Kershaw		/		/		X		/	/				
Heather Billing		/		/		X		/	/				
Randy Diffenbaugh		/		/		X		/	/				
Mychal Boerman	City of San Luis Obispo	/		/			X	/	/				
Madeleine Travis	CivicSpark Fellow	/		/			X	/	/				
Aaron Floyd	City of San Luis Obispo	/		/			X	/	/				
Hank Krzuick		/		/			X	/	/				
Christina Stamos	USGS	/		/			X	/	/				
Geoff Cromwell	USGS	/		/			X	/	/				
Nicole Fenton	USGS	/		/			X	/	/				
Chad Stoehr	City of Pismo Beach	/		/			X	/	/				
Kellie Fortner		/		/			X	/	/				
John Wallace		/		/			X	/	/				
Laurie Gage	EPCWD	/		/			X	/	/				
Tom Burhenn		/		/				/	/	X			
Heather Nelson		/		/				/	/	X			
Scotty Jalpert	County of SLO OES	/		/				/	/	X			
Ben Fine	City of Pismo Beach	/		/				/	/	X			
Matt Cook	GSWC	/		/				/	/	X			
Spencer Waterman	WSC	/		/				/	/	X			
Dan Heimel	WSC	/		/				/	/	X			
John Hollenbeck		/		/				/	/	X			
Richard McCann		/		/				/	/	X			

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 4: Drought and Agriculture in San Luis Obispo County, Panel Discussion: Jerry Rutiz, Rutiz Farms; Seth Scribner, President, SLO County Cattlemen; Bob Schiebelhut, Edna Valley Vintner and Grower; Steve Carter, WRAC Member, SLO County Farm Bureau

Discussion

On July 8th, 2021, Governor Newsom added San Luis Obispo County to the State's Drought Declaration. Subsequently, the County of SLO Board of Supervisors declared a local emergency related to drought conditions on July 13th, 2021.

As we have been tracking in on-going updates, our local drought monitor status has progressed from "Abnormally Dry" in February 2021 to entirely "Extreme Drought" in July 2021.

The Committee hosted a panel in September focusing on urban response and preparation for droughts. This month we will focus on agriculture operations and production. In a future meeting, we intend to have a panel focusing on technologies and research related to agricultural water use.

This month's agriculture panel will include discussion about the effects of drought on production agriculture, vineyards and ranching.

Websites

- October 5, 2021, Board of Supervisors Drought update:
<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/13783>

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 5: Receive update from Staff regarding San Simeon CSD's Prop 1. IRWM Grant and consider actions.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Committee advise the Board to seek removal of San Simeon CSD's project from the Proposition 1, Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Agreement.

Discussion

Based on our program MOU (attached), the Flood Control District (District) is the lead agency of our County's IRWM Program (Section 4.2.1) and any significant decision points are to come to the WRAC prior to going to the Board (Section 4.3).

Staff is preparing an item for the Board related to the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program's Proposition 1, Round 1 Implementation Grant. This awarded grant included an allocation of \$500,000 for San Simeon CSD. Staff is recommending removal of the San Simeon CSD's project from the Proposition 1, Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Agreement based on the following project status and programmatic concerns:

Status of the project indicates it is unlikely to meet the requirements of the December 28, 2022 Grant Agreement deadline:

- The timeline for securing an easement or other legal instrument for locating the project on Hearst Corporation property is uncertain¹,
- the additional \$1.8 Million of funding needed for the project is not being pursued, and
- there is an uncertain timeline for design completion².

Risks to losing grant funding for the IRWM Program should be minimized:

- The Grant Agreement states: *"any placeholder projects that fail to complete CEQA and/or acquire permits will be deleted from the Agreement. The total grant award will be reduced by the amount of the deleted project(s). Replacement projects will not be allowed. Reduced amount will be made available to the respective Funding Area in future funding rounds on a competitive basis."*
- There is only one "future funding round" and it is expected to begin by the end of 2021. If the San Simeon CSD Project remains in the agreement and does not meet the deadline, the \$500,000 grant award would be lost.

Removing the project now will enable these funds to be added to our County's available grant award for the soon-to-be-released final funding round.

¹ The letter agreement with Hearst Corporation noted in their grant application expired on December 31, 2019, and whether SSCSD will reach agreement with Hearst Corporation remains unclear.

² SSCSD Regular Board Meeting Packet, Item 3A.iii, 8/12/2021

San Luis Obispo County Region
Integrated Regional Water Management Program Participants
Memorandum of Understanding

The undersigned agencies and organizations hereby agree as follows:

1. BACKGROUND

The State of California has established an Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) planning and grant program pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Public Resource Code (PRC) Section 75001 et seq., also known as Proposition 84). This program is anticipated to be perpetuated and/or modified by future Bond acts. The IRWM program provides guidance for collaborative efforts to manage all aspects of water resources in a region by crossing jurisdictional, watershed, and political boundaries to involve multiple agencies, stakeholders, individuals, and groups in order to address issues and differing perspectives of all entities involved through mutually beneficial solutions. Regions that develop IRWM plans in accordance with the guidelines are eligible for certain water resources grant funding opportunities.

In accordance with PRC Section 75001 (et seq.) and State IRWM Program guidelines, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (dated 2009), signed by eleven agencies within San Luis Obispo County, established a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) for the San Luis Obispo County IRWM Region, and the San Luis Obispo County IRWM Region was officially accepted by the State in May 2009.

The San Luis Obispo County IRWM Region water resources stakeholders have determined the need to update the IRWM MOU in order to meet new State IRWM guidelines, to clarify the governance structure for IRWM planning in the San Luis Obispo County IRWM Region, and encourage broader participation. This MOU, in conjunction with the current IRWM Plan, sets forth the San Luis Obispo County IRWM Region's governance structure thereby allowing members and other stakeholders to understand how to participate in the IRWM Plan development and implementation.

2. PURPOSE, GOALS, AND APPROACH

2.1 Purpose. The purpose of this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is to establish the mutual understandings among the San Luis Obispo County Region participants with respect to their joint efforts to develop and implement an Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan for the San Luis Obispo County Region, including the definition of common IRWM terms, roles and responsibilities of IRWM Program Participants, and decision-making processes.

2.2 Goals. The goal of the IRWM program is to provide a reliable, long-term, and high-quality water supply, and to establish a unified vision among the participants' goals for water quality improvement, ecosystem preservation, water supply protection and enhancement, ground water management and flood management, in the context of social justice and climate change adaptation, while protecting the environment. The adopted IRWM plan will identify major water-related goals, objectives and conflicts within the region, consider a broad variety of water management strategies, identify the appropriate mix of water demand and supply management alternatives, water quality protections, flood management strategies, and environmental stewardship actions.

2.3 Approach. The San Luis Obispo County Region participants are specifying their shared intent to coordinate and collaborate on water management issues, giving consideration to disadvantaged communities and Native American tribes and their water related needs. In order to

enhance participation of stakeholders, it will be necessary to work at a sub-regional level to better understand the water resources needs and priorities throughout the region. When applying for grants, the San Luis Obispo County Region will strive to distribute the grant funding request fairly across the geographic region. The goal is to distribute awarded funding from each grant cycle equally across the sub-regions (i.e. one quarter of the overall funding to benefit each of the three sub-regions' projects/programs and one quarter of the overall funding to benefit regional projects/programs), to the extent feasible.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan). A comprehensive plan for a defined geographic area which shall satisfy the requirements of California's IRWM Program.

3.2 San Luis Obispo County Region (Region). The geographic area of San Luis Obispo County, which is coterminous with the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) boundary.

3.3 Local Agency. Any city, county, city and county, special district, joint powers authority, or other political subdivision of the state, a public utility as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, or a mutual water company as defined in Section 2725 of the Public Utilities Code.

3.4 Program Participants. Development and implementation of the Region's Plan is a collaborative effort undertaken by the Region's participants, as further discussed in Section 4. The effort is being led by the District, in partnership with the Regional Water Management Group, Water Resources Advisory Committee, Implementation Affiliates, and Interested Stakeholders. Only regional projects and programs to be implemented by those agencies which have adopted the Plan will be eligible for grant applications. The Region categorizes IRWM Program Participants into the following:

3.4.1 Regional Water Management Group (RWMG). A group in which three or more local agencies, at least two of which have statutory authority over water supply or water management, as well as those other persons who may be necessary for the development and implementation of the Plan, participate by means of this memorandum of understanding, in accordance with requirements of the California Water Code (CWC § 10539). The Region's RWMG members are signatories to this MOU, have adopted the current Plan, and may designate a representative to participate in RWMG activities and its Working Group. The entities must be either a Local Agency or an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The RWMG has the capacity to carry out projects (i.e. financial resources, management structure, adequate staffing). The agencies/organizations that form the RWMG may have planning or implementation projects eligible for State IRWM grants.

3.4.2 Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC). This is the committee comprised of water purveyor, resource conservation district, environmental and agricultural, and other water resources representatives that was originally established in the 1940s to advise the District Board of Supervisors on water resource issues. The WRAC is a Brown Act committee that meets monthly, with the exception of July and August. Many participants are actively engaged in issues relevant to Plan development and implementation, and will represent important stakeholder groups throughout the program.

3.4.3 RWMG Working Group (Working Group). The Working Group will involve representatives from the RWMG who have technical expertise and are able to work on the details associated with IRWM efforts. The Working Group will engage stakeholders at a sub-regional level in order to better understand the specific water resources needs and priorities of that sub-region.

3.4.4 **Implementation Affiliates.** These entities will adopt the Plan by resolution, but would not be signatories of the MOU. The entities must be either a Local Agency or an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Implementation Affiliates have the capacity to carry out projects (i.e. financial resources, management structure, adequate staffing). In order to have a planning or implementation project eligible for State IRWM grants, agencies must be an Implementation Affiliate if they are not a part of the RWMG.

3.4.5 **Interested Stakeholders.** These individuals, organizations, and nonprofits (including those that are not IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations) who are interested in the IRWM program. The Interested Stakeholders may sign a letter of support for the Plan, or otherwise provide input to the RWMG, but would not be eligible for directly receiving State IRWM grant funds.

3.5 Sub-regions. The Region's IRWM program seeks to engage stakeholders and understand the water resources needs of the Region. To adequately ensure this balanced access and opportunity for participation in the IRWM program, the RWMG will utilize a sub-regional geographic structure, allowing more focused planning and local outreach efforts that are later brought into the context of the overall IRWM Region. These sub-regions have been deliberately defined in terms of logical planning and watershed/ hydrogeologic unit boundaries. These "sub-regions" include the North Coast, North County, and South County (see Attachment 1).

3.6 Regional Projects or Programs. Projects or programs to be implemented by the RWMG and/or Implementation Affiliates are identified in the Plan and are based upon the State's IRWM Guidelines under which the current Plan was adopted, which includes but is not limited to: reducing water demand through agricultural and urban water use efficiency, increasing water supplies for any beneficial use, improving operational efficiency and water supply reliability, improving water quality, improving resource stewardship, and improving flood management.

3.7 Integration. Assembling into one document the water-related management strategies, projects, programs, and plans of the Region. The development and implementation of the Plan should demonstrate the RWMG is forming, coordinating and integrating separate efforts in order to function as a unified effort in a collaborative manner that balances interests and engages a variety of stakeholders and seeks to efficiently integrate regional resources. The Plan development will identify water management strategies for the Region and the priority projects and programs that demonstrate how these strategies work together to meet goals identified in Section 2. It will also identify regional benefits of linkages between projects and plans that address different primary water-related objectives (for example, identifying regional benefits of linkages between a water supply project and a flood management project in the same watershed).

4. IRWM PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

4.1 Program Participant Structure. Elements of the Plan will be developed and implemented by the Program Participants. The RWMG, including the District as the Lead Agency, and the Implementation Affiliates are responsible for Plan development and implementation.

4.2 Plan Development and Implementation. The Region's Plan that was adopted by the District, developed in coordination with and approved by stakeholders in 2005, and updated in 2007, will be the basis for subsequent adopted Plans for the Region. The Working Group will propose changes to the previous versions of the Plan to comply with new State guidelines and incorporate new information and projects. Since a key element of the IRWM Program is integration, the RWMG will work with Program Participants to identify water management strategies for the Region and sub-regions and the priority projects that demonstrate how these strategies work together to meet the purpose and goals in Section 2. How each Program

Participant contributes and participates in Plan development and implementation is described below:

4.2.1 Lead Agency. The District will act as the lead agency for Plan development, will execute this MOU, and will adopt the Plan in accordance with 4.3 and 4.4 below. The District will ultimately be responsible for the final production of the Region's Plan, hiring consultant(s) to develop the Plan, and presentations to stakeholders, submittal of IRWM grant applications, and execution and administration of grant agreements with the State. As the Lead Agency, the District will execute and administer agreements with RWMG members and Implementation Affiliates responsible for the implementation of projects that are awarded grants, including data collection relevant to grant agreements, project reporting, etc. Efforts described in Section 4.2.1 are subject to the availability of funding.

4.2.2 RWMG. Members will execute this MOU and adopt the Plan in accordance with 4.3 and 4.4 below. RWMG members will designate a representative with clear authority to represent the agency or organization, provide expertise, provide information in a timely manner, participate in meetings, review and approve technical documents as needed, and will provide the District with their designated representative's contact information. This representative will be eligible to participate on the Working Group. All RWMG members, whether or not their representative is participating in the Working Group, hereby agree to provide information sufficient to meet State guidelines for their regional projects and programs to be included in the Plan and participate in the review of the Plan. RWMG members will consider integrating projects and programs with other agencies when possible, especially with disadvantaged communities and Native American tribes, in accordance with State IRWM Guidelines. RWMG members responsible for the implementation of regional projects and programs awarded grant funding will be responsible, through contract with the District, for complying with the provisions of the District's grant agreement with the State. The RWMG will provide updates to the WRAC and seek WRAC support of recommendations at key decision points.

4.2.3 WRAC. The WRAC will provide a forum for public meetings/ workshops related to Plan development and implementation at key decision points. The WRAC will review and comment on the RWMG recommendations to the District's Board of Supervisors at key decision points.

4.2.4 Working Group. Representatives of the Working Group will be designated by the RWMG member and will have clear authority to represent the agency or organization, provide expertise, provide information in a timely manner, participate in meetings, review and approve technical documents as needed, and will provide the District with their designated representative's contact information. The District will provide materials with sufficient lead time for RWMG member and Working Group engagement. The Working Group will develop information, draft documents and recommendations pertaining to the Plan update consistent with current State IRWM Guidelines during Plan development. Efforts are anticipated to include stakeholder outreach, collection and incorporation of updated data, etc. The Working Group will develop information and recommendations for IRWM program planning and implementation, stakeholder outreach, and pursuit of funding opportunities. All RWMG members will participate in the process to select the Region's IRWM projects and programs for grant applications by way of the Working Group, who will conduct project/program solicitations and evaluations, and will make recommendations on grant funding allocations. The Working Group will need to conduct sub-regional public meetings during Plan development and implementation to facilitate stakeholder participation.

4.2.5 Implementation Affiliates. Implementation Affiliates shall adopt the Plan in accordance with Section 4.3. Implementation Affiliates will designate a representative with clear authority to represent the agency or organization, provide expertise, provide information in a timely manner, participate in meetings, review and approve technical documents as needed, and will provide the District with their designated representative's contact information. All

Implementation Affiliates will provide information sufficient to meet State guidelines for their regional projects and programs to be included in the Plan and participate in the review of the Plan and for implementation activities, such as project status updates, project reporting, data collection, etc. Implementation Affiliates will consider integrating projects and programs with neighboring agencies when possible, especially with disadvantaged communities and Native American tribes, in accordance with State IRWM Guidelines. Implementation Affiliates responsible for the implementation of regional projects and programs awarded grant funding will be responsible, through contract with the District, for complying with the provisions of the District's grant agreement with the State.

4.2.6 **Interested Stakeholders.** Interested Stakeholders may participate in the Plan development and implementation process by way of participation at WRAC and/or RWMG meetings. Interested Stakeholders that are not WRAC members will be notified when an IRWM program item will be reviewed by the WRAC if they request inclusion on the IRWM contact list (Section 5.6). Sub-regional meetings will be required to ensure Interested Stakeholders, including disadvantaged communities, who may not necessarily be able to attend WRAC meetings, can participate in Plan development and implementation.

4.3 IRWM Plan Adoption. Plan approval and adoption will be required of the governing bodies of RWMG members and Implementation Affiliates. Plan updates to meet new State guidelines, add new RWMG Members, add or remove and evaluate regional projects and programs, or other updates to information do not require Plan re-adoption. Significant changes to the Plan, including revised goals and objectives, revised methodologies (such as methodology for evaluating, ranking, and prioritizing projects and programs), revised regional boundaries, or other changes deemed significant by the RWMG and the Lead Agency, will require Plan re-adoption via the decision-making process described in Section 4.5.

4.4 Personnel and Financial Resources. It is expected that Program Participants will contribute the resources necessary to fulfill the responsibilities listed within Section 4 of this MOU. Program Participants that receive implementation grant funding, shall contribute a proportionate share of non-project costs associated with the grant agreement, based on awarded implementation funding (for example, contributing toward the cost of updating the Plan, should that be a condition of grant award)..

4.5 Decision Making. The RWMG shall develop IRWM program materials and will make recommendations to the Lead Agency at key decision points of the IRWM program. Written input will be sought between the representatives of RWMG members in the event the need for a decision arises that cannot be brought forth to the RWMG before a decision needs to be made. The District, by way of its Public Works Department, shall notify the RWMG agencies of recommendations being taken to the District's Board of Supervisors for action. The District's Board of Supervisors may approve, alter, or return any said recommendation of the RWMG. Furthermore, if the District's Board of Supervisors intends to alter an item or proposition approved by the RWMG, the District's Board of Supervisors shall set forth in writing its findings, after which the Board will hold a public hearing. The RWMG agencies shall have the right to appear and address the District's Board of Supervisors.

5. MUTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS

5.1 Need for the Region's IRWM Plan

5.1.1 To improve communication and cooperation between public and private agencies and minimize conflict-generated solutions.

5.1.2 To enhance our existing water management efforts by increasing stakeholder awareness of important issues, providing more opportunities for collaborative efforts and improving efficiencies in government and water management.

5.1.3 To qualify for state grants and other funding opportunities only available to those regions which have developed IRWM plans.

5.2 Subject matter scope of the IRWM Plan. The Plan focuses on water supply, water quality protection and improvement, ecosystem preservation and restoration, groundwater monitoring and management, and flood management as these are the most prevalent water resource issues facing the Region.

5.3 Geographical scope of the IRWM Program. The Region for this memorandum is coterminous with the boundary of San Luis Obispo County. This is an appropriate geographic region for integrated regional water management planning because it encompasses all aspects of water management generally within the same physical, political, environmental, social, and economic boundaries. The Region may engage stakeholders within the three sub-regions in order to better understand the specific water resources needs and priorities of that sub-region, which would then be incorporated into the context of the greater IRWM Region planning and implementation.

The Region is bordered by the Greater Monterey County IRWM region to the north, the Santa Barbara County and Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County IRWM regions to the south, and the Kern County IRWM region to the east.

Water resources issues that overlap neighboring regional boundaries are either covered by existing cooperative water management plans (i.e. Nacitone Watershed Management Plan), adjudication (i.e. Santa Maria Groundwater Basin), and operational agreements (i.e. Nacimiento Reservoir), or have no defining water resource management issue. All of these items are to be included in the Region's Plan consistent with the plans of neighboring regions. The RWMG will continue to coordinate with neighboring regions to address additional water resources issues and possible integrated water management strategies in our respective IRWM plans.

5.4 Non-binding nature. This document and participation in the IRWM program efforts are nonbinding, and in no way suggest that a RWMG member or Implementation Affiliate may not continue its own planning and undertake efforts to secure project funding from any source. An agency/ organization may withdraw from participation in accordance with Section 5.7.

5.5 Other on-going regional efforts. Development of the Plan is separate from efforts of other organizations to develop water-related plans on a regional basis. As the Plan is developed, work products can be shared with these separate efforts to provide them with current information.

5.6 Reports and communications. The WRAC, an IRWM contact list, and the District's website will serve as the forum for updates and correspondence relating to the IRWM program and Plan development.

5.7 Termination. Because the Plan will require periodic review and updating for use into the future, it is envisioned that the joint efforts of those involved will be ongoing in maintaining a living document. Thus this MOU will remain as a reflection of the understandings of the RWMG Members. As indicated, parties to this MOU may terminate their involvement at any time, but must provide all RWMG agencies with 30 days' advance notice of intent to terminate.

5.8 Superseded Prior MOU. This MOU supersedes the MOU dated April 21, 2009 (2009 MOU).

5.9 Counterparts. This MOU may be executed in counterparts and has the same force and effect as if all the signatures were obtained in one document.

6. SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

We, the undersigned representatives of our respective agencies or organizations, acknowledge the above as our understanding of how the San Luis Integrated Regional Water Management Plan will be developed.

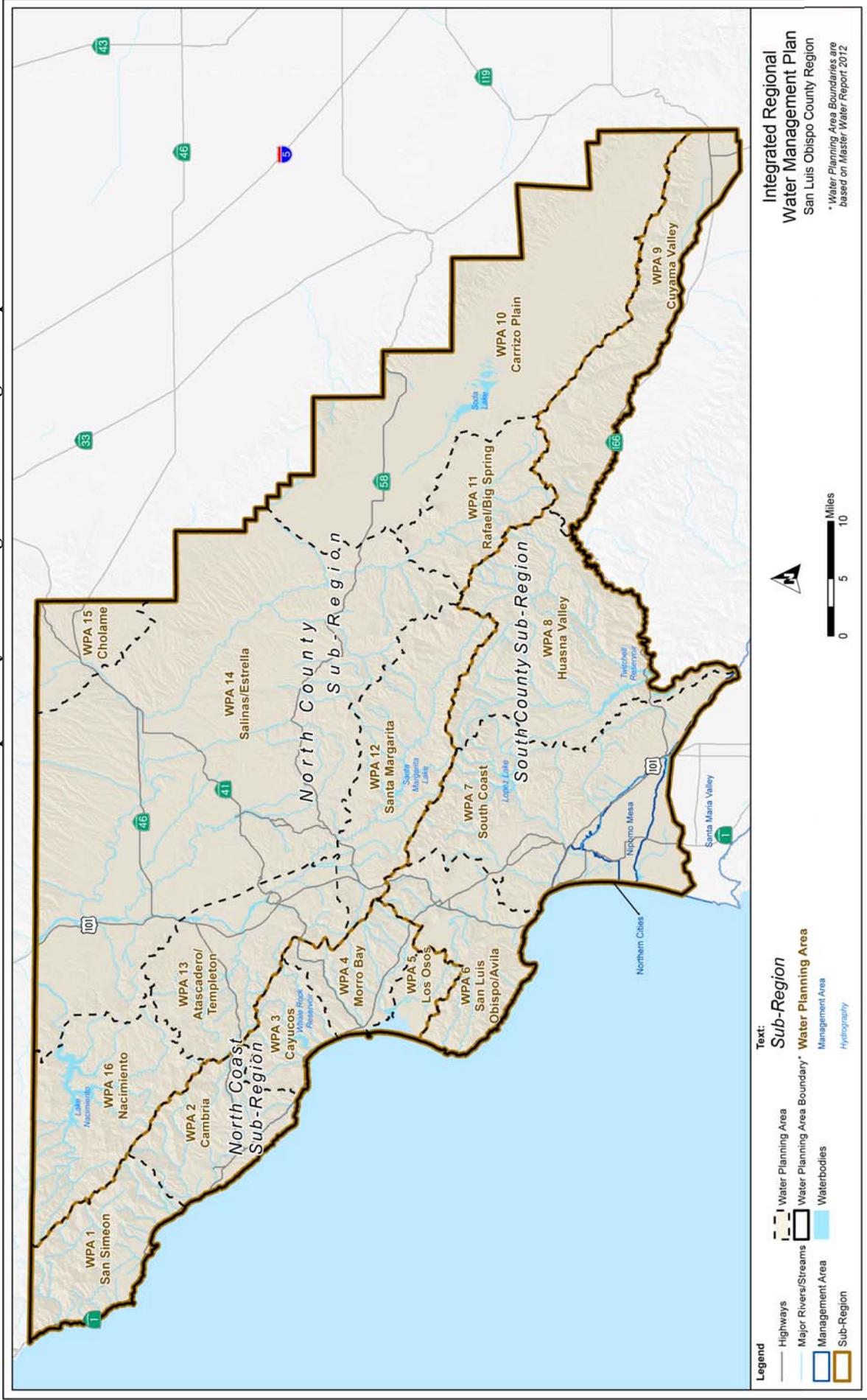
_____ signature

_____ printed name

_____ agency

_____ date

Attachment 1 – San Luis Obispo County IRWM Region and Sub-Regions Map



TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2021

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

Recommendation

Consider endorsing Tom Burhenn’s application for selection by Board of Supervisors.

Discussion

The WRAC Secretary received the attached application on September 7th, 2021, from Tom Burhenn for one of the vacant Environmental At-large Alternate Member positions.

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

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

It is anticipated the application would be go before the Board on November 16th, 2021.



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

Date 09/06/2021

Applying for appointment to Water Resources Advisory Committee

(Name of Board, Commission or Committee)

General Information

Name Thomas Burhenn

Address [REDACTED]

Business Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone [REDACTED]

E-mail Address [REDACTED]

Supervisorial District 4

Years resided in County 5

Employment & Education

Employer Name (if retired/unemployed list previous employer) Retired, last position:

Director of Regulatory Affairs, Southern California Edison.

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

If no, list the highest grade completed _____

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

Bachelor of Science, Economics, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, 1980

Qualifications

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

30+ years permitting and operation of utility infrastructure, including a water utility

Well-versed in environmental and public policy issues

Good knowledge of CEQA, NEPA and other state and federal laws and regulations

Experience testifying as an expert witness before state and federal regulatory agencies

Excellent written and verbal communication skills

List dates/names of positions you have held on any advisory body or elected office
none

List Membership to Organizations

The Nature Conservancy of California

Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team (retired member)

California Native Plant society, Audubon

Volunteer, California State Parks, SLO County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

Please explain why you would like to serve in this capacity

I wish to offer my services to the county as an environmental alternate member of the (WRAC).

I have an long time interest in water issues, not only in this county, but all of California. I am thoughtful, pragmatic, and I work well in a team environment. I recongnize climate change and California's drought cycles

present significant challeges to the Central Coast. I beleive in thoughtful analysis to identify viable potential solutions to satisfy stakeholders and to aid the Board of Supervisors and other decision-makers.

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

Yes No Comments _____

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

Yes No Comments _____

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

Yes No Comments, address yes, phone number probably _____

Please mail this applicaton to:

Board of Supervisors

1055 Monterey St., Rm. D430

San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 7: Ongoing Updates

Recommendation

Receive updates on various ongoing efforts.

Discussion

- a) **Rain & Reservoir Report:** See attached report.
- b) **California Drought Monitor Summary.** See attached summaries.
- c) **Groundwater Management Efforts**

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

The quarterly financial update for SGMA went to the Board on September 14, 2021. The report can be accessed here: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/13705>

BASIN UPDATES:

Basin	Update:
<p>Los Osos Basin</p>	<p>Los Osos Area Subbasin (adjudicated area) is designated as a very low priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. SGMA does not apply to the portions of Los Osos Basin that are adjudicated provided that certain requirements are met (Water Code §10720.8). The fringe areas of the Los Osos Area Subbasin are not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization. The Los Osos Basin Management Committee (BMC) oversees implementation of the Los Osos Basin Plan for the area.</p> <p>The Los Osos BMC Board of Directors meeting scheduled for September 15, 2021 was canceled and re-scheduled on September 29, 2021. The agenda for this meeting includes (1) an update on the Draft Spring 2021 Lower Aquifer Groundwater Basin monitoring results; and (2) a review and request for direction on revisions regarding the Sustainable Yield methodology and the procedures and timeline on calculating and approving the Sustainable Yield.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: slocounty.ca.gov/lobmc</p>

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

	<p>Warden Creek Subbasin is designated as a very low priority and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: slocounty.ca.gov/losososbasin</p>
<p>Atascadero Basin</p>	<p>Atascadero Basin is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Executive Committee (EC) has committed to developing a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) by 2022.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the EC will consider adopting the Atascadero Basin GSP at their next regular EC meeting on November 3, 2021.</p> <p>For information or to view the GSP material, visit: https://portal.atascaderobasin.com/</p>
<p>Santa Maria Basin</p>	<p>Santa Maria Area Subbasin (adjudicated area) is designated as a very low priority basin. The adjudicated areas of the Santa Maria Basin are managed by the Northern Cities Management Area, Nipomo Mesa Management Area, and Santa Maria Valley Management Area. The Santa Maria Basin Fringe Areas – County of San Luis Obispo GSA is the GSA for the non-adjudicated fringe areas of the basin within the County. This subbasin consists of an adjudicated area and other non-adjudicated fringe areas. However, only the priority of the non-adjudicated fringe areas was assessed, which include the Ziegler Canyon Fringe Area in San Luis Obispo County and other fringe areas in Santa Barbara County.</p> <p>Arroyo Grande Subbasin is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the County and City of Arroyo Grande as GSAs in the basin are committed to developing a GSP by 2022.</p> <p>A second public workshop meeting for the GSP is scheduled for December 2021. Topics will be as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a preliminary set of basin sustainability goals. • Define the undesirable results and the sustainable management criteria. • Present an overview on preliminary basin groundwater conditions and water budget to support discussions on the sustainable management criteria. <p>The public comment period for Draft GSP Chapter 4 – Basin Setting will close on September 30, 2021.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin</p>
<p>Paso Basin</p>	<p>Paso Basin is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA and three other GSAs within the basin entered into an agreement to coordinate on SGMA compliance efforts, such as development and submittal of a single Paso Basin GSP by the statutory deadline of January 31, 2020, development of Annual Reports, etc., via the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC).</p> <p>The PBCC held a regular meeting on July 21, 2021. The topics presented and discussed were as follow:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWR's initial assessment of the Paso Basin GSP and an approach and budget for addressing the deficiencies identified therein. • An approach for procuring a consultant to develop the Water Year 2021 GSP Annual Report (<i>this item was continued to a PBCC special meeting on July 27, 2021</i>). • Informational updates on Prop 68 Round 2 Implementation Grant pursuit and Shandon-San Juan Water District's State Water Resources Control Board's applications to appropriate water. <p>The next regular PBCC meeting is scheduled on October 27, 2021, though it is anticipated that the meeting schedule may change if needed to accommodate the effort to address GSP deficiencies. Anticipated topics include, but aren't limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach for addressing the Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies. • Selecting consultant to develop Water Year 2021 Annual Report. <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</p>
<p>Cuyama Basin</p>	<p>Cuyama Basin is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Cuyama Basin GSA was formed through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and is an independent agency governed by a Board of Directors for Cuyama Basin.</p> <p>The Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting scheduled for September 1, 2021 was canceled. The next regular Board of Directors meetings is scheduled for November 3, 2021.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: cuyamabasin.org</p>
<p>San Luis Obispo Basin</p>	<p>San Luis Obispo Basin is designated as a high priority basin. The County and City of San Luis Obispo as GSAs in the basin are developing a GSP for the SLO Basin and coordinating as the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) with other basin partners.</p> <p>The SLO Basin GSC held meetings on June 21 and August 18, 2021, which included recommending the release of the Public Draft of the SLO Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for public comment. The public comment period closed on September 19, 2021.</p> <p>The next SLO Basin GSC meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2021.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin or slowaterbasin.com</p>
<p>Adelaida Area</p>	<p>The Adelaida Area is not a DWR designated groundwater basin; however, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District is coordinating with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resources Conservation District (RCD) to conduct a hydrogeologic study within the Adelaida area. The goal of the study is to provide a better understanding of the of the groundwater conditions in the Adelaida area so that informed decisions can be made about managing local water resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts for Task 1 have been underway since March of 2020. These efforts consist of compiling and analyzing existing hydrogeologic data from publicly available sources and private landowners residing within the study area. • USGS' evaluation of existing data for Task 1 concluded in March 2021.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A follow-up community meeting was held on Friday, April 23, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. where USGS staff provided a summary of work completed for the initial data collection task and next steps for the study. • On June 8, 2021 the Board of Supervisors directed staff to proceed with Task 2 of the Adelaida Hydrogeological Study. • Task 2 consists of new data collection, including but not limited to: groundwater level data, water quality sampling, and surface-water monitoring. <p>For more information, please visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/adelaidastudy • https://www.usgs.gov/centers/ca-water/science/evaluation-groundwater-resources-adelaida-area-san-luis-obispo-county?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects
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County SGMA website – The County has a SGMA website with an interactive mapping tool available for each medium and high priority basin in the county. Residents can verify whether a specific parcel is within a priority basin boundary and, therefore, whether the parcel is subject to SGMA requirements. The following websites include other informative materials, such as SGMA fact sheets and recent presentation materials. Visit the websites and basin-specific page links to learn more and to sign up for the County’s SGMA email list.

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

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

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

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

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

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

DWR is readying the Proposition 1, Round 2 Implementation grant opportunity and we expect the draft guidelines to be out by the end of the year.

DWR is facilitating 2 separate grant programs that were funded by the 2021-2022 State Budget. Additional information about these grants is available here:

- <https://water.ca.gov/News/News-Releases/2021/Aug-21/State-Agencies-Announce-First-Round-of-Commitments-for-Drought-Funding-Small-Communities>
- <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought/Urban-Multi-Benefit-Drought>

If an agency or eligible NGO is interested in applying for any of these funds, please submit a project to the IRWM program for inclusion in the project list:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=dMfDhN9_4kClkCey5w-BJg3tfgh-z0JOhuEB-5PKsLxUNDFKSIIBUkRPSUdFQUpEQjdKWTVCrDUyVC4u

A summary of open and pending IRWM grants is below:

Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Mgmt Grant (2011)	\$2,797,000	Close-out	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	Close-out	Flood Control District
Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011)	\$10,401,000	Close-out	
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	Close-out	Flood Control District
Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement 2017	\$877,563	Close-out	
FCD Funding Administration	\$20,700	Close-out	Flood Control District
Disadvantaged Community Needs Assessment	\$67,738	Complete	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Program, Phase 2	\$177,750	Complete	Oceano CSD
Turnout Pump Station Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Close-out	City of Grover Beach
Water Res. Recovery Facility, SLO Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of SLO
Reservoir Expansion Project & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Study and Recharge Basin Study	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1	\$3,282,130	In Progress	
Grant Administration	\$155,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	In Progress	City of SLO
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	In Progress	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	In Progress	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects #1-1, #1-9	\$274,500	In Progress	Oceano CSD
Reservoir Expansion Project, Phase 1 Distribution System	\$500,000	On Hold	San Simeon CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2 (est. 2022)	\$3,282,129		
TBD	TBD	TBD	Project Sponsors

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

For questions, contact:

Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager

Email: bclark@co.slo.ca.us

Phone: (805) 788-2316

e) Stormwater Resource Plan

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Proposition 68 Final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package for the Floodplain Management, Protection and Risk Awareness Grant

Program. This grant will fund planning, monitoring, and implementation projects. The grant guidelines can be found here: https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Flood-Management-Protection-and-Risk-Awareness-Program/FMPRA-Guidelines_Accessible_FINAL.pdf

Planning and Monitoring Project Examples:

- Purchase and installation of data collection gages
- Decision support tools that evaluate the benefits and costs of multi-benefit stormwater projects
- Flood risk reduction mapping, alluvial fans or other landforms, burned areas, severity of burns and simulating burn severities, vegetation mapping.
- Evaluation of risks based on mapping and data collection efforts.
- Community Rating System class advancement or application letter of interest submittal with an intent to perform wise use of floodplain management.
- Activities necessary to update a stormwater resource plan
- Early warning notification systems, flood emergency preparedness, and evacuation.
- Development and updated of a floodplain management plan; incorporating flood risk assessment, evaluation, evaluation, and mitigation action.
- Development and update of LHMPs

Stormwater Flood Risk Reduction Project Examples

- Structural projects such as retention or detention basins, conveyance or diversion modifications, and pumping facilities
- Stormwater management system upgrades
- Floodwalls
- Channel widening
- Administrative projects such as acquisition and relocation programs

For any stormwater project to be eligible for any State funding opportunity, including the to-be-related drought or flood risk reduction funding programs, the project must be included in a Stormwater Resources Plan.

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

For questions, contact:

Sarah Crable, County Public Works

Email: scrable@co.slo.ca.us

Phone: (805) 788-2760

f) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

Nipomo Mesa

Offset Programs. The County is continuing to process building permits subject to the County's water offset fees at a 1:1 ratio to fund the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs,

available for both residential and commercial uses. Applicants in the Nipomo CSD service area may pay the CSD's supplemental water fee to meet the County's offset requirement. For more information, visit: www.slocountywwcp.org

Paso Basin

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

On August 24, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to the Agricultural Offset Requirements to extend the ordinance termination date to August 31, 2021 and updated the water duty factor for table grapes to 3.0 AFY/acre instead of the 1.25 AFY/acre assigned to wine grapes.

New Paso Basin Land Use Planting Ordinance. The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors has directed staff to develop a land use ordinance and amend General Plan policies to require ministerial land use approval ("a planting permit") until 2045 for new or expanded planting of irrigated crops irrigated with water from groundwater wells located within the Paso Basin Land Use Management Area (PBLUMA), with a two-tier framework: 1) plantings using up to 25 acre-feet per year (AFY) of total groundwater per site, and 2) plantings maintaining neutral groundwater use on site with a 6-year rolling lookback period. Plantings using groundwater outside of these two tiers would not be allowed. General Plan elements to be revised include the Agricultural Element and Conservation and Open Space Element. A map of the PLUMA and project timeline are available on the website below.

Notice of Preparation of Environmental Impact Report and Initial Study published, available at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Paso-Basin-Land-Use-Planting-Ordinance.aspx>. The 30-day scoping period was August 12 – September 13, 2021. A virtual scoping meeting was held September 1, 2021. A recording is available on the website link above.

A public draft of the planting ordinance will be available on the website above in late October 2021.

Los Osos

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

Water Offset Study. The County of San Luis Obispo (County) is requesting proposals from qualified firms to establish a 3-month contract (initially September 20 – December 17, 2021, but now postponed) for consulting services to update the County of San Luis Obispo's water offset requirements for the Community of Los Osos. The County Department of Planning & Building ("County Planning") administers the water offset program to mitigate water supply impacts to allow

new development using water from the Los Osos Groundwater Basin. The program's water savings estimates need to be updated to incorporate significant changes in water consumption patterns since the water offset program was adopted in 2008. The water savings measures need to be updated to incorporate new trends in the water conservation sector to expand the capacity of the program to offset new development. County Planning is in the process of responding to California Coastal Commission comments about the updated Los Osos Community Plan and would like this study to be completed before scheduling a Coastal Commission hearing.

The Request for Proposals (RFP), including a detailed Scope of Work (see Appendix A), is available at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Los-Osos-Water-Offset-Study.aspx>. The County received one consultant proposal in response to the circulated RFP. The County is waiting for final approval of State grant funding to sign a contract, hopefully within the next few weeks. An updated project timeline will be posted to the project website once the contract is signed.

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

The Board authorized preparation of this update on December 11, 2012. A series of community outreach meetings to unveil the Community Plan were conducted in the Spring of 2015. The plan was prepared to be consistent and coordinated with the draft groundwater basin management plan and the draft Habitat Conservation Plan ("HCP"). The draft Environmental Impact Report was released on September 12, 2019; comments were due December 11, 2019. A Community Meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the LOCP, HCP, and associated Environmental Documents was held on October 28, 2019. The Final Environmental Impact Report and Public Hearing Draft were released on June 8, 2020. The Planning Commission held hearings on July 9, 2020, August 13, 2020, and October 8, 2020. At the October 8, 2020 hearing, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Plan to the Board of Supervisors.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). On January 28, 2020, the Board of Supervisors considered and adopted a resolution to amend Title 22 and 23 for the replacement of the Secondary Dwelling Ordinance with a new ordinance for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). The Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to Table "O" of the Coastal Framework on June 16, 2020. These amendments would allow ADUs to be established in the Community of Los Osos. The amendments to Title 23 and Table "O" of the Coastal Framework for Planning are currently under review by the California Coastal Commission. Until such amendments are approved by the California Coastal Commission, the County will review ADU applications for consistency with State ADU law, which would allow for the

construction of ADUs in the Coastal Zone. On March 12, 2021, Coastal Commission found that Los Osos ADU projects approved by the County thus far raise a substantial issue and did not hold a hearing on the question. The Commission took jurisdiction over the projects and voided the County's prior approval. The next step in the process is the de novo hearing, which has not yet been scheduled. The Commission would prefer to take an action on the County's proposed ADU Ordinance before taking an action on individual projects. The Commission has requested additional information from the County about the ADU Ordinance. The County is preparing a response, which includes coordinating with the Los Osos water purveyors regarding ADUs.

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

Rainfall and Reservoir Updates

Sub-Region	Area / Rain Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2020-21 Water Year Total Rainfall	2021-22 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average
				July 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22		
North Coast	Cambria Area (ALERT #717)	22.0	15.84 (72%)	0	0	0 ^A										0	0%
	Whale Rock Reservoir (County Site #166.1)	16.0	9.36 (58%)	0	0	0										0	0%
	Paso Robles (County Site #10.0)	14.1	8.27 (59%)	0	0	0 ^A										0	0%
Inland	NE Atascadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	6.89 (41%)	0	0	0 ^A										0	0%
	Atascadero MWC (County Site #34.0)	17.5	8.80 (50%)	0.01	0	0 ^D										0.01	0%
	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	11.31 (47%)	0	0	0 ^A										0	0%
	Salinas Dam (ALERT #719)	20.9	11.54 (55%)	0	0	0 ^A										0	0%
	Rocky Butte (ALERT #703)	40.0	19.89 (50%)	0	0.12	0.04 ^A										0.16	0%
South Coast	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	11.50 (48%)	0.08	0	0 ^A										0.08	0%
	Lopez Dam (ALERT #737)	21.0	10.65 (51%)	0.04	0.01	0.01 ^A										0.06	0%
	Nipome South (ALERT #730)	16.0	6.81 (43%)	0	0.04	0.08 ^A										0.12	1%
	Nipome East (ALERT #728)	18.0	7.41 (41%)	0	0	0 ^A										0	0%

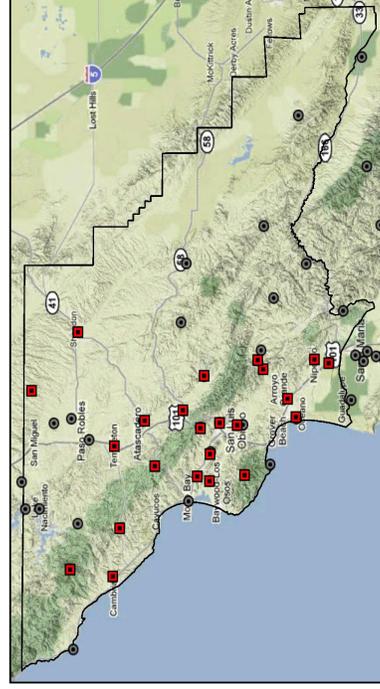
Notes:
 A - Report generated at 11:00 AM, on 09-29-2021
 B - Due to an equipment malfunction, not all rain was recorded at this site.
 C - Information not available at time of update
 D - Missing Data

Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento Reservoir	September 29, 2021	705.9	787.75 - 800.0 (vigilant July raised)	43,700	12%
	September 23, 2020	733.2		100,298	27%
San Antonio Reservoir	September 29, 2021	665.5	780.0	22,710	7%
	September 23, 2020	694.9		55,775	17%
Lopez Reservoir	September 29, 2021	469.7	522.7	15,270	31%
	September 23, 2020	484.6		21,981	45%
Salinas Reservoir (Santa Margarita Lake)	September 29, 2021	1,284.2	1300.7	13,713	56%
	September 23, 2020	1,291.8		17,870	75%
Whale Rock Reservoir	September 29, 2021	197.2	218.3	28,919	74%
	September 23, 2020	202.8		31,671	81%
Twichell Reservoir	September 29, 2021	n/a	651.5	0	0%
	September 23, 2020	542.0		3,538	2%

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

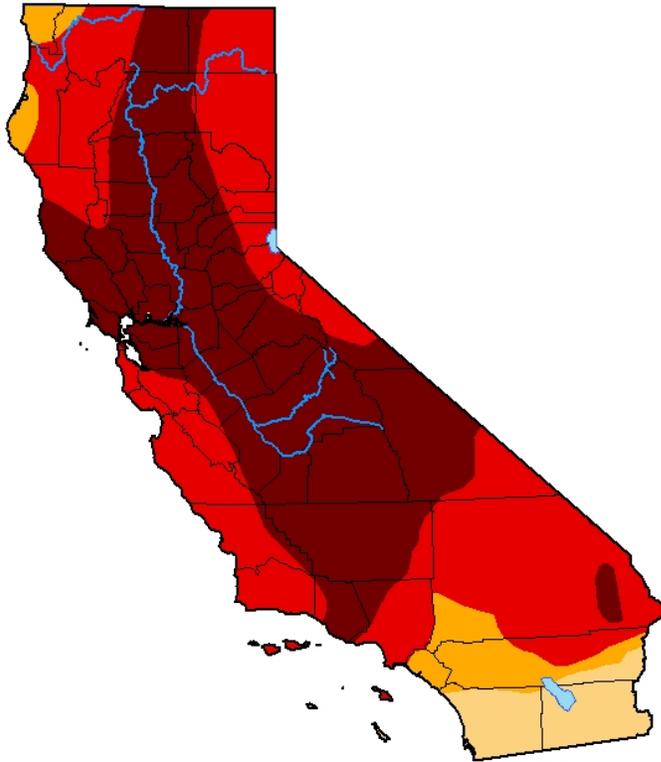
Select Real-Time Rain Gauges in SLO County



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

U.S. Drought Monitor California

September 28, 2021
(Released Thursday, Sep. 30, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
Last Week 09-21-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
3 Months Ago 06-29-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.73	85.44	33.32
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	95.17	74.34	33.75	1.19
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	15.35	84.65	67.65	35.62	12.74	0.00
One Year Ago 09-29-2020	15.35	84.65	67.65	35.62	12.74	0.00

Intensity:

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

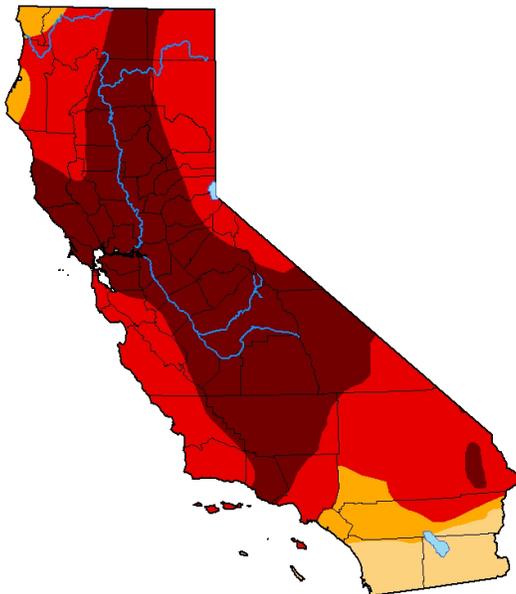
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

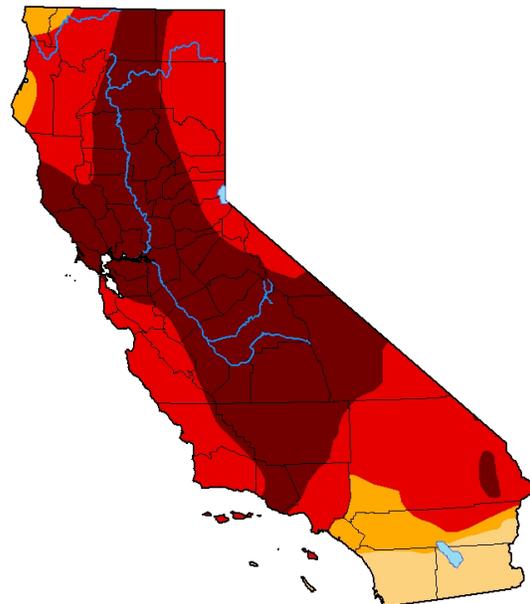
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



September 21, 2021



September 14, 2021

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2021

SUBJECT: Item 8: Future Agenda Items

2021-2022 WRAC Meeting Planning

The following potential topics have been identified for the 2021-2022 WRAC year. A survey will be sent to all WRAC members to solicit additional topics and determine interest and prioritization.

- Water Infrastructure Resiliency
- Urban Water Management Plans
- Agriculture and Landscape Irrigation Efficiency
- Industrial/Hospitality Water Efficiency
- Drought Conditions and Impacts
- Desalination
- Stormwater Capture

Upcoming Meetings

November 3, 2021 – No Meeting Planned

December 1, 2021 – Expected Topic(s)

- Panel discussion related to latest research, technologies and pilot projects related to agricultural water use.

Areas of Interest – Future

- Sustainable Groundwater Projects – Creek Lands Conservation
- Consider Recreational use of water resources to be under purview of WRAC
- Update on policies and studies related to groundwater in fractured rock
- Update on Salinas Reservoir Dam Project
- Well permitting regulation as a tool for groundwater management
- Desalination opportunities
- Nacimiento and San Antonio Lake Tunnel Project
- Regional Water Quality Control Board – Stormwater Capture
- Biosolids Updates (i.e. barriers, regulations, etc.)
- Flood Control District's Master Water Report update

Excerpt from WRAC By-laws dated September 1, 2020

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