

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

Wednesday September 7, 2022  
1:30 pm

Via Zoom Teleconference:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86721954088?pwd=eFhUMDB1ak9hcS81cVUrdEhFNnQ2dz09>

Call-in information: 1 (669) 900 6833, Meeting ID: 867 2195 4088, Passcode: 179990

An in-person option is available, but not required. This meeting is intended to be informational. Feel free to join staff at:

SLO City/County Library Community Room  
995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo CA

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

### WRAC Agenda

1.	Determination of a Quorum and Introductions	1:30pm
2.	Approval of June 1, 2022 WRAC Meeting Minutes	1:35pm
3.	Receive Presentation from Creek Lands Conservation Regarding the Stream Flow Enhancement Program	1:40pm
4.	Receive Presentation from County Planning and Building Regarding the Draft Paso Basin Planting Ordinance	2:00pm
5.	Ongoing Updates: a. Rain & Reservoir Report b. California Drought Monitor Summary c. Groundwater Basin Management Efforts d. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) e. Master Water Report (MWR) Update f. State Water Project (SWP) g. Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances h. Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information	2:30pm
6.	Future Agenda Items	2:45pm
7.	Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda	2:50pm
8.	Adjourn Meeting	3:00pm

This agenda packet and attachments are available online at [www.slocounty.ca.gov/wrac](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/wrac)

Next Regular Meeting:           October 5, 2022, 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](mailto:bclark@co.slo.ca.us)

**Purpose of the Committee:**

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

*Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated September 1, 2020*

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

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

## **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 Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **June 1, 2022** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

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

Call to order at 1:30 PM

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

A quorum of 14 is established.

### **2) Approval of March 2, 2022 WRAC Meeting Minutes**

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

C. Mulholland moves to approve the March 2, 2022 meeting minutes and E. Greening seconds the motion. Motion carries (14-0-0).

### **3) Approval of May 4, 2022 WRAC Meeting Minutes**

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

C. Mulholland moves to approve the May 4, 2022 meeting minutes and E. Greening seconds the motion. Motion carries (14-0-0).

### **4) WRAC Elections for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

C. Mulholland nominates A. Pease to continue as Chairperson and A. Pease accepts the nomination. S. Gibson seconds the nomination. Roll call vote. Motion carries (14-0-0).

A. Pease nominates Ray Dienzo to continue as Vice Chairperson and R. Dienzo accepts the nomination. C. Mulholland seconds the nomination. Roll call vote. Motion carries (14-0-0).

**5) Receive Presentation Staff regarding the Governor's updated Drought Emergency Proclamation, Executive Order N-7-22**

A. Pease introduces the item and B. Clark presents on the Governor's updated Drought Emergency Proclamation, Executive Order N-7-22.

E. Greening asks if SGMA has a provision concerning withdrawal limits when a basin is below a specific limit during a drought in relation to Order 9A of the Drought Emergency Proclamation. B. Clark and B. Reely respond.

C. Mulholland comments on the opposing nature of state orders related to housing expansion and water conservation.

E. Greening comments on the mechanisms, crossover, and inconsistencies related to state declared emergencies.

B. Burchett requests clarification on the replacement well designation process. B. Reely and L. Terry responds.

A. Pease comments on water use concerns related to drought measures and development.

D. Chipping and E. Green comment on Order 14 of the Drought Emergency Proclamation and how it may conflict with local water exporting ordinances. B. Clark responds.

**6) Receive Presentations from Purlieu Landscapes related to rainwater catchment and other drought-responsive landscape strategies**

A. Pease introduces the item and Taylor Boyle with Purlieu Landscaping presents on the Cultivate Rainwater Harvesting Systems.

(Name inaudible) asks why some of the homes in the presentation have such large, irrigated gardens to begin with. T. Boyle responds.

E. Greening questions if there is an institutional use for these landscape systems, particularly in schools. T. Boyle responds.

D. Chipping asks if the company is working on a scaled down tracking scale. T. Boyle responds.

P. Wilmore asks how the strategies and catchment translate to an urban environment, what hurdles need to be cleared, and what causes the developments to decide not to choose this option. T. Boyle responds.

T. Waters comments on the advantages of using these systems for individual homeowners, HOAs, and wineries. T. Boyle responds.

J. Hendrickson comments on the Storm Rewards Program that offered rebates for rain friendly projects. T. Boyle responds.

**7) Ongoing Updates:**

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

No comment

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comment

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

D. Chipping comments on the Paso Basin Planting Ordinance and Draft PEIR, changes to calculations in di minimis use (25 AFY each/450 FY Total), and the ministerial land use approval process for new projects.

E. Greening comments on the definition of di minimis use and how it implies using 2 acre feet of water or less per year.

C. Mulholland comments on SGMA's intention to bring basins to sustainability and how the details of the Paso Basin Planting Ordinance do not support this effort.

P. Wilmore comments that members of the Paso Robles Wine Country alliance are not in support of the 25 AFY di minimis allowance set forth in the new ordinance, adding that this proposal was not brought forward by growers.

D. Howard asks how changes to current management plans can be addressed by the WRAC. A. Pease, E. Greening, and B. Clark respond.

S. Carter asks for clarification from B. Reely regarding the assumptions of di minimis use (25 AFY each/450 AFY total). B. Reely responds.

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

B. Clark provides an update on the Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant and next steps for the RWMG Working group.

e) State Water Project (SWP)

No comment

f) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

E. Greening asks for clarification on the upcoming Board item related to the Master Water Report Update and Data Information Management System and how it related to the General Plan. B. Clark responds.

D. Chipping asks for additional clarification about the Master Water Report Update and Data Information Management System (sound is inaudible). B. Clark responds.

E. Greening comments on the need for evaluating future climate scenarios and ensuring that the Master Water Report aligns with the Water Chapter Conservation Element of the General Plan.

g) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information

No comment

**8) Future Agenda Items and Hybrid Meeting Format**

A. Pease discusses issues related to the Hybrid Meeting Format and asks for input or preferences from WRAC Members.

E. Greening comments on the uncertainty of the pandemic and requests that an email be sent to the group before the next meeting to determine whether the group is comfortable with an in-person or hybrid meeting. A. Pease responds.

D. Howard comments in favor of hybrid meetings, not only due to Covid concerns, but the current increase in gas prices and the impact for members traveling to attend in-person meetings or events.

C. Mulholland comments in favor of hybrid meetings.

A. Pease comments on upcoming topics, including the Master Water Report Update, presentations on water conservation and grey water, among others.

**9) Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**

Steve Carter comments on a new CIMIS site (#265) at a winery in Paso Robles that produces publicly available data, adding that 50%-60% of the water used onsite is a combination of rain collection and processed water from the winery,

E. Greening comments on upcoming water items related to Los Osos development, the Draft EIR on Diablo Canyon decommissioning and its potential impacts to desalination operations.

(1:30:30) E. Eby provides comments on the Dana Reserve Project study sessions which have been rescheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of July at the LAFCO meeting and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of July at the Planning Commission meeting.

DRAFT



**TO:** Water Resources Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

**DATE:** September 7, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Item 5: Ongoing Updates

**Recommendation**

Receive updates on various ongoing efforts.

**Discussion**

- a) **Rain & Reservoir Report.** See attached report.
- b) **Drought Updates.**
  - See attached Drought Monitor Summary
  - County of SLO Office of Emergency Services went to the Board on July 13, 2022.
    - The Staff report can be found here: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14649>
    - The Board extended the Drought Declaration for 60 days.
  - For more drought information, please visit <https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/slo-county-drought-information.aspx>
- c) **Groundwater Management Efforts**

On December 18, 2019, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Final Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) 2019 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.

The most recent quarterly financial update for SGMA went to the Board on March 15, 2022. The report can be accessed here: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14419>

**BASIN UPDATES:**

Basin	Update:
<b>Los Osos Basin</b>	<b>Los Osos Area Subbasin</b> (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

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

Basin Management Committee (BMC) oversees implementation of the Los Osos Basin Plan for the area.

**Warden Creek Subbasin** is designated as a very low priority and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization.

- On March 15, 2022, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Director of Groundwater Sustainability, or designee, to sign an agreement with the Los Osos Community Services District (LOCSO) for the County to provide funding for the reimbursement of costs incurred by LOCSO for the purposes of developing a Los Osos Basin groundwater transient model, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000, and subject to approval as to form and legal effect by County Counsel.

To further leverage the value of the County's contribution, the Los Osos Basin Management Committee (BMC) staff recommended that these funds be used as match for obtaining grant funds to further increase the groundwater management benefits and outcomes. BMC staff identified a State Water Resources Control Board Water Recycled Program Planning Program that offers such an opportunity. Obtaining the grant will double the amount of funding available and allow for not just the development of the Model, but also utilization of the Model to evaluate recycled water and other supplemental yield improvement opportunities through completion of a Water Facilities Planning Study (WRFPS Study). At the request of the BMC, on February 3, 2022, the LOCSO adopted a Resolution designating the General Manager as the authorized representative to file an application and execute agreements for a Water Recycling Funding Program Planning Grant with the State Water Resources Control Board. The LOCSO submitted the grant application in mid-February 2021 and the package is currently under review by the State Water Board.

- On May 24, 2022, a meeting was held between County and California Coastal Commission (CCC) staff, during which the issue of groundwater resources was discussed. Attendees agreed that it would be valuable for technical staff from the CCC, County, and possibly other stakeholders to meet and review relevant data and study results to better inform the CCC of current basin conditions and observed trends in basin metrics.
- On June 16 and July 8, 2022, follow-up meetings between County and California Coastal Commission (CCC) staff to discuss legal and technical issues. The CCC technical staff provide the County with a list of preliminary questions and topics for further discussion. The County is currently preparing a response to the CCC request and plans to reconvene the discussion in September 2022.

For more information, please visit: [www.slocounty.ca.gov/lososbasin](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/lososbasin)

<p><b>Atascadero Basin</b></p>	<p><b>Atascadero Basin</b> is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Executive Committee (EC) elected to develop, and submit to DWR, a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) by January 31, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On January 19, 2022, the EC held a meeting that included: adopting the GSP, appointing officers, amending the conflict of interest code and receiving updates on the Annual Report and Prop 1 Grant progress.</li> <li>• The GSP was submitted to DWR on January 30, 2022 and is currently under review.</li> <li>• The EC adopted the 2021 GSP Annual Report on March 9, 2022 and submitted to the DWR for review.</li> <li>• A meeting of the EC was held on July 20, 2022 in which direction was given to GSI Water Solutions to proceed with the development of a new groundwater model for the Atascadero Sub-Basin. Funding for the work, in the form of a 50% match, will be from unused SGMA GSP grant funds.</li> </ul> <p>For more information or to view meeting material, visit: <a href="http://www.AtascaderoBasin.com">www.AtascaderoBasin.com</a></p>
<p><b>Santa Maria Basin</b></p>	<p><b>Santa Maria Area Subbasin</b> (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><b>Arroyo Grande Subbasin</b> 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>Staff and the consultant team have completed the Arroyo Grande Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and posted the final GSP for public comment on the basin website. The public comment period for the GSP will close on Monday, September 19, 2022.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin">www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin</a> or <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/agbasin">www.slocounty.ca.gov/agbasin</a></p>
<p><b>Paso Basin</b></p>	<p><b>Paso Basin</b> is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA and three other GSAs within the basin entered into an agreement to develop a single GSP for the basin and coordinate via the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC).</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PBCC and Paso Basin GSAs submitted the amended GSP to DWR by the July 20, 2022 deadline which addresses deficiencies identified in DWR’s initial assessment of the Paso Basin GSP. DWR will provide a final determination of the GSP in later 2022/early 2023.</li> <li>• Paso Basin Sustainability Committee formed (grower-led Committee to work with GSAs on GSP implementation)</li> <li>• Spring groundwater levels uploaded to DWR</li> <li>• Planning for fall groundwater measurements</li> <li>• Grant Update (\$7.6M) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Funding for Implementation Projects</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The next PBCC meeting is on <b>October 26, 2022</b>.</li> </ul> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin">www.slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin</a></p>
<p><b>Cuyama Basin</b></p>	<p><b>Cuyama Basin</b> 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submitted the amended GSP to DWR by the July 20, 2022 deadline which addresses deficiencies identified in DWR’s initial assessment of the Cuyama Basin GSP. DWR will provide a final determination of the GSP in later 2022/early 2023.</li> <li>• Finalizing policies to implement pumping reductions for 2023 and 2024 in the Central Management Area</li> <li>• Public landowner workshop held on August 25, 2022</li> <li>• Finalizing GSA policy for new well permits in compliance with Governor’s Executive Order N-7-22</li> <li>• Quarterly groundwater levels measured (next round in October 2022)</li> <li>• Annual water quality measured in August 2022 (results at the November 2, 2022 Board)</li> <li>• Implementation of grant (\$7.6M) projects in Fiscal Year 2022-2023</li> <li>• The next Cuyama Basin GSA Advisory and Board meetings are on <b>September 1, 2022</b> and <b>September 7, 2022</b>, respectively.</li> </ul> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.cuyamabasin.org">www.cuyamabasin.org</a></p>
<p><b>San Luis Obispo Basin</b></p>	<p><b>San Luis Obispo Basin</b> is designated as a high priority basin. The County and City of San Luis Obispo GSAs, in coordination with other basin partners through the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) developed and submitted a GSP for the SLO Basin to DWR by the January 31, 2022 statutory deadline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor’s Executive Order N-7-22</li> <li>• Planning for fall groundwater measurements</li> <li>• Grant spending plan being developed</li> <li>• The next GSC meeting <b>TBD</b>.</li> </ul>

	<p>Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the basin specific efforts by attending workshops and meetings of the GSC for the San Luis Obispo Basin.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin</a></p>
<p><b>Adelaida Area</b></p>	<p>The <b>Adelaida Area</b> 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"> <li>• On June 8, 2021, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to proceed with Task 2 which consists of new data collection, including but not limited to: groundwater level data, water quality sampling, and surface-water monitoring.</li> <li>• Staff returned to the Board on January 25, 2022 to authorize a Joint Funding Agreement between the District and USGS to begin work on Task 2.</li> <li>• Staff held a public meeting with USGS and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District on 4/25 to solicit participation and provide updates on the next steps of the Study.</li> <li>• County Staff, USGS, and the RCD are currently working with landowners in the study area to establish the groundwater level monitoring network in the study area.</li> </ul> <p>For more information, please visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/adelaidastudy">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/adelaidastudy</a></li> <li>• <a href="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">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</a></li> </ul>

**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)**

There are multiple updates related to the Prop. 1 Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant. Our local call for projects has closed and we received 6 submissions:

- Cities of Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach: Central Coast Blue, Phase 1
- City of Morro Bay: Indirect Potable Reuse Project
- Oceano CSD: Water Resource Reliability Program, multiple projects
- San Simeon CSD: Reservoir Expansion Project
- San Miguel CSD: Water Resource Reliability Projects
- San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District: Master Water Report Update and Information System

The next step in the process will be for the RWMG Working Group, selected at the joint WRAC/RWMG meeting on 5/4, to score and put a suite of projects recommendation together for the RWMG to consider recommending to the Board of Supervisors for authorization to apply for the grant. This suite of projects will come before the WRAC at a future meeting to consider supporting prior to the BOS. The RWMG Working Group consists of Los Osos CSD, Nipomo CSD, Shandon San Juan Water District, City of San Luis Obispo and San Miguelito MWC. The meeting date is set for 9/1/2022. A verbal update will be provided at the WRAC of the results of this 9/1 meeting.

To be notified of the upcoming meetings and project selection process, sign up for the email list, located at: [www.slocounty.ca.gov/irwm](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/irwm).

A summary of open and pending IRWM grants is below:

<b>Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Mgmt Grant (2011)</b>	<b>\$2,797,000</b>	<b>Close-out</b>	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	Close-out	Flood Control District
<b>Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011)</b>	<b>\$10,401,000</b>	<b>Close-out</b>	
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
<b>Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement 2017</b>	<b>\$877,563</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
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 Station Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	City of Grover Beach
Water Res. Recovery Facility, SLO Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of SLO
Reservoir Expansion Project & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Study and	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD

Recharge Basin Study			
<b>Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1</b>	<b>\$2,782,130</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	
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
<b>Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2 (est. award date: mid 2023)</b>	<b>\$3,782,129</b>		
TBD	TBD	TBD	Project Sponsors

For questions, contact:

Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager

Email: [bclark@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:bclark@co.slo.ca.us)

Phone: (805) 788-2316

#### e) Master Water Report Update

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

Compilation of data sources and analysis is underway, as well as stakeholder outreach. This outreach has included County IT/GIS, County Planning & Building, County Groundwater Sustainability, SLOCOG and LAFCO. We are planning to have Carollo present to the WRAC at the November meeting.

#### f) State Water Project (SWP)

Board Actions on SWP: The following actions were taken at the SLO County Board of Supervisors July 12, 2022:

1. Approved the SWP Contract Extension Amendment, which extends the District's SWP contract with DWR 50 years to 2085.  
<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14908>
2. Approved Avila Valley Mutual Water Company's request for a drought buffer contract increase.  
<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14806>
3. Approved recommended updates to the representatives serving on the SWSAC.  
<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/14824>

## **g) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances**

The County Department of Planning & Building's website for its water conservation programs in Nipomo Mesa, Paso Basin, and Los Osos: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Countywide-Water-Conservation-Program.aspx>

### **Nipomo Mesa**

**Offset Programs.** The County is continuing to process building permits subject to the County's water offset fees at a 1:1 ratio to fund the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available for both residential and commercial uses. Applicants in the Nipomo CSD service area may pay the CSD's supplemental water fee to meet the County's offset requirement. For more information, visit: [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Nipomo-Mesa-Water-Conservation-Area-\(NMWCA\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Nipomo-Mesa-Water-Conservation-Area-(NMWCA).aspx)

### **Paso Basin**

**Offset Programs.** The 1:1 water offset requirement for new construction in the Paso Basin expired on January 1, 2022. Any construction permits submitted after this date are not required to offset their water use. There are now limited funds available for the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available for both residential and commercial uses. A well meter will still be required for compliance with Title 19.

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. On July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the BOS extended the program expiration date through to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. For more information, visit: [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin-\(PRGWB\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin-(PRGWB).aspx).

The recent Executive Order N-7-22 does not inhibit the agricultural offset clearance program, with the exception that new well applications must be reviewed by Environmental Health (EHS) and the relevant GSA, per the requirements of the EO.

**Paso Basin Land Use Management Area Planting Ordinance (LRP2021-00001).** Proposal by the County of San Luis Obispo to amend Title 8 and Title 22 of the San Luis Obispo County Code and the Agriculture and Conservation and Open Space Elements of the San Luis Obispo County General Plan to require ministerial planting permits for crop production irrigated from groundwater wells within the Paso Basin Land Use Management Area ("Planting Ordinance"). A Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (DPEIR) has been prepared that identifies significant impacts related to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, tribal cultural resources, and utilities and service systems. Districts 1 and 5. The draft ordinance/General Plan Amendments and DPEIR are available on the project website: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid->

[Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Paso-Basin-Land-Use-Planting-Ordinance.aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Communities-Villages/Los-Osos.aspx)

This project is tentatively scheduled for Planning Commission consideration on October 27, 2022 and Board of Supervisors consideration on December 6, 2022.

### **Los Osos**

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

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

**Offset Requirement.** The retrofit-to-build program within the community of Los Osos is allowing property owners to retrofit washers and/or hot water recirculation pumps within and outside the prohibition zone to acquire retrofit credits to offset water use for new development at a 2:1 ratio. Program information is available at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Los-Osos-Groundwater-Basin-Plumbing-Retrofit-to-Bu.aspx>

**Water Offset Study.** The County has hired [Maddaus Water Management Inc.](#) to prepare a study to update water usage estimates for urban and rural residences sourcing water from the Los Osos Groundwater Basin, propose new water conservation measures for the retrofit-to-build program, and estimate remaining water savings potential for the community. The project schedule has been extended to a six-month timeline to ensure quality results and thorough exploration of potential conservation measures. Updates will be posted at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Active-Planning-Projects/Los-Osos-Water-Offset-Study.aspx>

**Los Osos Community Plan.** The Los Osos Community Plan ("LOCP") is being reviewed by the California Coastal Commission and a hearing date has not yet been scheduled. In the meantime, the County is meeting with BMC staff to discuss potential policy changes considering ongoing basin monitoring and Basin Plan program implementation efforts. On December 15, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Osos Community Plan ("LOCP") update and Final Environmental Impact Report ("FEIR"). The LOCP policies are still subject to change based on California Coastal Commission review. The LOCP and FEIR considered by the Board on December 15 are available at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/LosOsosPlan-1.aspx>.

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

Meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the LOCP, HCP, and associated Environmental Documents was held on October 28, 2019. The Final Environmental Impact Report and Public Hearing Draft were released on June 8, 2020. The Planning Commission held hearings on July 9, 2020, August 13, 2020, and October 8, 2020. At the October 8, 2020 hearing, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Plan to the Board of Supervisors. On December 15, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Osos Community Plan update and Final Environmental Impact Report.

***Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU).*** On February 11, 2022, the California Coastal Commission voted to approve the County's Coastal ADU Ordinance with staff suggested modifications, including not allowing ADUs in Los Osos and Cambria, outlined in the staff report available at: <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/meetings/agenda/#/2022/2> (agenda item #16d). The County has 6 months to adopt the suggested modifications for the ordinance to take effect and the BOS hearing date is currently set for August 9, 2022.

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

Please contact [waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us)

## Rainfall and Reservoir Updates

Sub-Region	Area / Rain Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2021-22 Water Year Total Rainfall	2022-23 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average
				July 22	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23		
North Coast	Cambria Area (ALERT #717)	22.0	14.65 (67%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Whale Rock Reservoir (County Site #166.1)	16.0	11.64 (73%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	C											0	0%
	Paso Robles (County Site #100)	14.1	11.66 (83%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	NE Alacadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	8.51 (50%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
Inland	Alacadero MWC (County Site #34.0)	17.5	12.07 (69%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	11.97 (50%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Salinas Dam (ALERT #719)	20.9	13.94 (67%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Rocky Butte (ALERT #703)	40.0	30.02 (75%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
South Coast	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #746)	24.0	13.48 (56%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Lopez Dam (ALERT #737)	21.0	12.94 (62%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Nipomo South (ALERT #730)	16.0	8.35 (52%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%
	Nipomo East (ALERT #728)	18.0	10.43 (58%)	0 <sup>A</sup>	0 <sup>A</sup>											0	0%

A - Report generated at 11:30 AM on 8-31-2022  
 B - Data for this report is the most current rainfall data recorded at this site.  
 C - Information not available at time of update  
 D - Missing Data

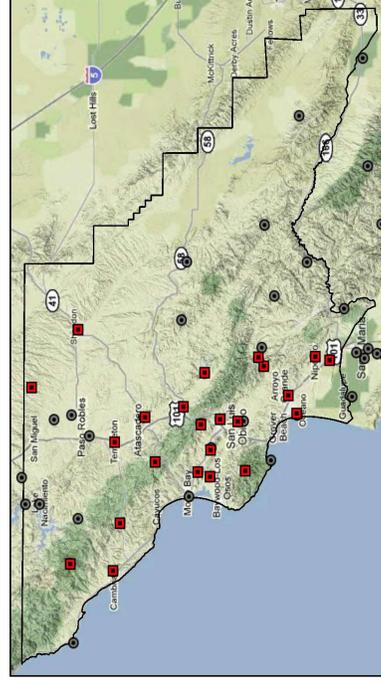
Notes:  
 This table contains provisional data from automated gauges and has not been verified.  
 All units reported in inches.

### Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento Reservoir	August 31, 2022	723.4	787.75 - 800.0 (against July 2021)	76,400	20%
	August 20, 2021	711.1		52,250	14%
San Antonio Reservoir	August 31, 2022	677.0	760.0	33,098	10%
	August 18, 2021	666.7		23,710	7%
Lopez Reservoir	August 31, 2022	461.1	522.7	12,138	25%
	August 20, 2021	471.9		16,144	33%
Salinas Reservoir (Santa Margarita Lake)	August 31, 2022	1,282.3	1300.7	12,813	54%
	August 20, 2021	1,285.6		14,407	60%
Whale Rock Reservoir	August 31, 2022	195.8	218.3	28,244	72%
	August 20, 2021	197.3		29,408	75%
Twitchell Reservoir	August 31, 2022	n/a	651.5	0	0%
	August 20, 2021	536.0		1,373	1%

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

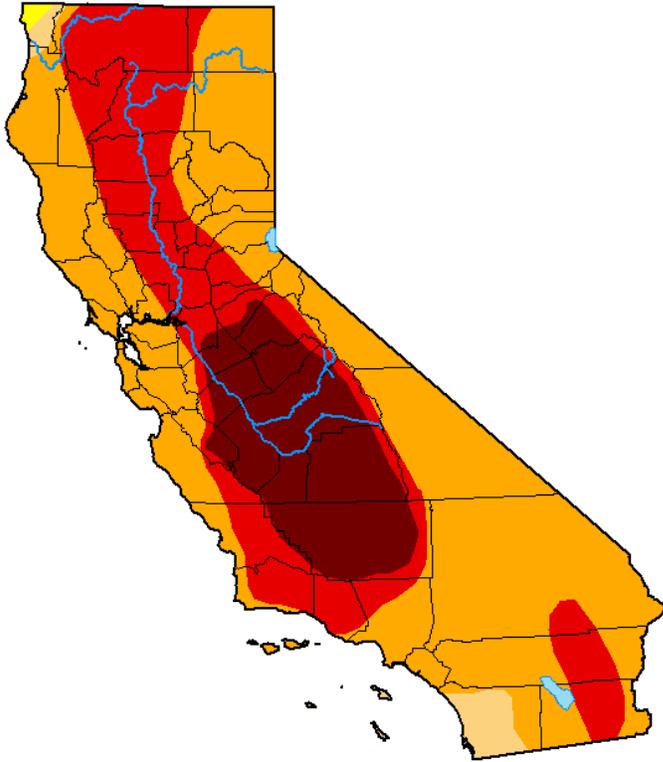
### Select Real-Time Rain Gauges in SLO County



Notes:  
 Sites maintained by County staff are identified with red squares.  
 Sites maintained by other agencies are identified with black circles.  
 For more information, please email PW.WR.1 TechUnit@so.slo.ca.us.

# U.S. Drought Monitor California

**August 23, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	99.76	97.53	43.16	16.57
<b>Last Week</b> 08-16-2022	0.00	100.00	99.76	97.53	43.16	16.57
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 05-24-2022	0.00	100.00	99.86	97.56	59.81	11.59
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	99.30	67.62	16.60	0.84
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
<b>One Year Ago</b> 08-24-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.58	88.37	47.40

Intensity:

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

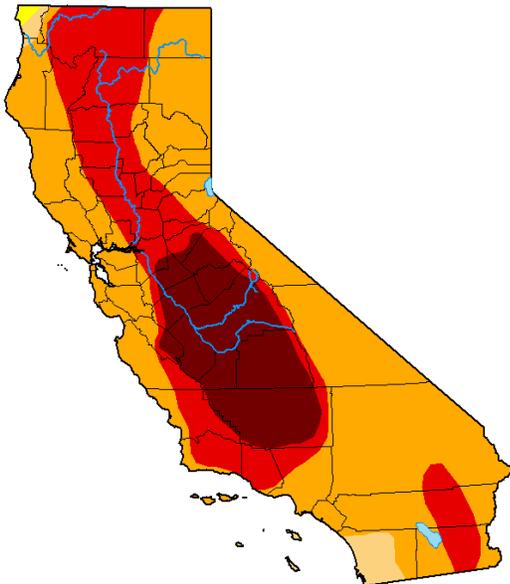
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

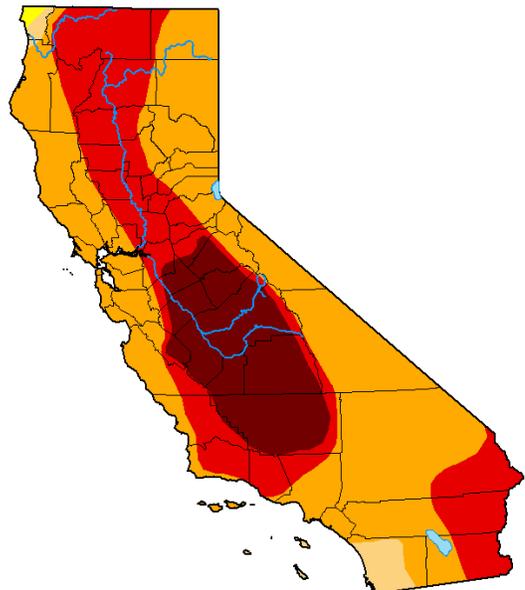
Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



**August 16, 2022**



**August 9, 2022**

**TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer**

**DATE: September 7, 2022**

**SUBJECT: Item 6: Future Agenda Items**

### **Upcoming Meetings**

In an effort to maximize our in-person meetings together, we are targeting some meetings to be specifically "in-person" and others as informal/informational. So looking ahead to the rest of the fall, we are expecting to have two informational (quorum not necessary) meetings in September and December, and two meetings where in-person is greatly requested, in October and November.

#### October 5: (in-person)

- Water Reuse Projects, a Presentation from Wallace Group
- IRWM Project Selection

#### November 2: (in-person)

- Master Water Report WRAC Workshop

#### December 7: (potentially informational only, pending if quorum is necessary or not)

- LID Handbook Updates, County Public Works

#### Areas of Interest – Future

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

#### **Excerpt from WRAC By-laws dated September 1, 2020**

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