

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

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

Wednesday, November 1, 2023
1:30 pm

Via Zoom Teleconference:

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

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

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

WRAC Agenda

1.	Introductions & Welcome	1:30pm
2.	Approval of September 6, 2023 WRAC Meeting Minutes	1:35pm
3.	Receive Presentation from the Sara Sanders, SLOCOG, regarding the Regional Housing and Infrastructure Plan (HIP)	1:40pm
4.	Receive Presentation from Blaine Reely, County of SLO Groundwater Sustainability Director: Overview of Satellite Based Evapotranspiration Technology and Potential Groundwater Management Uses in SLO County	2:00pm
5.	Discuss Ad Hoc Subcommittee's Report on the Water Sections of the Dana Reserve Project EIR and Consider Actions	2:25pm
6.	Consider Recommending Revisions to the Bylaws	2:40pm
7.	Ongoing Updates: a. Rain & Reservoir Report b. Drought Updates c. Groundwater Basin Management Efforts d. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) e. Master Water Report (MWR) Update f. State Water Project (SWP) g. Desalination h. Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances i. Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information	2:45pm
8.	Future Agenda Items	3:00pm
9.	Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda	3:05pm
10.	Adjourn Meeting	3:10pm

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

Next Regular Meeting: December 6, 2023, 1:30 pm
SLO City/County Library Community Room
995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo CA

Please contact WRAC Secretary, Brendan Clark, with any questions. bclark@co.slo.ca.us

Purpose of the Committee:

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

Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated September 1, 2020

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

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MINUTES (Draft)

Chairperson: Andy Pease
Vice Chairperson: Thomas Burhenn
Secretary: Brendan Clark

The following action minutes are listed as they were acted upon by the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) as listed on the Regular Meeting agenda for **September 6, 2023** together with staff reports and related documents attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference.

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

Call to order at 1:35pm

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

The number of voting Members present is 18; quorum met.

2) **Approval of June 7, 2023 WRAC Meeting Minutes**

Item start time ~ [00:05:43](#)

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

C. Mulholland moves to approve the June 7, 2023 meeting minutes and C. Weirick seconds the motion. Motion carries 18-0-0.

3) **Presentation from City of San Luis Obispo on Water Resource Recovery Facility Project**

Item start time ~ [00:06:40](#)

A. Pease introduces the item and M. Anderson from the City of San Luis Obispo presents on the Water Resource Recovery Facility project.

D. Chipping asks for clarification on how solid waste is sorted from liquids. M. Anderson responds.

E. Greening asks if the project updates are going to result in any changes in the quantity or quality of sludge. M. Anderson responds.

Unidentified attendee asks about the bioreactor and if the nitrogen goes away with the solvents. M. Anderson responds.

D. Chipping asks what the difference is between the minimum discharge requirements from Fish and Game for fish in the creek and the excess water being produced that could be used to sustain groundwater levels in the valley, and to what extent this is being considered by the City of San Luis Obispo. A. Floyd responds.

C. Mulholland asks if there are plans to expand reclaimed water distribution opportunities within the City of San Luis Obispo. A. Floyd and A. Pease respond.

Unidentified attendee asks if there is still a chlorine requirement when using ultraviolet light to process recycled water. M. Anderson responds.

A. Pease asks if a new permit will be pursued once updates to the whole system are complete. M. Anderson responds.

Unidentified attendee asks how much these improvements will cost. Matt Anderson and A. Floyd respond.

Unidentified attendee asks what percent complete is the project. A. Floyd responds.

C. Mulholland asks if this system would clear out any PFAS that may be getting into the effluent from homes. M. Anderson responds.

A. Pease comments on creek discharge requirements and whether they can be better utilized to be more in line with the natural hydrology of the creek.

C. Mulholland comments on the previously adjudicated discharge requirements of 1.74 cubic feet per second. A. Pease responds.

D. Chipping asks about efforts to stop stormwater from entering their sewage treatment system and how well the City has prevented this from happening. A. Floyd responds.

E. Greening comments on the principles of natural versus constant flow.

4) Update from Ad Hoc Committee on Water Sections of the Dana Reserve Project EIR and Consider Action

Item start time ~ [00:35:05](#)

A. Pease introduces the item and L. Chipping provides an update on the Ad Hoc Committee's initial review and comments of the Water Sections of the Dana Reserve Project EIR.

E. Eby comments on tentative agreement between the Developer and County, which covers issues related to supplying water, who pays for infrastructure improvements, and other relevant topics.

W. Clemens asks for clarification regarding the amount of acre feet per year the Nipomo Community Services District will supply to meet the demand of the project. E. Eby responds.

C. Mulholland comments on the committed allocations and availability of water to meet the demand of the project.

D. Chipping comments on the perceived availability of water to meet the demand of the project, adding that it does not consider the general decline of water levels across the basin or the lower than expected in levels shown in the key well index. E. Eby responds.

A. Pease and L. Chipping comment on the range and scope of the issues addressed by the Ad Hoc Committee's report.

A. Pease asks for actions or recommendations from the Committee.

E. Greening recommends receiving and filing the Ad Hoc Committee's report for now and revisiting again during November's meeting for approval to forward to the Board of Supervisors.

The Committee agrees to receive and file the report and revisit the item in November for further actions.

5) Update from Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws and Consider Action

Item start time ~ [00:45:50](#)

A. Pease introduces the item and provides an update on the Ad Hoc Committee's review of the WRAC Bylaws.

E. Eby asked why the bylaws were missing a notation that meetings cannot be held if technology issues prevent remote access. A. Pease responds.

E. Greening comments on the Brown Act concerning online/remote access.

C. Mulholland moves to recommend that the WRAC bylaw revisions be sent to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. E. Greening seconds the motion. Motion carries 18-0-0.

6) Ongoing Updates

Item start time ~ [00:53:00](#)

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

No comments.

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comments.

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

T. Burhenn provides an overview of the Paso Basin Grand Jury Report dated June 23rd and describes the status of responses from the basin management entities. A. Pease responds.

D. Chipping comments on the County's involvement in managing the Paso Basin and asks how to check the progress of GSP implementation/initiatives. S. Sinton responds.

C. Mulholland comments on a New Times article concerning the Paso Basin Grand Jury report, the impacts of current drilling/pumping taking place in the basin, and the importance of SGMA being kept as a discussion topic within WRAC.

S. Carter comments on the five-year reporting requirements of SGMA and the ongoing/near-term basin management efforts.

S. Sinton comments on the Governor's executive order that allowed local water agencies to divert floodwater to recharge groundwater supplies, noting how it didn't allow for capturing water to refill empty reservoirs.

d) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

No comments.

e) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

An update will be provided at December's meeting.

f) State Water Project (SWP)

No comments.

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

C. Mulholland comments on the language used to describe the DESAL Plan and recommends using clearer language to describe energy use and environmental considerations.

h) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

E. Greening comments that the Board of Supervisors will be reexamining their State Legislative platform at their next meeting, which could be of interest for WRAC Members to provide comments on specific topics that could have water implications.

- i) Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information
No comments.

7) Future Agenda Items

Item start time ~ [01:09:37](#)

A. Pease comments that the October WRAC meeting will be canceled.

November Items:

- Receive Presentation from SLOCOG on the Regional Housing Infrastructure Framework
- Receive Presentation from County of SLO Groundwater Sustainability Director Blaine Reely on an Evapotranspiration (Eto) Pilot Project

8) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda

Item start time ~ [01:11:46](#)

D. Howard provides an update on the efforts of the SLO Beaver Brigade.

B. Clark comments the staff will post a collection of State Legislative items that are related to water to the WRAC website for review.

D. Chipping requests an update on the Los Osos Basin, the status of saltwater intrusion, and why a new well is being drilled over a formation that has never been part of the aquifer.

Unidentified attendee asks if the Dana Reserve Ad Hoc Committee reviewed state water allocations and how they may impact the available water supply. L. Chipping and E. Eby respond.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2023

Organization	Representative	Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT														
District 1	Melanie Blankenship	M												
	Elizabeth Covert	A												
District 2	(Vacant)	M												
	Neal MacDougall	A												
District 3	Michael Nordstrom	M		X										
	Natalie Risner	A												
District 4	Thomas Burhenn	M				X	X	X			X			
	Erika Bylund	A		X										
District 5	Allen Duckworth	M		O			X	X			X			
	Fred Hoey	A												
AT-LARGE														
Agriculture At-Large	Jon Winstead	M									X			
	(Vacant)	A												
Agriculture At-Large	(Vacant)	M												
	(Vacant)	A												
Development At-Large	Taylor Simpson	M				X								
	Tim Walters	A		X		X	X	O						
Environmental At-Large	Christine Mulholland	M		X		X	X	X			X			
	Dolores Howard	A		X		O	X	O						
Environmental At-Large	Eric Greening	M		X		X	O	X			X			
	(Vacant)	A												
Environmental At-Large	David Chipping	M		X		X	X	X			X			
	Stephnie Wald	A												
RCDs														
Coastal San Luis RCD	Linda Chipping	M		X		X	X	X			X			
	Jessica Crutchfield	A												
Upper Salinas RCD	George Kendall	M												
	Tom Mora	A						X						
OTHERS														
Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M												
	Jaime Hendrickson	A					X	X						
California Men's Colony	Scott Buffaloe	M												
	Mike Schwartz	A												
Camp SLO	(Vacant)	M												
	Jubilee Satele	A												
County Farm Bureau	Steve Carter	M				X	X				X			
	Brent Burchett	A		X		X		X						
Cuesta College	(Vacant)	M												
	(Vacant)	A												
Golden State Water	Matt Cook	M				X	O	X			X			
	Mark Zimmer	A		O										
Shandon-San Juan Water District	Stephen Sinton	M		O		X	O				X			
	Ray Shady	A						X						
Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District	Lee Nesbit	M		X		X	X	X			X			
	Hilary Graves	A												
CITIES														
City of Arroyo Grande	Jim Guthrie	M				X	X	X			X			
	Kristen Barneich	A												
City of Atascadero	Charles Bourbeau	M				X	X							
	Nick DeBar	A												
City of Grover Beach	Clint Weirick	M				X	X				X			
	Robert Robert	A												
City of Morro Bay	Laurel Barton	M		O		X	X							
	Cyndee Edwards	A												
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel	M												
	Kirk Gonzalez	A												
City of Pismo Beach	Marcia Guthrie	M					X							
	Stacy Inman	A				X								
City of San Luis Obispo	Andy Pease	M		X		X	X	X			X			
	Emily Francis	A				X								
CSDs														
Avila Beach CSD	Brad Hagemann	M												
	(Vacant)	A												
Cambria CSD	Ray Dienzo	M		X				X			X			
	Tristan Reaper	A						O						
Heritage Ranch CSD	Scott Duffield	M				X	X				X			
	Doug Groshart	A				X								
Los Osos CSD	Chuck Cesena	M												
	Ron Munds	A				X	X							
Nipomo CSD	Ed Eby	M		X		X	X	X			X			
	Richard Malvarose	A												
Oceano CSD	Allene Villa	M				X	O	X						
	Beverly Joyce-Suneson	A												
San Miguel CSD	Kelly Dodds	M		X										
	Dustin Pittman	A												
San Simeon CSD	(Vacant)	M												
	(Vacant)	A												
Templeton CSD	Debra Logan	M		X		X	X	O			X			
	Tina Mayer	A												
STAFF														
Planning and Building	Kylie Hensley	Staff												
	Claire Momburger	Staff												
	Airlin Singewald	Staff												
Public Works	Courtney Howard	Staff					X				X			
	Alejandra Celio	Staff					X							
	Brandon Zuniga	Staff		X										
	Angela Ford	Staff				X	X							
	Brendan Clark	Staff		X		X	X	X			X			
	Joey Steil	Staff		X		X	X	X			X			
	Joshua Porter	Staff												
	Jenny Williamson	Staff		X			X							
	Kory Burt	Staff									X			
	May Thiri Kyaw	Staff		X		X	X	X						
Stormwater	Ann Gillespie	Staff		X										

Notes: M = Member; A = Alternate Member, (O) = attended virtually

Water Resources Advisory Committee - Roll Call Vote Form
Meeting Date: 9/6/2023

Organization	DISTRICT	Representative	ITEM 2: June Minutes					ITEM 5: Bylaws Approval					
			AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN
District 1	Melanie Blankenship	M											
District 2	Elizabeth Covert	A											
District 3	Near MacDougal	A											
District 4	Thomas Borman	M											
District 5	ERIK Byland	M	X				X						
District 5	Allen Duckworth	M	X										
District 5	Fred Hoxey	A											
Agriculture At-Large	Jon Winstead	M	X				X						
Agriculture At-Large	(Vacant)	A											
Agriculture At-Large	(Vacant)	M											
Development At-Large	Tim W. Stinson	M											
Development At-Large	Tim W. Stinson	A											
Environmental At-Large	Christina Multaland	M	X				X						
Environmental At-Large	Dorees Howard	A											
Environmental At-Large	Eric Greening	M	X				X						
Environmental At-Large	(Vacant)	A											
Environmental At-Large	David Chipping	M	X				X						
Environmental At-Large	Stephanie Wadd	A											
RCBs	Coastal San Luis RCD	M	X				X						
RCBs	Resaca Condified	A											
RCBs	Upper Salinas RCD	M											
RCBs	Carmichael	M											
RCBs	Tom Mera	A											
OTHERS	Atascadero Mutual	M											
OTHERS	John Neil	A											
OTHERS	Jaime Hendrickson	M											
OTHERS	Scott Buffaloe	M											
OTHERS	Mike Schwartz	A											
OTHERS	(Vacant)	M											
OTHERS	Judith Salas	A											
OTHERS	Brenda Burdett	M	X				X						
OTHERS	(Vacant)	A											
OTHERS	(Vacant)	M											
OTHERS	Matt Cook	M	X				X						
OTHERS	Mark Zimmer	A											
OTHERS	Stephen Sinton	M	X				X						
OTHERS	Ray Shaub	A											
OTHERS	Lee Nesbit	M	X				X						
OTHERS	Heather Grayes	A											
CITIES	City of Atropo Grande	M	X				X						
CITIES	Kristen Barnesch	A											
CITIES	Charles Bourdeau	M											
CITIES	Nick DeBar	A											
CITIES	Curt Weirick	M	X				X						
CITIES	Robert Robert	A											
CITIES	Laurel Barton	M											
CITIES	Cynabe Edwards	A											
CITIES	Christopher Alakil	M											
CITIES	Alvin Carver	A											
CITIES	Marisa Guthe	M											
CITIES	Stacy Homan	A											
CITIES	Andy Pease	M	X				X						
CITIES	Emily Francis	A											
CSDs	Avila Beach CSD	M											
CSDs	Brad Hagemann	A											
CSDs	(Vacant)	M											
CSDs	Ray Dienco	M	X				X						
CSDs	Tristan Roepner	A											
CSDs	Scott Gossett	M	X				X						
CSDs	Scott Gossett	A											
CSDs	Chuck Coena	M											
CSDs	Ron Mundt	A											
CSDs	Ed Eby	M	X				X						
CSDs	Richard Maknowse	A											
CSDs	Allene Viba	M											
CSDs	Beverly Joyce-Sunesson	A											
CSDs	Kelly Dadds	M											
CSDs	Dustin Palmer	A											
CSDs	San Simeon CSD	M											
CSDs	(Vacant)	A											
CSDs	Debra Logan	M	X				X						
CSDs	Tina Mayer	A											
			18	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
			37										

QUORUM (MIN. 12) : 18

Item #: 2 Pass/Fail: Pass
 Motion Maker: C/Multiland Second: C/Weirick
 AYE: 18 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ASSENT: 0

ITEM 2 - JUNE MINUTES APPROVAL

Item #: 5 Pass/Fail: Pass
 Motion Maker: C/Multiland Second: E/Greening
 AYE: 18 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ASSENT: 0

ITEM 5 - RECOMMENDING TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Item #: Pass/Fail: Pass
 Motion Maker: Second:
 AYE: NO: ABSTAIN: ASSENT:

Item #: Pass/Fail: Pass
 Motion Maker: Second:
 AYE: NO: ABSTAIN: ASSENT:

Item #: Pass/Fail: Pass
 Motion Maker: Second:
 AYE: NO: ABSTAIN: ASSENT:

**WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC)
GUEST LIST 2023**

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

NAME	AFFILIATION (if any)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Ann Gillespie	SLO County Public Works	/	X	/	X			/	/		/		
Anthony Cemo	Carrillo	/		/				/		X	/		
Beverly Joyce-Suneson	OCSD	/	X	/				/			/		
Blaine Reely	SLO County Groundwater Sustainability	/	X	/	X			/			/		
Dan Heimal		/		/			X	/		X	/		
David Spiegel	SLO County Public Works	/		/			X	/			/		
Dom Brok.	RCD	/		/				/		X	/		
Dwayne Chisam	San Miguelito Mutual Water Company	/		/			X	/			/		
Greg Grewal		/	X	/		X	X	/			/		
Greg Hulburd	Wallace Group	/	X	/				/			/		
Greg Paul		/		/		X		/		X	/		
Gwen Kellas	San Simeon CSD	/	X	/				/			/		
Hank Krzuick		/	X	/				/			/		
Jeff Edwards		/	X	/		X	X	/		X	/		
Jim Babcock		/	X	/				/		X	/		
Julie Ridgeway		/	X	/	X	X		/			/		
Kellie Fortner	City of SLO	/	X	/	X	X	X	/			/		
Laura Lee Walder		/		/			X	/			/		
Lauren Gordon	GEI	/	X	/				/			/		
Matthew Scrudato	Santa Barbara County Water Agency	/	X	/		X		/			/		
Michael Steele	WSC	/		/			X	/			/		
Nick Teague	City of SLO	/	X	/	X	X		/		X	/		
Patricia Wilmore	Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance	/	X	/	X	X	X	/		X	/		
Rosemary Smud		/		/				/		X	/		
Stacy Inman	Pismo Beach Resident	/	X	/	X			/			/		
Tim Kershaw		/		/				/		X	/		
Tim Rainey	Cleath-Harris	/		/	X	X	X	/			/		
Toby Moore	Golden State Water Company	/	X	/		X	X	/		X	/		
Will Clemens	OCSD	/		/		X	X	/		X	/		
Willy Cunha	Shandon San-Juan Water District	/	X	/				/			/		
		/		/				/			/		
		/		/				/			/		
		/		/				/			/		
		/		/				/			/		

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: November 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Item 5: Discuss Ad Hoc Subcommittee's Report on the Water Sections of the Dana Reserve Project EIR and Consider Actions

Discussion

On September 6th, 2023, the Water Resources Advisory Committee (Committee) received and filed a report from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee charged with reviewing the water sections of the Dana Reserve Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Details can be found on our Committee website¹.

This item is for the Committee is for the following 3 topics:

- 1) Receive a verbal update on the results of the Planning Commission hearing for the project.
- 2) Discuss the attached comment letter from the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) Agencies on the Ad Hoc Subcommittee's Report.
- 3) Consider next steps.

Attachments:

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee's report, received by WRAC at the 9/6/2023 meeting
2. Comment letter from the NCMA agencies

¹ See the Agenda Packet, Item 4 for the 9/6/23 meeting. [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\)/Meeting-Calendar/2023/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\)-\(4\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC)/Meeting-Calendar/2023/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC)-(4).aspx)

Comments by the Water Resources Advisory Ad Hoc Committee on the Dana Reserve Final EIR Hydrology Related Issues

The WRAC Ad Hoc Committee provides the following comments concerning the water related issues of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Dana Reserve Specific Plan.

Introduction and Summary

The Ad Hoc Committee examined both the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Reports, and associated documents used in the preparation of those reports. These include documents from the Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD), Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) Annual Reports, the Dana Reserve Water Supply Assessment, and the terms of the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project (NSWP).

In summary, the Ad Hoc Committee finds the analysis as provided in the Final EIR to be thorough and accurate. No substantial issues associated only with water supply and wastewater disposal appear to be obstacles to the project as proposed.

Adequate Water Supply for Dana Reserve Specific Plan and All Other Potential Infill Projects

The terms of the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project (NSWP) address the contracted import of water from the greater Santa Maria groundwater basin. Minimum imported deliveries are defined, with 1,000 AFY as the current delivery, which will increase to 2,500 AFY by 2025. An additional 500 AFY is available to NCSD under the Project agreement to supply future infill demand in their service area. In addition, the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement (2013) also contains a provision that allows the NCSD to request an additional 3,200 AFY of water for development.

The FEIR Master Response MR-1 to DEIR Comments, notes *“Per the terms of the 2005 Stipulation and 2008 Judgment resulting from the Santa Maria Groundwater Litigation (1997), all new urban uses are required to provide a source of supplemental water to offset the water demand associated with the development.”* This would apparently not apply to new wells developed outside of the NCSD service area.

According to the March 30, 2022 MKN study commissioned by the NCSD (https://ncsd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Revised-Dana-Reserve-Evaluation_2022.03.30.pdf), the conservative estimate for groundwater availability is 1,267 AFY plus 2,167 AFY of imported (NSWP) water, or 3,434 AFY total.

Demand is 2,046 AFY for current NCSD customers, 340 AFY for future developments in the NCSD boundaries, and 352 AFY for the Dana Reserve plan, leaving 694 AFY more availability than demand. Therefore, water supply for the development is more than sufficient.

Dana Reserve Specific Plan Use of Imported Water Relation to Subbasin’s Stage 4 Water Severity Condition

The project wastewater, treated at the Southland Water Treatment Plant, does not exert any further pressure on the subbasin because all of its water is imported, via the NSWP. Furthermore, there is wastewater percolation return to the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin which the NCSA shares. The degree to which water from the Southland Water Treatment Plant recharges the Nipomo Mesa Management Area part of the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin is uncertain, as some water from the plant has been shown to percolate to Nipomo Creek.

Dana Reserve Specific Plan Effect on On-site Groundwater Recharge Unknown

There are no estimates of on-site groundwater recharge on the project site. There are no estimates of viable groundwater beneath the Dana Reserve. Geotechnical borings showed no water in the upper 50 ft. of the borings. Past efforts to produce well water from any depth in this area have been unsuccessful. The effect of adding impermeable surfaces in Dana Reserve will reduce recharge, but the added drainage collection ponds might enhance recharge in those areas. No quantitative study of the net changes of on-site recharge changes has been made, although the FEIR concludes “... even though the project would increase impervious surfaces, the project would not adversely affect groundwater recharge.”

Dana Reserve Specific Plan Effect on Off-site Groundwater Recharge

Note answer to On-Site Groundwater Recharge above. Additional wastewater from this project to the Southland Treatment plant might result in added Santa Maria Groundwater Basin recharge from that site. The following paragraph addresses wastewater recharge potential.

Dana Reserve Specific Plan Provides No Certainty for Project-Derived Wastewater Use

There is no agreement for the Project to underwrite purple pipe reuse. This would be a mitigation for an unspecified impact. While the FEIR discusses possible use of recycled water at the Regional Park, the High School, and on Dana Reserve landscaping, there is no certainty about siting, installation costs, and the final cost of the delivered water. Therefore, this cannot be considered part of the project at this time.

Southland Treatment Plant Capacity Requires Expansion, a Project Associated Cost

The Southland Wastewater Treatment Plant will require expansion to accommodate water from Dana Reserve and from the Black Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is closing. These collection and treatment plant improvements are identified in the MKN report and have been estimated to be ~\$20M. In addition, water supply and distribution infrastructure improvements have been estimated to be ~\$19M. These improvements will be funded wholly by the developments.



October 20, 2023

Water Resource Advisory Committee

Attn: WRAC Ad Hoc Committee

Subject: Northern Cities Management Area Comments in Response to the WRAC Ad Hoc Committee Comments to the FEIR for the Dana Reserve Specific Plan

Dear WRAC Ad Hoc Committee,

This letter is written in response to the Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) Ad Hoc Report comments on the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Dana Reserve Specific Plan (Dana Reserve Project). The Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) has reviewed the FEIR for the Dana Reserve Project and the comments provided by the WRAC, particularly with regards to the determination of adequate water supply for the Dana Reserve Project. This letter communicates the NCMA's comments to the WRAC Ad Hoc Committee.

The NCMA does not agree with the Committee's determination that the water supply is sufficient to support new development. The NCMA believes there has been a misinterpretation of the 2005 Stipulation requirements around the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project (NSWP). The 2005 Stipulation requires Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD) to bring in a minimum of 2,500 acre-feet per year (AFY) of the NSWP by contracting with the City of Santa Maria. The purpose of the minimum 2,500 AFY of NSWP is to offset the groundwater from the existing users within the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) at the time of the Stipulation. This imported water was not intended to offset future development and is misleading to calculate this amount as part of the total for NCSD's future water supply within the Water and Wastewater Services Evaluation Report for the Dana Reserve Project.

There is also reason to believe the NMMA groundwater demand has exceeded the available groundwater supply since the Stipulation. NMMA's 2013 Annual Report referenced the Department of Water Resources (DWR) 2002 Report "Water resources of the Arroyo Grande – Nipomo Mesa area" which estimated the dependable yield of the area now known as the NMMA to be between 4,800 AFY and 6,000 AFY. After adjusting for return flows, the NMMA pumped approximately 8,900 AF in 2005, 12,900 AF in 2013, and 12,257 AF in the latest 2022 Annual Report. This trend suggests that NMMA has been in a groundwater supply deficit since the date of the Stipulation. Because NCSD is part of the greater NMMA area, this deficit should be taken into consideration when evaluating the availability of sufficient water supplies for the NCSD service area.



In the Ad Hoc Report the committee stated: *"The FEIR Master Response MR-1 to DEIR Comments, notes 'Per the terms of the 2005 Stipulation and 2008 Judgment resulting from the Santa Maria Groundwater Litigation (1997), all new urban uses are required to provide a source of supplemental water to offset the water demand associated with the development.' This would apparently not apply to new wells developed outside of the NCSD service area."* The 2005 Stipulation and the 2008 Judgement After Trial applies to the entire Santa Maria River Valley Groundwater Basin, including areas incorporated by NMMA, not just the NCSD service area. The 2005 Stipulation requires NCSD *"to purchase and transmit to the NMMA a minimum of 2,500 AFY of the NSWP each year. However, the NMMA Technical Group may require NCSD in any given Year to purchase and transmit to the NMMA an amount in excess of the 2,500 AFY of NSWP and up to the maximum amount of NSWP which the NCSD is entitled to receive under the MOU if the NMMA Technical Group concludes that such an amount is necessary to protect or sustain groundwater supplies in the NMMA."*

The Ad Hoc Report also states that the *"Demand is 2,046 AFY for current NCSD customers, 340 AFY for future developments, and 352 AFY for the Dana Reserve Project, leaving 694 AFY more availability than demand. Therefore, the water supply for the development is more than sufficient."*

The future demand of 692 AFY in NCSD, including the Dana Reserve Project, exceeds the 500 AFY of readily available import water that is in excess of the minimum 2,500 AFY, according to the wholesale agreement between NCSD and the City of Santa Maria. It should be noted that this 500 AFY is intended for new development within NMMA occurring since the 2005 Stipulation. It is not intended solely for new development within NCSD. NCSD is currently importing less than the minimum required AFY defined in the Stipulation, this means there has not been supplemental water supplied for any new developments in the NMMA since 2005.

Beyond the readily available 3,000 AFY defined in the wholesale agreement, there is an additional 3,200 AFY identified that is available to request but not available to NCSD to purchase and transmit until the license agreement limitation is removed by County of Santa Barbara. There is no guarantee that the 3,200 AFY of water will be available for use given that the County has rejected NCSD's request to remove the delivery limitation of 3,000 AFY. This water supply cannot be labeled as secured for future development nor can it be applied as available imported water until the availability is secured by NCSD.

The NCMA asks the WRAC Ad Hoc Committee to consider the comments provided in this letter in their decisions moving forward regarding the Dana Reserve Project water supply availability.

Sincerely,

Northern Cities Management Area



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Ben Fine".

Ben Fine
Public Works Director
City of Pismo Beach

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Will Clemens".

Will Clemens
General Manager
Oceano Community Services District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Shannon Sweeney".

Shannon Sweeney
Acting Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Arroyo Grande

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Steve Kahn".

Steve Kahn
Interim Public Works Director
City of Grover Beach

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: November 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Item 6: Consider Recommending Revisions to the Bylaws

Recommendation

Consider recommending to the Board of Supervisors approval of the revised draft Committee Bylaws.

Discussion

On September 6th, 2023, the Water Resources Advisory Committee (Committee) recommended a suite of changes to the Bylaws. Details can be found on our Committee website¹.

While taking these changes through the approval process, there was not broad support for removing California Men's Colony (CMC), Cuesta College and California Army National Guard from the Committee. Additionally, both Cuesta and CMC have subsequently expressed interest in maintaining a presence on Committee.

Staff is requesting the Committee recommend a Bylaws update with those proposed revisions removed. All other proposed revisions from the Sept. 6 meeting remain and are summarized below.

- Remove antiquated language related to At-Large members from Article II.2
- Broaden the definition of Article II.5 from "production agriculture" to "agriculture industry"
- Insert a new Article III.9 requiring SLO County residency of At-Large Members and Alternates
- Add Article II.14 requiring Members with anticipated absences to contact Alternates to maximize meeting attendance.
- Clean-up of Article IV.

Attachments:

1. Revised Redline markup of the Committee Bylaws

¹ See the Agenda Packet, Item 5 for the 9/6/23 meeting. [https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\)/Meeting-Calendar/2023/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-\(WRAC\)-\(4\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC)/Meeting-Calendar/2023/Water-Resources-Advisory-Committee-(WRAC)-(4).aspx)

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I Purposes of the Committee

1. 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. The Committee shall review the needs and financial capabilities of the District with respect to water resources and upon deliberation shall convey their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.
2. 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. Further, to recommend to the Board of Supervisors other programs concerning the objectives and purposes of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act.
3. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

ARTICLE II Members

1. Membership on the Committee shall be available to the following agencies, entities, groups and areas
 - a. Each Incorporated City
 - b. Each Supervisorial District
 - c. Each Water Serving Independent Special District
 - d. Each California Water District
 - e. Each Groundwater Sustainability Agency not otherwise represented on this Committee
 - f. Each Resource Conservation District
 - g. Atascadero Mutual Water Company
 - h. California Men's Colony
 - i. Camp San Luis Obispo
 - j. Cuesta Community College
 - k. Golden State Water Company
 - l. County Farm Bureau
 - m. Environmental At-Large (3 members)
 - n. Agriculture At-Large (2 members)
 - o. Development At-Large (1 member)
2. Each agency, entity, group and area may nominate one person as a member and one person as an alternate to represent them on the Committee at a time, subject to their confirmation by the Board of Supervisors as set forth below and subject to the

Adopted September 1, 2020

Draft Revisions – October 25, 2023

following: nominations shall not be made in connection with the members selected to represent m., n. and o. identified above and the number of individuals permitted to represent said groups on the Committee at a time shall also be as identified above. No individual shall be confirmed or selected to represent more than one agency, entity, group or area on the Committee at a time either as a member and/or alternate. In addition, no individual shall be confirmed or selected to serve on the Committee as a member and/or alternate if they are a member of the governing board or body of, or are staff to, more than one entity identified above. In addition, no individual shall be confirmed or selected to serve on the Committee to represent b. or ~~m.j.~~ through ~~o.l.~~ if they are a member of the governing board or body of, or are staff to, a. or c. through ~~l.j.~~ ~~Nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the removal of any member or alternate member of the Committee confirmed or selected prior to September 1, 2020 before the expiration of their current term.~~

3. Members (and alternates) representing a. and c. through l. identified above shall be nominated by their agency or entity and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors.
4. Members (and alternates) representing b. identified above shall be nominated by the Supervisor of that district and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors. Such representatives shall reside in and represent their District at the pleasure of the District's supervisor.
5. Members (and alternates) representing n. identified above shall be selected by the Board of Supervisors from applicants engaged in ~~production~~ the agriculture industry. Their terms shall be for two years, to be replaced or reaffirmed in February of odd numbered years.
6. Members (and alternates) representing m. identified above shall be selected by the Board of Supervisors from applicants with a record of membership in one or more environmental groups and/or independent environmental activism. Their terms shall be for two years, to be replaced or reaffirmed in February of odd numbered years.
7. Members (and alternates) representing o. identified above shall be selected by the Board of Supervisors from applicants engaged in the building and construction industry. Preference shall be given to applicants that have written support from an organization that represents the home or commercial building industry. Their terms shall be for two years, to be replaced or reaffirmed in February of odd numbered years.
8. Applications submitted for members or alternates representing m., n. and o. identified above shall be agendized for consideration and input by the Committee prior to selection by the Board of Supervisors.
9. Members (and alternates) representing j., k. and l identified above shall reside in San Luis Obispo County.

~~9.10.~~ Members are encouraged to provide an update on water resource issues relevant to the agency, entity, group or area they have been confirmed or selected to represent at least once per year.

~~10.11.~~ Three successive unexcused absences of a member without notifying the Committee, if no alternate is representing the member, shall be cause for the member to be dropped from the Committee and the member and the member's agency shall be notified and nomination of a new representative requested. If the agency is non-responsive, the membership position for that member will be terminated two months after notification. The agency may reapply for a representative at a later date. For At-Large positions the seat on the committee may be opened for nomination of a replacement member after the second month has passed since notification.

~~11.12.~~ This Committee shall comply with all applicable laws, including the Ralph M. Brown Act.

~~13.~~ Members and alternates serve at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors.

~~12.14.~~ If a Member cannot attend a meeting, the Member shall be in contact with their alternate regarding attendance for a Committee meeting in order to maximize participation.

ARTICLE III Meetings

1. Meetings shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month except for July and August. If a majority vote of members present in a regular meeting approve, the July and/or August meeting may be held, and any regular meeting may be postponed if it would fall on a holiday.
2. Meetings shall begin at 1:30 p.m. and shall continue for no more than two hours unless extended time is approved by a majority vote.
3. The Chairperson, or the Vice Chairperson in the Chairperson's absence, may call a Special Meeting after proper notification of the Committee members. Proper notification shall be deemed to have been met if such notification is written and is delivered personally, by mail, by email with a confirmation receipt, or by direct contact by telephone at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.
4. Meetings may be canceled by vote of the Committee in a meeting. If there are insufficient items to justify a meeting it may be canceled by agreement between the Chairperson and Secretary. Notice of canceled meetings shall be the same as for special meetings.
5. Twelve members, or their alternates in their absence, shall constitute a quorum.
6. Any recommendation to the Board of Supervisors or other action considered by the Committee consistent with its purpose shall require a majority vote by Committee members present, or their alternates, for passage.

7. Every member or alternate, in the member's absence, shall have one vote on each matter before the Committee.
8. Meetings shall be open to the public and members of other governmental agencies. Visitors may express opinions or make requests during public comment. The Chairperson may open and close the meeting to public comment.
9. The Committee may create an ad hoc subcommittee for a specific and limited period of time to review specific matters before the Committee. Members of a subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chair and consist solely of members of the Committee constituting less than a quorum. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chair may appoint non-Committee members to a subcommittee created by the Committee, subject to majority approval by the Committee; however, if such non-Committee members are appointed, the subcommittee will constitute a "legislative body" under the Brown Act. Any subcommittee created pursuant to this section shall report its findings and conclusions to the Committee for further consideration by the Committee.

ARTICLE IV Officers

1. Officers of the Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary.
- ~~1.2. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be done annually at the March meeting of the Committee.~~
- ~~2.3. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Committee shall be selected from the members of the Committee and elected by a majority vote of the members present (or alternates present in their place). The Secretary shall be County Public Works staff assigned annually by the County Public Works Department Director.~~
- ~~3. Election of Officers shall be done annually at the March meeting of the Committee.~~
4. Vacated elected offices shall be filled by election/appointment by the Committee. The Vice-Chairperson shall serve as the Chairperson ~~assume the Chairpersonship~~ in the event of absence of the Chairperson.
- ~~4.5. The Secretary shall be County Public Works Staff assigned by the County Public Works Department Director on an as-needed basis.~~

ARTICLE V Administration

1. The Secretary, in cooperation with the Chairperson, shall prepare the agenda for each regular and special meeting of the Committee. Any Committee 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

Adopted September 1, 2020

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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 Committee, and available time.

2. The Chairperson, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall prepare an Annual Report for review by the Committee no later than the March meeting date. The Annual Report shall include a summary of Committee activities, actions and outcomes for the previous year, and current status of continuing efforts. The Annual Report shall be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors after review by the Committee.
3. Bylaws shall be reviewed biannually for recommended updates or more often if requested by the Board of Supervisors.

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: November 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Item 7: Ongoing Updates

Recommendation

Receive updates on various ongoing efforts.

Discussion

- a) **Rain & Reservoir Report.** See attached report.
- b) **Drought Updates.**
 - As part of SB-552, counties are required to have a standing Drought Task Force. Ours is led by the County of SLO Office of Emergency Services (OES).
 - OES last went to the Board on April 18, 2023.
 - The Board terminated the Drought Declaration.
 - The Staff report can be found here: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/15621>
- c) **Groundwater Management Efforts**

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

BASIN UPDATES:

Basin	Update:
Los Osos Basin	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At its October 18, 2023 Meeting, the BMC reviewed the draft proposed 2024 BMC Budget and BMC Bank Account Authorization Resolution.

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWR plans to fly Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys over the Los Osos Subbasin to collect geophysical data in November 2023. • The next regularly scheduled BMC meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2023. <p>Warden Creek Subbasin is designated as a very low priority and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/losososbasin</p>
<p>Atascadero Basin</p>	<p>Atascadero Basin is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the Atascadero Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Executive Committee (EC) elected to develop, and submit to DWR, a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) by January 31, 2022. The GSP was submitted on January 30, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional meetings are scheduled at this time. <p>For more information or to view meeting material, visit: www.AtascaderoBasin.com</p>
<p>Santa Maria Basin</p>	<p>Santa Maria Area Subbasin (adjudicated area) is designated as a very low priority basin. The adjudicated areas of the Santa Maria Basin are managed by the Northern Cities Management Area, Nipomo Mesa Management Area, and Santa Maria Valley Management Area. The Santa Maria Basin Fringe Areas – County of San Luis Obispo GSA is the GSA for the non-adjudicated fringe areas of the basin within the County. This subbasin consists of an adjudicated area and other non-adjudicated fringe areas. However, only the priority of the non-adjudicated fringe areas was assessed, which include the Ziegler Canyon Fringe Area in San Luis Obispo County and other fringe areas in Santa Barbara County.</p> <p>Arroyo Grande Subbasin is designated as a very low priority basin and is not subject to the requirements of SGMA due to the DWR prioritization; however, the County and City of Arroyo Grande as GSAs in the basin have prepared a GSP. DWR plans to fly Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys over the Arroyo Grande Subbasin to collect geophysical data in November 2023. More information can be found at the following website: https://water.ca.gov/programs/sgma/aem</p> <p>For more information, please visit: www.slocounty.ca.gov/santamariabasin or www.slocounty.ca.gov/agbasin</p>
<p>Paso Basin</p>	<p>Paso Basin is designated as a high priority basin subject to critical conditions of overdraft. The Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA and three other GSAs within the basin entered into an agreement to develop a single GSP for the basin and coordinate via the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fall 2023 county-wide groundwater level measurements began in October 2023 and monitoring results will be reported at a subsequent PBCC meeting. • The Expanded Monitoring Network Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met nine (9) times and was instrumental in developing criteria to identify wells for

	<p>the proposed expansion of the monitoring network which is memorialized in a technical memorandum that will be considered by the PBCC on October 25, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the September 7, 2023, Special meeting, the PBCC approved responses for submission to the court in response to the Grand Jury report entitled “Can One Year Wash Away the Paso Robles Basin’s Water Worries?” • On July 26, 2023, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Blended Irrigation Water Supply Project feasibility and preliminary engineering study was distributed. Proposals were received and a recommendation to select a consultant will be considered at the October 25, 2023 PBCC meeting. • On July 26, 2023, the PBCC directed staff to develop a Cost of Service Rate Study RFP. The rate study will analyze the funding requirement to support regulatory fees (Prop 26) for distributing administrative costs (e.g. costs for general administration, operations, groundwater extraction measurement and Basin monitoring and reporting) to Basin extractors (administrative fees) and to support additional fees (Prop 218) for distributing Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) project costs to Basin extractors (project fees). The draft RFP will be considered for approval and distribution on October 25, 2023. • A Regular PBCC meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2023. The PBCC will consider the meeting cadence for 2024. <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. An amended GSP was submitted to DWR on July 20, 2022 and on March 3, 2023, DWR issued a recommended “approval” of the GSP. The final approval with proposed corrective actions was received on May 25, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cuyama Basin GSA Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) will consider additional appointments to the SAC at the next SAC and Board meetings. • The Cuyama Basin GSA is considering several Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) component updates and next components for consideration are: 1) subsidence, interconnected surface water (ISW), and water quality monitoring networks, 2) sustainable management criteria and undesirable results for subsidence, ISW, and water quality, and 3) pumping demand reduction (i.e., glidepath) methodology. • Implementation of grant-funded projects continues, including the planned installation of up to seven dedicated monitoring wells and 3-4 piezometers. • The next Cuyama Basin GSA Advisory and Board meetings are scheduled for October 26, 2023 and November 1, 2023, respectively <p>For more information, please visit: www.cuyamabasin.org</p>

<p>San Luis Obispo Basin</p>	<p>San Luis Obispo Basin is designated as a high priority basin. The County and City of San Luis Obispo GSAs, in coordination with other basin partners through the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) developed and submitted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the SLO Basin to DWR by the January 31, 2022 statutory deadline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On April 27, 2023, DWR issued an “approved” determination for the SLO Valley GSP. DWR proposed five corrective actions and staff will be addressing these ahead of the next five-year GSP review due January 26, 2027. • Staff will be reviewing and reporting on DWR’s upcoming best management practice (BMPs) guidance documents for 1) GSP periodic evaluation, and 2) interconnected surface water. • Staff is evaluating extraction methodologies including meters and satellite-based evapotranspiration for a report at a future GSC meeting. • DWR plans to fly Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys over the SLO Valley Subbasin to collect geophysical data in November 2023. • The next scheduled GSC meeting is December 14, 2023. <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: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin</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"> • On June 8, 2021, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to proceed with Task 2 which consists of new data collection, including but not limited to: groundwater level data, water quality sampling, and surface-water monitoring. • Staff returned to the Board on January 25, 2022 to authorize a Joint Funding Agreement between the District and USGS to begin work on Task 2. • County Staff, USGS, and the RCD are currently working with landowners in the study area to complete Task 2, which includes establishing a groundwater level monitoring network, water quality sampling, and surface water monitoring. • USGS has established the initial groundwater level monitoring network, installed a stream gage along the Paso Robles Creek, and will continue to collect groundwater and surface water data. <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

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)

One May 17th, 2023, DWR announced the Proposition 1, Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant Awards. For San Luis Obispo County, the awarded suite of projects is shown below:

Project Sponsor	Project Name	Total Project Cost	Grant Funding Recommendation
City of Morro Bay	Indirect Potable Reuse	\$8,709,715	\$1,200,000
City of Pismo Beach	Central Coast Blue, Phase 1	\$54,469,000	\$1,000,000
Oceano CSD	Water Resource Reliability Projects	\$1,160,530	\$600,000
SLOCFC&WCD	Master Water Report Information System	\$1,645,729	\$549,755
San Miguel CSD	Water Reliability Projects	\$4,497,000	\$300,000*
SLOCFC&WCD	Grant Admin	\$ 132,374	\$ 132,374
Total		\$70,614,348	\$3,782,129

* San Miguel's project had 3 components; this covers the entire estimated cost of one specific component. The full list of awards can be accessed here: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Proposition-1/Implementation-Grants>

At this time, additional IRWM-related grant opportunities are not anticipated. To be notified of the upcoming meetings or any project-related documents, visit www.slocounty.ca.gov/irwm.

A summary of open and pending IRWM grants is below:

Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Mgmt Grant (2011)	\$2,797,000	Complete	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A - Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011)	\$10,401,000	Complete	
Los Osos Wastewater Project	\$5,945,444	Complete	County of SLO
Flood Control Zone 1/1A - Modified 3c Project	\$2,200,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Nipomo Supplemental Water Project	\$2,200,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Grant Administration	\$55,556	Complete	Flood Control District
Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement 2017	\$877,563	Complete	
FCD Funding Administration	\$20,700	Complete	Flood Control District
Disadvantaged Community Needs Assessment	\$67,738	Complete	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Program, Phase 2	\$177,750	Complete	Oceano CSD
Turnout Pump Station Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	City of Grover Beach

Water Res. Recovery Facility, SLO Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of SLO
Reservoir Expansion Project & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Study and Recharge Basin Study	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1	\$2,782,130	In Progress	
Grant Administration	\$155,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	Close-out	City of SLO
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	Close-out	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects 1-1, 1-9	\$274,500	Close-out	Oceano CSD

For questions, contact:

Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager

Email: bclark@co.slo.ca.us

Phone: (805) 788-2316

e) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

Last 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>

The WRAC received a presentation of the “Proof of Concept” Data and Information Management System (DIMS) at the June meeting. The project team is now working toward a working Prototype for demonstration by the end of the year.

For more information, please visit the project website:

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

f) State Water Project (SWP)

- The 2023 SWP allocation increased on 4/20/23 to 100%. This amounts to 25,000-AF for SLO County.
- The next State Water Subcontractors Advisory Committee (SWSAC) meeting will be held on Friday, November 3, 2023, from 10:00 – 11:30 AM at the SLO County Government Center, Room D361.

For more information, please visit <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/State-Water-Project-and-Subcontractors-Advisory-Co.aspx>

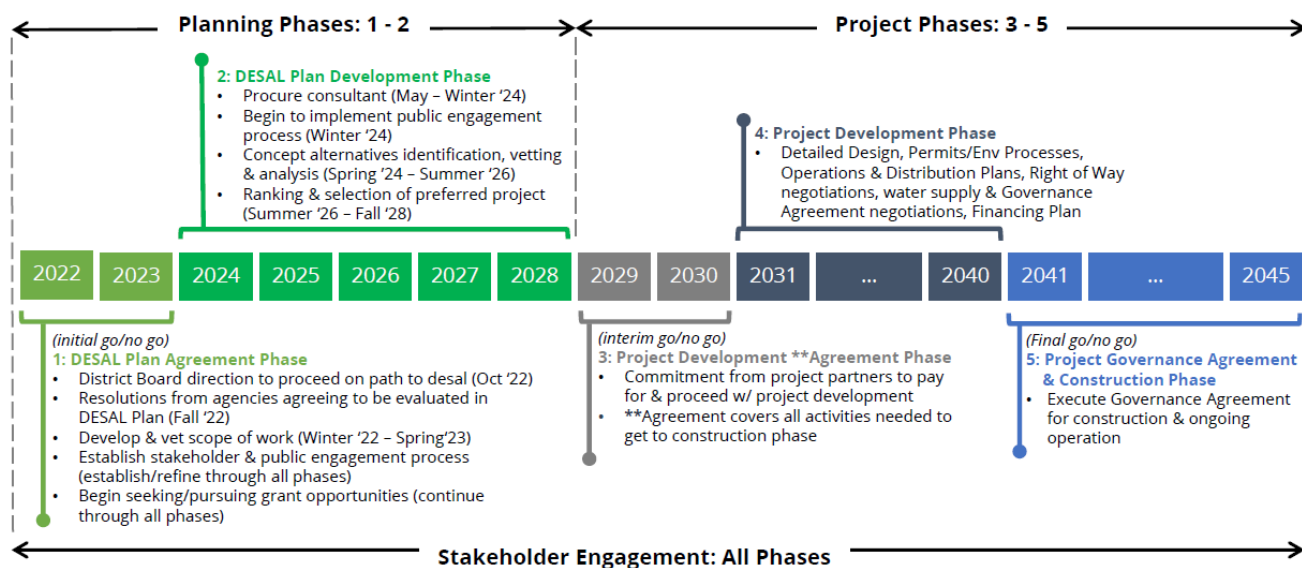
g) Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics Plan (DESAL Plan)

Desalination, the process of removing salt from seawater and/or brackish water to create freshwater, can provide a safe, long term, drought-proof and resilient water supply. The District Board of Supervisors has authorized staff to kickoff a planning effort, in coordination with partner agencies who have agreed to be considered in the DESAL Plan, to identify a desalination project in San Luis Obispo County and to pursue grants to help offset the associated costs.

In 2023, the District pursued two funding opportunities for the DESAL Plan, one through NOAA and one through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). While the DESAL Plan project was not selected to submit a full proposal for the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge, it was selected as one of the top proposals for USBR's WaterSMART: Water Recycling and Desalination Planning program and USBR plans to award \$548,410 to the District, the full amount requested in the grant application.

The next major step is for District staff to return to the Board with a consultant contract for DESAL Plan development. The following graphic lays out a potential timeline and phase descriptions for a desalination project. For more information, please visit the County's new DESAL Plan webpage at <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL>.

Desalination Executable Solution And Logistics Plan **DESAL Plan***



h) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

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

Nipomo Mesa

Offset Programs. The County is continuing to process building permits subject to the County's water offset fees at a 1:1 ratio to fund the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available for both residential and commercial uses. Funding is currently limited for the rebate programs and applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants in the Nipomo CSD service area may pay the CSD's supplemental water fee to meet the County's offset requirement. For more information, visit: [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. In the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin, there are funds available for the Cash for Grass, Washer Rebate, and Plumbing Retrofit Programs, available to both residential and commercial property owners. A well meter is required for compliance with Title 19.

The Ag Offset ordinance requires property owners to verify that new and expanded irrigated commercial crops are not increasing their existing water use on-site, based on a 5 year look back period, with a 5 AFY exemption for sites that do not have existing irrigation and are outside of the area of severe decline. For more information, visit:

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin-\(PRGWB\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Paso-Robles-Groundwater-Basin-(PRGWB).aspx).

Los Osos

Guide to Planning Information for Development in Los Osos. This website is currently the best resource for FAQ concerning what type of development is currently allowed within Los Osos: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Grid-Items/Community-Engagement/Communities-Villages/Los-Osos.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. Maddaus Water Management Inc. completed a Los Osos Water Offset Study in June 2023 to evaluate the "retrofit-to-build" program and inform ongoing land use and water resources planning efforts for the community. The study includes updated estimates of average annual residential water use in Los Osos; an estimate of remaining water savings potential, considering historic conservation measures and remaining indoor and outdoor water efficiency retrofits; and recommendations for increasing program reliability. The Department may recommend

amendments to the retrofit-to-build program policies based on the study findings, which would be subject to approval by the County Board of Supervisors at a public hearing.

https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Forms-Documents/Planning-Projects/Los-Osos-Water-Offset-Study/TM-FINAL_County-of-San-Luis-Obispo_Los-Osos-Water-.pdf

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 ("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 15th are available at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/LosOsosPlan-1.aspx>.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). On April 4, 2023, the County BOS heard the California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications to the Coastal ADU Ordinance. The most significant of the modifications was the exclusion of Los Osos and Cambria from the areas of the Coastal Ordinance where ADUs are an allowable use. Please find the April 4th meeting recording and staff report here: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Home/Meetings-Calendar.aspx>.

Please contact waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us for further information or questions.

Rainfall and Reservoir Updates

Sub-Region	Area / Rain Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2022-23 Water Year Total Rainfall	2023-24 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average	
				July 23	Aug 23	Sep 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24	May 24	Jun 24			
North Coast	Cambria Area (ALERT #717)	22.0	40.77 (185%)	0.01	0.11	0.15	0.03 ^A										0.30	1%
	Whale Rock Reservoir (County Site #166.1)	16.0	28.65 (179%)	0	0.15	0.17	0 ^C										0.32	2%
	Paso Robles (County Site #100)	14.1	28.86 (205%)	0	0.02	0	0 ^A										0.02	0%
	NE Alacadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	28.87 (170%)	0	0.04	0	0 ^A										0.04	0%
Inland	Alacadero WWC (County Site #34.0)	17.5	37.58 (215%)	0	0.09	0	0 ^A										0.09	1%
	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	47.95 (200%)	0	0.12	0	0 ^A										0.12	1%
	Salinas Dam (ALERT #719)	20.9	51.37 (246%)	0	0	0.03	0 ^A										0.03	0%
	Rocky Butte (ALERT #703)	40.0	96.60 (242%)	0	0.55	0.43	0.16 ^A										1.14	3%
South Coast	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	53.16 (222%)	0	0	0.16	0.03 ^A										0.19	1%
	Lopez Dam (ALERT #737)	21.0	48.38 (230%)	0	0.01	0.16	0 ^A										0.17	1%
	Nipomo South (ALERT #730)	16.0	26.86 (168%)	0.03	0.09	0.06	0.06 ^A										0.24	2%
	Nipomo East (ALERT #728)	18.0	38.76 (215%)	0	0.07	0.27	0.02 ^A										0.36	2%

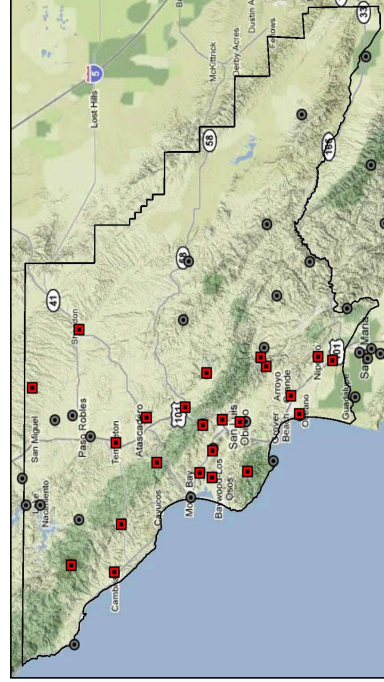
A - Report generated at 9:00 AM on 10/25/2023
 B - Data reference for the rain gauge was recorded at this site.
 C - Information not available at time of update.
 D - Missing data
 E - Planned maintenance outage; data to be included in future update.

Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento Reservoir	October 25, 2023	767.50	787.75 - 800.0 (rigid safety railway)	216,850	57%
	October 25, 2022	718.60		66,080	17%
San Antonio Reservoir	October 25, 2023	755.00	760.0	215,353	64%
	October 25, 2022	675.30		31,400	9%
Lopez Reservoir	October 25, 2023	520.10	522.7	47,123	95%
	October 25, 2022	458.85		11,366	23%
Salinas Reservoir (Santa Margarita Lake)	October 25, 2023	1,297.20	1300.7	21,343	90%
	October 25, 2022	1,280.56		12,011	50%
Whale Rock Reservoir	October 6, 2023	213.20	218.3	37,354	96%
	October 25, 2022	194.90		27,816	71%
Twitchell Reservoir	October 25, 2023	569.36	651.5	22,036	11%
	October 25, 2022	n/a		0	0%

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@slo.co.us.

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer

DATE: November 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Item 8: Future Agenda Items

Upcoming Meetings

December 6:

- Receive Presentation from and Provide Feedback to County Staff on the Master Water Report Update.
- Receive Presentation from John Lindsey regarding our SLO County Climate.

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
- Mater Water Report Update
- Desalination opportunities / DESAL Plan
- 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.