

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 6, 2024  
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 October 2, 2024 WRAC Meeting Minutes	1:35pm
3.	Receive Presentation from Coastal San Luis and Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation Districts regarding the Mobile Irrigation Lab Program	1:40pm
4.	Receive Updates from Community Service Districts Members	2:10pm
5.	Process for Review of Draft Policy on State Water Project Priorities and Criteria for Use	2:30pm
6.	Ongoing Updates: a. Rain & Reservoir Report b. Drought Updates c. Groundwater Basin Management Efforts d. Flood Control Zones e. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) f. Master Water Report (MWR) Update g. State Water Project (SWP) h. Desalination i. Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances Open Reporting on Water Conservation Opportunities & Information	2:35pm
7.	Future Agenda Items	2:40pm
8.	Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda	2:45pm
9.	Adjourn Meeting	2:50pm

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

Next Regular Meeting: December 4, 2024, 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 January 23, 2024*

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

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## MINUTES (DRAFT)

Chairperson: Thomas Burhenn  
Vice Chairperson: Jim Guthrie  
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 **October 2, 2024** 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 1:30 PM

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

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

### 2) **Approval of June 5, 2024, WRAC Meeting Minutes**

*Item start time ~ 00:03:40*

T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.

E. Greening moves to approve the June 5, 2024 meeting minutes.

C. Mulholland seconds the motion.

Motion carries 16-0-1.

### 3) **Approval of June 25, 2024 WRAC Meeting Minutes**

*Item start time ~ 00:04:40*

T. Burhenn introduces the item and asks for questions or comments from the Committee.

Unidentified attendee notes that the draft minutes should be corrected to show that the meeting took place at the SLO Veterans Hall, not the Library Community Room.

T. Walters moves to approve the June 25, 2024 meeting minutes as amended.

E. Greening seconds the motion.

Motion carries 16-0-1.

**4) Receive Presentation on SB-552 (2018), County Drought Planning Requirements from County Staff**

*Item start time ~ 00:05:34*

T. Burhenn introduces the item and J. Porter and B. Clark present on SB-552 (2018) and the County's drought planning requirements.

E. Greening asks if the process is open to biodiversity-friendly resiliency efforts, such as beavers. B. Clark responds.

D. Chipping comments on the drivers/inputs that promote drought conditions and asks if there is a way to integrate upstream and downstream efforts together. B. Clark responds.

C. Weirick asks if the District has a deadline to meet compliance efforts for SB-552. B. Clark and J. Porter respond.

L. Chipping asks if the county has a task force in place, and if so, what is the composition of that task force. B. Clark responds.

L. Chipping asks if the task force is a standing committee or resurrected on an "as needed" basis. B. Clark responds.

Unidentified attendee asks for additional details about the consolidating analysis and the management or enforcement efforts. B. Clark and J. Porter respond.

D. Chipping asks about San Simeon and if it will be taken on right away by this group. B. Clark responds.

**5) Consider forming an Ad-hoc Subcommittee to Review Draft Policy on State Water Project Priorities and Criteria for Use**

*Item start time ~ 00:37:34*

T. Burhenn introduces the item and B. Clark discusses the process for the District's draft State Water policy updates and asks if the Committee is interested in forming an Ad-hoc Subcommittee to review the proposed policy updates and provide input.

The Committee asks questions and considers whether to form an Ad-hoc Subcommittee.

No official action was taken; however, there was consensus for staff to provide future updates on changes to the draft policy and to agendaize an item for further consideration at the December 4<sup>th</sup> WRAC meeting.

**6) Provide Feedback to County Staff regarding Updates to the Rain and Reservoir Report**

*Item start time ~ 00:55:25*

T. Burhenn introduces the item and B. Clark provides an overview of recent updates to the Rain and Reservoir Report and asks for feedback from the Committee.

E. Greening asks if there will be changes to the Water Year calendar currently used by the District (7/1-6/30), noting that other agencies use different calendar dates for their reporting (e.g., DWR's Water Year is 10/1-9/30). B. Clark responds.

M. van Ryn asks why the State's Water Year is different from the District's. B. Clark and T. Barnhart respond.

J. Guthrie asks if the formatting and font of the report can be adjusted for easier reading. B. Clark responds.

Unidentified attendee comments on Salinas Dam being resurveyed in April 2024 and asks if there are any other reservoirs on the docket to be resurveyed. T. Barnhart and B. Clark respond.

## **7) Ongoing Updates**

*Item start time ~ 01:04:30*

a) Rain & Reservoir Report

B. Clark comments that the new format may be used for the next month's meeting.

b) California Drought Monitor Summary

No comments.

c) Groundwater Basin Management Efforts

No comments.

d) Flood Control Zones

No comments.

e) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

No comments.

f) Master Water Report (MWR) Update

No comments.

g) State Water Project (SWP)

No comments.

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

No comments.

i) Various County Water Programs, Policies, and Ordinances

E. Greening comments on Consent Item 15 on the BOS Agenda to be reviewed next Tuesday concerning the Nacimiento Pipeline repairs.

D. Chipping asks if water data related to the SGMA basins, and the key wells index could be provided to the WRAC as soon as it becomes available. B. Clark responds.

Committee Members discuss concerns with having separate repositories for groundwater reports and data.

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

**8) Future Agenda Items**

*Item start time ~ 01:19:34*

E. Greening and D. Chipping request an item to discuss timely reporting of groundwater data for the adjudicated basins.

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

*Item start time ~ 01:22:24*

C. Mulholland comments on the SOAR Groundwater Symposium and provides a summary of the conference.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC) 2024

Organization	Representative	Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jun*	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>SUPERVISOR DISTRICT</b>															
District 1	Melanie Blankenship	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Elizabeth Covert	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
District 2	(Vacant)	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Neal MacDougall	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
District 3	Michael Nordstrom	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Natalie Risner	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
District 4	Thomas Burhenn	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	David Crater	A	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	X	/	/
District 5	Allen Duckworth	M	/	/	/	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Fred Hoey	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>AT-LARGE</b>															
Agriculture At-Large	Jon Winstead	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Patricia Wilmore	A	/	/	X	/	O	X	X	/	/	/	O	/	/
Agriculture At-Large	Mary van Ryn	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Jason Yeager	A	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Development At-Large	Taylor Simpson	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Tim Walters	A	/	/	X	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
Environmental At-Large	Christine Mulholland	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Dolores Howard	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Environmental At-Large	Eric Greening	M	/	/	/	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	(Vacant)	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Environmental At-Large	David Chipping	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Stephnie Wald	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>RCDs</b>															
Coastal San Luis RCD	Dominic Roques	M	/	/	/	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Linda Chipping	A	/	/	X	/	X	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Upper Salinas RCD	George Kendall	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Tom Mora	A	/	/	X	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>OTHERS</b>															
Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Jaime Hendrickson	A	/	/	X	/	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	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Paul Clark	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Cuesta College	(Vacant)	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	(Vacant)	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Golden State Water	Matt Cook	M	/	/	X	/	X	/	X	/	/	/	O	/	/
	Mark Zimmer	A	/	/	X	/	/	O	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Shandon-San Juan Water District	Stephen Sinton	M	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Ray Shady	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District	Lee Nesbit	M	/	/	X	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Hilary Graves	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>CITIES</b>															
City of Arroyo Grande	Jim Guthrie	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Kristen Barneich	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
City of Atascadero	Charles Bourbeau	M	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Nick DeBar	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
City of Grover Beach	Clint Weirick	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Robert Robert	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
City of Morro Bay	Laurel Barton	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	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	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
City of San Luis Obispo	Andy Pease	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Emily Francis	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>CSDs</b>															
Avila Beach CSD	Brad Hagemann	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	(Vacant)	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Cambria CSD	Jim Green	M	/	/	X	/	X	X	/	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Tristan Reaper	A	/	/	X	/	/	O	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Heritage Ranch CSD	Scott Duffield	M	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Doug Groshart	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Los Osos CSD	Chuck Cesena	M	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Ron Munds	A	/	/	X	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
Nipomo CSD	Ed Eby	M	/	/	X	/	/	X	X	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Phil Henry	A	/	/	/	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	X	/	/
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	/	/	O	/	X	X	/	/	/	/	O	/	/
	Navid Fardanesh	A	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>STAFF</b>															
Public Works	Courtney Howard	Staff	/	/	X	/	X	/	/	/	/	/	O	/	/
	Brendan Clark	Staff	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/
	Jenny Willlamson	Staff	/	/	O	/	O	O	/	/	/	/	O	/	/
	Joey Steil	Staff	/	/	X	/	X	X	X	/	/	/	X	/	/

Notes: M=Member; A=Alternate Member, O=attended virtually, \*=Special Meeting

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**Water Resources Advisory Committee - Roll Call Vote Form**  
**Meeting Date: 10/02/2024**

Organization	DISTRICT	Representative	ITEM 2: June 5 Minutes			ITEM 3: June 25 Minutes			ITEM 4: June 25 Minutes			AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	TOTAL			
			AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	AYE						NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
District 1	M	Melanie Blankenship																	
District 2	A	Elizabeth Covert																	
District 3	A	Ned MacDougall																	
District 4	M	Thomas Berman																	
District 5	M	Allen Duckworth																	
<b>AT-LARGE</b>																			
Agriculture At-Large	M	Jon Winstead																	
Agriculture At-Large	M	Mary van Ryn																	
Development At-Large	M	Tina Wilson																	
Environmental At-Large	M	Christina Mulholland																	
Environmental At-Large	M	Eric Greening																	
Environmental At-Large	M	David Chipping																	
Environmental At-Large	M	Stephanie Wald																	
<b>RCDs</b>																			
Coastal San Luis RCD	M	Dominic Roques																	
Upper Salinas RCD	M	Gregory Rossi																	
<b>OTHERS</b>																			
Atascadero Mutual	M	John Neil																	
California Men's Colony	M	Scott Bufface																	
Camp SLO	M	Mike Schwartz																	
County Farm Bureau	M	Julius Shales																	
Cuesta College	M	Paul Clark																	
Golden State Water	M	Mark Cook																	
Shandon-San Juan Water District	M	Mark Zimmer																	
Estrella El Pomar Creston Water District	M	Ray Shady																	
City of Atropo Grande	M	Lee Nesbit																	
City of Atascadero	M	Kim Bamech																	
City of Grover Beach	M	Nick DeBar																	
City of Morro Bay	M	Robert Robert																	
City of Paso Robles	M	Cydney Edwards																	
City of Pismo Beach	M	Christopher Alakell																	
City of San Luis Obispo	M	Mary Gales																	
Avila Beach CSD	M	Andy Phae																	
Cambria CSD	M	Brad Hegemann																	
Healing Ranch CSD	M	Jim Green																	
Lucas CSD	M	Ronan Rieger																	
Nipomo CSD	M	Scott Gossard																	
Oceanco CSD	M	Chuck Owens																	
San Miguel CSD	M	Ed Eby																	
San Simeon CSD	M	Phil Henry																	
Templeton CSD	M	Aliene Villa																	
	M	Beverly Joyner-Sumner																	
	M	Kelly Dodds																	
	M	Dustin Palman																	
	M	(Vacant)																	
	M	Debra Logan																	
	M	Navid Fardanesh																	
			16	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
			37																

QUORUM (MIN. 12): 17

Item #: 2 Pass/Fail? Pass

Motion Maker: E.Greening Second: C.Mulholland

AYE: 16 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ASSENT: 0

June 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes Approved

Item #: 3 Pass/Fail? Pass

Motion Maker: T.Walters Second: E.Greening

AYE: 16 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ASSENT: 0

June 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes Approved As Ammended

Item #: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass/Fail? \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Maker: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_

AYE: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Item #: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass/Fail? \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Maker: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_

AYE: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Item #: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass/Fail? \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Maker: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_

AYE: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSENT: \_\_\_\_\_



**WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WRAC)  
GUEST LIST 2024**

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	JUN*	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Aaron Floyd	City of SLO						X							
Alejandra Celio	County of SLO						X					X		
Angela Ford	County of SLO						X							
Ann Fletcher	County of SLO					X								
Anthony Cemo	Carollo						X							
Austin McCollum	Black & Veach			X			X					X		
Brian Nelson	City of SLO			X										
Charles Varni	OCS D						X							
David Crater	District 4					X								
Greg Grewal	Cattlemans Association					X	X	X				X		
Hank Krzciuk	Resident						X							
Harold Wright	County of SLO					X								
Heather Freed	Water Systems Consulting (WSC)						X							
Isabella Garrone	City of SLO					X	X							
Jeff Edwards	Resident			X		X	X							
Jeff Szytel	Water Systems Consulting (WSC)						X							
Jim Babcock	Water Systems Consulting (WSC)						X							
Josh Porter	County of SLO			X		X	X					X		
Julie Tacker	Resident						X							
Kate Ballantyne	County of SLO							X						
Katie Franco	County of SLO							X						
Kyle Anderson	City of SLO						X					X		
Leah Readal	Cambria CSD			X										
Louis Lafebvre	Carollo			X										
Matthew Scrudato	Santa Barbara County Water Agency			X			X					X		
Mike Chism	San Miguelito MWC							X						
Navid Fardanesh	TCSD							X						
Nick Teague	City of SLO			X		X	X	X				X		
Nola Engelskirger	County of SLO							X						
Paul Clark	SLO Farm Bureau						X	X						
Peter Brown	OCS D							X				X		
Rob Morrow	Water Systems Consulting (WSC)						X							
Sara Ko	DWR											X		
Shawna Scott	City of SLO						X							
Spencer Waterman	Water Systems Consulting (WSC)						X							
Tim Kershaw	Cleath-Harris					X						X		
Toby Moore	Golden State Water Company					X	X					X		
Troy Barnhart	County of SLO						X							
Wes Thompson	County of SLO							X						
Zach Merkel	J. Lohr Vineyards							X						

\*Special Meeting

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

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**TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee**

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

**DATE: November 6, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Item 3: Receive Presentation from Coastal San Luis and Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation Districts regarding the Mobile Irrigation Lab Program**

**Discussion**

The Committee will receive a presentation from the Coastal San Luis RCD and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD regarding the Mobile Irrigation Lab program.

See the attached for a brief overview of the program.

**Attachments**

1. Mobile Irrigation Lab "one-pager"

## WHAT IS THE MOBILE IRRIGATION LAB (MIL)?

The Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) is a valuable service for farmers provided by Resource Conservation Districts (RCD). By conducting on-site evaluations of their irrigation systems, these evaluations help identify areas of improvement and provide farmers with ways to optimize their irrigation efficiency to conserve water and energy. The County of San Luis Obispo helps fund this program to promote and encourage water conservation efforts in the County. As long as funding is available, farmers can benefit from these evaluations from the RCDs at no cost. The evaluations are offered by the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) and the Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (USLTRCD). The service areas of the two districts are shown in Figure 1. For more information about the service, please contact your respective RCD.

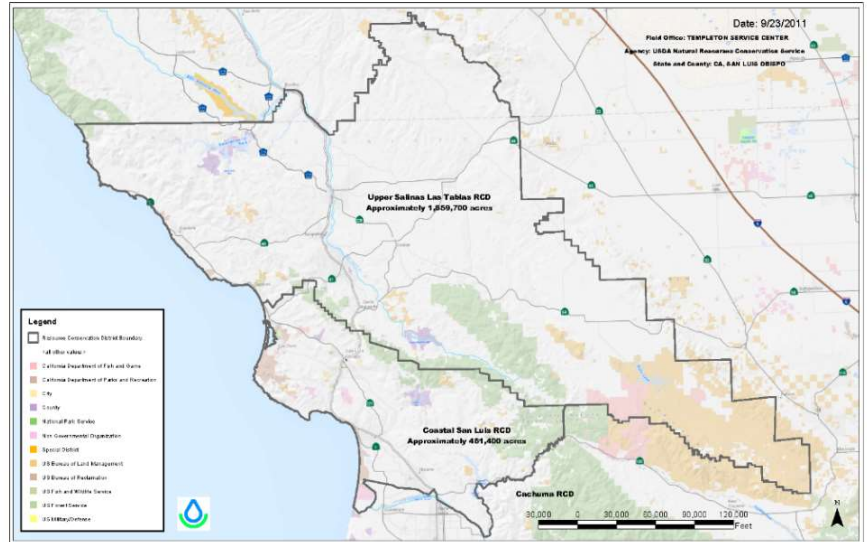


Figure 1. Service area map of the two Resource Conservation Districts.

## RESULTS FROM 2007-2024

Year	No. of Evaluations		Total No. Evaluations	Acres Evaluated		Total Acreage	DU Range		Average DU
	CSLRCD	USLTRCD		CSLRCD	USLTRCD		Min	Max	
2007	0	9	9	0.0	566.5	566.5	40	95	73.9
2008	0	44	44	0.0	2,966.5	2,966.5	50	95	72.3
2009	0	46	46	0.0	1,400.0	1,400.0	28	95	78.5
2010	0	3	3	0.0	115.0	115.0	47	76	70.4
2011	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
2012	3	5	8	30.4	296.2	326.6	83	94	88.5
2013	16	8	24	76.9	1,970.7	2,047.6	50	91	87.4
2014	10	12	22	0.0	769.5	769.5	60	95	88.1
2015	7	14	21	39.3	1,708.3	1,747.5	28	98	84.5
2016	8	6	14	99.2	874.5	973.7	35	90	82.5
2017	17	4	21	96.8	215.5	312.3	55	95	83.0
2018	8	6	14	283.0	242.5	525.5	33	95	74.9
2019	6	0	6	147.2	0.0	147.2	29	92	60.1
2020	7	7	14	84.9	217.8	302.6	46	94	77.2
2021	6	4	10	238.9	297.1	536.0	46	94	80.6
2022	4	1	5	30.4	15.0	45.4	10	97	41.9
2023	3	8	11	22.0	288.9	310.9	57	91	80.8
2024	5	8	13	169.5	661.5	831.0	44	91	82.8
<b>Totals:</b>	100	185	285	1,318.5	12,605.4	13,923.9			
<b>Averages:</b>							43.6	92.8	76.9

## POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS

1. Promote usage of the Mobile Irrigation Lab program throughout the County.
2. Follow up with users to determine whether there are improvements in their irrigation efficiency.
  - a. Consider additional funds dedicated to follow-up evaluations to determine water savings in the future, if feasible.

**TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee**

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

**DATE: November 6, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Item 4: Receive Updates from Community Service Districts Members**

**Discussion**

Article II.8 of the WRAC By-laws state, "Members are encouraged to provide an update on water resource issues relevant to their group or agency at least once per year."

These updates should bring issues that are important to each group that would foster a flow of ideas that may develop into County-wide significance.

The Community Services Districts are:

- Avila Beach CSD
- Cambria CSD
- Heritage Ranch CSD
- Los Osos CSD
- Nipomo CSD
- Oceano CSD
- San Miguel CSD
- San Simeon CSD
- Templeton CSD

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

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**TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Brendan Clark, Supervising Water Resources Engineer  
Wes Thomson, Supervising Water Utilities Engineer**

**DATE: November 6, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Item 5: Process for Review of Draft Policy on State Water Project Priorities and Criteria for Use**

### **Discussion**

As discussed at the October 2, 2024 meeting, County staff are preparing to take draft policies to the board for review in Q1 of 2025 with recommended updates concerning priorities and criteria for use of State Water. The policies would be used to (1) evaluate requests to establish new SWP water users within the County, and (2) guide the County as it works to improve SWP water management and consider cost recovery opportunities.

- Staff anticipate taking advisory votes in early December 2024, prior to presenting the proposed policy updates to the board in 2025.
- See attachments for a copy of the latest a draft which is expected to be refined further as it incorporates forthcoming comments from County stakeholders.

Members of the WRAC, interested stakeholders and members of the public are invited to provide written comments to County Staff by November 15th. Comments received by 11/15 will be addressed at the December 4<sup>th</sup> presentation to the WRAC.

Comments can be sent to Wes Thomson ([wthomson@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:wthomson@co.slo.ca.us)) or Brendan Clark ([bclark@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:bclark@co.slo.ca.us))

### **Attachments**

1. SWP Priorities and Criteria for Use (Updated Draft)
2. 2003 Excess Entitlement Policies
3. Summary of District SWP Subcontracts

## **State Water Project Policies**

### **State Water Project Allocation - Definition**

The State Water Project Allocation is the total amount of State Water Project water that the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (“District”) is entitled to have delivered under its contract with the California Department of Water Resources (“Master Contract”) on an annual basis. The District has entered into subcontracts with a number of entities (collectively, “Subcontractors”) for the delivery of 10,577 acre-feet of the State Water Project Allocation on an annual basis.

### **Relationship to Previously Adopted Policies**

These Policies replace / supersede the District’s 2003 Excess Entitlement Policies (Approved by Board of Supervisors January 14, 2003).

### **Purpose**

The Purpose of these Policies is to establish policies that will guide both District staff and the Board in implementing the existing Subcontracts and / or preparing amendments to the Subcontracts that address ways in which water that is not needed under the Subcontracts can be utilized. These policies shall not be deemed to limit future discretionary actions by the District Board of Supervisors or be read as directing action that is any way contrary to existing contractual obligations.

### **Priority of Use**

- A. Domestic use shall be considered the highest priority use of water made available under the Master Contract. Domestic use is needed for sustenance, public health and safety, and welfare. State Water shall be used first to address public health, ensure reliable access to safe, affordable drinking water and sanitation. It is recognized that domestic use occurs both within the public water supply system service areas and outside of those areas in the rural areas of the County where domestic water supplies are from individual water supply wells.
- B. Subcontractors with capacity in Phase II of the Coastal Branch shall have the first right to utilize water made available under the Master Contract.
- C. In priority order, preference will be given to uses that:
  1. Do not harm the District’s ability to meet its obligations to the existing Subcontractors,
  2. Address public health or a water shortage emergency pursuant to Water Code Section 350,
  3. Provide supplemental water supply to promote water supply resiliency to both urban and rural water users,



## State Water Project Policies

4. Store available and/or unscheduled water deliveries for later use during times of water shortages to support municipal, groundwater basin replenishment, agricultural, and environmental purposes.
  5. Manage demand to improve supply planning and water market opportunities to generate revenues that recover current costs and some or all of District's past costs.
  6. Solves or mitigates water supply problems in key watersheds/basins identified by the Board, including: Paso Robles GW Basin, Los Osos GW Basin, Arroyo Grande Creek Watershed, and Edna Valley GW Basin.
- D. Preference will be given to local agencies and water purveyors regardless of whether the use is on an annual, multi-year, or permanent basis.
- E. Preference will be given to the use at the same (or upstream) financial reach in which the capacity for that allocation terminates. This avoids the "allocation without capacity" issue.
- F. Uses terminating downstream of the original place of use (beyond financial reach with capacity for that allocation) would be on a "second priority" or short-term (year-to-year) basis. This ensures deliveries of transferred allocation do not detrimentally impact deliveries of existing allocation to subcontractors.
- G. Uses must meet the Board-established Criteria for Use of State Water.

## State Water Project Policies

### Criteria for Use

The following criteria would be used to evaluate requests for use of State Water:

1. Water be available to existing public agencies, public water companies regulated by the PUC and existing mutual water companies with no water being contracted to individuals.
2. Water may be used as a supplemental supply within the service area of an established public water system only if the water purveyor approves or requests the use.
3. Water may be delivered as an emergency supply when there is an “Emergency Condition” declaration by both the County Board and the governing body of the requesting public water agency or water purveyor. Water delivered under the Emergency Condition would be subject to all costs associated with delivery of State Water at the time of the Emergency Condition.
4. New uses should be consolidated with existing subcontractors, wherever possible.
5. Uses shall not compromise system reliability or reduce delivery capabilities to existing subcontractors.
6. All costs must be paid by the water user.
7. Uses shall not detrimentally impact existing subcontractors from a financial standpoint.
  - a. There shall be no increase in administrative costs to existing subcontractors. No new allocations of less than 20 acre-feet will be allowed.
  - b. There shall be an equitable investment recovery program for existing subcontractors that recover current costs and some or all of past costs.

State Water Project  
Excess Entitlement Policies  
Approved by Board of Supervisors January 14, 2003

Excess Entitlement - Definition

The District State Water Project “Excess” Entitlement is the portion of the District’s total entitlement that is not contracted to others for their deliverable or drought buffer uses.

Priority of Use

1. Prior to transferring the excess entitlement for any other use, contractors of state water entitlement with capacity in Phase II of the Coastal Aqueduct shall have the first right to utilize the excess entitlement for “drought buffer” (reliability) purposes under the terms of a drought buffer agreement.
2. Preference shall be given to local agencies and water purveyors regardless of whether a transfer is on an annual, multi-year, or a permanent basis.
3. No permanent transfer of the excess entitlement for use outside District boundaries shall be made prior to a final update of the District’s Master Water Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors, and then only if the transfer is consistent with the then adopted Master Plan. (See ‘Note’ below)
4. No multi-year transfer for use outside District boundaries shall be made with a term in excess of five years prior to a final update to the District’s Master Water Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors, and then out of District transfers can only take place if the transfer is consistent with the adopted Master Plan.
5. On any out -of-District transfer, preference shall be given to those that provide: a) revenues that recover current costs and some or all of the District’s past costs, b)

maintain the District's right to use the water in the future, or c) which are used for environmental mitigation.

6. The Public Works Director is authorized to determine the annual amount of the excess entitlement to transfer to the State Water Project "Turnback Pools" established under the existing terms of State Water Agreements. In making that determination, the Public Works Director shall first consider local needs and how the use of the Turnback Pool might impact other potential transfers.

Note:

These policies were adopted by the Board of Supervisors "with the understanding there will be no permanent sales outside the District."

# Subcontractor Delivery Contracts

9/29/2023 (REV), WT

SUBCONTRACTOR	Annual Water Service Contracted (AF)	Max. Monthly Delivery Contracted (AF)	Max. Flowrate Contracted (at Turnout) (cfs)	Drought Buffer Contracted (AF)	Water Service + Drought Buffer (AF)
<b><u>DISTRICT TURNOUT</u></b>					
<b>SHANDON**</b>					
CSA 16 (Shandon)	100	8.33	0.14	0	100
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>CHORRO VALLEY (CV Pipeline)</b>					
CMC County (Ops Center)	400	33.33	0.56	400	800
Cuesta College	425	35.42	0.60	425	850
City of Morro Bay	200	16.67	0.28	200	400
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,313</b>	<b>109.41</b>	<b>1.84</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>3,603</b>
<b>LOPEZ (District Zone 3)</b>					
City of Pismo Beach	1,240	103.33	1.74	1,240	2,480
Oceano CSD	750	62.50	1.05	750	1,500
San Miguelito MWC	275	22.92	0.38	275	550
Avila Beach CSD	100	8.33	0.14	100	200
Avila Valley MWC	20	1.67	0.03	60	80
San Luis Coastal USD	7	0.58	0.01	7	14
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>2,432</b>	<b>4,824</b>
<b>Total Contracted*</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>402.49</b>	<b>6.77</b>	<b>5,747</b>	<b>10,577</b>

\* Contracted Capacity to Chorro Valley Turnout (AFY) 4,830 <<<<< \*\*District has contracted capacity in Coastal Branch for Shandon's 100 AF all the way to the CV Turnout.

\* Contracted Capacity to Lopez Turnout (AFY) 2,392

**District's "Table A" Allocation (AF)** 25,000

Total "Table A" Subcontracted (AF) 10,577

**Unsubscribed (Excess) "Table A" Allocation (AF)** 14,423

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

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**TO:** Water Resources Advisory Committee

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

**DATE:** November 6, 2024

**SUBJECT:** 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 Prioritization<sup>1</sup> that designates each groundwater basin and subbasin (collectively, basins) as high, medium, low or very low priority. Groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) are required to develop and implement groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) for each high or medium priority basin.

**Basin Updates:**

Basin	Update:
<b>Los Osos Basin</b>	<p><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 very-low 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"> <li>• The Los Osos BMC met on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. Information about those meetings can be accessed at <a href="https://www.losososbmc.org/board-">https://www.losososbmc.org/board-</a></li> </ul>

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">meetings</a></li> <li>The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Warden Creek Subbasin</b> 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: <a href="https://www.losososbmc.org/">https://www.losososbmc.org/</a></p>
<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. The GSP was submitted on January 30, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meetings are currently scheduled. The next EC meeting will be announced once set.</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 County is implementing wellhead improvements at coastal monitoring well cluster 11N/36W-12C (Dunes Well 12C). The main purpose of the work is to raise the wellhead, which is covered by dune sand, and to re-equip the well with new, dedicated pumps for water quality monitoring.</p> <p>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 have prepared a GSP. DWR conducted Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys over the Arroyo Grande Subbasin in November 2023 and the resultant data is anticipated late 2024. More information can be found at the following website: <a href="https://water.ca.gov/programs/sgma/aem">https://water.ca.gov/programs/sgma/aem</a></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</p>



	<p>overdraft. The Paso Basin – County of San Luis Obispo GSA, City of Paso Robles GSA, Estrella-El Pomar-Creston WD GSA, San Miguel CSD GSA, and Shandon San Juan WD GSA, entered into an agreement to develop and implement a single GSP for the basin and coordinate via the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee (PBCC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PBCC met on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Information on that meeting can be accessed at <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/groundwater-sustainability/groundwater-basins/paso-robles-groundwater-basin/meeting-calendar/2024/paso-basin-cooperative-committee-september-25,-2023">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/groundwater-sustainability/groundwater-basins/paso-robles-groundwater-basin/meeting-calendar/2024/paso-basin-cooperative-committee-september-25,-2023</a></li> <li>• The next Regular PBCC meeting is not scheduled.</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. 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"> <li>• The Cuyama Basin GSA met on September 4, 2024, to review and provide direction on improvements to the data management system, the updated Central Management Area boundary and groundwater allocations for 2025-2030 (including an implementation timeline), direction on allocation baseline options, and review of the amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) public comments.</li> <li>• A public hearing to consider adoption of the amended GSP is set for <b>November 6, 2024</b>, at 4:30 p.m.</li> <li>• The next regular Cuyama Basin GSA Advisory and Board meetings is scheduled <b>November 6, 2024</b>.</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 stakeholders, formed the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) to develop and submit a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the SLO Basin to DWR by the January 31, 2022 statutory deadline. The GSP was approved by DWR on April 27, 2023, and per the GSC MOA, the GSC terminated on March 18, 2024. Moving forward, the County GSA will work with local stakeholders to receive relevant feedback on the implementation of the GSP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On April 27, 2023, DWR issued an “approved” determination for the SLO Valley GSP. DWR recommended four corrective actions and the County GSA and City GSA will be addressing these ahead of the next GSP periodic evaluation due January 26, 2027.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No meetings are currently scheduled at this time.</b></li> </ul> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin</a></p>
<b>Adelaida Area</b>	<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 (District) has been coordinating with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resources Conservation District (RCD) on a hydrogeologic study within the Adelaida area. The goal of the study is to provide a better understanding of the groundwater conditions in the Adelaida area so that informed decisions can be made about managing local water resources. USGS, the RCD and District Staff have been working on Task 2 which consists of new data collection, including but not limited to: groundwater level data, water quality sampling, and surface-water monitoring. As Task 2 nears completion, District staff are preparing to return to the Board this fall with recommendations for next steps, including USGS tasks to integrate and analyze the hydrogeologic system, produce an interpretive report and data release, and continue technical outreach and project coordination.</p> <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>

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

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

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

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

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

**d) County Flood Control Zones**

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

Updates by Zone:

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Update:</b>
<b>Zone 1/1A Arroyo Grande Creek Channel</b>	<p><b>Flood Control Zone 1/1A</b> includes the maintenance and operations of the Arroyo Grande and Los Berros Channels to provide flood protection within the Zone located near the City of Arroyo Grande and the community of Oceano.</p> <p>The Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee last met on September 17, 2024. County staff provided key updates to the Committee on Phases 2A and 2B of the Levee</p>

	<p>Rehabilitation Project, the Meadow Creek Lagoon Habitat Restoration Project, the Emergency Watershed Protection Program - Property Buyout Option, annual maintenance, and other flood planning efforts.</p> <p>The staff report for these topics can be viewed here:  <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Flood-Control-Zones/Zone-1-1A-Arroyo-Grande-Creek-Channel/Meeting-Calendar.aspx">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/Flood-Control-Zones/Zone-1-1A-Arroyo-Grande-Creek-Channel/Meeting-Calendar.aspx</a></p> <p>The next meeting of the Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 3:00 PM. Meetings are held at the Sheriff's South Patrol Station, 1681 Front Street, Oceano, CA.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1A">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1A</a></p>
<p><b>Zone 9 San Luis Obispo Creek</b></p>	<p><b>Flood Control Zone 9</b> provides flood control data and planning for the area encompassing San Luis Obispo Creek and its tributaries.</p> <p>The Zone 9 Advisory Committee met on September 11<sup>th</sup> and discussed the Waterway Management Plan Update and stream gage opportunities, among other things.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Zone 9 Advisory Committee is scheduled for December 11, 2024, at the City of San Luis Obispo Community Development Conference Room 1, 919 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone9">https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone9</a></p>

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

The District and State completed the Prop. 1, Round 2 Grant Agreement in December 2023. District Staff is currently working with awarded agencies for grant startup.

To be notified of the upcoming meetings or any project-related documents, visit [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>Complete</b>	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A – Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	Complete	Flood Control District
<b>Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011)</b>	<b>\$10,401,000</b>	<b>Complete</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 Design & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	City of Grover Beach
WRRF Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of SLO
Reservoir Exp. Project & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade & Recharge Basin Studies	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
<b>Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1</b>	<b>\$2,782,130</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
Grant Administration	\$155,000	Complete	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	Complete	City of SLO
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	Complete	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects 1-1, 1-9	\$274,500	Complete	Oceano CSD
<b>Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2</b>	<b>\$3,782,129</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	
Grant Administration	\$132,374	In Progress	Flood Control District
Indirect Potable Reuse	\$1,200,000	In Progress	City of Morro Bay
Central Coast Blue, Phase 1	\$1,000,000	TBD	City of Pismo Beach
Master Water Report Information System	\$549,755	In Progress	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Projects	\$600,000	In Progress	Oceano CSD
Water Reliability Projects	\$300,000	In Progress	San Miguel CSD

For questions, contact:  
 Brendan Clark, IRWM Program Manager  
 Email: [bclark@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:bclark@co.slo.ca.us)  
 Phone: (805) 788-2316

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

##### November 2024 Update:

County staff and the consultant team are planning the expansion of the Master Water Report Data and Information Management System (DIMS) to the rest of the County. We anticipate the next WRAC update to be early 2025.

##### Background:

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

For more information, please visit the project website:

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

#### **g) State Water Project (SWP)**

- **Current SWP delivery allocation** – For calendar year 2024, the SWP allocation remains at 40%, which is 10,000 AF (i.e., the 40% applies to the District’s 25,000 AF “Table A” contract).
- **State Water Subcontractors Advisory Committee (SWSAC):** The next SWSAC meeting will be held on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, from 10:00 – 11:30 AM. For more information, please visit the SWSAC website: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Committees-Programs/State-Water-Project-and-Subcontractors-Advisory-Co.aspx>
- **Upcoming SWP Policy Updates (early 2025)** – See item 5 of today’s agenda.

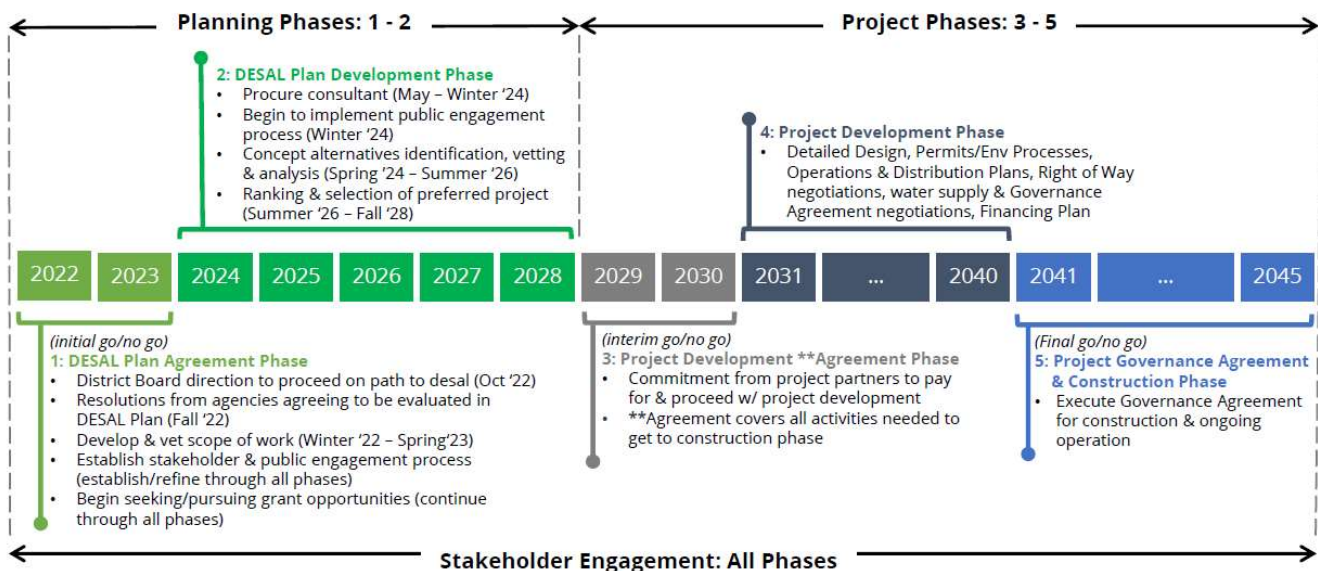
## h) Desalination Executable Solution and Logistics Plan (DESAL Plan)

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 authorized staff to proceed with 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.

The District was awarded a grant by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) under their WaterSMART: Water Recycling and Desalination Planning program to support development of the DESAL Plan and District staff is currently in the consultant procurement process. Anticipated next steps include returning to the Board of Supervisors this winter with a recommended consultant contract for DESAL Plan development.

For more information, including a graphic laying out the potential timeline and phase descriptions, is available at the County’s DESAL Plan webpage at <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/DESAL>.

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



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

The County Department of Planning & Building's website for the water conservation programs in Nipomo Mesa, Paso Basin, and Los Osos: <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>

#### **Offset Requirement.**

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

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Department-Divisions/Agriculture,-Water,-and-Energy/Water-Programs/Programs-and-Services/Los-Osos-Groundwater-Basin-Plumbing-Retrofit-to-Bu.aspx>

### **Los Osos Community Plan :**

On June 13, 2024, the California Coastal Commission issued suggested modifications to the Estero Area Plan and the proposed Los Osos Community Plan, including a maximum residential growth rate of 1% for the sustainable buildout of Los Osos if groundwater production remains below sustainable



yield, based on the best available science. On October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to accept the California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications.

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

Excerpt from Chapter 1.1 Purpose of the LOCP:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Requirement of annual review of the best available groundwater monitoring data;
- Establishment of an annual growth rate that may not exceed a rate of 1%, including accessory dwelling units and deed-restricted affordable dwelling units;
- Utilization of the Los Osos Waitlist to Build to determine the priority of allocation within the community sewer service area;
- Coordination with the Los Osos Basin Management Committee on an annual basis, in accord with the annual review of the growth rate;
- Establishment of a metered approach to allowable development based on recent available groundwater data where,
  - Remainder of Calendar Year 2024: Growth rate of 0%,
  - Calendar Year 2025: Annual growth rate of 0.4%,
  - Calendar Year 2026: Annual growth rate of 0.6%,
  - Calendar Year 2027: Annual growth rate of 0.8%,
  - Calendar Year 2028 and beyond: Annual growth rate shall be established

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

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

based on a 5-year rolling average of the BYM (see Table 1).

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

Please contact [waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:waterprograms@co.slo.ca.us) for further information or questions.

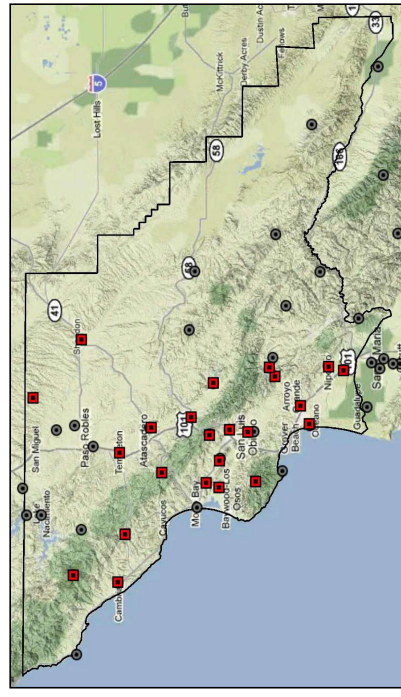


## Rainfall and Reservoir Updates

Sub-Region	Area / Rain Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2023-24 Water Year Total Rainfall	2024-25 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average
				July 24	Aug 24	Sep 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25		
North Coast	Cambria Area (ALERT #717)	22.0	25.09 (114%)	0	0.01	0.02	0.05 <sup>A</sup>									0.08	0%
	Whale Rock Reservoir (County Site #166.1)	16.0	18.96 (118%)	0	0	0	0 <sup>A</sup>									0	0%
	Paso Robles (County Site #10.0)	14.1	21.20 (150%)	c	c	c										0	0%
Inland	NE Alascadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	15.48 (91%)	0	0	0.20	0 <sup>A</sup>									0.20	1%
	Alascadero MWC (County Site #34.0)	17.5	22.87 (131%)	0	0	0.06	0 <sup>A</sup>									0.06	0%
	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	24.75 (103%)	0	0	0.04	0 <sup>A</sup>									0.04	0%
	Salinas Dam (ALERT #719)	20.9	28.44 (136%)	0	0	0.08	0 <sup>A</sup>									0.08	0%
	Rocky Butte (ALERT #703)	40.0	72.18 (180%)	0	0	0	0 <sup>A</sup>									0	0%
South Coast	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	24.35 (101%)	0	0	0.03	0.08 <sup>A</sup>									0.11	0%
	Lopez Dam (ALERT #737)	21.0	28.89 (138%)	0	0	0.01	0.02 <sup>A</sup>									0.03	0%
	Nipomo South (ALERT #730)	16.0	18.37 (115%)	0	0.01	0.01	0 <sup>A</sup>									0.02	0%
	Nipomo East (ALERT #728)	18.0	24.27 (135%)	0.07	0.06	0.15	0.18 <sup>A</sup>									0.46	3%

A - Report generated at 1:30 PM on 10/31/2024  
 B - Due to equipment malfunction, not all rain 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.

## Select Real-Time Rain Gauges in SLO County



Sites maintained by County staff are identified with red squares. Sites maintained by other agencies are identified with black circles. For more information, please visit <https://wr.slocountywater.org/>

## Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento Reservoir	October 31, 2024	762.25	787.75 - 800.0 (Average July release)	207,650	55%
	October 25, 2023	767.50		216,850	57%
San Antonio Reservoir	October 31, 2024	759.85	780.0	235,563	70%
	October 25, 2023	755.00		215,353	64%
Lopez Reservoir	October 31, 2024	518.68	522.7	45,960	93%
	October 25, 2023	520.10		47,123	95%
Salinas Reservoir (Santa Margarita Lake)	October 31, 2024	1,300.77	1300.7	20,359	91%
	October 25, 2023	1,297.20		21,343	90%
Whale Rock Reservoir	October 2, 2024	210.90	216.3	36,060	93%
	October 25, 2023	213.20		37,354	96%
Twitchell Reservoir	October 25, 2024	n/a	651.5	0	0%
	October 25, 2023	569.36		22,036	11%

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.

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

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**TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee**

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

**DATE: November 6, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Future Agenda Items**

Fall 2024 Anticipated topics:

- State Water Policy Updates

Areas of Interest – Future

- Phase II MS4 Permit Updates
- Considering Recreational use of water resources as part of the District's policies.
- Update on policies and studies related to groundwater in fractured rock
- Update on Salinas Reservoir Dam Project
- Well permitting regulation as a tool for groundwater management
- 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 January 23, 2024**

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