Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

Regular Board Meeting

DATE: April 15, 2014

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Hidden Valley Lake CSD
Administration Office, Boardroom
19400 Hartmann Road
Hidden Valley Lake, CA

1) CALL TO ORDER
2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3) ROLL CALL
4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5) CONSENT CALENDAR

(A) MINUTES: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of March 15, 2014

(B) WARRANTS: Approval of Warrant #031797-#031749 for $ 216,708.76.

(C) AUTHORIZATION FOR BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE at Spring ACWA Conference in Monterey, California

(D) PROCLAMATION 2014-1 declaring the month of May "Water Awareness Month" at the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

6) BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS (for information only, no action anticipated)
Personnel Committee
Finance Committee
Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee

7) BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT OTHER MEETINGS (for information only, no action anticipated)
ACWA Region 1
ACWA State Legislative Committee
County OES
Other meetings attended

8) STAFF REPORTS (for information only, no action anticipated)
General Manager's Report

9) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Resolution 2014-5 authorizing revisions to Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee title, purpose statement, and scope of activities

10) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Resolution 2014-6 authorizing adoption of Emergency Preparedness Policy

11) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Mission Statement

12) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Participation in Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

13) CLOSED SESSION: Real Property Negotiations pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

14) PUBLIC COMMENT

15) BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

16) ADJOURNMENT

Public records are available upon request. Board Packets are posted on our website at www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com. Click on the "Board Packet" link on the Agenda tab.

In compliance to the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special accommodations to participate in or attend the meeting please contact the District Office at 987-9201 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Public shall be given the opportunity to comment on each agenda item before the Governing Board acts on that item, G.C. 54953.3. All other comments will be taken under Public Comment.

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING DATE: MARCH 18, 2014

The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District Board of Directors met this evening at the District office located at 19400 Hartmann Road, in Hidden Valley Lake, California. Present were:

Director Judy Mirbegian, President
Director Jim Freeman, Vice President
Director Jim Lieberman
Director Carolyn Graham
Director Linda Herndon
Tami Ipsen, Administrative Assistant
Roland Sanford, General Manager
Norm Newell, Smith & Newell Certified Public Accountants

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mirbegian.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Director Lieberman and second by Director Herndon the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the following change:

Discussion and vote on Agenda Item # 11 (Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of 2012-2013 Audit Report) to follow Agenda Item # 5 and precede Agenda Item # 6.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion made by Director Herndon and second by Director Lieberman the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Calendar items:

(A) Minutes: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on February 18, 2014
(B) Warrant: Approval of Warrants #030800-031731 for $244,881.73
(C) Revised Water Use Agreement: Approval of revised Water Use Agreement between HVLCSD and Hidden Valley Lake Association

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of 2012-2013 Audit Report

Mr. Norm Newell of Smith & Newell Certified Public Accountants gave a brief presentation on the results of his firm's audit of the District's 2012-2013 financial records. On motion by Director Freeman and second by Director Herndon the Board unanimously approved the 2012-2013 Audit Report and associated findings.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee: no report.

Finance Committee: Director Graham reported the committee met with Mr. Norm Newell of Smith & Newell Certified Public Accountants on the March 11, 2014 and reviewed his firm's 2012-2013 Audit Report of the District's financial records.

Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee: Director Lieberman reported the committee met on March 5, 2014 and reviewed the committee's purpose statement and discussed the need for and potential scope of an Emergency Preparedness Policy.

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT OTHER MEETINGS

ACWA Region 1 Board: Director Mirbegian reported that the ACWA Region 1 will be meeting next week.

ACWA State Legislative Committee: Director Herndon provided an overview of various bills and other proposed legislation currently being reviewed by the ACWA State Legislative Committee.

County OES: Director Lieberman updated the Board on the status of the County's OES Coordinator position.

STAFF REPORTS

General Manager's Report:
General Manager Roland Sanford augmented his written report with a brief verbal update on the status of the California Department of Public Health's proposed hexavalent chromium drinking water status, and his participation on ACWA's Groundwater Task Force.

PUBLIC HEARING to consider placement of default balance liens on real property pursuant to Government Code Section 61115

Director Mirbegian opened the hearing at 8:16 p.m. There were no public comments. The hearing was closed at 8:17 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Adoption of Resolution 2014-04 confirming default balances and directing staff to file liens on real property

On a motion made by Director Herndon and second by Director Lieberman the Board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-04, a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District Confirming the Default Balance Associated with the Defaulting Bill Listed in Exhibit A and Directing Staff to File a Lien on Said Property.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of District Employee Job Descriptions and Salary Schedule

On a motion made by Director Freeman and second by Director Lieberman the Board approved the proposed District employee job descriptions and salary schedules, with the following revision:

Change status of Senior Accounts Representative from "Exempt" to "Non-Exempt"

Ayes: Directors Graham, Freeman, Lieberman and Mirbegian
Noes: Director Herndon

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Protocols for Board Officer Succession – Board President and Vice President

No action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public member commented on The General Manager's article in the recent HVLA Views magazine and asked why the District's Mission Statement had not yet been posted in the boardroom.

Director Mirbegian commented the Board will be reviewing the mission statement in the near future and that the current or a revised mission statement will be permanently posted in the boardroom shortly thereafter.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Director Freeman and second by Director Herndon the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

_____

Judy Mirbegian Date
President of the Board

_____

Roland Sanford Date
General Manager/Secretary to the Board

Hidden Valley Lake CSD
Warrant Summary Report
March 31, 2014

HVLCSD Deposit Summary

Cash	$	211,474.52
Transfers:		
Money Market	$	80,000.00
Total Deposits	**$**	**291,474.52**

HVLCSD Disbursement Summary

Accounts Payable		
120 - Sewer	$	90,134.83
130 - Water	$	85,035.99
140 - Flood Control	$	63.83
175 - FEMA Fund	$	-
215 - USDA Sewer Bond	$	-
217 - State Loan	$	-
218 - CIEDB	$	-
219 - USDA Solar Project	$	-
375 - Sewer Reserve Improvement	$	-
711 - Bond Administration	$	1,215.01
Total AP	**$**	**176,449.66**
Payroll*	**$**	**40,259.10**
Total Warrants	**$**	**216,708.76**

**Payroll line item includes only funds disbursed directly to employees and Directors. Pass-thru funds (collected from the employee and paid on their behalf by the District) are included in the Accounts Payable Disbursement Summary.*

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District
March 31, 2014 Warrants

4/10/2014 9:03 AM A/P HISTORY CHECK REPORT
VENDOR SET: 01 Hidden Valley Lake CSD BANK: POOL CASH - POOLED
DATE RANGE: 3/01/2014 THRU 3/31/2014

VENDOR I.D.	NAME	CHECK STATUS	INVOICE DATE	CHECK NUMBER	CHECK STATUS	CHECK AMOUNT
1722	US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	D	3/07/2014	0	P	4,905.36
1722	US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	D	3/21/2014	0	P	5,068.76
1722	US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	D	3/28/2014	0	P	242.14
2825	NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTION	D	3/07/2014	0	P	960
2825	NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTION	D	3/21/2014	0	C	960
2820	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	R	3/07/2014	31733	C	264
112	EEL RIVER FUELS, INC.	R	3/07/2014	31734	C	1,367.50
9	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY	R	3/07/2014	31735	C	11,705.31
2713	POLYDYNE INC.	R	3/07/2014	31736	C	107.46
2736	SIERRA CHEMICAL CO.	R	3/07/2014	31737	C	545.61
1751	USA BLUE BOOK	R	3/07/2014	31738	C	137.94
1422	WEED TECH	R	3/07/2014	31739	C	2,350.00
2788	GHD	R	3/07/2014	31740	C	2,500.00
2716	LINDA HERNDON	R	3/07/2014	31741	C	133.72
1392	MEDIACOM	R	3/07/2014	31742	C	356
2638	RICOH AMERICAS CORPORATION	R	3/07/2014	31743	C	165.23
1705	SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEME	R	3/07/2014	31744	C	5,984.00
21	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RE	R	3/07/2014	31745	C	7,165.98
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDD	R	3/07/2014	31746	C	1,357.16
1530	VARIABLE ANNUITY LIFE INSURANC	R	3/07/2014	31747	C	100
1	VAZQUEZ, RIGOBERTO	R	3/07/2014	31748	C	81.55
2636	ACTION SANITARY, INC.	R	3/14/2014	31749	C	400
2820	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	R	3/14/2014	31750	C	574
47	BRELJE AND RACE LABS, INC.	R	3/14/2014	31751	C	748.2
2133	C J S RANCH SUPPLY & APPAREL	R	3/14/2014	31752	C	188.13
2667	COUNTY OF LAKE SOLID WASTE	R	3/14/2014	31753	C	15
112	EEL RIVER FUELS, INC.	R	3/14/2014	31754	C	1,480.42
2706	FOXCROFT EQUIPMENT & SERVICES	R	3/14/2014	31755	C	465.46
2829	FRED WALDON & FAMILY TRUCKING	R	3/14/2014	31756	C	6,268.32
1	LUYA RIVERA	R	3/14/2014	31757	C	150
2749	NAPA AUTO PARTS	R	3/14/2014	31758	C	179.53
2702	PACE SUPPLY CORP	R	3/14/2014	31759	C	203.26
1751	USA BLUE BOOK	R	3/14/2014	31760	C	477.48
1961	ACWA/JPIA	R	3/14/2014	31761	C	1,097.68
2792	ADVANCED SECURITY SYSTEMS SANT	R	3/14/2014	31762	C	264
8	AT&T	R	3/14/2014	31763	C	575.96
2111	DATAPROSE	R	3/14/2014	31764	C	305.56
2663	ELLISON, SCHNEIDER & HARRIS L.	R	3/14/2014	31765	C	724.5
2823	GARDENS BY JILLIAN	R	3/14/2014	31766	C	200
2788	GHD	R	3/14/2014	31767	C	2,972.75
1	LORINE D'AGOSTINO	R	3/14/2014	31768	C	100

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District
March 31, 2014 Warrants

1	LORINE D'AGOSTINO	R	3/14/2014	31769	C	150
2804	ROLAND SANFORD	R	3/14/2014	31770	C	122.28
1579	SOUTH LAKE REFUSE COMPANY	R	3/14/2014	31771	C	163.92
1705	SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEME	R	3/14/2014	31772	C	21,064.02
1659	WAGNER & BONSIGNORE	R	3/14/2014	31773	C	427.95
2816	CARDMEMBER SERVICE	R	3/21/2014	31775	C	6,996.79
2773	DEVELOPMENT GROUP	R	3/21/2014	31776	C	383.25
2594	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	R	3/21/2014	31777	C	3,041.05
2199	LAKE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTER	R	3/21/2014	31778	C	8,358.69
2716	LINDA HERNDON	R	3/21/2014	31779	C	135.56
2684	OFFICE DEPOT	R	3/21/2014	31780	C	461.19
17	SMITH & NEWELL CPA	R	3/21/2014	31781	C	10,500.00
2660	ST. HELENA HOSPITAL D.B.A. JO	R	3/21/2014	31782	C	416
2545	UPPER PUTAH CREEK WATERSHED W	R	3/21/2014	31783	C	378.19
2820	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	R	3/21/2014	31784	C	378
2815	Asbury Environmental Services	R	3/21/2014	31785	C	408.47
2737	EEL RIVERS FUELS, INC	R	3/21/2014	31786	C	52.68
2674	EUREKA OXYGEN CO.	R	3/21/2014	31787	C	382.5
2538	HARDESTER'S MARKETS & HARDWARE	R	3/21/2014	31788	C	211.08
2541	MENDO MILL CLEARLAKE	R	3/21/2014	31789	C	128.47
2598	VERIZON WIRELESS	R	3/21/2014	31790	C	784.53
2740	WATERSOLVE, LLC	R	3/21/2014	31791	C	4,031.25
21	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RE	R	3/21/2014	31792	C	6,778.37
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDD	R	3/21/2014	31793	C	1,341.47
1530	VARIABLE ANNUITY LIFE INSURANC	R	3/21/2014	31794	C	100
2820	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	R	3/28/2014	31797	C	678
2101	ANALYTICAL SCIENCES	R	3/28/2014	31798	C	1,789.50
2836	GIFFORD'S BACKHOE SERVICES, IN	R	3/28/2014	31799	C	1,069.10
111	JAMES DAY CONSTRUCTION, INC.	R	3/28/2014	31800	C	19,425.39
1	JAMES MULLIGAN	R	3/28/2014	31801	C	150
9	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY	R	3/28/2014	31802	C	9,872.19
2195	TELSTAR INSTRUMENTS, INC	R	3/28/2014	31803	C	950.8
2719	TIRE PROS	R	3/28/2014	31804	C	1,722.41
1751	USA BLUE BOOK	R	3/28/2014	31805	C	566.87
2834	STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION	R	3/28/2014	31806	O	679
2835	CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF FISH AND W	R	3/28/2014	31807	C	850
78	DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DRINKING	R	3/28/2014	31808	C	985.6
1	JACK MENTGES	R	3/28/2014	31809	C	150
2699	MICHELLE HAMILTON	R	3/28/2014	31810	C	625
19	NBS GOVERNMENT FINANCE GROUP	R	3/28/2014	31811	C	1,215.01
2684	OFFICE DEPOT	R	3/28/2014	31812	O	131.65
2700	REDFORD SERVICES	R	3/28/2014	31813	C	950
2811	STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL	R	3/28/2014	31814	C	1,192.30
2812	STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL	R	3/28/2014	31815	C	1,491.70
2784	SUCCEED.NET	R	3/28/2014	31816	O	94.7
21	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RE	R	3/28/2014	31817	C	756.4
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDD	R	3/28/2014	31818	C	60.36

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District
March 31, 2013 Warrants

** TOTALS **	NO	INVOICE AMOUNT	DISCOUNTS	CHECK AMOUNT
REGULAR CHECKS:	83	164,313.40	0	164,313.40
HAND CHECKS:	0	0	0	0
DRAFTS:	5	12,136.26	0	12,136.26
EFT:	0	0	0	0
NON CHECKS:	0	0	0	0
VOID CHECKS:	0 VOID DEBITS	0		
VOID CREDITS		0	0	

TOTAL ERRORS: 0

NO		INVOICE AMOUNT	DISCOUNTS	CHECK AMOUNT
VENDOR SET: 01 BANK: POOL TOTALS:	88	176,449.66	0	176,449.66
BANK: POOL TOTALS:	88	176,449.66	0	176,449.66
REPORT TOTALS:	88	176,449.66	0	176,449.66

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

March 2014 Payroll

Employees

4-10-2014 10:25 AM H I S T O R Y C H E C K R E G I S T E R PAGE: 4
PAYROLL NO: 01 Hidden Valley Lake (R E C O N S T R U C T E D) PAY POST DATE: 3/07/201
*** REGISTER TOTALS ***

REGULAR CHECKS:	1	946.94
DIRECT DEPOSIT REGULAR CHECKS:	13	19,674.34
MANUAL CHECKS:		
PRINTED MANUAL CHECKS:		
DIRECT DEPOSIT MANUAL CHECKS:		
NON CHECKS:		
TOTAL CHECKS:	14	20,621.28

*** NO ERRORS FOUND ***

** END OF REPORT **

3-19-2014 11:08 AM P A Y R O L L D I R E C T D E P O S I T R E G I S T E R PAGE: 3
PAYROLL NO: 01 Hidden Valley Lake PAYROLL DATE: 3/13/2014
*** DIRECT DEPOSIT PRE-NOTES ***

EMPNO# ---------- NAME ---------- SSNO# BANK ACCOUNT TYPE AMOUNT TRACE

EFFECTIVE DATE :	3/21/2014	IMMED. DEST : 121140218	WESTAMERICA BANK
BLOCK COUNT :	3 HASH: 0398110142	IMMED. ORIG : 0121140218	WESTAMERICA BANK
TOTAL DEBITS :	19,545.47	ORIG. DFI# : 121140218	
TOTAL CREDITS :	19,545.47	COMPANY ID : 1680048232	
DEBIT ENTRIES :	1	COMPANY NAME: HID VLY LK CSD	
CREDIT ENTRIES :	21	ACCOUNT NO# : 0537200578	
PRENOTE ENTRIES:	0		

Directors

4-10-2014 10:38 AM H I S T O R Y C H E C K R E G I S T E R PAGE: 3
PAYROLL NO: 01 Hidden Valley Lake (R E C O N S T R U C T E D) PAY POST DATE: 3/21,
*** REGISTER TOTALS ***

REGULAR CHECKS:		
DIRECT DEPOSIT REGULAR CHECKS:	1	92.35
MANUAL CHECKS:		
PRINTED MANUAL CHECKS:		
DIRECT DEPOSIT MANUAL CHECKS:		
NON CHECKS:		
TOTAL CHECKS:	1	92.35

*** NO ERRORS FOUND ***

** END OF REPORT **

ACTION OF
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DATE: April 15, 2014
AGENDA ITEM: Authorization for Board Member Attendance at Spring ACWA Conference in Monterey, California

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

Authorize Director Mirbegian to attend the Spring ACWA Conference on behalf of the District.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approximately $1,000. Sufficient funding is available in the Director Training accounts (120-5176 and 130-5176).

BACKGROUND:

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) annual spring conference will be held on May 6 through May 9 in Monterey. Director Mirbegian is requesting Board authorization to attend the conference on behalf of the District.

☐ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER (SEE BELOW)

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

I, _____, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE)by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent

_____
Secretary to the Board

ACTION OF
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DATE: April 15, 2014
AGENDA ITEM: Proclamation 2014-1 declaring the month of May "Water Awareness Month" at the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adopt Proclamation 2014-1 declaring the month of May "Water Awareness Month" at the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

BACKGROUND:

The month of May has traditionally been declared "Water Awareness Month" by the State and numerous water purveyors, including the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District, to highlight and augment public outreach efforts directed toward the conservation and stewardship of California's water resources.

☐ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER (SEE BELOW)

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

I, _____, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE)by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent

_____
Secretary to the Board

PROCLAMATION 2014- 1

PROCLAMATION OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECLARING THE MONTH OF MAY WATER AWARENESS MONTH AT THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the health of California's growing population and the welfare of our communities depend on reliable, high quality water supplies; and

WHEREAS, local governments, water agencies, agriculture, industry, environmentalists, and concerned citizens are working together to conserve and protect our valuable water resources; and

WHEREAS, by encouraging statewide understanding and appreciation for water, we can collectively foster wise decisions with respect to water use and the protection of our water resources; and

WHEREAS, during the month of May the District, in concert with water agencies; cities, counties, and organizations throughout California will conduct activities to educate the public and encourage efforts to conserve and protect water resources.

NOW THEREFORE, the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District's Board of Directors does proclaim May 2014 as Water Awareness Month at the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District and urges all District constituents to conserve and use the District's water supply prudently.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on April 15, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

_____
Judy Mirbegian
President of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:

_____
Roland Sanford
Secretary to the Board of Directors

Hello All,

As noted in the email below there is an opportunity here in Lake County to take the Ham radio license exam on April 26. This will be at the Lucerne Community Church from 12 pm to 4 pm and cost should be $15. If interested you do need to preregister. First you will need to get an FRN number by going to: https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do. Once you have your number send your name and FRN number to Ken Alvey at kg6txu@yahoo.com. The cut off for preregistration is April 3, 2014.

Review the email below for suggestions on how to study ahead of the exam. Best of luck to you!

Linda Fraser MSHS-PH, MCHES
Health Education Program Coordinator
Lake County Public Health
922 Bevins Court
Lakeport, CA, 95453
Work-(707) 263-1090
Fax- (707) 262-4280
Linda.fraser@lakecountyca.gov

From: Linda Fraser
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 9:52 AM
To: morenoi3@ah.org; 'diflacks@ah.org'
Subject: Ham Radio Exam in Lake County

Greetings,

If you have considered getting your Ham radio license, or if you already have it and want to upgrade your license, please save the date of April 26. It will be held at the Lucerne community Church from 12 pm to 4 pm. You will need to preregister for the exam and information to do that will be available soon. Family members and friends, over the age of 12, may also take the exam so pass the word around.

This will be the exam only and you will need to study on your own ahead of time. Basically it is a process of recognizing the correct answer then taking the exam. This process is available free online and a couple options are located at: http://www.qrz.com/ht/ or http://www.arrl.org/exam-practice. Just keep taking the practice exams until you have a passing score.

There is also a manual that is available at: http://www.arrl.org/studying-for-a-technician-license. These are all optional but allows you the freedom to study on your own time, in your own home.

If now is the time to get started with Ham radio with a Technician license, or time to upgrade your license, be sure to save the date of April 26 from 12 pm to 4 pm and watch here for more information on how to pre-register.

Linda Fraser MSHS-PH, MCHES
Health Education Program Coordinator
Lake County Public Health
922 Bevins Court
Lakeport, CA, 95453
Work-(707) 263-1090
Fax- (707) 262-4280
Linda.fraser@lakecountyca.gov

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY Edmund G Brown, Jr., *Governor*

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
10901 Gold Center Drive, Ste 400
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 324-2875
http://www.emsa.ca.gov

MEMORANDUM April 5, 2013

To: RDMHC Program

From: Disaster Medical Services
Response Resources Unit

Subject: 50 Bed Mobile Field Hospital Site Selections

The purpose of this memo is to request the Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordination Program to work with our local partners to pre-identify sites for a 50 bed Mobile Field Hospital (MFH) deployment. This will add additional resiliency and flexibility to the Emergency Medical Services Authority's capabilities to efficiently respond to emergencies.

The goal is to pre-identify additional sites for 50 bed MFHs that are not already pre-designated for 200 bed MFHs. If feasible, the 50 bed MFH should be co-located near a medical facility and/or near landmarks for easy identification. Past experience has shown sites that are government owned (i.e., schools, parks, small airports, open land, etc.) are less problematic overall, but all sites should be considered, including privately owned. A good site consideration would be California Community Colleges since they provide many of services that would be needed to support a 50 bed MFH such as fields, parking lots, possibly dorms, a gym with showers, and kitchens etc.

The approximate dimensions of a 50 bed MFH is 200'x 100'. In addition to this, the facility will need adequate space for a fire lane that goes entirely around the facility (Fire Marshal's differ on the spacing required but as a general rule assume 14-20 feet of open space surrounding the MFH). In addition, the facility will need space for ambulance parking at the front of the facility and parking for patients, staffs etc. somewhere near the entrance. You may also want a helispot at or near the MFH, and it's good to have extra space for possible expansion, warehousing, housing, etc. Plan to have a minimum of 45,000 sq. feet or approximately one football field of flat, paved (concrete or asphalt), gravel or grass (as a last option) area to support a 50 bed MFH. Stay away from dirt if possible.

Attached is an excel sheet with instructions to assist you in locating additional pre-designating sites for the 50 bed MFH. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Craig Johnson

Craig Johnson
Manager, Response Resources Unit

TESTING INFORMATION RADIO ISSUES

PROGRAMMING HELP, SIMPLE RADIO REPAIR,

AFFILLIATES, DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL INFORMATION

Do you want to learn about Ham Radio? Have questions? Having issues with your ham radio? We have the answers!

Bring your radio and the manual for it and we will have the people there to help you!

Lake County Amateur Radio Society

Operations Day

May 3, 2014 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Location: Lucerne Community Church in the Fellowship Hall

5870 East Highway 20 in Lucerne, CA 95458

All levels of Ham Radio Operators are welcome! Licensed or not!

Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!! Raffle!!
Win a handheld ham radio!

For further information, contact Kristine (KI6YYW) via e-mail – ki6yyw@gmail.com

50 Bed Mobile Field Hospital Site Selection Worksheet

The purpose of this worksheet is to work with our local partners to pre-identify sites for a 50 Bed Mobile Field Hospital (MFH) for deployment when requested. Our goal is to identify sites that are not already pre-designated for the 200 Bed MFH. We would like to identify sites most appropriate for the mission during a particular event such as co-located by a medical facility that has been damaged. Another consideration would be sites located near landmarks that would help mutual aid responders with the ability to locate the MFH. Past experience has shown sites that are government owned (i.e., schools, parks, small airports, open land, etc.) are less problematic overall, but all sites should be considered, including privately owned. This form was designed to be very simple. To set up a MFH we need a flat, large, open space, that has large access so the 53ft flatbed trucks used to deploy the MFH can enter. If you have any questions while using this worksheet please contact Craig Johnson at EMSA, (916) 255-4141 or craig.johnson@emsa.ca.gov. **(This form will print on Legal size paper)**

Pictures: If possible, please include three to four pictures of the site clearly marked. Horizontal style pictures showing the site and background (i.e., power poles, surrounding buildings, roads) are preferred. Please clearly mark the pictures and the sheet below so there is no mistaking which worksheet belongs with which pictures.

Submitting Agency	**Site Identifier,** (i.e., agency initials and number, SSC #1)	**Agency Contact Information** (Who we would contact with questions regarding worksheet submission)
		NAME: **Telephone:** **E-Mail:**

	Information Element	Specification	Consideration		Comments
1	**Location**	Physical address/intersection street names/identifiable landmarks.	Type of site: Park, mall, military base, parking lot, school etc.		Site Address:
	Location Owner or Responsible Party	Responsible Contact we can contact to receive permission to use site through an agreement.	Government owned sites are less problematic than private, but please do not exclude privately owned sites		Name: Address: Telephone:
2	**Size of Site**	50 bed MFH is 200 ft x 100 ft. Site must be at least twice this size. Approximately one football field.	Supplies, tents, access and MFH require space equal to or greater than one football field	**Is site flat or only minimal grading needed: YES or NO**	If answer is YES please proceed, If answer is NO please stop and locate another site.
3	**Terrain**	Site must be as level as possible. Consider drainage, nearby terrain, debris and fixtures such as light standards.	Is the site flat. Only minimal grading needed. .	**Please circle all that apply:** Asphalt Gravel Grass Dirt	Please give a short description of ground materials:
4	**Ground Material**	Asphalt and gravel are the best. It may be possible to bring in gravel. Dirt site would be used as a last resort.	Is there excessive evidence of burrowing animals?	**Please circle one:** Two access points One access point More than two accesses	Please give a short description of access points or need to add another:
5	**Access to Site**	Must provide for ingress and egress of 53 ft flatbeds and all other service vehicles. Remember this is a hospital, after set-up there will be lots of traffic.	Two access points allows for one way traffic through the area and smooth patient drop-off. If only one access point can we add another?	**Please circle one:** Site is secure Useable barriers Needs complete security support	Please give short description of what security measures would need to be put into place:
6	**Security Situation**	Evaluate site security	Safety/Security is a major consideration, is there any perimeter fencing , building, etc. that will help in setting up security?		

Basic 50 Bed Mobile Field Hospital Specifications
Foot print: Approx. 45,000 sq. ft. (MFH 200 ft x 100 ft)
8-10 53ft Flat bed trucks for MFH delivery
Approximately 12 Medical Shelters (20 ft x 32.5 ft & 20 ft x 40.5 ft) & 4 Staffing Shelters

200 Bed Mobile Field Hospital Site Selection Criteria Worksheet				
Question	**Specification**	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
Location: (address/intersection/identifiable landmark)	Type of site, park, mall, military base, school etc.	n/a	n/a	
Terrain:	As level as possible, grading delays set-up time by 12-24 hours, does it look flat?			
Ground Material:	Asphalt is the desired choice, stakes will be used in the set-up. The state will repair the asphalt after teardown. Choices in order of preference are asphalt, grass, gravel and the last resort is dirt.	n/a	n/a	
Ground Consistency:	If grass or dirt, avoid sites with noticeable animal activity such as gopher holes	n/a	n/a	
Ability to Grade if Necessary	Consider terrain around site, would runoff from rain present a problem?			
Grading Equipment Availability	Some sites such as military bases may have equipment vs. having to rent			
Size of site	The foot print of the MFH is 232' x 353' larger than the size of a football field, the site needs to be twice as large to accommodate vehicle access, parking, etc.	n/a	n/a	
Number of Access Points	Minimum of two (each additional access point requires security	n/a	n/a	
Type of Access	Prefer paved road, then gravel or dirt road if maintained.	n/a	n/a	
Distance to Major Highway	Major roads will be first to be cleared by Cal-Trans	n/a	n/a	
Proximity to Airfield	Where is the closest airfield and what type, military, commercial, small plane private	n/a	n/a	
Proximity to Usable Landing Zone (LZ)	Impacts patient transport resources, can a LZ be safely set-up on site or distance to closest site	n/a	n/a	
Ambulance Access to Landing Zone (LZ)	Must be able to drive 2 wheel drive ambulances to LZ	n/a	n/a	

Distance to Power Hook-up	The MFH is self-sustaining, back-up plan if diesel fuel delivery is interrupted and/or for long term deployments	n/a	n/a	
Type of Power Available	Can the utility company establish both 220v & 110v circuits to power MFH at site			
Distance to Water Source	Distance to Potable water source and/or can public works establish a potable water hook-up at site			
Distance to Sewer Pumping Station	Distance to Sewer Pumping station and/or can public works establish a hook-up to dump on site.			
On Site Facilities	Is there facilities on site that could be used, restrooms, showers, kitchen, etc.			
Security Situation	Please give a site size up regarding set-up of security, such as perimeter fencing, etc.	n/a	n/a	

Notes:

Basic MFH Specifications to consider:

- **Foot Print: 82,000 sq. ft. (232'x 353')**
- **Weight: 40 Tons**
- **Twenty Four 53' Flat Beds to Move**
- **Power: 770 Kw (Seven Whisper Watt 125's)**
- **40 Medical Shelters (20'x 32.5' & 20'x 40.5')**
- **150 Staff (Two 12 Hour Shifts)**
- **20 Bed ED**
- **20 Bed ICU**
- **2 Bed OR**
- **10 Bed Reverse Isolation Ward**
- **170 Flexible Ward Beds**
- **Digital X-Ray System**
- **Point of Care Lab Testing (I-STAT)**

Tami Ipsen

To: Roland Sanford
Subject: RE: Hidden Valley Lake (HVL) follow-up

From: Karen Tait [mailto:Karen.Tait@lakecountyca.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 11:16 AM
To: Roland Sanford (rsanford@hiddenvalleylakecsd.com); Jim Lieberman; Charles Russ (securitydir@hvla.com)
Cc: Linda Fraser; Marisa Chilafoe
Subject: Hidden Valley Lake (HVL) follow-up

Greetings,

I'm following up on a variety of issues following our very productive field trip with you last Friday. I'm cc'ing this to Linda Fraser, who is my Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Coordinator, as well as our brand new (just starting today) local Office of Emergency Services Manager, Marisa Chilafoe.

1) You indicated a willingness to **store emergency supplies/equipment**, if such equipment were to be available for pre-positioning at HVL. The source of this materiel might be Red Cross, Public Health, and/or local OES. We'll keep this in mind for Public Health's part and will cc Marisa to keep in mind for OES. I think we'll have a Care and Shelter meeting with Social Services in the next few weeks; if so, we should have an opportunity to mention this to the Red Cross representative.

2) We talked about the **California Health Alert Network (CAHAN),** which is administered locally through Public Health. This is an alerting system whose focus is on health emergencies, but which is a tool that can encompass key officials and partners in an all-hazards response. As we discussed, there may be key individuals you'd like to consider enrolling as users. If you wish to go a step beyond that in order to have alerting capabilities within your HVL group of users, that is also an option. I'll attach the link to the user's guide for your information https://cahan.ca.gov/Documents/user_docs/basic_user_guide.pdf . However, don't spend a lot of time on the detail at this point; Linda can arrange to work with you on this if you decide to pursue it. As mentioned, there is no cost involved in using the system.

3) We talked about interest in expanding **ham radio** participation to include more licensed operators in HVL. With that in mind, I'll attach an email with information about an upcoming test session in Lucerne, which will be followed by a hands-on "operations day" the following week for new operators to learn more about using and programming their radios. I realize that Lucerne would be a long drive for HVL residents, but they are more than welcome. We hope to put on test sessions at least twice a year. There are other events, including ARRL Field Day (http://www.arrl.org/field-day) on June 28-29, which we set up at the Vista Point in Lakeport off Lakeport Blvd. I spoke with our breakfast group on the weekend about reaching out to HVL residents more and we'll be following up with this over time. We also talked about the possibility of identifying repeater sites in HVL and our more technical "gurus" are already thinking about ways to possibly set up a link from HVL to our main Konocti repeater (getting some permission from the Konocti site manager would be involved), which would provide broader coverage of the county and an opportunity to talk on our more popular repeater. This could take a while, but we're appreciative knowing that the door is open to talking possibilities.

In the meantime, it is good to know that a local ham, with sufficient altitude and 50 watts of power, could reach a repeater on Seigler Mountain (145.150 MHz) from HVL.

4) Finally, we talked about designating a site for setting up a **50-bed field hospital**, should that kind of extreme disaster response be necessary. Hopefully, it would never be necessary, but I was excited to see that you have a site that could be readily available, if needed (barring any problems with flooding). I've attached a message that goes into more detail on selection criteria. There are perhaps a couple of points that are not optimal for this site (e.g., not near a medical facility, only one access road), but the positives seem to handily outweigh any negatives. As you'll see in the attached message, no formal MOUs are needed, nor does a major site evaluation need to be accomplished. If, after looking over the selection criteria, you don't see any major pitfalls and are willing to be listed as a potential site (probably secondary to using our primary site at Konocti Conservation Camp), just let me know. The mobile field hospitals would not be deployed without going through the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC), which is me, so I wanted to assure you that nothing should ever happen without full coordination and agreement at the time.

5) I'll be keeping your newsletter in mind as a nice tool for getting public health information out to the public.

I look forward to continue planning with you and, as Marisa gets onboard with OES, I expect we'll see a resumption of the Operational Area meetings that can be so valuable for staying connected and developing coordinated plans.

Karen Tait, M.D.
Health Officer
Lake County Health Services Department
922 Bevins Court
Lakeport, CA 95453
707-263-1090
707-262-4280 (fax)
karen.tait@lakecountyca.gov

Memo

To: HVLCSD Board of Directors

From: Roland Sanford, General Manager

Date: April 10, 2014

RE: General Manager's Monthly Report

March teased but did not provide the amount of precipitation hoped for, and certainly nothing close to what occurred in February. The April 1 Sierra snowpack survey – typically the seasonal highpoint for snow accumulation – brought dismal news. Across the Sierra mountains the water content of the snowpack was just 30 percent of "normal", the water content in the northern Sierra mountains even lower, at just 25 percent of normal. In Northern California and here at the District water supply conditions are much more favorable, but still far from ideal. The District's water right consultants, Wagner and Bonsignore have submitted the District's Temporary Urgency Petition – a petition to temporarily suspend the District's obligation to provide supplemental stream flows to Putah Creek – to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), and it is our understanding that the SWRCB will act on the petition within the next 60 days. Stay tuned.

April 15th is typically received with little enthusiasm – unless you enjoy paying taxes. This year it is also the probable date the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will issue its final hexavalent chromium drinking water standard, which unfortunately will likely have a similar impact on one's wallet. As of this writing it remains unclear whether the proposed 10 parts per billion standard will be adopted or revised, or whether the CDPH will incorporate a multi-year compliance phase in period in the final ruling.

The District continues to sample for total and hexavalent chromium in the District's raw water supply, and selected groundwater wells in the region. The most recent sampling results for the District's drinking water supply are consistent with previously observed trends – a decrease in total and hexavalent chromium concentrations during sustained Putah Creek stream flows, elevated concentrations – occasionally above the proposed 10 parts per billion standard – in the absence of Putah Creek surface stream flows.

On April 4, 2014 The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) released its "Recommendations for Achieving Groundwater Sustainability", a policy document developed by ACWA's Groundwater Task Force (copy attached). I was pleased to represent ACWA Region 1 on the task force and while many of the issues addressed in the final document do not pertain to our District, the exercise provided additional insight into ACWA and gave me the opportunity to meet other individuals – within and outside of ACWA – who have similar interests and concerns.

In other "regional collaboration news", included on this month's agenda will be a discussion of the Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Westside Sac IRWM). The District is located within the geographic planning area, but to date has not participated in the development and implementation of the Westside Sac IRWM. Staff believes participation in the Westside Sac IRWM would be beneficial to the District and notes that the Westside Sac IRWM is currently accepting project proposals for possible inclusion in any proposal submitted by the Westside Sac IRWM to the State, as part of the forthcoming 2014 Drought Funding, and 2015 IRWMP Funding solicitations. Staff will be attending a Westside Sac IRWM Coordinating Committee meeting in Lakeport on April 14, 2014 to learn more about the Westside Sac IRWM and the players involved.

Later this month staff will be meeting with the Executive Director of Lake County LAFCO (LAFCO) to discuss pending annexations – most notably all or portions of the Crazy Creek property to the south of the District and those portions of the proposed Valley Oaks development not already annexed to the District. In order to annex these and any other properties, LAFCO will need to first conduct a Municipal Service Review to among other things, establish whether the District has the capability to provide the necessary water and sewer services, and then define/update the District's Sphere of Influence. The annexation of the above properties is likely to consume considerable staff time in fiscal year 2014-2015.

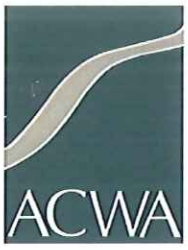
In a related matter, staff and the owners of the Crazy Creek property have had preliminary discussions regarding the District's possible purchase of a "buffer strip" between the District's existing Reclamation Pond and associated facilities, and the proposed Crazy Creek development. Both parties have expressed interest in consummating a deal. Staff will be requesting Board direction regarding a possible land purchase at the April 15, 2014 Board meeting.

Finally, staff has spent considerable time reviewing and organizing the District's financial records in support of the forthcoming water and sewer rate study. As a

part of this effort new and hopefully more informative monthly financial reports are being developed for inclusion in the monthly board meeting packets. Beginning this month, there will now be a monthly breakdown of the District's investments – LAIF, money market accounts, and CD's – by fund. Similarly, the monthly sewer enterprise fund reports will now include a breakdown of expenditures by the following categories; Non-Departmental, Administration, Office, Field, and Directors, while the monthly water enterprise fund reports will now include a breakdown of expenditures by the aforementioned categories and one additional category – Meter Reading. Currently, the Meter Reading category includes no budgeted funds - a reflection of how the fiscal year 2013-2014 budget was initially constructed.

Admittedly, the financial reports included in this month's board packet are "raw", and will benefit from some additional formatting to improve "readability". Also, particularly in the case of the District Investment report, there were a number of transfers among sub accounts that were in progress at the close of the March reporting period – hence the negative balances associated with some subaccounts.

Overall and to date sewer operations are slightly under budget, while water operations remain significantly under budget due to higher than initially anticipated revenues and somewhat lower expenditures. At the beginning of the fiscal year it was anticipated that water operations would end the fiscal year nearly $100,000 in the red. Staff now anticipates that water operations will end the fiscal year with a considerably smaller deficit and possibly slightly in the black.



Association of California Water Agencies

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Recommendations for Achieving Groundwater Sustainability

Prepared by the Association of California Water Agencies

April 2014

Recommendations for Achieving Groundwater Sustainability

I. Introduction and Background

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) has prepared these recommendations in response to growing concern about potentially unsustainable groundwater level declines, local subsidence and degraded groundwater quality in some subbasins and widespread recognition that further action is required to promote and achieve groundwater sustainability throughout California.

Most groundwater basins in the state are under sound local and regional management; some, however, are not. Local control of groundwater continues to be the most effective form of management, even in areas where sustainability concerns have emerged and must be addressed. Existing authorities and requirements for managing groundwater basins provide a strong foundation, but achieving more sustainable management requires additional tools to augment that foundation. The Brown Administration also has recognized the need for additional tools, noting in its California Water Action Plan (January 2014) that sustainable groundwater management can be improved by ensuring "that local and regional agencies have the incentives, tools, authority and guidance to develop and enforce local and regional management plans that protect groundwater elevations, quality and surface water-groundwater interactions."

In many areas, including parts of the San Joaquin Valley, overdraft has been and continues to be exacerbated by a significant reduction in available surface water supplies over the past two decades. The inability of the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project to reliably deliver contracted water supplies has eliminated a substantial amount of surface water that once played a key role in recharging groundwater basins. In many cases, demand for groundwater is directly related to the reliability and availability of surface water supplies. The loss of reliable surface water supplies means that past investments in local and regional water systems – and the agricultural, urban and environmental water uses long supported by conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater resources – are now at risk.

To be sure, there are instances where unchecked new groundwater demands in unmanaged areas are putting new stresses on groundwater resources, sometimes with devastating effects on other users within the same basin or even in a neighboring basin that is being well managed. Like the loss of surface water supplies, this presents an untenable situation that simply must not go unaddressed.

This document outlines ACWA's suggested approach for achieving groundwater sustainability and identifies incentives, tools and authorities required to implement that approach. The recommendations

provided here are focused primarily on basins and subbasins defined by the Department of Water Resources' California Groundwater Bulletin 118.

Fractured bedrock and other settings that fall outside of basins and subbasins defined by Bulletin 118 are not the focus of these recommendations. Groundwater extractions in these settings typically are site-specific or condition-specific and lack connection to areas covered by a local or regional groundwater management plan. As such, they present unique issues and warrant special consideration outside the scope of this document.

ACWA's recommendations build on the Association's Board-adopted Groundwater Management Policy Principles (March 2009) and ACWA's landmark document, "Sustainability from the Ground Up: A Framework for Groundwater Management in California" (April 2011), which provided an in-depth look at groundwater management in California and recommended proactive steps to advance groundwater sustainability.

ACWA recognizes that various legislative changes are needed to provide the authorities necessary to implement many of these recommendations. Given the importance and complexity of state policy in this area, any necessary changes should be proposed and considered through the normal legislative process for policy bills, as opposed to through the budget trailer bill process. The policy bill process will provide more time for thoughtful deliberation on the legislation and will allow for increased transparency and stakeholder input.

Implementing the following recommendations will significantly improve groundwater management capabilities where they are deficient, accelerate the achievement of sustainability by local and regional entities, and guide enhanced state support where needed.

II. Policy Objectives for Achieving Groundwater Sustainability

The following policy objectives must be advanced simultaneously to ensure groundwater sustainability in California.

1) **Enhance Local Management.** Groundwater basins should continue to be managed by local and regional agencies with input from local stakeholders through a local or regionally-developed and administered Groundwater Management Plan (GMP).

2) **Establish Mandatory Minimum Groundwater Management Plan Requirements and Increased Authorities.** Local groundwater management planning must become uniformly consistent with or functionally equivalent to requirements laid out in SB 1938 (Machado, 2002) (Water Code Section 10753 et seq.). Additionally, Section III below identifies sustainability timeframes (Recommendation 1) and additional tools and authorities (Recommendation 5) needed to advance sustainable management.

3) **Avoid or Minimize Subsidence.** In areas where groundwater pumping is resulting in subsidence at levels causing damage or risk of damage to overlying infrastructure that affects parties outside of an existing management area, additional land use planning, engineering, capital improvement and monitoring and reporting requirements -- including possible pumping restrictions in the impacted area -- should be implemented by the local or regional groundwater management agency.

4) **Assess Groundwater Connection to Surface Waters.** GMPs should include an evaluation of the relationship the surface water source has to groundwater levels and quality in the subbasin or basin and identify the impacts, if any, on the surface water source and its related public benefits.

5) **Improve Data Availability.** Many groundwater management agencies currently monitor and collect groundwater data to implement successful groundwater management strategies to address overdraft conditions or concerns. Consistent with their GMPs, groundwater management agencies should collect appropriate management data and make it publicly available both locally and to the state through the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program.

6) **Increase Groundwater Storage.** Storing surface water in underground storage basins is necessary to optimize use of the state's limited and highly variable water supplies. This need will only increase with climate change. California must take aggressive steps to develop significant new groundwater storage and conjunctive use projects, including potential state funding for local project capital costs.

7) **Remove Impediments to Recharge.** Coordinated and planned use of surface water, recycled water, stormwater and groundwater resources to maximize the availability and reliability of water supplies is an essential management method. Policies that are impediments to groundwater recharge should be evaluated and revised as necessary.

8) **Do No Harm.** In many areas of the state, sustainable local and regional groundwater management is being accomplished successfully. Contemplated changes to groundwater management statutes and other potential requirements should not impose additional undue burdens or mandates in these areas.

9) **Reassess Surface Water Reallocations.** Actions by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to reallocate surface water supplies to dedicated instream uses and water quality certification requirements have affected and will continue to affect to a significant degree the management and sustainability of groundwater basins in areas that previously relied on that surface water. Consequently, implications for groundwater management should be considered

explicitly when the SWRCB undertakes its balancing of beneficial uses of water in the broad public interest.

10) **Provide State Financial and Technical Assistance.** The state, through DWR, should provide significant new financial assistance and technical support to local and regional agencies for improving or developing GMPs. Developing management capacity in currently unmanaged areas should be the first priority.

11) **Provide a "Backstop."** SWRCB authority should be applied only where local agencies are unwilling or unable to sustainably manage the groundwater resource despite having the tools and authorities to do so and when an appropriate period of time has passed (considering the unique management issues and geology/hydrology of the subbasin or basin) without demonstrated progress toward sustainability. The SWRCB should intervene as a last resort, in carefully prescribed circumstances and for limited duration, and should restore local control at the earliest opportunity.

III. Recommended Administrative and State Legislative Actions

ACWA recommends the following administrative and state legislative actions to help achieve the above policy objectives. Actions should be prioritized to address critical, rapidly deteriorating basins or subbasins through a combination of capacity building, technical assistance and financial support. New requirements and new local and regional authorities should be established where needed to initiate and implement effective GMPs.

1. Adopt State Definition of "Sustainable Groundwater Management"

The state should adopt a definition of "sustainable groundwater management" in statute. ACWA recognizes this is a complex issue that must take into account spatial and time scale considerations, multiple resource management objectives and stakeholder perspectives.

In its 2011 Groundwater Framework, ACWA developed the following definition of sustainability in the context of groundwater:

ACWA 2011 Definition of "Sustainability"

> *Actively managing the resource at the local level in a way that satisfies the needs of both the environment and the economy while ensuring the continued health of the basin.* [1]

ACWA also agrees with and has cited the following definition developed by the United States Geological Survey (USGS):

[1] ACWA (2011). *Sustainability From the Ground Up: Groundwater Management in California – A Framework* p.7

United States Geological Survey: "Sustainability of Groundwater Resources"

> *Development and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained for an indefinite time without causing unacceptable environmental, economic, or social consequences.* [2]

Sustainability by nature implies a perpetual timeframe. In this context, ACWA recommends the following updated definition to underscore that sustainable groundwater management requires a long-term and continuous investment in effective planning and implementation.

Proposed State Definition of "Sustainable Groundwater Management"

> *"Sustainable groundwater management" is the management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing unacceptable related environmental, economic or social consequences through the development, implementation and updating of plans and programs based on the best available science, monitoring, forecasting and use of technological resources.*

Local or regional GMPs should be required to develop subbasin or basin-relevant indicators and performance metrics that could be used by DWR and the SWRCB to evaluate objectively the plans' ability to achieve progress toward "sustainable groundwater management."

2. Prioritize Unmanaged Basins or Subbasins

The state must identify and prioritize action based on the severity of groundwater threats in basins and subbasins that are not currently being managed by local or regional agencies. DWR should be directed to identify those basins or subbasins that are designated as "medium" or "high" priority based on the CASGEM basin prioritization study (2013) and that are not currently being managed by a local or regional groundwater management agency or that are not currently covered by a comprehensive (meaning complete coverage of the basin or subbasin) local or regional GMP (or functional equivalent). DWR also should identify other specific areas where groundwater use is creating damage or significant risk of damage to overlying infrastructure (conveyance, transportation, flood channels, distribution systems, etc.) external to that of the management agency that is not being addressed currently and where groundwater management assistance may be warranted.

3. Adopt Uniform Minimum Requirements for Groundwater Management Plans and Implementation

The state should adopt uniform minimum requirements for GMPs for all basins or subbasins (with the exception of adjudicated basins or subbasins). Existing local and regional GMPs in basins or subbasins statewide should be reviewed and updated by the local or regional groundwater management agency to meet the following requirements:

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[2] Alley, W.M., Reilly, T.E., and Franke, O.L. (1999). *Sustainability of Ground-Water Resources: U.S. Geological Survey Circular* 1186.

a) **Planning Boundary.** The optimum unit for groundwater management should be a subbasin as defined by DWR Bulletin 118. Preferably, each subbasin should be covered by only one GMP. Where multiple existing plans cover different portions of a subbasin or basin, they should demonstrate coordination such that the goals and basin management objectives of respective GMPs are complementary in their contribution to basin sustainability and do not conflict or impede management activities of neighboring groundwater management agencies. All lands overlying the subbasin should be subject to the provisions of the locally-adopted GMPs. A groundwater management planning agency should be authorized to incorporate into its existing GMP neighboring areas overlying its subbasin not already covered by another GMP. A subbasin boundary may be adjusted to address hydrologic conditions and other features of the subbasin, based on a technical analysis supporting the boundary adjustment and in consultation with adjacent subbasin groundwater management agencies and DWR. If groundwater users in a portion of a subbasin outside of the jurisdictional boundary of a groundwater management agency choose not to participate in a GMP, they should be required to prepare an individual GMP and be subject to SWRCB intervention as described in Recommendation 7 in this section.

b) **Plan Standards.** GMPs should satisfy SB 1938 (Water Code Section 10753 et seq.) standards or their functional equivalent, including basin management objectives associated with groundwater quantity and quality, as well as subsidence and monitoring programs that meet the sustainability objective discussed above. Existing GMPs that do not meet SB 1938 standards should be required to be updated to satisfy them.

c) **Compliance Requirements.** GMPs in basins or subbasins designated by DWR as "medium" or "high" priority based on the CASGEM basin prioritization study should be updated and adopted by local and regional agencies within five years of establishment of the mandatory minimum standards. GMPs should not be required in "low" priority basins or subbasins but should be encouraged and supported. GMPs should be required if a "low" priority basin or subbasin is subsequently reclassified as "medium" or "high." GMPs should include an implementation schedule and best management practices and tools to ensure local and regional agencies can verify progress toward achievement of quantifiable basin management objectives, resulting in sustainable groundwater management.

d) **Sustainability Timeframe.** GMPs should be developed to ensure that sustainable groundwater management (defined above) will be achieved over a specific timeframe, which must be long enough to be feasible and provide for implementation success (groundwater moves extremely slowly), yet short enough to spur committed action. GMPs should include an analysis demonstrating that implementation of the basin management objectives should achieve sustainable groundwater management in the basin or subbasin within 20 years. GMPs should include a planning and implementation horizon of at least 50 years. Extensions beyond the 20-year sustainability timeframe may be necessary in some instances based on particular circumstances; but in no case should an extension exceed 10 years (30 years total).

e) **Groundwater Extraction Prohibition.** Extraction of groundwater for newly developed lands (including agricultural plantings) outside of groundwater management areas is a significant issue. Unless covered by a GMP, groundwater extractions for new development (commercial, multi-family residential or industrial) or new plantings of permanent crops should be prohibited in "medium" and "high" priority groundwater subbasins. (This provision should not apply to single-family domestic wells.) As discussed below, this requirement should be administered through a locally-administered well permitting process.

f) **Technical Review and Approval.** GMPs should be subject to technical review for adequacy by DWR and should be approved, conditionally approved or determined to be inadequate and returned for revision within six months. GMPs that are determined to be inadequate should be revised and resubmitted to DWR within six months. For GMPs that continue to be determined to be inadequate, the SWRCB should intervene and impose an adequate GMP (after a public hearing) as necessary to ensure progress toward sustainability of the subbasin or basin. (See Recommendation 7 below.)

g) **Performance Reporting.** Performance reports for all GMPs comparing current status to basin management objectives should be submitted to DWR annually. Summaries of monitoring data should be made available regularly to DWR's CASGEM program and locally to basin or subbasin stakeholders through web-based applications or similar methods.

h) **Performance Review.** GMPs and performance reports for subbasins identified through CASGEM as "medium" and "high" priority areas should be subject to review by the SWRCB on a periodic basis (every five years) to ensure that they are meeting performance metrics and are progressing toward or have achieved sustainable groundwater management.

4. Develop Best Management Practices

DWR should be directed to develop a best management practices (BMPs) guidebook that would provide a "toolbox" for local and regional groundwater management agencies to facilitate completion of effective GMPs and provide a template for evaluation of their adequacy. This BMPs guidebook should be developed using a robust and inclusive stakeholder process (similar to the process already in place to develop guidance for preparation of Urban Water Management Plans or Agricultural Water Management Plans). Example BMPs from existing successful GMPs should be considered, along with best practices proposed by groundwater management professionals, associations, academia and other sources.

GMPs would not be required to incorporate all of the identified BMPs. The local or regional groundwater management agency would select BMPs for inclusion in the GMP that would result in a sustainably-managed subbasin or basin. Additionally, the local or regional agency could develop or adopt alternative practices that would result in a sustainably-managed basin or subbasin.

The BMPs guidebook should include, but not be limited to, the following elements:

a. **Illustrative Quantifiable Basin Management Objectives.** Methods for developing quantifiable basin management objectives relevant to the conditions of a particular subbasin, which could include but not be limited to: groundwater quantity assessment and monitoring, annual operational parameters for exercising the subbasin, drought management, aquifer recharge (both direct and indirect) and storage, groundwater quality, percolation capability or injection levels, land subsidence and characterization of surface water-groundwater relationships based on subbasin-specific hydrological analysis.

b. **Subbasin Boundary Adjustment.** Methods for conducting subbasin interconnectivity analysis and adjusting subbasin boundaries. This could be similar to the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) boundary determination and acceptance process administered by DWR.

c. **Groundwater Monitoring.** Methods for implementing groundwater monitoring programs for groundwater elevation, extraction, aquifer recharge, change in storage and water quality.

d. **Well Permitting.** Administrative methods for well permitting, well construction and well abandonment.

e. **Groundwater Recharge.** Protocols for evaluating and implementing spreading basin and storage projects, for example: stormwater capture and related potential treatment and recharge projects, on-farm return systems, multi-objective flood control and habitat restoration projects and other methods to increase groundwater supplies.

f. **Sustainability Indicators.** Methods to develop and apply locally relevant sustainability indicators that can be used to demonstrate sustainable groundwater management (as defined above).

g. **Overdraft Measures.** Taking into account that some groundwater management agencies "exercise" their basins and utilize regular groundwater withdrawals and drawdown ("managed overdraft") as tools within a comprehensive multi-source, multi-year planning horizon, methods should be identified to develop locally relevant measures of "overdraft" and "critical condition of overdraft." DWR Bulletin 118 definitions provide reasonable guideposts for consideration. The definition of "overdraft" in Bulletin 118 is "the condition of a ground water basin where the amount of water extracted exceeds the amount of ground water recharging the basin over a period of time," and "critical condition of overdraft" is defined as water management practices that "would probably result in significant adverse overdraft-related environmental, social, or economic effects."

h. **Public Review Process.** Protocols for conducting open, inclusive and transparent stakeholder and public review processes in the development, implementation and administration of a GMP.

i. **Governance Structures.** Examples of governance structure options that could be used to prepare and manage GMPs based on the specific conditions and needs of the basin or subbasin, or where joint governance or coordination of multiple GMPs is necessary or preferable. In the latter instance, governance options may include, but are not limited to, a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among existing agencies, an IRWM planning group, a newly created special district, any of which may include a locally-authorized Watermaster, or some other appropriate local or regional governance entity.

j. **Data Collection and Reporting.** Protocols and standards for conducting adequate data collection and reporting of groundwater elevations, water quality, subsidence levels and surface water-groundwater relationships to verify progress toward basin management objectives. The BMPs should include recommended quality control and quality assurance protocols.

k. **Demand Management.** Examples of potentially applicable demand management programs including, but not limited to, use of irrigation and water use efficiency technology, land retirement programs, conservation easements and related incentives, pumping restrictions, tiered allocation of usable groundwater and closer integration with demand management programs contained in Urban Water Management Plans or Agricultural Water Management Plans of agencies within GMP areas.

5. Enhance Local and Regional Agency Authority

Local and regional groundwater management agencies need enhanced authority to successfully implement their GMP basin management objectives to achieve sustainable groundwater management. Although some types of local or regional groundwater agencies or forms of governance are currently authorized and already may be using some of the following authorities, this is generally the exception rather than the rule. Local and regional groundwater management agencies statewide should be granted all of the following authorities and be empowered to select the ones they determine to be necessary and most effective to implement their GMPs.

a) **Groundwater Management Fees.** Groundwater management agencies need to fund required planning and administrative activities, data collection and reporting, acquisition of supplemental water for replenishment, acquisition of lands or easements to reduce demand, and implementation of BMPs. Local or regional agencies should be granted authority to impose fees or assessments based on estimates or reports of groundwater use or other means in compliance with existing state law. Legislation may be needed to address current barriers to imposing local groundwater-related fees. (See Recommendation 6.)

b) **Groundwater Allocation and Extraction Limits.** The rights of individuals to pump groundwater should be subject to responsible management regulations by groundwater management agencies in much the same way that the use of property is subject to land use regulations by

cities and counties. Groundwater management agencies should be authorized to monitor or estimate groundwater use within a basin or subbasin and impose allocation programs or pumping restrictions in time or amount, create exemptions for small or disadvantaged users, or to develop tiered pricing or other market-based means to implement basin management objectives and ensure sustainable groundwater management. Allocation and extraction limits may raise a significant issue with respect to groundwater rights and legal priorities among groundwater users. Further legal analysis and discussion of such issues is necessary to ensure these tools and authorities can be implemented in a legally defensible manner.

c) **Well Permitting.** Some local or regional groundwater management agencies manage well permitting programs. In other cases counties manage well permitting programs that may or may not be implemented cooperatively with groundwater managers. Where well permitting programs are lacking or need significant improvement to provide essential management information to implement GMPs and basin management objectives, local or regional groundwater management agencies should be authorized to assume or cooperatively manage well permitting responsibilities. Existing well permitting programs may need to be expanded and adequately funded to ensure that location, well depth, water quality and production information is collected and well construction specifications and well abandonment standards are enforced. New well permits should be conditioned upon receiving a water availability determination and "will serve" letter (see "e" below).

d) **New "Summary Proceeding" Enforcement Capability.** Along with new responsibilities and authorities to manage groundwater, local or regional groundwater management agencies should be granted new enforcement authority. Enforcement should be focused and limited to those instances where landowners or other groundwater users are in violation of groundwater management requirements, have been issued time-limited corrective notices and have been given a reasonable period to comply. In these cases, the landowner should be subject to a "summary proceeding" such as authorized by California Code of Civil Procedure, Part 3, Title 3 to enforce property-related violations. This provision could be amended to add a new chapter, "Summary Proceedings Associated with Violation of Basin or Subbasin Groundwater Regulation," which would be instituted to obtain appropriate judicial review, judgment and writ of execution (with service and return by appropriate sworn law enforcement personnel in cooperation with the groundwater management agency) resulting in cessation of the groundwater extraction and use pending the completion of required corrective measures and payment of monetary damages, attorney fees and costs of the proceeding.

e) **Water Availability Determinations.** Currently, new development projects are required to secure "will serve" letters from local water agencies, and larger projects are subject to Water Availability Determinations to show that sufficient water is available as part of the land use approval process. This requirement should be expanded. Land use agencies should be required to consider protection of prime groundwater recharge areas and consult groundwater

management agencies regarding any significant groundwater-dependent development, including new permanent crop plantings, in order to obtain "will serve" letters and Water Availability Determinations.

f) **GMP Consistency Determinations.** County and city general plans are currently required to consider the Urban Water Management Plans of water agencies within their jurisdictions. This requirement should be extended to GMPs for the basins or subbasins within their jurisdictions. In addition, groundwater management agencies should be authorized to issue "GMP Consistency Determinations" for all new proposed industrial, residential or agricultural development (including introduction of permanent crops) that may have a significant effect on groundwater resources. "GMP Consistency Determinations" should be used by the lead agency to inform project environmental impact assessments and discretionary land use approvals. Where new proposed groundwater use is determined to be inconsistent with the GMP and to impede attainment of sustainable groundwater management, it should be presumed to have a "significant adverse impact on the environment" under CEQA and either be mitigated or be subject to a Statement of Overriding Consideration by the lead agency.

g) **Expedited LAFCO Formation Assistance.** In basins or subbasins in which there is no existing local and regional groundwater management agency, the applicable Local Area Formation Commission should be authorized to provide special technical assistance and an expedited timeline to facilitate the formation of such an agency. This process also should apply to existing groundwater management agencies that are required or seek to annex into their jurisdictions unmanaged lands overlying the subbasin or basin managed pursuant to their GMPs. The cost to provide this expedited agency formation assistance should be included in the new agency's administrative budget and assessment fees and reimbursed to the LAFCO within one year of the creation of the new agency.

6. Ensure Adequate Funding

The SWRCB and DWR should coordinate available funding and resources from the Governor's proposed budget to identify basins or subbasins lacking coverage by an existing comprehensive GMP (see Recommendation 2, above).

For basins or subbasins in which there are existing local or regional groundwater management agencies to prepare or revise and implement GMPs, required funding should be predominantly based on local or regional fees or assessments, assuming successful implementation of Recommendation 5a., regarding funding. Local or regional groundwater management agencies also should continue to supplement their funding through grants or loans from existing state and federal funding programs (especially if the basin or subbasin includes disadvantaged communities that are dependent upon groundwater that fails to meet public health standards).

ACWA opposes the imposition of a statewide water user fee or "public goods charge" but stands ready to work with the Administration to identify alternative ways to help ensure adequate funding for local and regional groundwater management agencies to implement their GMPs. ACWA acknowledges the constraints local agencies face in raising fees for needed groundwater management investments (e.g. Proposition 218) and is committed to a dialog about sustainable and integrated financing.

Finally, an additional funding source may be created during development of a new proposed state water bond, if approved by California voters. Significant bond funding could be targeted to create an incentive for development of new groundwater storage projects in basins or subbasins that have adopted GMPs and sustainability indicators that demonstrate sustainable groundwater management.

7. Provide for State Backstop Authority When Local Action Has Not Occurred or Has Been Insufficient

In those instances where there is no groundwater management agency in a basin or subbasin and where the local or regional entity does not develop or implement a compliant GMP within defined timelines, or where the local or regional entity fails to meet performance objectives set forth in an approved GMP, the SWRCB should hold a hearing for each basin or subbasin and invite affected local, regional and other stakeholders to present information to inform SWRCB decision-making regarding whether corrective action is necessary and likely to be most effective under the specific circumstances.

Based on the results of the hearing, the SWRCB should either 1) issue an order to a qualified local or regional agency that includes a compliance schedule for completion and implementation of a GMP that will result in progress toward sustainability; or 2) assign to a qualified third party the responsibility to develop and implement a compliant GMP under contract to the SWRCB and subject to final approval by the SWRCB. In either case, the SWRCB should be given authority to assess a fee sufficient to cover the cost of SWRCB administration, and any work by a third-party contractor. The fee should be collected by the local agency, and it should be clear that the fee is a "property-related fee."

During this period of plan development, the SWRCB should order that groundwater extraction be reduced throughout the subbasin as necessary to preserve the potential for achieving sustainable groundwater management within a 30-year timeframe. The SWRCB should be required to hold a hearing to develop a protocol or allow for alternatives to achieve the same reduction in demand to facilitate recovery of the basin.

SWRCB should return management to a new or existing qualified local or regional agency as soon as practicable after a reasonable demonstration of willingness, organization and financial capacity has been made.

8. Remove Impediments to Water Supply Reliability

Sustainable groundwater management in California depends on creating more opportunities for robust conjunctive management of surface water resources. Many groundwater basins facing unsustainable overdraft conditions have depended on previously reliable surface water supplies that are no longer available. A significant number of these areas have lost surface supplies that were once conjunctively

managed but have now been reallocated to serve instream or other regulatory requirements in response to various judicial, state and federal mandates. Climate change will only intensify the need to recalibrate and reconcile surface and groundwater management strategies.

As an illustration, water conveyed through the Delta for delivery to areas on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and the Tulare Basin has been greatly reduced over the past 20 years due to a variety of regulatory actions. Those deliveries – and deliveries to Southern California and parts of the Bay Area, as well -- were designed in part to remedy overdraft conditions recognized many years ago. Both the state and federal governments, as operators of the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project, respectively, have reduced the reliability and average amount of deliveries and thus have severely diminished the supplemental supplies historically available and incorporated into plans for conjunctive use in these areas. Similar changes and resulting ramifications have occurred in some portions of the east side of the San Joaquin Valley as well. The SWRCB and the Administration cannot divorce groundwater conditions and management from overall state water policy. Any public trust balancing by the SWRCB must weigh the value of surface water for groundwater replenishment and recharge to promote the state's interest in groundwater sustainability.

The SWRCB and DWR should identify ways to reduce impediments and regulatory barriers to facilitate more water transfers, increase stormwater and recycled water recharge, and provide significant funding and technical assistance to develop projects that restore conjunctive balance by facilitating new surface and groundwater storage and conveyance projects statewide.

IV. Statement of Commitment

ACWA and its member agencies have demonstrated a history of strong leadership in confronting and embracing needed changes to manage our groundwater resources in California. ACWA is committed to working with the state and with urban and agricultural water users, growers and landowners, environmental and disadvantaged community interests, and other stakeholders on an effective approach to promote and achieve sustainable groundwater management throughout California.

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

March 2014 Report

FIELD OPERATIONS

Chlorine Contact Basin after routine cleaning.

March 2014

Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Report

Wastewater Collection System:

Lift Station 4 was continually dosed with bioxide, and FOG control was performed at Lift Stations 1, 3, & 6.

Coastal Mtn. assisted Cummings Pacific in the start and test procedure for the Generators at Lift Stations 1 and 4, they are now operational.

Lift Stations 3 and 6 are scheduled to have Shape change out impellers and wear rings.

Routine activities and maintenance.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Last month the Reclaim Water Pond level ended the month with the 5th lowest level in its 18 year history, but ended this month as the 7th worse due to a late rainy season, and the help of some supplemental water.

AB diffuser sheathes were ordered and have arrived. We are in the process of scheduling maintenance for the diffusers that require new sheathes, and replacing other needed parts.

The 1st tertiary filter is due for an airlift change anytime. They wear due to the constant movement and abrasion of sand. One was ordered and will be on site when replacement is needed. The other two were replaced within the last two years.

The sludge beds are becoming typically full for this time of year and requiring added attention and maintenance. We're weighing out the possibility of a remaining rainy season and trying to determine whether to place another Geotube into operation. It could potentially become a bottleneck and create more maintenance later.

The Chlorine Contact Basin was drained and cleaned due to some intermittent coliform spikes not routinely seen. Some results had us facing WDR compliance limits. Sample results since, are routinely staying at the minimum value thus far.

Routine activities and maintenance.

Eff Pond level – 13.12'

March Plant Effluent – 6.694 MG

Field Operations staff cleaning Chlorine Contact

March 2014
Water Operations and Maintenance Report

Water

Field staff performed monthly drawdown showing a good sign of recharge to the aquifer.

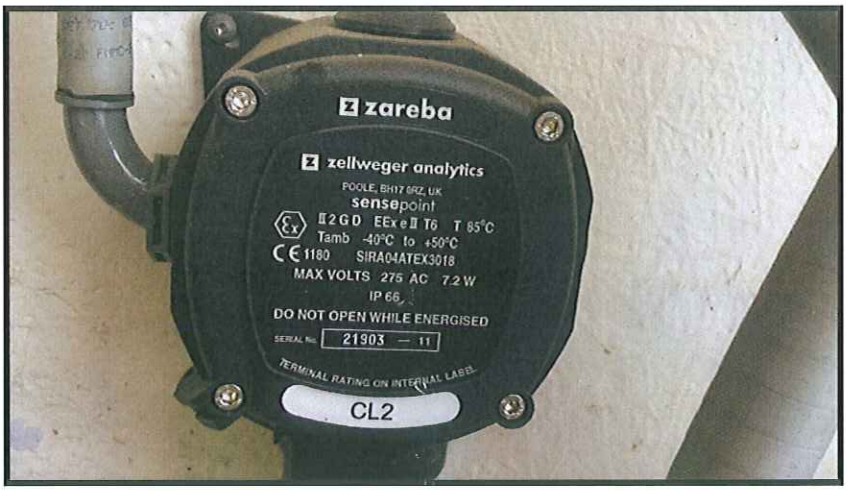
Staff repaired leaks, replaced service line on Old Creek. Leak detection program is on going due to the aging distribution system. AC pipe, which is used throughout the District's distribution system, has a life expectancy of 50 years.

Sense point on CL2 AT Well #4 was replaced, calibrated and tested for alarm, which is replaced every 3 years. The touch point was repaired on the sense point as well.

Staff started its Lug Program, which is maintaining electrical tightness between two connections, on all the electrical panels.

CHP performed its Controlled Substances and Alcohol Testing (CSAT) inspection. Section 34520 of the California Vehicle Code requires motor carriers and drivers to comply with the controlled substances and alcohol testing (CSAT) regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The CHP is authorized by statute to conduct inspections of a carrier's CSAT program, and issue a rating indicating the carrier's CSAT compliance. Since the California Vehicle Code incorporates the federal regulations, the CHP uses the federal definitions and interpretations when determining a carrier's CSAT compliance. Inspections are to be conducted at the carrier's principal place of business. Employers of commercial drivers are responsible to conduct a program intended to identify drivers of commercial vehicles who are using controlled substances, or abusing alcohol while on duty, and stop them from driving until the driver successfully completes a rehabilitation and return-to-duty testing program. All District Class A and B licensed drivers are enrolled in this program and are subject to random drug and alcohol testing. The District passed the inspection.

Routine activities and maintenance.



Sense point on CL2 at Well #4 that was replaced in March 2014.

March 2014 Monthly Report

WATER CONNECTIONS

RESIDENTIAL METERS	2414
COMMERCIAL & GOVERNMENT METERS	34
TOTAL METERS	2447

WASTEWATER CONNECTIONS

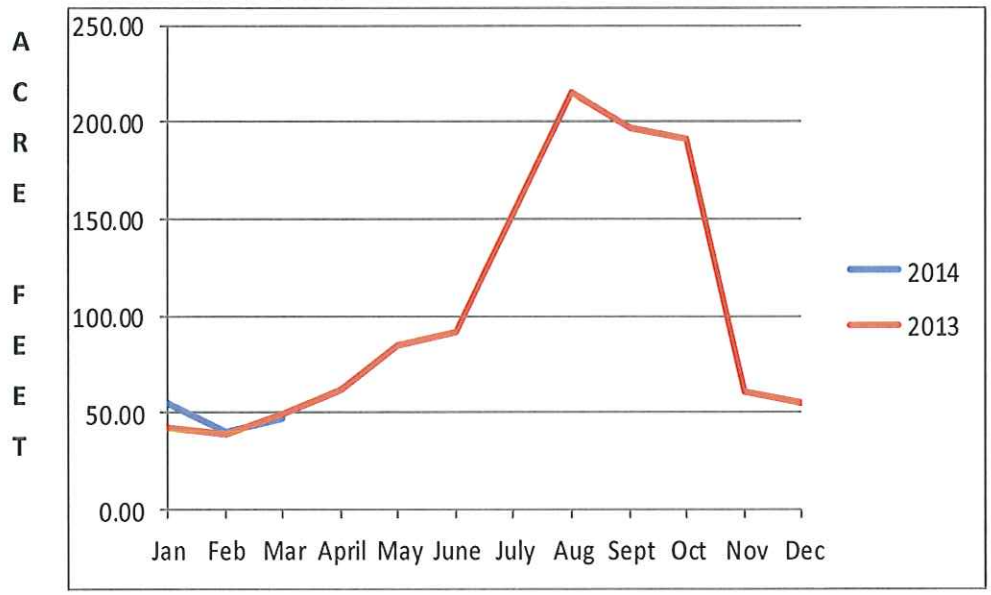
RESIDENTIAL	1455
COMMERCIAL & GOVERNMENT	33
TOTAL	1488

OVERTIME HOURS - 34.50 $1264.15

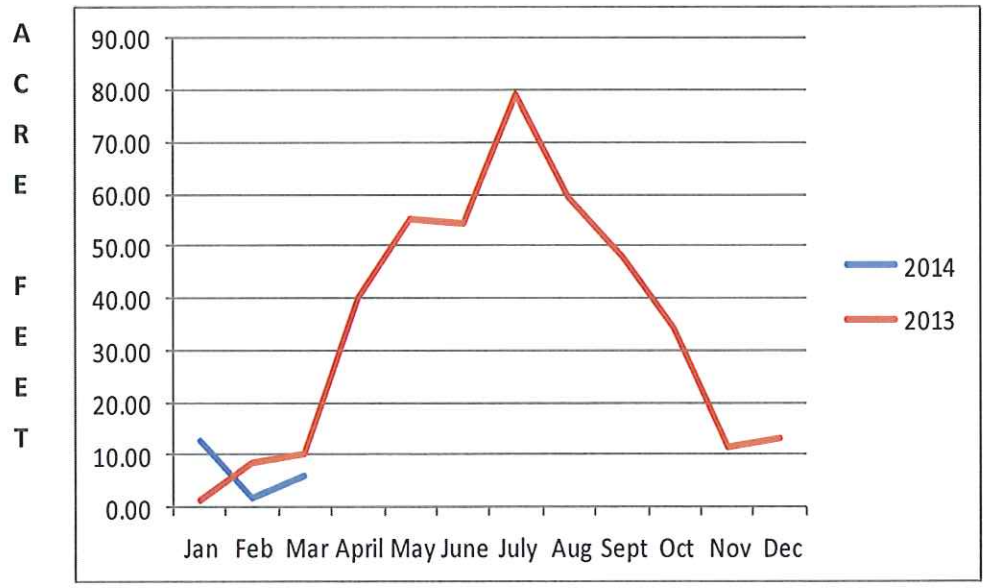
Monthly safety meeting - Lift Stations 1 & 4 Generator overview

Rainfall at HVLCSD Month	Rainfall in inches
October 2013	.0
November	.4
December	0
January 2014	.45
February	13.3
March	3.75
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
Totals	17.90

WELL PRODUCTION



RECLAIMED WATER USE



HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)
AS OF: MARCH 31ST, 2014

130-WATER ENTERPRISE FUND
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
REVENUE SUMMARY					
ALL REVENUE	1,298,200.00	2,621.89	903,853.14	394,346.86	69.62
TOTAL REVENUES	1,298,200.00	2,621.89	903,853.14	394,346.86	69.62
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY					
NON-DEPARTMENTAL	738,800.00	53,409.39	431,381.30	307,418.70	58.39
ADMINISTRATION	237,000.00	18,581.02	165,474.15	71,525.85	69.82
OFFICE	79,200.00	6,134.54	57,621.32	21,578.68	72.75
FIELD	298,500.00	18,692.63	196,590.94	101,909.06	65.86
METER READING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DIRECTORS	42,000.00	3,155.93	29,999.13	12,000.87	71.43
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,395,500.00	99,973.51	881,066.84	514,433.16	63.14
REVENUES OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(97,300.00)	(97,351.62)	22,786.30	(120,086.30)	23.42-

	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-4035 RECONNECT FEE	13,000.00	40.00	7,260.00	5,740.00	55.85
130-4038 COMM WATER METER INSTALL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-4039 WATER METER INST	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	100.00
130-4040 RECORDING FEE	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
130-4045 AVAILABILITY FEES	37,800.00	(62.40)	18,627.90	19,172.10	49.28
130-4110 COMM WATER USE	13,800.00	1,151.03	10,359.27	3,440.73	75.07
130-4112 GOV'T WATER USE	900.00	74.26	668.34	231.66	74.26
130-4115 WATER USE	1,036,000.00	523.70	695,761.44	340,238.56	67.16
130-4117 WATER OVERAGE FEE	161,200.00	(111.76)	136,212.76	24,987.24	84.50
130-4118 WATER OVERAGE COMM	11,200.00	543.28	8,950.77	2,249.23	79.92
130-4119 WATER OVERAGE GOV	0.00	0.00	7.64	(7.64)	0.00
130-4210 LATE FEE	23,000.00	(2.39)	16,327.98	6,672.02	70.99
130-4215 RETURNED CHECK FEE	700.00	0.00	650.00	50.00	92.86
130-4300 MISC INCOME	200.00	5.37	139.71	60.29	69.86
130-4310 OTHER INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-4505 LEASE INCOME	0.00	464.43	4,300.77	(4,300.77)	0.00
130-4550 INTEREST INCOME	0.00	(3.63)	1,116.06	(1,116.06)	0.00
130-4580 TRANSFER IN	0.00	0.00	3,070.50	(3,070.50)	0.00
130-4591 INCOME APPLICABLE TO PRIOR YRS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	1,298,200.00	2,621.89	903,853.14	394,346.86	69.62

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)
AS OF: MARCH 31ST, 2014

130-WATER ENTERPRISE FUND
NON-DEPARTMENTAL
EXPENDITURES

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-00-5010	SALARY & WAGES	0.00	1,521.28	1,512.60	(1,512.60)	0.00
130-5-00-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	16,000.00	3,200.00	10,787.77	5,212.23	67.42
130-5-00-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFTIS	0.00	11.26	448.95	(448.95)	0.00
130-5-00-5025	RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	5,400.00	1,594.26	3,697.11	1,702.89	68.47
130-5-00-5040	ELECTION EXPENSE	2,500.00	4,179.34	4,179.34	(1,679.34)	167.17
130-5-00-5050	DEPRECIATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-00-5060	GASOLINE, OIL & FUEL	11,800.00	26.34	8,358.11	3,441.89	70.83
130-5-00-5061	VEHICLE MAINT	12,000.00	194.56	7,895.72	4,104.28	65.80
130-5-00-5062	TAXES & LIC	800.00	339.50	1,334.92	(534.92)	166.87
130-5-00-5074	INSURANCE	19,800.00	0.00	0.00	19,800.00	0.00
130-5-00-5075	BANK FEES	6,800.00	498.09	5,035.35	1,764.65	74.05
130-5-00-5080	MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS	10,000.00	0.00	15,414.02	(5,414.02)	154.14
130-5-00-5090	OFFICE SUPPLIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-00-5092	POSTAGE & SHIPPING	100.00	0.00	521.88	(421.88)	521.88
130-5-00-5110	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	43,500.00	1,489.25	45,236.88	(1,736.88)	103.99
130-5-00-5121	LEGAL SERVICES	11,700.00	0.00	7,143.73	4,556.27	61.06
130-5-00-5122	ENGINEERING SERVICES	18,000.00	2,500.00	16,486.26	1,513.74	91.59
130-5-00-5123	OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	97,000.00	5,677.95	40,629.60	56,370.40	41.89
130-5-00-5124	WATER RIGHTS	10,000.00	4,636.69	5,597.69	4,402.31	55.98
130-5-00-5125	STRATEGIC PLANNING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-00-5130	PRINTING & PUBLICATION	200.00	0.00	371.61	(171.61)	185.81
130-5-00-5135	NEWSLETTER	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
130-5-00-5140	RENT & LEASES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-00-5145	EQUIPMENT RENTAL	2,100.00	0.00	0.00	2,100.00	0.00
130-5-00-5148	OPERATING SUPPLIES	1,900.00	308.15	1,072.47	827.53	56.45
130-5-00-5150	REPAIR & REPLACE	52,000.00	2,236.00	63,819.02	(11,819.02)	122.73
130-5-00-5155	MAINT BLDG & GROUNDS	4,400.00	1,371.96	3,537.54	862.46	80.40
130-5-00-5170	TRAVEL & MEETINGS	1,300.00	54.15	577.74	722.26	44.44
130-5-00-5175	EDUCATION /SEMINARS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-00-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSE	500.00	32.38	155.82	344.18	31.16
130-5-00-5191	TELEPHONE	11,100.00	287.98	5,419.43	5,680.57	48.82
130-5-00-5192	ELECTRICITY	150,800.00	18,660.65	135,909.97	14,890.03	90.13
130-5-00-5195	ENV/MONITORING	7,100.00	2,564.02	13,982.24	(6,882.24)	196.93
130-5-00-5198	ANNUAL OPERATING FEES	26,700.00	985.60	24,302.85	2,397.15	91.02
130-5-00-5310	EQUIPMENT - FIELD	0.00	0.00	200.05	(200.05)	0.00
130-5-00-5311	EQUIPMENT - OFFICE	10,900.00	0.00	2,528.81	8,371.19	23.20
130-5-00-5312	TOOLS - FIELD	1,400.00	0.00	676.72	723.28	48.34
130-5-00-5315	SAFETY EQUIPMENT	0.00	425.49	1,289.61	(1,289.61)	0.00
130-5-00-5505	WATER CONSERVATION	7,600.00	700.00	3,300.00	4,300.00	43.42
130-5-00-5545	RECORDING FEES	300.00	0.00	43.00	257.00	14.33
130-5-00-5580	TRANSFERS OUT	173,000.00	0.00	0.00	173,000.00	0.00
130-5-00-5585	FLOOD CONTROL EXPENSE	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
130-5-00-5590	NON-OPERATING OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-00-5591	EXPENSES APPLICABLE TO PRI	0.00	(85.51)	(85.51)	85.51	0.00
130-5-00-5650	CAPITAL CONTINGENCY	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
TOTAL NON-DEPARTMENTAL		738,800.00	53,409.39	431,381.30	307,418.70	58.39

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-10-5010	SALARIES & WAGES	164,000.00	13,180.76	116,423.21	47,576.79	70.99
130-5-10-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	25,100.00	2,496.92	20,361.02	4,738.98	81.12
130-5-10-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFITS	30,400.00	1,950.51	21,125.17	9,274.83	69.49
130-5-10-5074	INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-10-5080	MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION	8,600.00	0.00	209.50	8,390.50	2.44
130-5-10-5090	OFFICE SUPPLIES	4,100.00	298.19	4,942.27	(842.27)	120.54
130-5-10-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	800.00	0.00	284.49	515.51	35.56
130-5-10-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	4,000.00	654.64	2,128.49	1,871.51	53.21
130-5-10-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-10-5505	WATER CONSERVATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION		237,000.00	18,581.02	165,474.15	71,525.85	69.82

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)
AS OF: MARCH 31ST, 2014

130-WATER ENTERPRISE FUND
OFFICE
EXPENDITURES

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-20-5010	SALARIES & WAGES	47,000.00	3,789.44	34,644.93	12,355.07	73.71
130-5-20-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	22,000.00	1,561.45	15,988.09	6,011.91	72.67
130-5-20-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFITS	9,400.00	778.40	6,983.05	2,416.95	74.29
130-5-20-5074	INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-20-5090	OFFICE SUPPLIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-20-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-20-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	800.00	5.25	5.25	794.75	0.66
130-5-20-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL OFFICE		79,200.00	6,134.54	57,621.32	21,578.68	72.75

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-30-5010	SALARIES & WAGES	199,800.00	11,454.73	128,419.94	71,380.06	64.27
130-5-30-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	59,300.00	3,608.63	42,770.63	16,529.37	72.13
130-5-30-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFITS	34,900.00	2,069.33	21,629.57	13,270.43	61.98
130-5-30-5080	MEMBERSHIP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-30-5090	OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,000.00	59.94	1,366.83	633.17	68.34
130-5-30-5123	OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-30-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-30-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	2,500.00	1,500.00	2,403.97	96.03	96.16
130-5-30-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-30-5310	EQUIPMENT - FIELD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FIELD		298,500.00	18,692.63	196,590.94	101,909.06	65.86

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-35-5010	SALARIES & WAGES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-35-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-35-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL METER READING		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-40-5010	DIRECTORS COMPENSATION	1,200.00	59.21	532.88	667.12	44.41
130-5-40-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFTIS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-40-5030	DIRECTOR HEALTH BENEFITS	39,700.00	2,827.44	28,739.81	10,960.19	72.39
130-5-40-5080	MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-40-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-40-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
130-5-40-5176	DIRECTOR TRAINING	1,100.00	269.28	726.44	373.56	66.04
130-5-40-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL DIRECTORS		42,000.00	3,155.93	29,999.13	12,000.87	71.43
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,395,500.00	99,973.51	881,066.84	514,433.16	63.14
REVENUES OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES		(97,300.00)	(97,351.62)	22,786.30	(120,086.30)	23.42-

*** END OF REPORT ***

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)
AS OF: MARCH 31ST, 2014

120-SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
REVENUE SUMMARY					
ALL REVENUE	1,025,200.00	131,139.23	898,436.15	126,763.85	87.64
TOTAL REVENUES	1,025,200.00	131,139.23	898,436.15	126,763.85	87.64
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY					
NON-DEPARTMENTAL	386,300.00	33,616.43	231,352.30	154,947.70	59.89
ADMINISTRATION	227,900.00	18,565.12	164,067.35	63,832.65	71.99
OFFICE	75,900.00	6,107.97	57,125.14	18,774.86	75.26
FIELD	293,900.00	21,523.34	226,820.76	67,079.24	77.18
DIRECTORS	41,200.00	2,875.88	29,175.83	12,024.17	70.82
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,025,200.00	82,688.74	708,541.38	316,658.62	69.11
REVENUES OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	0.00	48,450.49	189,894.77	(189,894.77)	0.00

	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-4020 PERMIT & INSPECTION FEES	0.00	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	0.00
120-4036 DEVELOPER SEWER FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-4045 AVAILABILITY FEES	6,000.00	(15.60)	4,752.52	1,247.48	79.21
120-4050 SALES OF RECLAIMED WATER	106,500.00	1,691.55	77,407.67	29,092.33	72.68
120-4111 COMM SEWER USE	20,500.00	1,653.43	14,880.87	5,619.13	72.59
120-4112 GOV'T SEWER USE	600.00	50.18	451.62	148.38	75.27
120-4116 SEWER USE CHARGES	867,100.00	307.85	582,176.32	284,923.68	67.14
120-4210 LATE FEE	15,500.00	29.80	10,936.96	4,563.04	70.56
120-4300 MISC INCOME	600.00	5.35	66.25	533.75	11.04
120-4310 OTHER INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-4505 LEASE INCOME	8,400.00	181.73	1,837.67	6,562.33	21.88
120-4550 INTEREST INCOME	0.00	12.79	(135.36)	135.36	0.00
120-4580 TRANSFERS IN	0.00	127,222.15	205,861.63	(205,861.63)	0.00
120-4591 INCOME APPLICABLE TO PRIOR YRS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	1,025,200.00	131,139.23	898,436.15	126,763.85	87.64

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)
AS OF: MARCH 31ST, 2014

120-SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
NON-DEPARTMENTAL
EXPENDITURES

	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-00-5010 SALARY & WAGES	0.00	1,521.29	1,512.60	(1,512.60)	0.00
120-5-00-5020 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	15,200.00	3,200.00	10,787.79	4,412.21	70.97
120-5-00-5021 RETIREMENT BENEFITS	0.00	11.26	448.96	(448.96)	0.00
120-5-00-5025 RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	5,400.00	0.00	3,697.23	1,702.77	68.47
120-5-00-5040 ELECTION EXPENSE	2,500.00	4,179.35	4,179.35	(1,679.35)	167.17
120-5-00-5050 DEPRECIATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5060 GASOLINE, OIL & FUEL	12,600.00	1,506.76	9,901.15	2,698.85	78.58
120-5-00-5061 VEHICLE MAINT	8,000.00	194.58	7,915.38	84.62	98.94
120-5-00-5062 TAXES & LIC	400.00	339.50	686.61	(286.61)	171.65
120-5-00-5074 INSURANCE	19,800.00	0.00	0.00	19,800.00	0.00
120-5-00-5075 BANK FEES	6,800.00	498.09	5,071.31	1,728.69	74.58
120-5-00-5080 MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS	5,300.00	0.00	4,583.21	716.79	86.48
120-5-00-5090 OFFICE SUPPLIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5092 POSTAGE & SHIPPING	100.00	0.00	495.30	(395.30)	495.30
120-5-00-5110 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	47,600.00	1,489.26	44,728.86	2,871.14	93.97
120-5-00-5121 LEGAL SERVICES	11,700.00	0.00	7,153.76	4,546.24	61.14
120-5-00-5122 ENGINEERING SERVICES	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	0.00
120-5-00-5123 OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	25,000.00	5,250.00	7,370.00	17,630.00	29.48
120-5-00-5125 STRATEGIC PLANNING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5130 PRINTING & PUBLICATION	200.00	0.00	371.62	(171.62)	185.81
120-5-00-5135 NEWSLETTER	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
120-5-00-5140 RENTS & LEASES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5145 EQUIPMENT RENTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5148 OPERATING SUPPLIES	12,000.00	455.58	9,750.03	2,249.97	81.25
120-5-00-5150 REPAIR & REPLACE	52,500.00	3,075.36	36,512.59	15,987.41	69.55
120-5-00-5155 MAINT BLDG & GROUNDS	5,300.00	1,356.96	3,858.22	1,441.78	72.80
120-5-00-5160 SLUDGE DISPOSAL	23,900.00	4,031.25	21,875.06	2,024.94	91.53
120-5-00-5170 TRAVEL & MEETINGS	400.00	54.15	577.74	(177.74)	144.44
120-5-00-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5176 DIRECTOR TRAINING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-00-5179 ADM MISC EXPENSE	500.00	32.38	155.85	344.15	31.17
120-5-00-5191 TELEPHONE	11,100.00	287.98	5,725.93	5,374.07	51.58
120-5-00-5192 ELECTRICITY	20,000.00	2,853.02	13,004.91	6,995.09	65.02
120-5-00-5195 ENV/MONITORING	31,000.00	2,682.47	21,214.65	9,785.35	68.43
120-5-00-5198 ANNUAL OPERATING FEES	3,400.00	0.00	1,718.00	1,682.00	50.53
120-5-00-5310 EQUIPMENT - FIELD	0.00	0.00	216.05	(216.05)	0.00
120-5-00-5311 EQUIPMENT - OFFICE	11,500.00	257.22	2,786.04	8,713.96	24.23
120-5-00-5312 TOOLS - FIELD	2,200.00	0.00	317.38	1,882.62	14.43
120-5-00-5315 SAFETY EQUIPMENT	0.00	425.48	1,708.73	(1,708.73)	0.00
120-5-00-5545 RECORDING FEES	200.00	0.00	43.00	157.00	21.50
120-5-00-5580 TRANSFERS OUT	0.00	0.00	3,070.50	(3,070.50)	0.00
120-5-00-5585 FLOOD CONTROL EXPENSE	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
120-5-00-5590 NON-OPERATING OTHER	37,500.00	0.00	0.00	37,500.00	0.00
120-5-00-5591 EXPENSES APPLICABLE TO PRI	0.00	(85.51)	(85.51)	85.51	0.00
120-5-00-5600 CONTINGENCY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL NON-DEPARTMENTAL	386,300.00	33,616.43	231,352.30	154,947.70	59.89

	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-10-5010 SALARIES & WAGES	164,000.00	13,180.81	116,423.06	47,576.94	70.99
120-5-10-5020 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	23,500.00	2,475.66	19,357.38	4,142.62	82.37
120-5-10-5021 RETIREMENT BENEFITS	30,300.00	1,950.52	21,125.22	9,174.78	69.72
120-5-10-5074 INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-10-5080 MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION	700.00	0.00	159.50	540.50	22.79
120-5-10-5090 OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,200.00	298.24	4,942.54	257.46	95.05
120-5-10-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	200.00	0.00	284.50	(84.50)	142.25
120-5-10-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	4,000.00	659.89	1,775.15	2,224.85	44.38
120-5-10-5179 ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	227,900.00	18,565.12	164,067.35	63,832.65	71.99

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)
AS OF: MARCH 31ST, 2014

120-SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
OFFICE
EXPENDITURES

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-20-5010	SALARIES & WAGES	44,800.00	3,789.40	34,536.96	10,263.04	77.09
120-5-20-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	22,000.00	1,540.17	15,626.21	6,373.79	71.03
120-5-20-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFITS	8,300.00	778.40	6,961.97	1,338.03	83.88
120-5-20-5074	INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-20-5090	OFFICE SUPPLIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-20-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-20-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	800.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00
120-5-20-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL OFFICE		75,900.00	6,107.97	57,125.14	18,774.86	75.26

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-30-5010	SALARIES & WAGES	206,000.00	15,169.92	159,785.48	46,214.52	77.57
120-5-30-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	43,600.00	3,548.21	34,942.08	8,657.92	80.14
120-5-30-5021	RETIREMENT BENEFITS	37,300.00	2,745.26	27,998.28	9,301.72	75.06
120-5-30-5074	INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5080	MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5090	OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,000.00	59.95	1,366.94	(366.94)	136.69
120-5-30-5110	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5123	OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5155	MAINT BLDG & GROUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	6,000.00	0.00	2,727.98	3,272.02	45.47
120-5-30-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-30-5310	EQUIPMENT - FIELD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FIELD		293,900.00	21,523.34	226,820.76	67,079.24	77.18

		CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-40-5010	DIRECTORS COMPENSATION	1,200.00	48.44	435.97	764.03	36.33
120-5-40-5020	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-40-5030	DIRECTOR HEALTH BENEFITS	39,700.00	2,827.44	28,739.86	10,960.14	72.39
120-5-40-5170	TRAVEL MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-40-5175	EDUCATION / SEMINARS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
120-5-40-5176	DIRECTOR TRAINING	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
120-5-40-5179	ADM MISC EXPENSES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL DIRECTORS		41,200.00	2,875.88	29,175.83	12,024.17	70.82
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,025,200.00	82,688.74	708,541.38	316,658.62	69.11
REVENUES OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES		0.00	48,450.49	189,894.77	(189,894.77)	0.00

*** END OF REPORT ***

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE CSD
TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS

	Fund	LAIF Reconciliation 3/31/2014	Money Mkt 3/31/2014	CD 90 days	CD 6 month	Total	G/L Bal 3/31/2014
120	Sewer Operating Fund	(32,796.30)	120,500.60	-		87,704.30	87,704.30
130	Water Operating Fund	222,259.95	(49,724.79)	100,041.66		272,576.82	272,576.82
215	1995-2 Redemption	138,093.82	143,204.33			623,917.51	623,917.51
215	1995-2 Special Redemption	313,351.72	29,267.64				
216	1995-3 Redemption	208,424.93	19,754.27			236,405.45	236,405.45
216	1995-3 Special Redemption	3,065.92	5,160.33				
217	State Revolving Loan Sewer	666,418.42	300,814.46			967,232.88	967,232.88
218	CIEDB Redemption	(122,923.98)	(132,663.49)			(255,587.47)	(255,587.47)
219	USDARUS Solar Loan (Sewer)		30,855.68			30,855.68	30,855.68
313	Wastewater Cap Fac Reserved	430,805.99	18,678.74			449,484.73	449,484.73
314	Wastewater Cap Fac Unrestricted	58,470.24	3,231.80		126,512.23	188,214.27	188,214.27
320	Water Capital Fund	92.28	15,305.09			15,397.37	15,397.37
350	CIEDB Loan Reserve	191,093.19	-			191,093.19	191,093.19
375	Sewer Reserve Improvement	(186.26)	21.14			(165.12)	(165.12)
711	Bond Administration	26,947.73	14,394.58			41,342.31	41,342.31
712	Delinquent Bond Assment	94,659.00	40,697.57			135,356.57	135,356.57
	TOTAL	2,197,776.65	559,497.95	100,041.66	126,512.23	2,983,828.49	2,983,828.49
	LAIF/MMKT STATEMENT 03/31/2014	2,197,776.65	559,497.95	100,041.66	126,512.23	2,983,828.49	
	G/L TOTAL 03/31/2014	-	-	-	-	2,983,828.49	2,983,828.49
						-	

RECAP	
LAIF	2,197,776.65
MMkt	559,497.95
CD	100,041.66
CD	126,512.23
TOTAL	2,983,828.49

ACTION OF
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DATE: April 15, 2014
AGENDA ITEM: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Resolution 2014-5 authorizing revisions to Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee title, purpose statement, and scope of activities

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adopt Resolution 2014-5 (copy attached) authorizing revisions to Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee title, purpose statement, and scope of activities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

BACKGROUND:

The Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee (Committee) was formed in response to "911" and the events that followed shortly thereafter. Since then the primary focus of the Committee has shifted from threats of terrorism to emergency preparedness in general. In recognition of the shift toward emergency preparedness as opposed to terrorism, the Committee is recommending a name change: from "Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee" to "Emergency Preparedness Committee" and a recasting of the committee's purpose statement and scope of activities (see attached copies of current and proposed purpose statements).

☐ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER (SEE BELOW)

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

I, _____, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE)by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent

_____
Secretary to the Board

RESOLUTION 2014- 5

RESOLUTION OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING REVISIONS TO SECURITY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM COMMITTEE TITLE, PURPOSE STATEMENT, AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, the Board's Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee (Committee) was formed in response to the nationally significant events that occurred on September 11, 2001 (9/11) and shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, disaster preparedness, the security of District property, and the safety of District personnel are among the District's top priorities; and

WHEREAS, in recent years the primary focus of the Committee has shifted from threats of terrorism to emergency preparedness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District Board of Directors, in recognition of the shift toward emergency preparedness as opposed to threats of terrorism, approves the change in committee title – from Security and Disaster Preparedness Committee, to Emergency Preparedness Committee – and the revised purpose statement and scope of committee activities set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on April 15, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

_____
Judy Mirbegian
President of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:

_____
Roland Sanford
Secretary to the Board of Directors

Exhibit A

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Purpose

To assist the Board and staff with implementation of the District's Emergency Preparedness Program and security of District property/assets.

Scope of Activities

The Emergency Preparedness and Security Committee (Committee) will periodically – at least annually – review the District's Emergency Preparedness Program and security measures taken to protect District personnel and property/assets, and make recommendations to the Board regarding possible enhancements or deficiencies. The Committee may, at the discretion of the Board, appoint a Committee member to serve as liaison with Lake County Office of Emergency Services and other emergency services organizations.

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
SECURITY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM COMMITTEE
POLICY TO REVIEW VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT, EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN AND DISTRICT'S FACILITIES ANNUALLY

The Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee will review the Vulnerability Assessment Plan, Emergency Response Plan and tour the District's facilities annually in January of each year.

Approved by the Board in 2003

ACTION OF
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DATE: April 15, 2014
AGENDA ITEM: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Resolution 2014-6 authorizing adoption of Emergency Preparedness Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve Resolution 2014-6 authorizing the adoption of proposed Emergency Preparedness Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to various State and Federal mandates, the District is required to prepare and periodically update a number of emergency/disaster response plans, some highly focused, others more general in scope and content. Although often emanating from unrelated mandates, there is commonality in their content and subject matter, and for that reason, a desire by staff and the Security and Disaster Preparedness Program Committee to organize the various District emergency/disaster response plans under an umbrella program – the proposed Emergency Preparedness Policy (copy attached). The proposed Emergency Preparedness Policy is based – almost verbatim - from a CSDA (California Special District Association) Emergency Preparedness Policy template (copy attached).

☐ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER (SEE BELOW)

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

I, _____, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE)by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent

_____
Secretary to the Board

RESOLUTION 2014- 6

RESOLUTION OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POLICY

WHEREAS, disaster preparedness, the security of District property, and the safety of District personnel are among the District's top priorities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to various State and Federal mandates, the District is required to prepare and periodically update a number of emergency/disaster response plans, some highly focused, others more general in scope and content; and

WHEREAS, many of the District's emergency/disaster response plans are interrelated by virtue of the geographic area, District facilities, and/or District personnel they address; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to organize and integrate the various emergency/disaster response plans under an umbrella program to be called the Emergency Preparedness Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District Board of Directors adopts the Emergency Preparedness Policy set forth in Exhibit A and attached hereto, authorizing creation of the District Emergency Preparedness Program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on April 15, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

_____
Judy Mirbegian
President of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:

_____
Roland Sanford
Secretary to the Board of Directors

EXHIBIT A

Hidden Valley Lake
Community Services District

Emergency Preparedness Policy

Policy: It is the policy of Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District (District) to create and maintain an active emergency preparedness program that includes an emergency plan that will help manage the District's critical functions during any emergency and protect the safety of staff. The District will coordinate the emergency plan, function and response with those responders from the public and private entities and organizations charged with emergency duties.

Emergency: Emergency means the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the provision of critical District functions and the health and safety of staff or the public, caused by such conditions as fire, severe storm, riot, hazardous materials releases, earthquake, power outages, dam failures, freezes, water supply contamination, and other conditions which may be beyond the capability of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of this District, and may require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to help respond.

Emergency Preparedness: The District will initiate the establishment of an Emergency Preparedness Program, which consists of the nationally-recognized four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness/planning, response, and recovery. District actions will include developing and maintaining an District-wide emergency plan, identifying and training District staff to activate and use the plan, appointing District staff to critical positions identified in the emergency plan, and appointing staff to represent the District in negotiations or consultations with public and private agencies on matters pertaining to response to the emergency and recovery of damaged systems and financial costs incurred during the emergency.

National Incident Management System: The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a consistent nationwide template to enable Federal, State, local governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity. To ensure reimbursement for claims filed after a disaster, the District's emergency plans, procedures, and training will follow applicable NIMS regulations and protocols.

District Emergency Declaration: When an emergency condition arises, the General Manager may, in consultation with the Board President, declare a "District Emergency." The Board must ratify the declaration within 14 days at a regular, special or emergency Board meeting.

Authorization During District Emergencies: The General Manager's Declaration of a District Emergency is a public acknowledgement of the serious situation the District faces, and that the District's resources may not be adequate to respond to the emergency. The Board of Directors, in consultation with the General Manager, may delegate to the General Manager the authority to suspend competitive bidding and enter into emergency contracts of up to $250,000, as authorized by Public Contract Code §20567 and §22050.

Mutual Aid: The California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (Government Code §8561, §8615, and §8617) allows for the implementation of mutual aid during threatened, actual, or declared emergencies. The General Manager, in accordance with the Emergency Plan, may request mutual aid assistance from other local government and public agencies, or commit District resources to

other agencies requesting aid. The General Manager may sign appropriate documents to effectuate mutual aid and other emergency response agreements.

Continuity of Management: The District's emergency plan will list at least two successors to critical staff identified in the plan, including the General Manager. In the event the primary person is unable to respond to an emergency, each successor, in order, may assume all the duties and powers of the primary staff.

Status Reports: The General Manager will provide annual reports to the Board of Directors on the progress of the Emergency Preparedness Program. Additional reports will be given to the Board on the effectiveness of the plan and District response within 60 days of the occurrence of a declared District Emergency.

California Special Districts Association

SAMPLE POLICY HANDBOOK

POLICY TITLE: Emergency Preparedness
POLICY NUMBER: 3005

3005.1 It is the policy of [*NAME OF DISTRICT*]to create and maintain an active emergency preparedness program that includes an emergency plan that will help manage the District's critical functions during any emergency and protect the safety of staff. The District will coordinate the emergency plan, function and response with those responders from the public and private entities and organizations charged with emergency duties.

3005.2 Emergency: Emergency means the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the provision of critical District functions and the health and safety of staff or the public, caused by such conditions as fire, severe storm, riot, hazardous materials releases, earthquake, power outages, dam failures, freezes, water supply contamination, and other conditions which may be beyond the capability of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of this District, and may require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to help respond.

3005.3 Emergency Preparedness: The Board of Directors authorizes the establishment of an Emergency Preparedness Program, which consists of the nationally-recognized four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness/planning, response, and recovery. District actions will include developing and maintaining an District-wide emergency plan, identifying and training District staff to activate and use the plan, appointing District staff to critical positions identified in the emergency plan, and appointing staff to represent the District in negotiations or consultations with public and private agencies on matters pertaining to response to the emergency and recovery of damaged systems and financial costs incurred during the emergency.

3005.4 Standardized Emergency Management System: The California Office of Emergency Services regulates the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), which was created by Government Code §8607 following the East Bay Hills Firestorm in 1991. To ensure reimbursement for claims filed after a disaster, all District emergency plans, procedures, and training will follow the SEMS regulations, and coordinate with the District-wide emergency plan.

3005.5 District Emergency Declaration: When an emergency condition arises, the General Manager may, in consultation with the Board President, declare a "District Emergency." The Board must ratify the declaration within 14 days at a regular, special or emergency Board meeting.

3005.6 Authorization During District Emergencies: The General Manager's Declaration of a District Emergency is a public acknowledgement of the serious situation the District faces, and that the District's

resources may not be adequate to respond to the emergency. The Board of Directors, in consultation with the General Manager, may delegate to the General Manager the authority to suspend competitive bidding and enter into emergency contracts of up to $250,000, as authorized by Public Contract Code §20567 and §22050.

3005.7 Mutual Aid: The California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (Government Code §8561, §8615, and §8617) allows for the implementation of mutual aid during threatened, actual, or declared emergencies. The General Manager, in accordance with the Emergency Plan, may request mutual aid assistance from other local government and public agencies, or commit District resources to other agencies requesting aid. The General Manager may sign appropriate documents to effectuate mutual aid and other emergency response agreements.

3005.8 Continuity of Management: The District's emergency plan will list at least two successors to critical staff identified in the plan, including the General Manager. In the event the primary person is unable to respond to an emergency, each successor, in order, may assume all the duties and powers of the primary staff.

3005.9 Status Reports: The General Manager will provide annual reports to the Board of Directors on the progress of the Emergency Preparedness Program. Additional reports will be given to the Board on the effectiveness of the plan and District response within 60 days of the occurrence of a declared District Emergency.

ACTION OF
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DATE: April 15, 2014
AGENDA ITEM: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Mission Statement

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Discuss possible revisions to existing mission statement and provide direction to staff.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

BACKGROUND:

On November 19, 2013 the Board adopted the following mission statement:

> *"To effectively and innovatively manage the natural resources with which we have been entrusted; to provide reliable, safe, high-quality water and wastewater services in an economically and environmentally responsible manner"*

Director Freeman, inspired in part by recent articles pertaining to the development of mission statements, is requesting the Board revisit and consider possible revisions to the existing mission statement.

☐ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER (SEE BELOW)

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

I, _____, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE)by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent

_____
Secretary to the Board

ACTION OF
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

DATE: April 15, 2014
AGENDA ITEM: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Participation in Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Hear General Manager's report and provide direction to staff.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

BACKGROUND:

The District is located within the geographic planning area, but to date has not participated in the development and implementation of the Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Westside Sac IRWM). Staff believes participation in the Westside Sac IRWM could benefit the District and notes that the Westside Sac IRWM is currently accepting project proposals for possible inclusion in any proposal submitted by the Westside Sac IRWM to the State, as a part of the forthcoming 2014 Drought Funding, and 2015 IRWMP Funding Solicitations. Staff recommends the District consider joining the Westside Sac IRWM. Background information - the current Westside Sac IRWMP Executive Summary, and the March 26, 2014 Call for Projects – is attached. Additional information can be obtained at www.westsideirwm.com.

☐ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER (SEE BELOW)

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

I, _____, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE)by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent

_____
Secretary to the Board

Executive Summary

This *Integrated Regional Water Management Plan* (IRWM Plan) defines a clear vision for the management of water resources in the Westside Sacramento Region (Region) and highlights important actions needed to help accomplish that vision through the year 2035. This Westside IRWM Plan complies with the *Integrated Regional Water Management Guidelines for Proposition 84 and 1E* published by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in November 2012. Financial assistance from DWR and contributions from the Regional Water Management Group funded the development of this Plan.

Proposition 84 identified watershed-based funding areas throughout the state, with the Westside Region being a part of the Sacramento River Funding Area. Each Funding Area is allocated, based on population, a portion of the $1 billion approved by the voters under Proposition 84 in 2006. Predecessor bonds, including Propositions 13 and 50, also provided incentives for development of IRWM Plans. DWR designed the IRWM planning process to be consistent with the *California Water Plan*, a statewide water resources planning document updated periodically, and DWR intends that IRWM Plans and future updates of the *California Water Plan* be integrated further in the future.

ES.1 Introduction (Section 1)

The information contained within this IRWM Plan provides an opportunity for more than 70 water supply, land use management, flood management, and ecosystem-focused organizations operating within the Region to accomplish more than they could accomplish individually. The array of goals, objectives, selected resource management strategies, and high-priority projects represent a collective view of how to improve integrated water management throughout the Region. The Plan establishes a clear path forward both to increase the collective understanding of integrated water management throughout the Region and to respond collaboratively to the challenges of managing water and associated natural resources. If this integrated planning effort has been successful, this IRWM Plan will be a dynamic and useful planning tool for the Region. While it does not provide discretionary approval for any given project, it does provide a framework to improve understanding and take high-priority actions to address the major water-related challenges and opportunities facing the Region through 2035.

To represent the Region, four agencies and an association of agencies formed the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) through a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU). The RWMG includes Lake County Watershed Protection District (WPD), Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (FC&WCD), Colusa County Resource Conservation District (RCD), Solano County Water Agency (SCWA), and Water Resource Association (WRA) of Yolo County. The Westside RWMG satisfies the requirements of such an entity per the California Water Code (CWC) Section 10539. The participating agencies and association joined together to develop this IRWM Plan that:

- Foster[s] coordination, collaboration, and communication among entities responsible for water-related issues and interested stakeholders to achieve greater efficiencies, provide for integration of projects, enhance public services, and build public support for vital projects; and
- Facilitates regional cooperation in providing water-supply reliability, water recycling, water conservation, water-quality improvement, stormwater capture and management, flood management, wetlands enhancement and creation, and environmental and habitat protection and improvements, and other elements…

The RWMG appointed a Regional Coordinating Committee (CC) to guide development of and support implementation of the Plan. The CC consists of one staff representative and an alternate appointed from each of the agencies and association that make up the RWMG.

The collective vision presented in this Plan aims to address the major challenges and opportunities related to managing water and associated natural resources within the Region. The numerous and complex challenges and opportunities addressed in this Plan are captured in the following primary focal points:

- Continue to provide safe and reliable water supplies for a variety of uses.

- Improve habitat and ecosystem health (including the monumental challenge of addressing effects caused by numerous invasive species).
- Manage a wide array of risks including public health, fire, flood, and potential disruptions to institutional services.
- Sustain and modernize water supply, water quality, and flood management infrastructure.
- Address many significant and long-standing water quality concerns.
- Foster the reasonable use of water and associated natural resources within the Region through the adoption of evolving technologies and best management practices.
- Further the collective understanding of watershed functions and groundwater basins.
- Improve education and awareness among citizens about the importance of sustainable water and natural resources management, and the crucial roles citizens play.
- Improve opportunities for water-based recreation.

ES.2 The Westside Region (Section 2)

The Westside Region is vast and encompasses approximately 3,000 square miles, from the Coastal mountain range in the west to the Sacramento River and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta on the south and east. The Region includes all of Yolo County and portions of Lake, Napa, Solano, and Colusa Counties that are within the Cache Creek and Putah Creek watersheds. Major communities within the Region include the cities of Clearlake, Davis, UC Davis, Dixon, Lakeport, Rio Vista, Vacaville, West Sacramento, and Woodland. The Westside Region includes the two principal watersheds of Putah and Cache Creeks and other areas of land in the northern portion of Yolo and Solano Counties, as shown on Figure ES-1 on the following page. Figure ES-1 also shows the 3 Planning Areas delineated for the purposes of technical analysis which include the Upper Cache Creek, Upper Putah Creek and Valley Floor Planning Areas. This Region includes areas that share many common water supply sources and groundwater basin interconnections including the following features:

- Surface water bodies: Clear Lake, Lake Berryessa, and Indian Valley Reservoir; and
- Major water-related infrastructure: Monticello Dam, Indian Valley Dam, Cache Creek Dam, and Capay Diversion Dam.

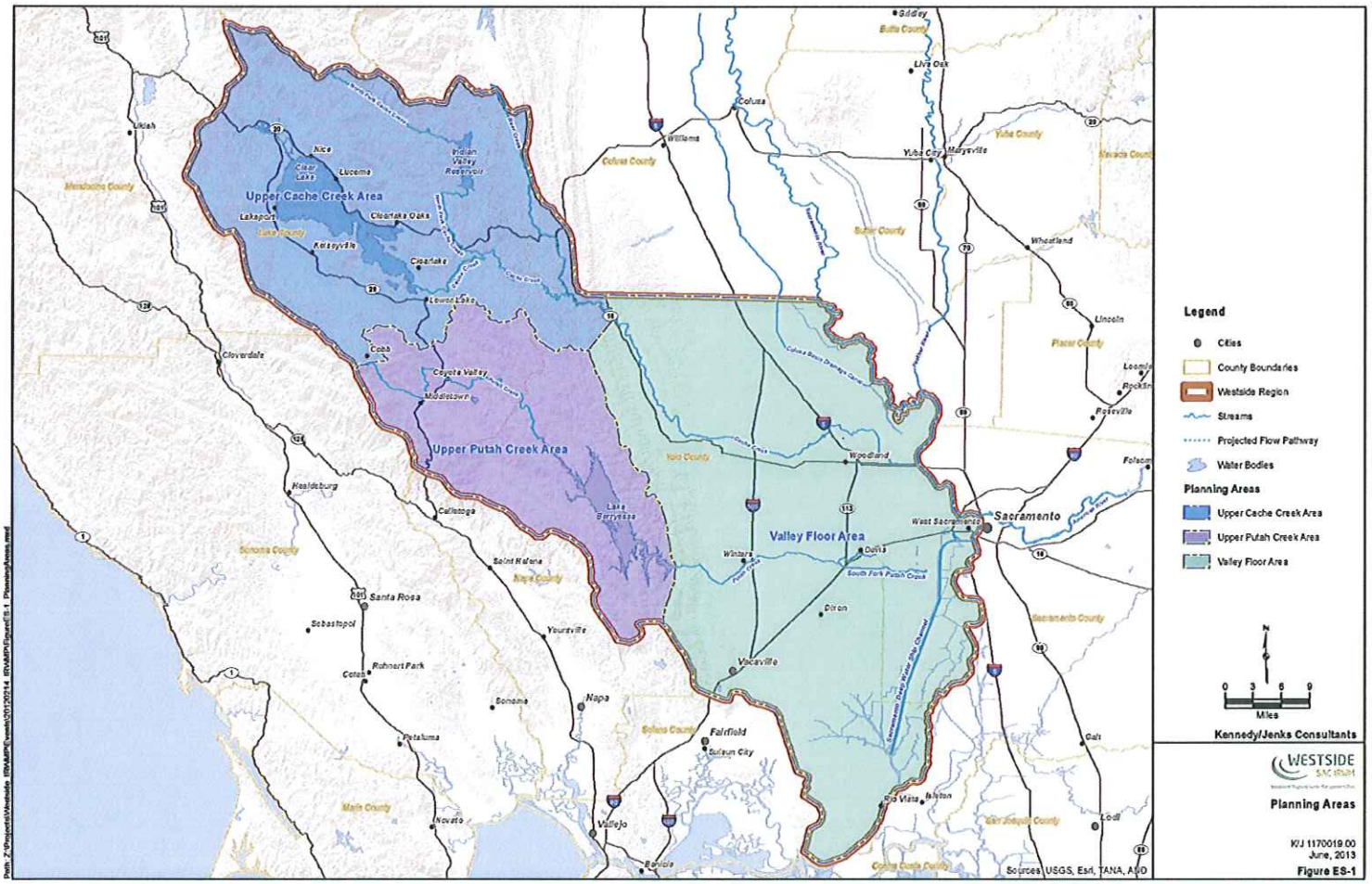
The lakes, creeks, wetlands, sloughs, Delta, and other water features of the Region provide key habitat for many of California's most important fish and wildlife species. The Region encompasses the service areas (or partial service areas) of multiple local agencies, including more than 90 entities with water and related resource management responsibilities.

Approximately 390,000 people live within the Region today, with the majority of the Upper Cache and portions of the Valley Floor Planning Area meeting the definition of a disadvantaged community (DAC). Much of the valley area lands support significant agricultural activities. Even so, the vast majority of the land within the Region remains undeveloped. The communities throughout the Region value preservation of these open spaces and agricultural lands. In addition, many residents both inside and outside the Region demonstrate interest in restoring elements of the Region's historical environmental function.

ES.3 Existing and Future Conditions (Section 3)

Section 3 provides an overview of the existing and expected future conditions for the Region that are relevant to creating an IRWM Plan. The description includes information about key water management infrastructure (both constructed and naturally occurring), summarizes and presents important data, introduces some of the major challenges, and offers observations about the current water management system based on available data. The information is organized and presented as it relates to the topics of water quantity, water quality, flood protection, environmental resources, and the potential affects from climate change.

A region the size of Westside Sacramento is extremely complex and the operational aspects of managing water and the associated infrastructure and other resources within the Region require extensive knowledge of many important details. The amount of data and information related to water management that one could consider across the Region can be overwhelming. In keeping with the

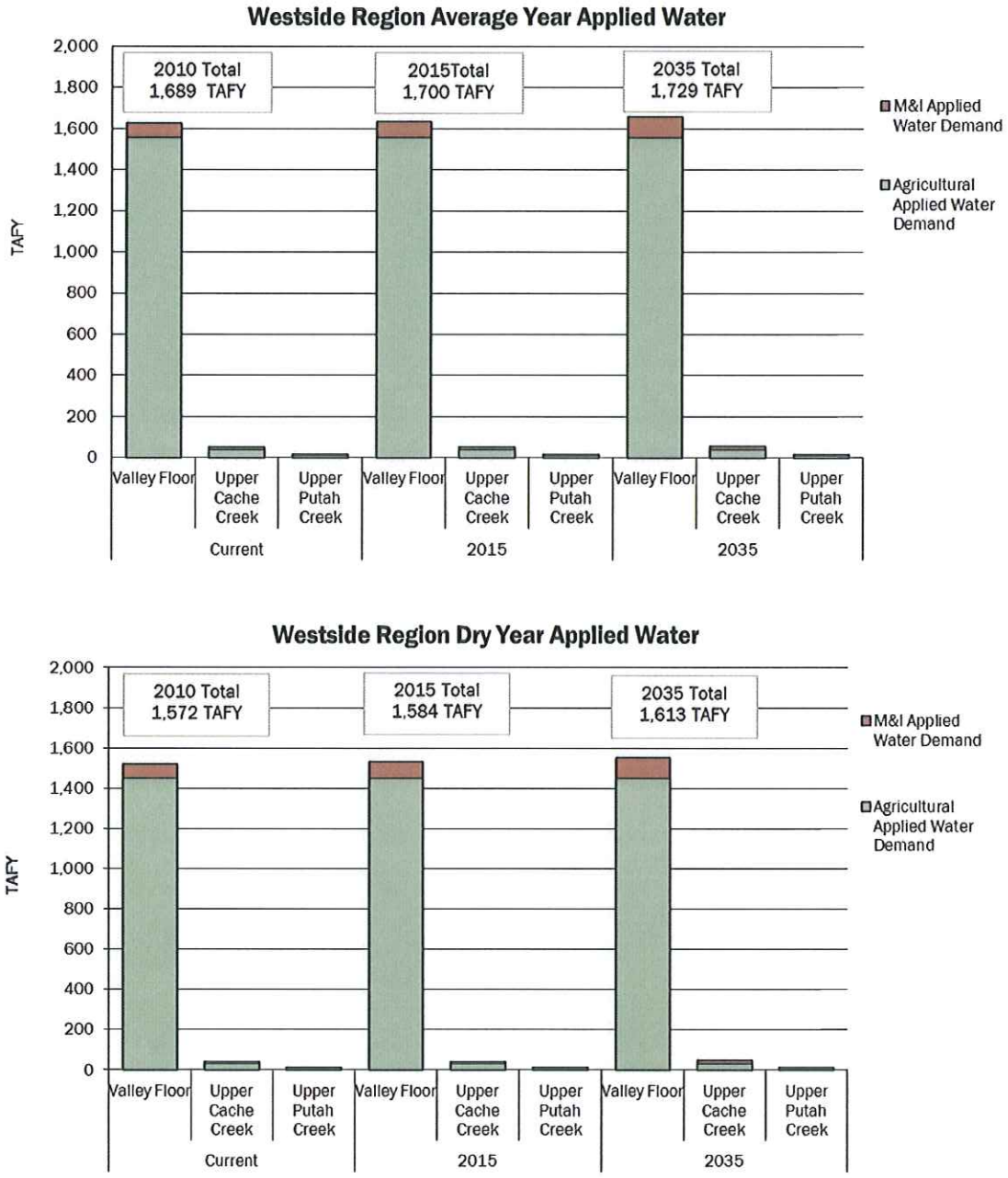

Upper Cache Creek Area
Upper Putah Creek Area
Valley Floor Area
Legend
Cities
County Boundaries
Westside Region
Streams
Projected Flow Pathway
Water Bodies
Planning Areas
Upper Cache Creek Area
Upper Putah Creek Area
Valley Floor Area
0 3 6 9
Miles
Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
WESTSIDE SACRAMENTO
Planning Areas
K/J 1170019.00
June, 2013
Figure ES-1
Sources: USGS, Esri, TANA, ASD

goals for the IRWM planning process, strategic information is presented in this section in a synthesized way designed to help promote understanding and support decision makers and stakeholders to work together more effectively in ways that benefit the Region as a whole.

Some key points specific to the Westside Region presented in Section 3 include:

- As shown on Figure ES-2, the region uses about 1.5 million acre-feet per year (AFY) of water in an average year and about 1.7 million AFY in a dry year. Agriculture is estimated to use about 94 percent of the water in the Region on an average annual basis with 96 percent of all water used in the Region occurring in the Valley Floor Planning Area.

Figure ES-2: Current and Future Water Demands



- Surface water accounts for approximately 66 percent of the water used in an average year in the Region. Much of the Region also has access to groundwater allowing conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater sources for increased reliability and resilience to drought and climate change. However, those areas reliant on a single source of supply are at risk for shortages.
- Key water quality concerns center around mercury and nutrients in Clear Lake; total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) have been developed for these constituents for several water bodies including Clear Lake, Cache Creek, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Groundwater quality concerns include arsenic, boron, chromium, iron, manganese, and selenium.
- Several locations within the Region are susceptible to flood, namely the area of Clear Lake and the areas adjacent to the Sacramento River in the Valley Floor Planning Area.
- The proximity of the Westside Region to the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta) necessitates consideration of the myriad environmental, water quality, and flow concerns associated with Delta restoration. In addition, restoration of the Clear Lake hitch, a native fish unique to Clear Lake and management of invasive species are other significant concerns.

ES.4 Water and Land Use Planning (Section 4)

Water management and land use are inherently linked in that the activities and processes that occur on the land directly affect the use and movement of water within a watershed. These linkages between land use and the hydrologic cycle, and similarly between water management and the ability to support particular land uses, are important to consider when making decisions about either land or water. DWR recognizes these linkages and requires that IRWM Plans describe the relationships and interactions between regional planning efforts fostered by the Regional Water Management Group and local water planning and local land use planning. Section 4 describes how land use planning and decision making are coordinated with water management planning and implementation within the Region and highlights opportunities for improved coordination particularly in the areas of improved collaboration with federal and state land management agencies and flood management.

ES.5 Challenges and Opportunities (Section 5)

A region the size of Westside Sacramento is extremely complex and challenging. Managing the operational aspects of water and the associated infrastructure and other resources within the Region requires extensive knowledge of many important details, and presents several water-related challenges and opportunities. These challenges and opportunities were identified through multiple conversations with resource managers and other stakeholders and were informed by the information presented in Sections 2 - 4 of this Plan. The term "challenges and opportunities" is used to mean the water-related items of interest or concern within the Region. The challenges and opportunities identified include:

Improve Education and Awareness

Raising citizens' awareness of their role in sustaining the Region's water and natural resources will be vital. Many individuals and organizations throughout the Region who are interested in water resources management are already engaged in efforts that support the work of water management entities; however, this is not enough to satisfy the objectives in this IRWM Plan. Fulfilling the vision for integrated water management presented in this Plan will require more education for and broader participation of residents within the Region.

Putah Creek Clean Up, Lake Berryessa

Improve Habitat and Ecosystem Health

The Region contains habitats for a broad range of terrestrial and aquatic, state and federally recognized special-status species. In particular, aquatic species specific to the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and vernal pools, such as Delta smelt, vernal pool fairy shrimp, and steelhead, have led to ongoing preparation of habitat conservation plans by several counties in the Region as well as the California Natural Resource Agency's Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

In addition, a number of aquatic/riparian invasive plants and animal species either already occur or pose a significant threat to the Region. Invasive animal species occurring in the Region include New Zealand mud snails (currently confined to Putah Creek). Dreissenid mussels, such as quagga and zebra mussels, have not yet been found in the Region. However, because of their presence in nearby watersheds, the threat of infestation is real and the potential consequences daunting. Regional resource management agencies have already initiated activities to prevent the introduction of these mussels to the Region, but more must be done. Several invasive plant species, including Arundo donax (giant reed), water hyacinth, Eurasian milfoil, and ravenna grass, already cause significant negative impacts in the Region.

Provide Safe and Reliable Water Supplies

Water is used within the Region predominantly for agricultural irrigation. Municipal and industrial (M&I) use is small relative to agricultural use but vital, because it supports a number of local communities. Although some population growth is expected throughout the Region between now and 2035, agriculture is expected to remain the dominant water use into the foreseeable future.

Existing water supplies within the Region are generally sufficient to fulfill the current M&I and agricultural demands during an average water year. However, in dry years, decreased surface water availability could create negative effects for agricultural and municipal users alike. In years with decreased surface water supply, many agricultural users convert to more expensive groundwater or fallow their land for that year. Some municipal suppliers could experience occasional short-term shortages and might be required to use alternative supplies under the driest of expected conditions. This IRWM Plan includes objectives and numerous strategies to maintain or increase the reliability of water supplies for agricultural and municipal users within the Region.

Many water users rely on conjunctive water management (meaning the strategic and coordinated use of a variety of surface and groundwater sources), which will be essential to the sustainability of a reliable water supply in the future. The water-supply portfolio for the Region is diverse and includes the following primary sources: Lake Berryessa supplied by Upper Putah Creek; Clear Lake and Indian Valley Reservoir in Upper Cache Creek; State Water Project (SWP); Central Valley Project (CVP); Sacramento River; and multiple groundwater aquifers.

Groundwater supplies have been relatively stable, especially in the eastern portion of the Region, since historical groundwater overdraft was corrected with the construction of Monticello Dam on Upper Putah Creek and Indian Valley Dam on the North Fork of Cache Creek. These dams created Lake Berryessa and Indian Valley Reservoir, respectively, which substantially increased conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater throughout Yolo and Solano Counties. Some areas that still rely solely on groundwater occasionally experience the effects of periodic overdraft and subsidence, both of which may occur after multiple years of drought conditions. An improved understanding of the interconnections between the watersheds and groundwater basins of the Region may lead to additional conjunctive water management opportunities on a regional level.

Groundwater Monitoring

Sustain and Modernize Infrastructure

The water management system within the Region includes a wide array of infrastructure, such as dams, canals, distribution systems, treatment systems, groundwater wells and pumps, and levees. As the infrastructure ages, the risks of disruption or damage

increase. Maintaining, modernizing, and improving this extensive infrastructure to continue to provide the expected level of service will require significant investment and effort over the next 20 years.

Foster Reasonable Use

The growing number of water-related conflicts within California, in particular related to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, increase expectations to foster the reasonable use of water and promote environmental and natural resource stewardship within all regions of California. This IRWM Plan addresses opportunities to increase the wise use of water within the Region and explores ways to reduce negative impacts related to human water use and waterway management.

Manage Risks

Citizens within the Region face a number of other water-related risks that must be managed, including public health hazards associated with water quality and water-borne pathogens; flood hazards; fires; and other potential disruptions to water supply availability. Flood hazards pose a significant challenge for certain areas within the Region, specifically the tributaries to and lakefront areas of Clear Lake, as well as the floodplains of the Sacramento River.

Further Collective Understanding of Watersheds and Aquifers

As human activities related to water resources in the Region and demands on these resources continue to increase, a more robust understanding of the functions of the watersheds and groundwater basins becomes more crucial. This IRWM Plan summarizes much of what is known about the natural and constructed water management systems within the Region and identifies areas where additional investments to improve understanding are important.

Address Water Quality Concerns

The protection and improvement of water quality is essential to both human health and aquatic ecosystem function. Surface water quality within the Region can affect the cost of providing safe drinking water, and it directly impacts ecosystem function. Issues such as mercury contamination, cyanobacteria management, long-term groundwater quality degradation, and other surface water quality concerns are addressed in this IRWM Plan. Groundwater quality varies throughout the Region and among different aquifer formations. Groundwater quality can affect managers' ability to meet wastewater discharge requirements in the future. Some agencies that currently rely on groundwater for drinking water supplies are working to develop surface water supplies to help address these concerns.

Improve Opportunities for Recreation

Finally, the lakes and streams in the Region support an array of water-based recreation including fishing, swimming, water skiing, sailing, boating, jet skiing, and white-water sports. These recreational opportunities are enjoyed by both residents of and visitors to the Region. Protecting the Region's waterways to maintain and improve recreational opportunities is important to the quality of life for residents and the economic vitality of the Region.

ES.6 Goals and Objectives (Section 6)

The goals and objectives presented in this section represent the foundational intent of this IRWM Plan. Formulating meaningful and relevant goals and objectives for the Westside Sacramento Region required more collaboration and collective interaction than any other topic of this Plan. Section 6 presents the goals and objectives and describes how they were developed. Within this Plan, the term "goal" is used to mean a desired outcome or result for which effort will be made to accomplish it. In contrast, the term "objective" is used to mean a specific and tangible outcome that is intended to be achieved by or during a designated time.

The plan goals are listed alphabetically below:

1. Acknowledge and respect the cultural values and resources of the Region.
2. Improve education and awareness throughout the Region about water, watershed functions, and ecosystems and the need for sustainable resource management to protect community health and well-being.
3. Improve the collective understanding of watershed characteristics and functions (natural and human-induced) within the Region as needed to respond effectively to evolving water resources management challenges and opportunities (e.g., climate change).

4. Improve the form and function of degraded natural channels.
5. Improve water-related public health across the Region and emphasize improvements for populations most in need.
6. Preserve and enhance water-related recreational opportunities.
7. Preserve, improve, and manage water quality to meet designated beneficial uses for all water bodies within the Region.
8. Promote reasonable use of water and watershed resources.
9. Protect and enhance habitat and biological diversity of native and migratory species.
10. Provide reliable water supplies of suitable quality for multiple beneficial uses (e.g., urban, agriculture, environmental, and recreation) within the region.
11. Reduce the risks of disruptive natural and human-caused disturbances affecting the region's water resources, including flooding, fire, and significant institutional interruptions that reduce resources management services.
12. Support improved regional water management through governance throughout the Region that uses science and collaboration to make fair and equitable decisions and investments.
13. Support sustainable economic activities consistent with local and state government planning efforts within the region.

The following table ES-1 presents the Plan Objectives. Each objective was prioritized by assigning it an "importance" and "urgency" priority and linked to one or more of the goals as shown. Section 6 provides a description of the quantitative and/or qualitative measurements that will be used to track completion of the objectives.

Table ES-1: Summary of Objectives

	Summary of Objective	Importance*	Urgency**	Plan Goals
Education and Awareness Focus				
1	Provide and promote use of educational curricula for K-12 students designed to increase awareness of watershed and resource stewardship and how individual stewardship relates to community health and well-being, for K-12 students from July 2013 through the planning period.	Medium	Low	2, 3, 8, 12
2	Provide educational information for the adult population designed to increase awareness of watershed and resource stewardship and how individual stewardship relates to community health and well-being within the Region, from July 2013 through the planning period.	Medium	Low	2, 3, 8, 12
Habitat Focus				
3	Restore native vegetation and form and function along riparian corridors, canals, and other aquatic sites throughout the Region through 2035 to provide stream shading, habitat enhancement, and increased biological diversity.	Medium	Medium	1, 4, 6, 9
4	Quantify the extent of suitable life-cycle habitat currently accessible to Threatened/Endangered/Imperiled (T/E/I) native fish within the Region by December 31, 2014.	High	Medium	3, 6, 9, 12
5	Prioritize, plan, and schedule improvements in suitable life-cycle habitat accessible to T/E/I native fish within the Region by December 31, 2015.	High	Medium	3, 6, 9, 12

	Summary of Objective	Importance*	Urgency**	Plan Goals
6	Increase availability of suitable life-cycle habitat for T/E/I native fish identified by Objective 5.	High	Medium	4, 6, 9
7	Prevent colonization of any regional water body by quagga mussels or zebra mussels and eliminate or prevent the spread of New Zealand mud snails from Putah Creek during the planning period.	High	High	6, 9, 10, 13
8	Establish an invasive plant management plan (including specific and measurable targeted outcomes for species of concern and a schedule to accomplish target outcomes) for the entire Region by December 31, 2015.	High	High	3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12
9	Implement programs and projects to meet the outcomes defined in the invasive plant management plan developed through Objective 8 (according to the schedule provided in that plan).	Medium	Medium	4, 6, 9, 11
Infrastructure Focus				
10	Create an asset management plan for key water management infrastructure within the Region consistent with the guidance provided in the International Infrastructure Management Manual, by December 31, 2015.	Medium	Low	2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13
Reasonable Use Focus				
11	Meet 20% by 2020 statewide water conservation targets by December 31, 2020.	Medium	Medium	8, 10, 13
12	Increase adoption of locally cost-effective agricultural BMPs throughout the planning period.	Medium	Medium	4, 7, 8, 10, 13
Recreation Focus				
13	Maintain and increase water-related recreational opportunities within the Region throughout the planning period.	Medium	Low	6, 13
Risk Management Focus				
14	Provide adequate flood protection for all urban and rural areas within the region by December 31, 2050.	High	Medium	4, 5, 11, 13
15	Manage watershed activities and conditions to reduce the risk of large erosion events that could increase undesirable sediment loading to water bodies throughout the planning period.	Medium	Medium	4, 6, 7, 8, 11
Understand Watershed Function Focus				
16	Monitor planning of state and federal water-related projects and programs in the Delta and estimate potential local impacts throughout the planning period.	Medium	High	3, 12
17	Monitor conditions and improve understanding to support sustainable use of groundwater basins within the Region as an important part of water supply throughout the planning period.	High	Low	3, 7, 10, 12, 13

	Summary of Objective	Importance*	Urgency**	Plan Goals
18	Maintain and enhance monitoring network and information sharing to support management of watersheds and natural resources within the Region throughout the planning period.	High	Medium	2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13
Water Quality Focus				
19	Address pollutant sources to meet runoff standards and satisfy targets as described in specific TMDLs within the Region throughout the planning period.	High	Medium	5, 6, 7, 9
20	Minimize accidental spillage/discharges of wastewater to receiving waters throughout the planning period.	Medium	Medium	5, 6, 7, 9, 13
21	Reduce public health risks by reducing contaminants of concern in drinking water sources throughout the planning period.	Medium	Medium	3, 7, 10, 13
22	Meet all drinking water and wastewater discharge standards within the region throughout the planning period.	High	High	5, 6, 7, 9, 13
Water Supply Focus				
23	Provide 100% reliability of M&I water supplies of appropriate quality to meet forecasted demands within the Region throughout the planning period.	High	Medium	1, 7, 10, 13
24	Provide agricultural water supplies of appropriate quality to support a robust agricultural industry within the Region throughout the planning period.	High	Medium	1, 10, 13

* The "importance" assigned to each objective reflects the significance or consequence to the Region of satisfying this objective compared with other objectives.

** The "urgency" assigned to each objective reflects the degree to which this objective warrants speedy attention or action compared with other objectives.

Section 6 also discusses Climate Change Vulnerabilities which were prioritized relative to their relative linkage to Plan objectives. Some high priority Climate Change Vulnerabilities discussed in Section 6 include:

- 1.4: Groundwater supplies in parts of the Region lack resiliency after drought events.
- 2.6: The Region has invasive species management issues at facilities, conveyance structures or in habitat areas.
- 3.2, 3.3, 3.4: Water quality impacts such as algal blooms related to eutrophication, inability to meet beneficial uses, and vulnerability to water quality shifts during rain events occur in the Region.
- 4.5: A portion of the Region floods at extreme high tides or storm surges.

Invasive Tamarisk in Bear Creek

- 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4: The Region has critical, aging, infrastructure within the 200-year flood plain, some of which lies within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Drainage District and flood control facilities have been insufficient in the past.

- 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.6, 6.8: The Region includes: inland aquatic habitats vulnerable to erosion and sedimentation, estuarine habitats, including the Delta, which rely on freshwater flow, climate sensitive fauna or flora, and endangered and threatened species, and quantified environmental flows or stressors to aquatic life.

ES.7 Resource Management Strategies (Section 7)

The Goals and Objectives for the Westside IRWM Plan presented in Section 6 describe the foundational intent of the Plan. The Plan goals represent broad focus areas for water management actions in the Region, and Plan objectives describe specific outcomes that, when achieved, will improve water-related conditions in the Region. Accomplishing these goals and objectives will require that resource managers and other stakeholders implement a variety of water management actions. Those actions could include projects, programs, or policies designed to help agencies and local governments manage water and related resources. DWR refers to these types of projects, programs, or policies as resource management strategies (RMS). A broad list of resource management strategies were identified in the California Water Plan Update 2009 and must be considered for applicability in an IRWM Plan.

The California Water Plan Update 2009 groups RMS into six management outcomes. Table ES-2 provides a summary of the management outcomes and RMS that are described in Section 7 of the Plan. RMS that were determined to be applicable to the Westside Region are followed by a ✓, those that were determined as not applicable to the Region are followed by an ×.

Table ES-2: Summary of Management Outcomes and RMS

CWP Management Outcome	Resource Management Strategies
Reduce Water Demand	Agricultural Water Use Efficiency ✓ Urban Water Use Efficiency ✓ Crop Idling for Water Transfers ✓ Irrigated Land Retirement ✓ Rainfed Agriculture ✓
Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers	Conveyance – Delta ✓ Conveyance – Regional/local ✓ System Reoperation ✓ Water Transfers ✓ Waterbag Transport/Storage Technology ×
Increase Water Supply	Conjunctive Management & Groundwater Storage ✓ Desalination Precipitation Enhancement × Recycled Municipal Water ✓ Surface Storage – CALFED × Surface Storage – Regional/local ✓ Dewvaporation or Atmospheric Pressure Desalination × Fog Collection ×
Improve Water Quality	Drinking Water Treatment and Distribution ✓ Groundwater Remediation/Aquifer Remediation ✓ Matching Quality to Use ✓ Pollution Prevention ✓ Salt and Salinity Management ✓ Urban Runoff Management ✓

CWP Management Outcome	Resource Management Strategies
Practice Resources Stewardship	Agricultural Lands Stewardship ✓ Economic Incentives (Loans, Grants and Water Pricing) ✓ Ecosystem Restoration ✓ Forest Management ✓ Land Use Planning and Management ✓ Recharge Area Protection ✓ Water-Dependent Recreation ✓ Watershed Management ✓
Improve Flood Management	Flood Risk Management ✓

✓ RMS potentially applicable to the Region.
× RMS not applicable to the Region.

ES.8 Project Review and Prioritization (Section 8)

Project ideas were submitted by proponents throughout the Region for consideration to include in the Plan. The process to decide which projects to include in the Plan and how to prioritize them relied on: information submitted by the proponents that addressed a standard list of project criteria; expert judgment about the relevancy of the submitted projects; and Stakeholder discussions. The projects, programs and management actions submitted by the stakeholders were compiled, reviewed, and scored based on the information provided by the project proponents. Two "call for projects" cycles were issued to stakeholders during the preparation of the Plan. The first collected a broad list of regional projects, which was then summarized and shared with the public. The second "call for projects" provided an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss commonalities between projects, identify opportunities to integrate, and refine proposed projects or submit new projects.

The projects that were submitted by stakeholders under the two Calls for Projects demonstrate the breadth of activities needed for the Region to meet its water management objectives. 141 projects were submitted by 39 different organizations and address, to some extent, all 24 of the IRWM Plan objectives. Projects submitted range from large-scale drinking water supply projects to habitat restoration programs, flood management projects, and invasive species management initiatives. The range of projects and programs present multiple opportunities for continued resource and project integration beyond the list of projects included in this Plan. The projects and programs submitted are summarized in Table ES-3 below by objective focus area and the table also helps to portray the broad variety of types of projects, programs, and actions that were submitted.

All projects included in the IRWM Plan are important to meet the objectives of the Region. The Coordinating Committee will encourage and support actions that advance all of the projects, regardless of their priority. However, the Coordinating Committee expects to focus their attention to supporting the implementation of projects with High Importance and High Urgency first. High Importance and High Urgency projects identified during the 2012 project prioritization process are listed in Table ES-4 on the following page. This project list will be updated and appended over time as projects are completed and new projects are identified.

ES.9 Impacts and Benefits (Section 9)

This section provides an overview of the potential impacts and benefits associated with implementation of the Westside Region IRWM Plan. Because of the nature of the IRWM planning process, the impacts and benefits discussed in this Section are preliminary and not intended to be a complete list; more extensive and project-specific evaluations of impacts and benefits usually occur through project implementation. Impacts are most likely to occur over short-term periods and are associated with project implementation, with some potential long-term impacts associated with project operation. Impacts will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis during the environmental compliance process.

Table ES-3: Summary of Project Submittals by Objective Focus Area and Project Type

Focus Area	Feasibility Study	Implementable Program	Implementable Project	Planning
Education and Awareness		1	1	2
Habitat and Invasives	17	3	18	7
Infrastructure			19	10
Reasonable Use			1	2
Recreation			4	1
Risk Management	5		13	6
Understand Watershed Function	1		1	9
Water Quality		2	2	6
Water Supply	1	1	4	3
TOTAL[a]	**24**	**7**	**63**	**46**

(a) One project was removed from the list because it is outside the Region.

Table ES-4: High Importance/High Urgency Projects

Project No.	Lead Agency/Organization	Project Title	Planned Project/Program Types
76	RWMG with selected Lead Agency	Regional Invasive Mussels Management Plan	Formation of an Invasive Species Task Force/Subcommittee to prepare a Regional Invasive Mussels Species Prevention Plan and identifies supplemental programs to be developed to fill gaps in existing programs to prevent invasive species infestation.
40	RWMG with selected Lead Agency	Regional Invasive Plants, Aquatic and Terrestrial Weeds Management Plan	Formation of an Invasive Species Task Force/Subcommittee to prepare a Regional Invasive Plants, Aquatic and Terrestrial Weeds Management/Eradication Plan that documents the extent of invasive species that could be leveraged, and identifies supplemental programs to be developed to fill gaps in existing programs to manage invasive species.
32	Solano County Water Agency	Solano Invasive Species Program	Program will prevent colonization of any regional water body by quagga or zebra mussels and eliminate or prevent the spread of New Zealand mud snails from Putah Creek.
23	Solano County Water Agency	Aquatic Nuisance Vegetation Management	The goal of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan is to minimize the harmful ecological, economic, and social impact of aquatic nuisance species through prevention and management of introduction, population growth, and dispersal into, within, and from Solano County.
54	City of Davis	Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary and Tertiary Improvements	To meet new surface water discharge limitations at Willow Slough, the City of Davis must cease its surface water discharge to Willow Slough, all or in part, through upgrades to its existing treatment process to provide for tertiary treatment.
55	Clearlake Oaks County Water District	Plant Intake	Install a new water intake in the lake that is capable of drawing water from different depths, with installation of an Amiad pre-filter at the pier where the intakes are located. This will allow a greater control of influent turbidity and pH by controlling what depth the intake will be drawing water from.
48	Crescent Bay Improvement Company	Crescent Bay Improvement Company	Crescent Bay improvement Company has been on a Boil Water Order since 1999. There are 3 objectives to this project: 1) replace the 80-year old distribution lines which are leaking, 2) drill a well and replace surface water source with ground water, and 3) explore the feasibility of and purchase a neighboring water company and develop an intertie with that system.
87	Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District	LBRID Wastewater Storage Pond and Disposal Improvements	This project will upgrade the wastewater storage ponds and disposal spray fields.

Project No.	Lead Agency/Organization	Project Title	Planned Project/Program Types
92	Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District	NBRID Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement	This project will upgrade the existing WWTP. The project will also repair or replace all the existing sewer lift stations.
90	Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District	NBRID Water Treatment Plant Replacement	The existing water treatment plant will be replaced with a new more technically advanced water treatment plant.
95	Reclamation District 2035	Sacramento River Joint Intake Project	The Project consists of a 400-cfs intake and integrally constructed pump station, new discharge pipeline and appurtenant structures, and demolition of the existing facilities.
93	Rural Community Assistance Corporation	Rural Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Partnership Project	RCAC will manage the Prop 84 grant funds to address inadequate water supply and water quality in rural disadvantaged communities (DACs) in the Westside Sacramento IRWM Region.
34	Solano County Water Agency	Research on Improving Water Treatment for Delta Sources	The project would build upon past research done at the NBA Treatment Facility, and by other Delta users, to improve water treatment methods, reduce disinfection byproducts (DBPs), and improve water treatment for Delta water users, including the SWP and CVP.
110	Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency	Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project	The project is comprised of four regional facility components: (1) a joint RD 2035/Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency (WDCWA) Sacramento River Intake facility (up to 80 cfs capacity for the WDCWA); (2) 4.5 mile raw water pipeline(s) to convey untreated surface water to a water treatment facility; (3) a regional water treatment facility to treat the surface water before delivery; and (4) 10 miles of treated water pipelines to deliver treated water to local water systems.

The Westside IRWM Plan documents a shared vision for integrated water management and outlines a cooperative approach to achieve that vision. It provides regional water resources benefits largely by fostering improved coordination, collaboration, and communication among entities in the Region. Such collaboration is supported both by the Plan development process and the resulting, newly formed Plan implementation framework.

This collaborative approach to regional planning helps ensure that multiple aspects of watershed planning are considered together rather than allowing one particular geographic area or project type to dominate. It helps share benefits and impacts instead of allowing one group or geographic area to reap benefits while another withstands impacts. Also, regional planning helps ensure that projects designed to achieve one particular objective (e.g., water supply) will be supportive of (or at least compatible with) other objectives (e.g., flood management, water quality, or habitat preservation).

ES.10 Coordination (Section 10)

One of the key aspects of improving water resources management includes providing multiple opportunities for water managers, community stakeholders, and other organizations with interests in, to be informed and participate in the IRWM program. The RWMG is responsible for coordinating implementation activities with agencies, local participants and stakeholders within the Region, as well as state and federal agencies and IRWM Regions that are adjacent to the Westside Region. A structured approach to coordination is provided in the Plan to help reduce the likelihood of conflicts within the Region and improve utilization of resources. Activities will be facilitated by the Regional Water Management Group and Coordinating Committee, as defined under their specific responsibilities.

ES.11 Plan Implementation Framework (Section 11)

One of the key considerations for developing and implementing an IRWM Plan is the governance structure chosen to perform the tasks necessary to develop and implement the Plan. Section 11 describes the governance structure used for developing the Westside Plan and describes a governance structure that will support implementation and updating of the Plan over the next 20 years. These governance structures are consistent with the Integrated Regional Water Management Guidelines for Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E published by the California Department of Water Resources in November 2012.

Once the Westside IRWM Plan has been adopted, the focus of the RWMG will change significantly. Some of the activities conducted during Plan development will continue, but the emphasis will shift away from planning toward implementation and tracking of progress.

The current structure of the RWMG, which was established through an MOU with a staff led Coordinating Committee, has functioned well for managing funding and providing guidance and oversight during the Plan development process. Therefore, the Coordinating Committee recommended and the Stakeholder Group agreed that the Region should continue with a similar RWMG model through the initial phases of Plan implementation. A draft MOU amendment has been prepared (see Appendix A.1) to establish a Regional Water Management Group responsible to support the implementation of the adopted Westside IRWM Plan.

Decisions authorized by the RWMG will continue to be made using broad agreement as during the development of the Plan. All interested participants will be invited to participate as equals during Stakeholder Input Meetings to discuss implementation activities to meet the Plan objectives. The Coordinating Committee will set agendas, interact with stakeholders, and foster collaborative decisions as described in Section 10. The Westside IRWM CC meetings will follow the Brown Act provisions. If for some reason broad agreement cannot be reached between the Coordinating Committee and the Stakeholder Group related to specific items within a reasonable amount of time and effort, the Coordinating Committee will discuss the item(s) where broad agreement cannot be reached and then decide by majority vote how to proceed.

Implementation of the Westside IRWM Plan will rely on actions taken by existing agencies and organizations within the Region. The RWMG, as represented by the Coordinating Committee, will provide leadership for fostering cooperation, continuing coordination, tracking of Plan performance, and updating of the Westside IRWM Plan. The Coordinating Committee may form stakeholder subcommittees to help focus collaboration and progress on specific topics or objectives. Changes to the project list or

Plan objectives will be decided as described above and published as Plan Amendments. The Coordinating Committee will request that members of the Regional Water Management Group and project proponents adopt the Plan Amendments as an addendum to the previously adopted Westside IRWM Plan.

One of the most important aspects of IRWM Plan implementation for the Westside Region is having processes in place to ensure the public and interested stakeholders continue to be involved. This will be accomplished through multiple avenues of communication and engagement between the CC and stakeholders in order to obtain input and make sound decisions regarding regional activities.

The vast geography and complex relationships between the many water-related entities in the Region, and breadth of projects requires a multi-faceted Plan performance and monitoring strategy. The centerpiece of the performance and monitoring for the Region is measuring progress towards achieving Plan goals and objectives, Resource Management Strategies (RMS), and, ultimately, projects. Changes to the goals and objectives may affect the types of RMS that need to be implemented by stakeholders, which could also have implications on the types of projects that are included in the Plan. Project Proponents will be responsible for developing and implementing most projects, and then collecting performance monitoring data and reporting it to the RWMG. It is anticipated that progress updates will be collected from Project Proponents on an annual basis. Progress towards achieving objectives will be tracked by the Coordinating Committee and/or any subcommittees that are formed.

Performance monitoring will rely on a variety of data that will need to be managed. For the purposes of this Plan, data management includes the collection, storage, processing, and sharing of information that is developed from project-specific implementation and its relative contribution to achieving Plan objectives. The tools and strategies that the RWMG will use to organize, maintain, and share this vast amount of data will be called the Data Management System (DMS). Water-resources related data is generated in this Region from literally dozens of sources, in countless formats, and is reported in varying frequencies to jurisdictional bodies, non-governmental agencies, water agencies, and regulators. The Westside IRWM Plan's DMS is not intended to serve as the central clearinghouse for this vast amount of information, but it has been developed to meet the Proposition 84/1E IRWM Guidelines in performing the following functions including:

- Support the Westside Coordinating Committee in their responsibilities by collecting and sharing information related to:
  - Westside IRWM project implementation
  - Westside IRWM objective progress
- Provide means for interested stakeholders, both inside and outside the Westside Region to locate needed information concerning IRWM project implementation
- Consider means to simplify the interconnection and sharing mechanisms between local and statewide data sources.

Financing of an IRWM Plan is also an enormous undertaking and requires the contributions and attention of local, state, and federal agencies to ensure success. Financing of this Westside IRWM Plan involves two distinct tracks: funding of IRWM Plan administration and tracking activities, and funding project implementation. This section provides some highlights of the anticipated funding needs for both tracks, identifies potential funding sources, and documents some of the activities that the CC and others will employ to secure additional funding.

Finally, the IRWM Plan includes implementation recommendations that are intended to provide a "road map" to guide the Coordinating Committee, especially during the first two years of implementation of the Westside IRWM Plan. Each of these Plan Recommendations is detailed and includes suggestions for: the Coordinating Committee to help form subcommittees or other mechanisms that will foster collaboration for Plan implementation, Coordinating Committee focus areas for the next 1 – 2 years, tracking progress for IRWM Plan implementation, and researching other grant opportunities for Plan implementation.

WESTSIDE
SAC IRWM
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Call for Projects

26 March 2014

As discussed at recent Westside Coordinating Committee meetings, with stakeholder input, projects may now be submitted to the Westside IRWMP on a continuous basis until further notice. Revisions, updates, or removal (completed or abandoned) of existing projects may also be submitted at any time. The Westside Project list will be updated on a quarterly basis.

Projects or programs must support accomplishing the Westside IRWM Objectives.

In conjunction with the Objectives of the IRWMP, consider integration with existing projects as well as addressing pressing needs of drought relief in the Region.

Integration Considerations

Under Proposition 84, DWR's integration standard states that:

> "In general terms, **integration is** combining separate pieces into an efficiently functioning unit."

We invite you to consider the following possibilities for project integration:

1. Are there multiple projects in a similar geographic area that you may be able to combine to reduce the burden of environmental documentation, permitting, or disturbance of the environment?
2. Are there opportunities to combine, link, or sequence projects in ways that provide economies of scale or other synergistic effects?
3. Are there opportunities to combine two or more projects that were designed to meet single objectives into a more integrated project that contributes to multiple objectives?
4. Are there ways to modify existing project proposals that may benefit more people, habitat, or wildlife within the Region in ways that could help leverage different sources of funding?

Example Drought Consideration Projects:

- Water Supply/Water Reliability
- Drought Preparedness/Relief
- Water Conservation/Conjunctive Use
- Water Quality Conflicts Created by Drought
- Ecosystem Conflicts Created by Drought

If you have questions about the opportunity to submit new or refined proposed projects please e-mail us at info@westsideirwm.com.

The Press Democrat

Marc Levine mailer calls for fracking moratorium

By DEREK MOORE THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on April 5, 2014, 3:00 AM

A mailer Assemblyman Marc Levine sent out across the North Bay last week spotlights his stance on fracking — the controversial fossil fuel drilling practice — and the source of money he used to pay for the correspondence.

The San Rafael Democrat, who is seeking a second term in office, is calling for a moratorium on fracking, which Levine described in the glossy mailer next to a smiling photo of himself as "one of the most significant threats to our environment in a generation."

The mailer has sparked discussion within the environmental community, including some of Levine's sharpest critics, because of the assemblyman's support for a Senate bill last September that allowed fracking to continue in California, albeit with new regulations.

For his foes, at least, the correspondence has also cast light on Elevate California, Levine's ballot issue committee, which has received the vast majority of its funding from a managing director of a Mill Valley private investment firm with ties to fracking interests in Texas.

Levine, who ousted Assemblyman Michael Allen in 2012 with backing from business and agricultural interests, has earned mixed reviews from environmentalists while in office. Among other things, he earned praise for backing bills outlawing plastic bags and lead bullets for hunting, and enmity for abstaining on a bill that would have given the California Coastal Commission the authority to levy fines. The ambivalence is now being felt with his stance on fracking.

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is used by drillers to extract previously unrecoverable oil and natural gas embedded in subterranean rock. The practice employs huge volumes of water mixed with chemicals, and the waste is often injected back into the ground.

Some environmental groups opposed or withdrew support for SB 4 last year because they wanted stricter oversight of fracking or an outright ban. Oil companies also were opposed to the legislation, which was signed by Gov. Jerry Brown.

Levine this week said his support for the legislation is "not inconsistent at all" with his views on fracking, including his call for a moratorium. He presented SB 4 as the best he could hope for after several other moratorium bills failed to gain traction in the previous legislative session.

"When you argue for an all-or-nothing public policy, you often end up with nothing, and that's not good enough," he said.

Levine spent $40,000 from Elevate California on the mailers, which were sent to addresses in Sonoma, Marin and Napa counties, according to a spokesman for Levine. The 10th Assembly District encompasses Sonoma County south of College Avenue and Marin County.

The California secretary of state's website states that such committees exist "primarily to support or oppose the qualification, passage or defeat of a ballot measure." However, no ballot measures related to fracking are pending in California.

Levine's statement of organization for the committee, filed in May 2013, describes its purpose as "to be determined," records show.

David McCuan, a political scientist at Sonoma State University, said "savvy politicians" have long exploited what he called a "huge loophole" in the law to use ballot committee funds for other purposes, including to help raise their profile in election years.

He said Levine is using the mailer and fracking to "raise (his) profile about issues that are important to voters in Marin and Sonoma counties."

Levine is running against Santa Rosa Councilwoman Erin Carlstrom, Marin college trustee Diana Conti, former Santa Rosa Councilwoman Veronica Jacobi and lone Republican Party candidate Gregory Allen, who lives in Novato and owns an employment staffing firm.

The primary is in June, with the top two vote-getters, regardless of party affiliation, advancing to November's general election.

Carrie McFadden, Carlstrom's campaign manager, said Levine's correspondence is "an obvious campaign mailer about fracking."

"He is clearly circumventing campaign finance laws in order to get this message out there, in the hopes that voters will forget that he voted to permit fracking in California just last year," McFadden said.

Levine, however, called the timing of the mailer "irrelevant" to his re-election campaign. He said he's highlighting the issue now because the governor is drafting regulations spelled out in SB 4.

Levine also has signed on in support of SB 1132, a bill in the current legislative session that would impose a moratorium.

"I want to make sure we have the greatest participation by Californians in how policy is formed in the state Capitol," Levine said.

The mailer asks recipients to sign a card calling on Gov. Brown to issue an executive order for a moratorium on fracking. The return address is Levine's Capitol office.

Levine said he wanted the cards sent to his office so that they can be delivered en masse to the governor. Asked whether he'll rely on his Capitol staff to handle the sorting and deliveries, he replied, "Yes, that's fine. This is something California residents are sending to us, about how they care for a policy issue."

Elevate California has received almost all of its funding from John and Regina Scully, who donated $102,000 of the fund's total amount of $104,500. AT&T kicked in the other $2,500, campaign finance records show.

The Scullys also contributed the maximum $16,400 — or $8,200 each — to Levine's re-election campaign for Assembly.

John Scully is a managing director of SPO Partners & Company, a private investment firm that has offices in Mill Valley. He and his wife live in San Francisco.

John Scully said in an interview Friday that he donated to Elevate California because he is opposed to fracking in the North Bay. He said he still considers himself an "expatriate Marinite" after having lived in Marin County for three decades.

"I just want to support everything Marc is involved with, as long as I don't disagree with it," Scully said. "I don't disagree with regulating and probably banning fracking in Northern California."

However, Scully said he's "absolutely for" fracking elsewhere, saying that "it is working, and it is a significantly good thing for the United States."

Scully said the stock portfolio for SPO Partners includes a publicly traded Texas company that he said is "a very significant player in oil shale fracking and recovery." He declined to name the company.

Scully said he and Levine also share a common bond over their support for charter schools. Scully co-founded Making Waves, which operates a charter middle school in the city of Richmond.

Scully said Levine "is the first politician that I knew who in this area (the North Bay) was clearly pro-charter."

Levine's campaign responded Friday with a statement saying the assemblyman supports "all public schools," including "public charter schools like the Kid Street Learning Center in Santa Rosa."

In the meantime, some environmental groups that were at odds with Levine over his support of SB 4 are now backing his call for a moratorium on fracking.

"Things have changed since September," said Kathryn Phillips, director of Sierra Club California. "There's new science, new evidence and greater public awareness. I think legislators have learned a lot."

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democrat.com. On Twitter @deadlinederek.

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Levine, who ousted Assemblyman Michael Allen in 2012 with backing from business and agricultural interests, has earned mixed reviews from environmentalists while in office. Among other things, he earned praise for backing bills outlawing plastic bags and lead bullets for hunting, and enmity for abstaining on a bill that would have given the California Coastal Commission the authority to levy fines. The ambivalence is now being felt with his stance on fracking.

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is used by drillers to extract previously unrecoverable oil and natural gas embedded in subterranean rock. The practice employs huge volumes of water mixed with chemicals, and the waste is often injected back into the ground.

Some environmental groups opposed or withdrew support for SB 4 last year because they wanted stricter oversight of fracking or an outright ban. Oil companies also were opposed to the legislation, which was signed by Gov. Jerry Brown.

Levine this week said his support for the legislation is "not inconsistent at all" with his views on fracking, including his call for a moratorium. He presented SB 4 as the best he could hope for after several other moratorium bills failed to gain traction in the previous legislative session.

"When you argue for an all-or-nothing public policy, you often end up with nothing, and that's not good enough," he said.

Levine spent $40,000 from Elevate California on the mailers, which were sent to addresses in Sonoma, Marin and Napa counties, according to a spokesman for Levine. The 10th Assembly District encompasses Sonoma County south of College Avenue and Marin County.

The California secretary of state's website states that such committees exist "primarily to support or oppose the qualification, passage or defeat of a ballot measure." However, no ballot measures related to fracking are pending in California.

Levine's statement of organization for the committee, filed in May 2013, describes its purpose as "to be determined," records show.

David McCuan, a political scientist at Sonoma State University, said "savvy politicians" have long exploited what he called a "huge loophole" in the law to use ballot committee funds for other purposes, including to help raise their profile in election years.

He said Levine is using the mailer and fracking to "raise (his) profile about issues that are important to voters in Marin and Sonoma counties."

Levine is running against Santa Rosa Councilwoman Erin Carlstrom, Marin college trustee Diana Conti, former Santa Rosa Councilwoman Veronica Jacobi and lone Republican Party candidate Gregory Allen, who lives in Novato and owns an employment staffing firm.

The primary is in June, with the top two vote-getters, regardless of party affiliation, advancing to November's general election.

Carrie McFadden, Carlstrom's campaign manager, said Levine's correspondence is "an obvious campaign mailer about fracking."

"He is clearly circumventing campaign finance laws in order to get this message out there, in the hopes that voters will forget that he voted to permit fracking in California just last year," McFadden said.

Levine, however, called the timing of the mailer "irrelevant" to his re-election campaign. He said he's highlighting the issue now because the governor is drafting regulations spelled out in SB 4.

Levine also has signed on in support of SB 1132, a bill in the current legislative session that would impose a moratorium.

"I want to make sure we have the greatest participation by Californians in how policy is formed in the state Capitol," Levine said.

The mailer asks recipients to sign a card calling on Gov. Brown to issue an executive order for a moratorium on fracking. The return address is Levine's Capitol office.

Levine said he wanted the cards sent to his office so that they can be delivered en masse to the governor. Asked whether he'll rely on his Capitol staff to handle the sorting and deliveries, he replied, "Yes, that's fine. This is something California residents are sending to us, about how they care for a policy issue."

Elevate California has received almost all of its funding from John and Regina Scully, who donated $102,000 of the fund's total amount of $104,500. AT&T kicked in the other $2,500, campaign finance records show.

The Scullys also contributed the maximum $16,400 — or $8,200 each — to Levine's re-election campaign for Assembly.

John Scully is a managing director of SPO Partners & Company, a private investment firm that has offices in Mill Valley. He and his wife live in San Francisco.

John Scully said in an interview Friday that he donated to Elevate California because he is opposed to fracking in the North Bay. He said he still considers himself an "expatriate Marinite" after having lived in Marin County for three decades.

"I just want to support everything Marc is involved with, as long as I don't disagree with it," Scully said. "I don't disagree with regulating and probably banning fracking in Northern California."

However, Scully said he's "absolutely for" fracking elsewhere, saying that "it is working, and it is a significantly good thing for the United States."

Scully said the stock portfolio for SPO Partners includes a publicly traded Texas company that he said is "a very significant player in oil shale fracking and recovery." He declined to name the company.

Scully said he and Levine also share a common bond over their support for charter schools. Scully co-founded Making Waves, which operates a charter middle school in the city of Richmond.

Scully said Levine "is the first politician that I knew who in this area (the North Bay) was clearly pro-charter."

Levine's campaign responded Friday with a statement saying the assemblyman supports "all public schools," including "public charter schools like the Kid Street Learning Center in Santa Rosa."

In the meantime, some environmental groups that were at odds with Levine over his support of SB 4 are now backing his call for a moratorium on fracking.

"Things have changed since September," said Kathryn Phillips, director of Sierra Club California. "There's new science, new evidence and greater public awareness. I think legislators have learned a lot."

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Stanford dam blamed for diverting water from creek

Carolyn Lochhead
Updated 9:01 am, Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Stanford University is not generally known as an environmental villain that dams rivers.

Yet a prominent national environmental group has named San Francisquito Creek, which drains the eastern slope of the Santa Cruz Mountains, as the fifth-most-endangered river in the United States and pinned the blame squarely on Stanford's Searsville Dam.

Built in 1892 and choked nearly to the brim with sediment, the dam blocks the migration of one of the bay's last remaining populations of native steelhead trout, the group American Rivers said in a report being released Wednesday. The reservoir irrigates campus lawns and the university golf course.

"Stanford is constantly talking about how sustainable their campus is, and what Searsville mostly feeds is a huge golf course," said Matt Stoecker, a biologist who founded Beyond Searsville Dam in Palo Alto in 1998 to get the dam removed.

No water diversions

Stanford spokeswoman Lisa Lapin said in an e-mail that the university has not diverted any water from the creek in more than a year because of the drought.

"When there have been diversions from Searsville, it has only been during periods of extraordinary flows from a recent storm," she said. "In that case, the water is used for agricultural irrigation, fire protection and landscape irrigation."

She said that because the reservoir is so heavily silted, "almost all water passes through as it would flow through the creek."

American Rivers listed San Francisquito Creek in part because Stanford has promised to come up with a plan for the dam by the end of this year. Removing it is one of the options.

Topping the group's endangered list is the San Joaquin River, 70 percent of which is diverted to farm and urban uses.

The diversions have endangered its salmon and steelhead populations and dried up more than 100 miles of the river. House Republicans approved legislation earlier this year to end a restoration plan for the river because of the drought, but the Senate has not acted.

Critical decision

San Francisquito Creek "is unique because it remains one of the only San Francisco Bay streams that is not confined to a concrete channel," American Rivers' report said.

The creek escaped that fate, according to the report, because it marks the boundary between San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, which "could never agree on a plan for its channelization."

"The decision at the end of this year is completely critical and will determine the future of the watershed," said Kerri McLean, associate director of California river restoration for American Rivers.

Lapin said Stanford "has been actively studying options for the future of the Searsville Dam, of which removal is just one option among many being evaluated."

These options include doing nothing, modifying the dam, removing it, dredging the reservoir, building fish ladders, or tearing a hole at the bottom of the dam to allow some water to flow.

Stanford owns much of the upstream watershed. The area around the dam is home to the university's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, an 1,189-acre area used to study how ecosystems are affected by human activity.

A position paper issued by the preserve in 2007 urged that the dam be allowed to silt up, citing the ecological benefits of the reservoir, including "key habitat for migratory and breeding waterfowl" and "important foraging resources for bats."

Removing the dam would be a "massive undertaking" that would disrupt the area, the paper said.

'Incredibly expensive'

Stoecker dismissed as "ridiculous" the university's arguments that the reservoir provides bird habitat and serves climate change science. He said algae in the reservoir is creating potent methane emissions and that replacing an open water reservoir with natural wetland and riparian habitat would act as a natural sponge to absorb floodwaters.

An advisory committee made of local and regional government officials, federal agencies and environmental groups is studying the issue along with the university.

"It's a much more complicated issue than almost anyone would assume," said Pat Burt, a Palo Alto City Councilman who is on the committee. "It's an incredibly expensive set of propositions whatever alternative is looked at, I can tell you."

Sediment, flooding

One problem is what to do with the accumulation of sediment behind the dam. Another is the potential for flooding in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park should the dam be removed.

Len Materman, executive director of the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority, a regional body that seeks to reduce floodplain risk, said there are other water storage options to replace the dam. But he asked, "Is it easy, is it cheap, is it a known quantity? Not exactly."

Carolyn Lochhead is The San Francisco Chronicle's Washington correspondent. E-mail: clochhead@sfchronicle.com

The Press Democrat

Tried drought proof irrigation?

By Don Frances,for the argus-courier on March 31, 2014, 4:49 PM

Cold, fresh water rushes out of the tap. You wash your hands with it. The soap and grime drains away.

Normally, that used water is piped straight to a wastewater treatment facility, where it is filtered, kept in a pond and disinfected — all at great expense. But if the ideas of a small-but-growing minority take hold, it could be diverted to water a backyard fruit tree instead.

This is "graywater," a term used to describe water that is not fresh but not toxic either — such as the used water coming from a bathroom sink, shower drain or laundry machine. It's not potable, of course, but plants like it just fine.

With that in mind, why shouldn't residents of single-family homes, especially those living in dry climates like Petaluma's, be watering plants while they do their laundry?

According to James Johnson, a senior environmental health specialist for Sonoma County's Permit and Resource Management Department, graywater is an idea whose time has come. Although the concept has been around for several years — the East Bay's "Greywater Guerilla Girls" were rebelliously installing not-to-code plumbing systems in the late 1990s — California only recently updated its building codes to make it easier to install such systems legally.

According to Johnson, the state updates its codes every three years, and new rules that took effect at the beginning of this year have "given us a little bit more to work with."

Today the regulations include a whole section devoted to graywater, which the state says can come from numerous sources including swimming pool backwash, foundation drainage or cooling runoff from an air conditioner. Such water, once captured, can be stored only briefly and used for specific purposes.

"You can even bring it back into the house to flush the toilet," Johnson said. If done properly, a typical household can reduce water use by about one-third using a graywater system.

In this time of sustained drought, such recycling techniques are considered a good way to recapture precious water. County leaders know this, Johnson said.

"My director came to me, about two weeks ago, and he provided the Board of Supervisors update that tells people in the county what's going on," Johnson said. Their motto: "Retain it! Don't drain it!"

According to the county's website, "We can respond to the drought by installing graywater systems in our yards to irrigate plants and keep them thriving."

The City of Petaluma has been on board with this plan from the start, due in no small part due to Daily Acts, a nonprofit group headquartered downtown. Dedicated to furthering sustainability in the city and county, the group has been spreading the word about graywater for years.

Indeed, Trathen Heckman, the group's founder and executive director, "installed the first permitted single-family-residence graywater system in the county, way back in 2009," said Daily Acts program coordinator Ryan Johnston.

That was in his home near 8th and G streets. Soon after, a few neighbors took up the idea, then a few more. Today, Johnston said, more than 30 Petaluma households are using the simplest type of graywater system – basically a pipe or hose diverting used water from the laundry machine to landscaping outside.

In Petaluma, such a system requires no permit and is easy to install with about $150 worth of materials. The city has "a really wonderful incentive program," Johnston said, in which it will give interested residents all the parts necessary, free of charge, "to install a laundry-to-landscape graywater system."

Daily Acts then follows up with residents to make sure they're able to install the system properly.

By some estimates, a typical family of four uses at least 7,000 gallons per year on laundry alone — meaning that a few hundred Petaluma families switching to graywater would save millions of gallons per year, while also relieving the city's overburdened water treatment facility. In both cases, water and sewer rate payers can save money.

Such a setup "recharges groundwater as well," Johnston said. "It's putting back into the piggy bank that we're drawing out so heavily." He also recommended that residents remove thirsty lawns and plant gardens instead (graywater is not appropriate for vegetables where the water touches the food directly, such as carrots, but is perfect for woody perennials and trees).

Carrie Pollard, principal program specialist for the Sonoma County Water Agency, remains optimistic on the prospect of recycling water at the single-family-home level.

"I would say graywater is more predominant in Sonoma County than in other regions. But there's definitely an opportunity for expansion," she said. And as Sonoma County weathers a years-long drought, "This is a source of water that's readily available."

Pollard is co-chair of the Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper, or QWEL, program, which offers training to contractors, plumbers and landscapers in "how to appropriately manage landscapes." A subset of that training is installing graywater systems.

Anyone can take advantage of the several-day, 10-hour program. "We do have homeowners come and participate in all of our classes," she said. Those interested can sign up at qwel.net.

These are all baby steps, perhaps. But from the perspective of someone who's been following the movement from the beginning, graywater has come a long way.

"Compared to what it was and what it is now, it's totally different," said Laura Allen, an Oakland resident and one of the original Greywater Guerrillas.

Today, for example, "You can legally install a graywater system with no permit," she said, referring to the basic laundry-to-landscape model.

Allen praised both county efforts and Daily Acts. She also spoke highly of cities like Petaluma, which "has a really great rebate program," she said.

It seems some local leaders have come to realize that, in the long run, "It's cheaper for them to provide an incentive program than to buy more water," Allen said.

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California Drought: After years of overpumping groundwater, state may be ready for reforms

By Paul Rogers progers@mercurynews.com Contra Costa Times
Posted: ContraCostaTimes.com

For nearly 50 years, California has passed sweeping environmental laws that limit private property for the common good -- from the nation's toughest automobile pollution standards to curbs on clear-cutting forests to rules requiring that developers keep beaches open to the public.

However, when it comes to preserving one of the state's most critical and politically divisive resources -- billions of gallons of groundwater that are vital to farms and cities -- California lawmakers and voters have done almost nothing.

Now, driven by the historic drought and new pressure from Gov. Jerry Brown, the chances of reform appear better than ever.

Decades of intense pumping have dropped water tables dangerously low in places such as the San Joaquin Valley and Paso Robles. Scientific studies show that the ground is sinking in some places and that aquifers are at risk of running dry.

"Some people have had the attitude that our groundwater will be here forever," said John Garner, who grows rice and walnuts on 600 acres in Glenn County, 80 miles north of Sacramento.

"But now they realize that 'Holy crow, we could have an impact here and to protect ourselves -- although not everybody is there yet -- they realize they probably really should start better management.'"

Over the past six months, farmers, environmentalists and urban water districts have been holding workshops, hearings and private meetings in Sacramento to discuss how to preserve the state's depleted groundwater.

In years past, the Farm Bureau and other powerful agricultural groups fought nearly every attempt at statewide rules.

"Opponents have attacked it as an attack on property rights," said Lester Snow, former director of the state Department of Water Resources. "But the irony is that you need rules to protect property rights. Today there is a whole different tone in this conversation."

Now, for the first time, some farm groups are open to discussing measures to require landowners to report the amount of groundwater they pump, probably to local agencies. The rules could require installing meters on some wells and even limiting how much water is taken out of the ground.

Depending on what bills emerge in the Legislature this summer, counties and local water districts also may be given the authority to collect fees, or "pump taxes," from farmers and other well owners to pay for programs to restore groundwater basins.

Santa Clara County has had a pump tax in place since 1964. Because of farming and population growth, the water table fell 175 feet from 1915 to 1965. Since then, after years of the Santa Clara Valley Water District putting water back underground in wet years, the water table has returned to where it was a century ago.

Statewide, the details are complex. But the basic problem is simple.

California is largely arid. Most of the state, including San Jose, Los Angeles and much of the Central Valley, receives only 15 inches of rain a year on average, the same amount as Casablanca, Morocco. So far this year, those places have received only 4 or 5 inches of rain.

Although reservoirs, creeks and rivers provide the bulk of the state's drinking and farm irrigation water, groundwater provides 30 percent of the water for farms and cities in most years, and as much as 60 percent in dry years such as this one. When reservoirs run low, farmers and cities furiously pump more water from the ground.

However, in many parts of the state, they don't put any back. Overall, California pumps out about 2 million more acre-feet a year than is recharged, according to state estimates. That's enough water for 10 million people a year.

"It is similar to federal budget deficits, except that the government cannot print more water, nor can we borrow it from Chinese banks," said Jonas Minton, with the Planning and Conservation League, an environmental group in Sacramento.

California uses more groundwater than any other state. Other dry Western states, such as Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado, require property owners to obtain a permit from the state to pump groundwater, and make data on well pumping public as a tool to manage aquifer levels. California does not.

Many California farmers remain wary of any new controls, however.

"For farmers down here, there is a lot of concern," said Ryan Jacobsen, whose family grows grapes on 640 acres south of Fresno.

"It's no secret that groundwater is what allows farmers to get through these critically dry years. And when you start talking about what could be some very substantial regulations and restrictions, that's going to hamper their operations."

Jacobsen, who is also executive director of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, said that for any rules, local oversight is key, as is building new reservoirs to help store more water.

Ironically, it may be a change in the type of crops grown that could lead to reforms. In many areas, expensive permanent crops, such as almond orchards and wine-grape vineyards, are replacing row crops and pasture land that can be fallowed in dry years.

"It's in the economic interest of these high-value crops to make sure there is enough groundwater to get through droughts," said Jay Lund, director of the Center for Watershed Sciences at UC Davis.

With farmers all over the Central Valley spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to drill deeper wells, often competing with their neighbors for the same water, pressure is mounting.

"I have people come up to me all the time and say, 'You guys have got to do something, just don't tell anyone I told you that,'" said Felicia Marcus, head of the State Water Resources Control Board.

Paul Rogers covers resources and environmental issues. Contact him at 408-920-5045. Follow him at Twitter.com/PaulRogersSJMN.

The Press Democrat

Support builds for huge reservoir near Lake County

By JOHN HOWARD CAPITOL WEEKLY on March 27, 2014, 7:18 PM

California's drought and shifting politics appear to be boosting the odds for approval of the first major reservoir in the state in more than a decade, although myriad hurdles remain at the federal, state and local levels.

At issue is the proposed "Sites" reservoir just east of Lake County and the Mendocino National Forest, not far from the Central Valley town of Maxwell. The huge lake — five times bigger than Lake Sonoma — would not dam a regional watershed or fishery. Instead, it would hold water diverted from the Sacramento River.

Elected officials and environmentalists — unhappily — say the Republican-controlled House of Representatives is likely to approve bipartisan legislation that would give a go-ahead to the estimated $3 billion project. Its fate in the Democratic-led U.S. Senate, however, is uncertain.

Two House members with traditional partisan differences — Democrat John Garamendi of Walnut Grove and Republican Doug La Malfa of Richvale, south of Chico — jointly authored legislation introduced last week to study the feasibility of the Sites reservoir and, if it is deemed feasible, to go ahead with the project.

"I think we have a reasonable shot at getting it through (Congress) and getting the president to sign it," Garamendi said. "One: The cost will be spread over several different entities — the feds, the CVP (Central Valley Project), the State Water Project, the irrigation districts; there are multiple beneficiaries. Two: The drought has focused (public) attention in California on this issue, and the attention of Congress."

La Malfa agrees. "Finally, we see the window opening to strike right now," he said. "The issue has a lot of attention from Californians at this time. The bill has bipartisan support, even bicameral support," a reference to potential support in the Senate.

For many years, environmentalists and other critics of dams and reservoirs have held the upper hand. Much of the debate has focused on tearing out dams and eliminating reservoirs — not creating new ones — as a process of restoring waterways and wildlife. But Ron Stork of Friends of the River is aware of the shifting alliances. He acknowledges that House approval of the Sites reservoir is likely.

"And in the Senate, (Dianne) Feinstein is captured by the notion of the desperate need for more (water) storage and she chairs the Appropriations subcommittee that funds it," Stork said.

So, the drought, recent actions in the House and comments from Feinstein suggest an opportunity for reservoir advocates, at least on the federal level. The last major reservoir to be built in California was Diamond Valley near Hemet, which can store 800,000 acre-feet of water and is operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Sites would hold 1.9 million acre-feet, making it the seventh largest in the state.

Feinstein told the Association of California Water Agencies recently that "we must build more storage to prepare for the next drought which is sure to come," adding that "what we need to keep the (Sites) study moving forward is for the state to provide its share of funding."

A potential source for that state funding could be voter-approved bonds, which means the political fight over Sites also may play out in Sacramento as well as in Congress.

The bill from Garamendi and La Malfa is one of numerous proposals floated by federal lawmakers to address the drought, both through new storage and other measures. Republicans already have pushed through legislation in the House that would authorize construction of other major reservoir projects.

Those include raising the dam at Shasta Lake to store more water in California's largest reservoir and creating a new reservoir in the Sierra Nevada along the upper San Joaquin River east of Fresno.

Sites has been studied at the state level and was included among several projects identified for funding in the twice-delayed, $11.14 billion water bond now set for the November ballot in California. That bond, crafted during the Arnold Schwarzenegger administration, is expected to be replaced this year with a smaller-scale proposal in the $5 billion to $6 billion range, perhaps larger. A half-dozen bond proposals are circulating in the Capitol, ranging from $5.1 billion to $9.3 billion, and several have emerged from committees, including an $8 billion proposal on Tuesday in the Senate.

Leading among the scaled-down state alternative measures is a $6.8 billion proposal by Sen. Lois Wolk, D-Davis, whose district includes part of Sonoma County.

The bill, which specifically provides just over $1 billion for storage, requires that the public's interests be served and that those who benefit most from the project — such as farmers and water districts — carry the bulk of the financial load. Specific projects also would require approval of the California Water Commission.

"Sites Reservoir is one of the storage projects identified in my SB 848 as eligible for funding for the public benefits that the project may provide, while the majority of the funding would come from the projects' beneficiaries, consistent with the Governor's policy," Wolk wrote in an email.

An aide to Sen. Noreen Evans, D-Santa Rosa, said she has not taken a position on the Sites proposal, while other area lawmakers — Assemblymembers Marc Levine, D-San Rafael, Wes Chesbro, D-Arcata, and Mariko Yamada, D-Davis — declined immediate comment.

Gov. Jerry Brown, who is up for re-election this year, has not taken a position on Sites or on the November water bond. As written, the current $11.14 billion bond measure includes about $3 billion for storage, plus another $800 million that could be used for the project, pending voter approval and a go-ahead from the California Water Commission.

To replace the November bond with a different proposal would require a two-thirds vote of the Legislature and the governor's signature. A smaller bond measure likely would set aside less money for the Sites project.

Some environmentalists are nervous about the drought legislation in Congress and see the House as the biggest problem.

"The House has voted already to weaken environmental protections in California," said Ann Notthoff, advocacy director of the Natural Resources Defense Council. "In the face of trying to politicize the drought, I don't put anything past the House."

"Everyone is concerned about the drought and everyone wants to put California in the best position to deal with water shortages, but more storage doesn't create more water," she said.

In February, the House approved and sent to the Senate a plan by Rep. David Valadao, R-Hanford, to curtail efforts to restore the San Joaquin River in order to move more water to Central Valley farmers. The Valadao bill, which is unlikely to emerge from the Senate, included planning for Sites and other projects but no prospect for funding. The proposal, backed by California's entire GOP congressional delegation, is opposed by the Obama administration and Brown.

Days after the Valado bill was approved, California's U.S. senators, Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, both Democrats, introduced their own bill, a $300 million drought-aid package that, among other things, gives federal authorities more leeway in pumping water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. They also said their plan does not suspend species-protection laws, a key concern of environmentalists.

Another drought-driven measure was introduced by Rep. Jim Costa, D-Fresno.

The Garamendi/LaMalfa bill seeks to push the federal money through upon approval of the feasibility study, which is unusual, according to Stork, the Friends of the River official. "It (the bill) breaks all of the rules for water projects, which are not supposed to be pre-authorized by Congress," he said, and that pre-authorization provision may not survive in the Senate, "which has different rules."

"The real battle will be whether the money shows up and who the real beneficiaries are," he said.

California's drought and shifting politics appear to be boosting the odds for approval of the first major reservoir in the state in more than a decade, although myriad hurdles remain at the federal, state and local levels.

At issue is the proposed "Sites" reservoir just east of Lake County and the Mendocino National Forest, not far from the Central Valley town of Maxwell. The huge lake — five times bigger than Lake Sonoma — would not dam a regional watershed or fishery. Instead, it would hold water diverted from the Sacramento River.

Elected officials and environmentalists — unhappily — say the Republican-controlled House of Representatives is likely to approve bipartisan legislation that would give a go-ahead to the estimated $3 billion project. Its fate in the Democratic-led U.S. Senate, however, is uncertain.

Two House members with traditional partisan differences — Democrat John Garamendi of Walnut Grove and Republican Doug La Malfa of Richvale, south of Chico — jointly authored legislation introduced last week to study the feasibility of the Sites reservoir and, if it is deemed feasible, to go ahead with the project.

"I think we have a reasonable shot at getting it through (Congress) and getting the president to sign it," Garamendi said. "One: The cost will be spread over several different entities — the feds, the CVP (Central Valley Project), the State Water Project, the irrigation districts; there are multiple beneficiaries. Two: The drought has focused (public) attention in California on this issue, and the attention of Congress."

La Malfa agrees. "Finally, we see the window opening to strike right now," he said. "The issue has a lot of attention from Californians at this time. The bill has bipartisan support, even bicameral support," a reference to potential support in the Senate.

For many years, environmentalists and other critics of dams and reservoirs have held the upper hand. Much of the debate has focused on tearing out dams and eliminating reservoirs — not creating new ones — as a process of restoring waterways and wildlife. But Ron Stork of Friends of the River is aware of the shifting alliances. He acknowledges that House approval of the Sites reservoir is likely.

"And in the Senate, (Dianne) Feinstein is captured by the notion of the desperate need for more (water) storage and she chairs the Appropriations subcommittee that funds it," Stork said.

So, the drought, recent actions in the House and comments from Feinstein suggest an opportunity for reservoir advocates, at least on the federal level. The last major reservoir to be built in California was Diamond Valley near Hemet, which can store 800,000 acre-feet of water and is operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Sites would hold 1.9 million acre-feet, making it the seventh largest in the state.

Feinstein told the Association of California Water Agencies recently that "we must build more storage to prepare for the next drought which is sure to come," adding that "what we need to keep the (Sites) study moving forward is for the state to provide its share of funding."

A potential source for that state funding could be voter-approved bonds, which means the political fight over Sites also may play out in Sacramento as well as in Congress.

The bill from Garamendi and La Malfa is one of numerous proposals floated by federal lawmakers to address the drought, both through new storage and other measures. Republicans already have pushed through legislation in the House that would authorize construction of other major reservoir projects.

Those include raising the dam at Shasta Lake to store more water in California's largest reservoir and creating a new reservoir in the Sierra Nevada along the upper San Joaquin River east of Fresno.

Sites has been studied at the state level and was included among several projects identified for funding in the twice-delayed, $11.14 billion water bond now set for the November ballot in California. That bond, crafted during the Arnold Schwarzenegger administration, is expected to be replaced this year with a smaller-scale proposal in the $5 billion to $6 billion range, perhaps larger. A half-dozen bond proposals are circulating in the Capitol, ranging from $5.1 billion to $9.3 billion, and several have emerged from committees, including an $8 billion proposal on Tuesday in the Senate.

Leading among the scaled-down state alternative measures is a $6.8 billion proposal by Sen. Lois Wolk, D-Davis, whose district includes part of Sonoma County.

The bill, which specifically provides just over $1 billion for storage, requires that the public's interests be served and that those who benefit most from the project — such as farmers and water districts — carry the bulk of the financial load. Specific projects also would require approval of the California Water Commission.

"Sites Reservoir is one of the storage projects identified in my SB 848 as eligible for funding for the public benefits that the project may provide, while the majority of the funding would come from the projects' beneficiaries, consistent with the Governor's policy," Wolk wrote in an email.

An aide to Sen. Noreen Evans, D-Santa Rosa, said she has not taken a position on the Sites proposal, while other area lawmakers — Assemblymembers Marc Levine, D-San Rafael, Wes Chesbro, D-Arcata, and Mariko Yamada, D-Davis — declined immediate comment.

Gov. Jerry Brown, who is up for re-election this year, has not taken a position on Sites or on the November water bond. As written, the current $11.14 billion bond measure includes about $3 billion for storage, plus another $800 million that could be used for the project, pending voter approval and a go-ahead from the California Water Commission.

To replace the November bond with a different proposal would require a two-thirds vote of the Legislature and the governor's signature. A smaller bond measure likely would set aside less money for the Sites project.

Some environmentalists are nervous about the drought legislation in Congress and see the House as the biggest problem.

"The House has voted already to weaken environmental protections in California," said Ann Notthoff, advocacy director of the Natural Resources Defense Council. "In the face of trying to politicize the drought, I don't put anything past the House."

"Everyone is concerned about the drought and everyone wants to put California in the best position to deal with water shortages, but more storage doesn't create more water," she said.

In February, the House approved and sent to the Senate a plan by Rep. David Valadao, R-Hanford, to curtail efforts to restore the San Joaquin River in order to move more water to Central Valley farmers. The Valadao bill, which is unlikely to emerge from the Senate, included planning for Sites and other projects but no prospect for funding. The proposal, backed by California's entire GOP congressional delegation, is opposed by the Obama administration and Brown.

Days after the Valado bill was approved, California's U.S. senators, Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, both Democrats, introduced their own bill, a $300 million drought-aid package that, among other things, gives federal authorities more leeway in pumping water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. They also said their plan does not suspend species-protection laws, a key concern of environmentalists.

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The Press Democrat

Sonoma County extends drought emergency

By SEAN SCULLY THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on March 26, 2014, 5:19 PM

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors has renewed a drought emergency declaration for an additional 30 days, and members say they will continue to do so every month for the foreseeable future.

Staff warned the supervisors this week that storage levels at Lake Mendocino remain critically low — just 46.7 percent of normal capacity to serve cities from Healdsburg north — and worrisome at the much larger Lake Sonoma, just short of 73 percent, or about a year's worth of water before the Sonoma County Water Agency would be forced to impose rationing on cities from Windsor south.

"Despite the rain we've had in February and March, it doesn't look like we're going to get enough relief to get us out of the drought," county Emergency Manager Chris Helgren told supervisors.

Cities north of Lake Sonoma are under mandatory conservation measures, while cities south are being asked to cut consumption by at least 20 percent through the summer to stall mandatory measures as long as possible.

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Environmental Update: Odds are against Yolo County receiving water from Clear Lake

By Terry Knight -- R-B Outdoors Writer Record Bee
Updated:

record-bee.com

LAKE COUNTY -- As of Wednesday, the Clear Lake level was holding at 1.83 feet on the Rumsey Gauge and with the rainy season nearing its end, a number of people are wondering if Yolo County can draw any water from the lake this summer for irrigation.

If the lake level fails to rise to at least 3.22 feet on the Rumsey Gauge by May 1, Yolo County is prohibited from drawing any water from Clear Lake.

The Solano Decree of 1978 (revised 1995) specifically outlines the operation of Clear Lake for Yolo irrigation purposes. If the lake is full on May 1, Yolo may withdraw 150,000 acre-feet of water and the level on Oct. 31 may not be below 1.25 feet Rumsey. If the lake is 3.22 feet or lower on May 1, no water may be released.

Evaporation on Clear Lake through the average summer is 3 feet.

As a point of interest, when Clear Lake is full it has a surface area of 43,790 acres and contains 1,155,000 acre-feet of water. At zero the surface area is 39,170 acres with a capacity of 842,000 acre-feet.

The last time that the Clear Lake level was lower than 3.22 on May 1 was 1977 when the lake level bottomed out at a minus .3 feet on the Rumsey Gauge.

Drought impact on marijuana prices still unclear; market already saturated

By Jillian Singh/The Times-Standard The Willits News
Posted:

WillitsNews.com

It may be too early to estimate the effects of California's drought on the Humboldt County marijuana market, which provides an estimated $400 million a year to the local economy but has been flooded with product for quite some time.

"If the water situation remains dire, prices will go up, but if people can find the product cheaper, that will push the prices down," said Chip Perry, manager of Medical Cannabis Consultants and Evaluations in Eureka. "Consumers dictate the prices, and they'll try to find the cheapest medicine out there. I'd estimate marijuana prices could increase by 10 to 20 percent because of the drought, but the increase still won't raise prices to the amount they were in 2010."

Perry said a pound of indoor marijuana cost about $3,500 in 2010, and the same amount of outdoor grown marijuana cost about $2,500. He said an indoor pound now costs about $2,200 and outdoor costs about $1,100.

"Marijuana prices have gone down almost 40 percent in the last couple of years because supplies are so high," Perry said. "In the last four years, the amount of people growing has at least doubled."

In her thesis for the Pacific Coast Banking School graduate program at the University of Washington, Jennifer Budwig of Redwood Capital Bank found that the marijuana industry, based on conservative estimates, was responsible for pumping at least $400 million annually into Humboldt County's economy. If the industry were to be disrupted -- potentially due to legalization or other factors -- it would cause a 25 percent reduction in local economic activity, Budwig concluded.

When it comes to marijuana production, water is a major factor.

"From talking to those in the industry, one large outdoor marijuana plant typically needs 3 to 5 gallons of water a day," Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Lt. Steve Knight said. "Plants are typically harvested after two to three months of growing."

Humboldt County Sheriff Mike Downey said he thinks the effects of the drought would be the same for outdoor and indoor marijuana grows.

"It may not be as lucrative for people to grow indoors as it has been in the past," Downey said. "If the drought is significant and persistent enough -- and the price of water and electricity goes up -- there could be pressure to significantly reduce the amount of marijuana grown."

An outdoor marijuana grower in the county, who was contacted via Craigslist and requested to remain anonymous, said he works under Proposition 215, which covers marijuana possession and cultivation for personal medical use. He said he thinks the drought will certainly affect the local industry.

"I'd love for it to rain, but I'm not sure what will happen," he said. "I think if people don't have water here, they might try to do other things to get it, such as steal it or route it from someone else."

Bridgeville Elementary School was forced to close for a day in September when staff discovered up to 20,000 gallons of water had been stolen from an onsite water tank. The theft came one month after 20,000 gallons of water were stolen from the Weott Community Services District Board, which provides water to a community of 330 people -- including Agnes J. Johnson Elementary School, the Cal Fire station, the post office and a state park campground.

The thefts have never been tied to marijuana growers.

California National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws coordinator Dale Gieringer said he thinks it's too soon to tell the effects the drought will have on Northern California marijuana prices.

"Illegal water diversions to marijuana gardens have been an issue in the past," Gieringer said. "It will be an interesting experiment to see what actually happens. I have friends in the growing community who said there will be a huge outdoor marijuana drought this year, but that was when the state was bleached white before the last round of rain."

Gieringer said Northern California marijuana prices are probably at the lowest level that they've been in a long time.

"I don't think the drought will have a huge effect on consumer use," Gieringer said. "It could result in more marijuana being imported into the state from other parts of the country or world. California is typically a big export state for marijuana, but I don't think it will be this year."

Water affordability may require political action

By J. W. Burch, IV — Staff reporter Record Bee
Updated:

record-bee.com

LUCERNE -- A settlement agreement reached in October concerning water rates between several water organizations is approaching its conclusion.

The agreement is expected to impact water rates in the Redwood Valley District's Lucerne System, according to Government and Community Relations Manager of California Water Service Company (Cal Water) Justin Skarb.

In July 2012, Cal Water filed its most recent General Rate Case (GRC), which is required by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) every three years, according to Skarb. In October, a settlement agreement was reached.

According to Skarb, the GRC allows the CPUC to audit Cal Water's books and operations, establish water utility rates for the subsequent three years and determine what improvements will be made.

"The next step in the process is for the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to issue a proposed decision on the GRC," Skarb stated in an email. "Given the complexities and breadth of the GRC the process has taken longer than originally expected.

District 3 Supervisor Denise Rushing testified last month to the legislative committee on utility oversight in Sacramento.

"We've done our best to make the case for Lucerne but it is clear to me that real progress cannot happen in the context of a rate proceeding at the CPUC," Rushing stated. "While we were able to reduce the impact of the rate request, we are a long way from achieving affordable water for Lucerne.

According to Skarb, after the decision is proposed, CPUC commissioners vote on the decision.

"Assuming they are approved by the commissioners, new water utility rates will become effective shortly after the CPUC decision is issued," he added.

According to an assigned commissioner's amended scoping memo and ruling from the CPUC, the proposed decision is scheduled to be filed and served, and the first public meeting will be held in June. Opening comments will be filed and served 20 days after the proposed decision is filed and served. Replies to the opening comments will be filed and served five days later.

A decision on the commission agenda will be made 30 days after the proposed decision is filed, the ruling continues.

Rushing held a town hall meeting in December to discuss the county's participation in the CPUC hearings, but does not have another one planned at this time, she stated.

"The settlement is at the conclusion of a giant complex morass this proceeding has become," Rushing stated. "As I see it, the underlying affordability issues need to be addressed both in the CPUC rulemaking procedures and through the California legislature."

J. W. Burch, IV is a staff reporter for Lake County Publishing. Reach him at 263-5636 ext. 39 or at jburch@record-bee.com.

The Press Democrat

Congress focuses on dams amid state's drought

By KEVIN FREKING ASSOCIATED PRESS on March 23, 2014, 2:55 PM

WASHINGTON — California's drought has sparked a new push by federal lawmakers to create or expand a handful of reservoirs around the state, ramping up a political battle that former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger once referred to as a "holy war in some ways."

Government agencies have been studying five major water storage projects for nearly two decades, with nothing to show for the effort so far.

Meanwhile, the state's water problems have only grown worse. California has had its third relatively dry winter in a row and court rulings have mandated that more water be released from reservoirs to sustain fish species in Northern California's delta. At the same time, the nation's most populous state, now at 38 million residents, continues to grow beyond the capacity of a water storage and delivery system that was mostly completed in the late 1960s.

This winter is among the driest on record, forcing some communities to ration water and leading farmers to fallow thousands of acres that otherwise would be producing vegetables, fruits and nuts for the nation.

The state Legislature is expected to debate water storage options later this year as it seeks compromise on a multibillion dollar water bond for the November ballot. But California's congressional delegation has provided a jumpstart.

Bills proposed in Congress would authorize a number of projects to expand or create reservoirs. Among the projects are raising the dam at Shasta Lake to store more water in California's largest reservoir, creating a new reservoir in the Sierra Nevada along the upper San Joaquin River east of Fresno and damming a valley north of Sacramento.

Other storage options include expanding the dams at the San Luis Reservoir in the central part of the state and at Los Vaqueros Reservoir in the eastern San Francisco Bay Area.

Authorizing such projects through federal legislation would be a prerequisite for dedicating money to a project in the future.

Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein said those who oppose new or expanded dams are hoping that doing so will deter growth and development, but it's a losing battle.

"Growth comes anyway," she said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "Then you don't have enough water."

Feinstein acknowledges that conservation also is critical to meeting the state's water needs but said some new or expanded reservoirs must be allowed so more water can be captured during wet years and stored for use during the dry ones.

"They have a certain prior, I don't know how to put it, stigma to them," she said of dams. "But this is a different day now. And it's a day that's been coming for a long time. Somehow, we've got to measure up to it."

In California, water often is a shared commodity between the federal government, the state and local users.

Feinstein is urging the state Legislature to modify the bond measure on the November ballot to prioritize both water storage and conservation. She would like to see $3 billion dedicated in the bond to developing storage, with an additional $2 billion set aside for restoring the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, the heart of California's water-delivery system.

Doing so would be intended to appease both farmers and the environmentalists.

No doubt there will be opposition. The $1 billion proposal to raise the dam at Shasta, for example, would flood part of the McCloud River, one of the most picturesque rivers in the state. It also would inundate several sacred sites of the Winnemem Wintu, a small tribe that is not federally recognized.

In general, creating and expanding reservoirs are among the most expensive and environmentally harmful ways to address California's water issues, said Doug Obegi, an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council. He said investing in water recycling, storm water capture in urban areas and similar projects provides a greater return on investment.

He said he failed to see how the current storage projects would help California's overall water supply, with so many reservoirs already far below their capacity.

"It just doesn't add up to a lot of water," he said.

Peter Gleick, director of the Pacific Institute and one of California's leading water experts, said major dam projects "worked fine when there was new water to be had and when we didn't care about the environment. But those days are over."

Republicans already have pushed through legislation in the House that would authorize construction for four of the storage projects. But the main thrust of the bill, sponsored by Republican Rep. David Valadao and co-sponsored by every GOP member of California's delegation, would cease the implementation of a lawsuit settlement designed to restore salmon populations on the San Joaquin River.

Water dedicated to maintaining fish and wildlife would instead go to farmers and communities who receive water through the federal Central Valley Project. That bill has no chance to pass the Senate in its current form.

As an alternative, Feinstein and fellow California Sen. Barbara Boxer, also a Democrat, are pushing legislation that would give state and federal agencies more flexibility to pump water out of the delta to aid farmers, as long as the pumping does not violate the Endangered Species Act.

But one aspect of the House bill Feinstein endorses is the call for more major storage projects.

"We should have some federal authorization of dam projects that have a positive cost-benefit ratio," she told the AP.

The sharpest difference between the House bill and what Democrats seek is that the House version relies strictly on the state to pay for new or larger dams. Democrats say the federal government should help cover some of the costs.

Rep. Jim Costa, a Democrat from the Central Valley farming region, said he doubts the projects will get off the ground without federal money.

He has sponsored three bills — to authorize expanding the dams at Shasta Lake and San Luis Reservoir, and to build the Temperance Flat dam on the San Joaquin River. Cost-sharing arrangements, which he called crucial to the projects eventually getting built, would be negotiated later.

Costa rejected the sentiment that conservation and recycling should be relied upon instead. He said the drought is so severe that every tool is needed.

"You cannot recycle in enough quantities to irrigate half the nation's fruits and vegetables," he said. "It's really that simple."

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Others are more pessimistic. During a congressional hearing last week in Fresno, Republican Rep. Tom McClintock, who represents a vast district in Northern California, said a "radical ideology" has made its way into California water policy.

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Associated Press writer Scott Smith in Fresno contributed to this report.

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Spring Valley residents advised to reduce water use

By Ken R. Wells -- Correspondent Record Bee
Updated:

record-bee.com

SPRING VALLEY -- Residents were told Saturday they must voluntarily reduce their water use by at least 15 percent this year or face mandatory restrictions, steep rate increases and a moratorium on new water connections.

About 50 people gathered in the Spring Valley Community Center to listen to officials from Lake County Special Districts and County Service Area (CSA) No. 2 detail the county's drought emergency management plan. CSA No. 2 provides water services to the Spring Valley's 900 residents.

Spring Valley is currently in a stage one drought emergency that emphasizes voluntary conservation. The highest level of emergency, stage four, would require a 35-percent cut in water use per customer and places a moratorium on new connections to the water system.

In a normal calendar year, Spring Valley receives about 40 inches of rain, Jan Coppinger, Special Districts compliance coordinator, said. The community received 20 inches each year in 2011 and 2012, six inches in 2013, and seven inches so far this year, Coppinger said.

"If not for the recent rain, Spring Valley would be in very bad shape, possibly in stage four," Coppinger said. "The rain we've got this year should keep us in stage one for the rest of the year as long as there is a 15-to-20-percent reduction in water use."

There are about 450 connections to the Spring Valley water system, all but one of them residential. All of the community's water comes from the Indian Valley Reservoir that is fed by the north fork of Cache Creek. When full, the reservoir has about 319,000 acre-feet of water but currently has only about 21,000 acre-feet, down from 116,000 acre-feet last year, Coppinger said. One acre-foot equals about 325,800 gallons.

Spring Valley is the only community in the county that has its own reservoir. Most of the county's water systems are supplied by wells. The Lake County community with the worst water situation is Cobb, which gets its water from a single well, according to Jim McDole, chairman of the CSA No. 2 advisory board.

CSA No. 2 has plans for a backup water source, Spring Valley Lake, that it hopes to expand from 10 acres to 40 acres, McDole said The agency has most of the permits needed for the effort, called the Lake Recovery project, that will involve dredging and silt removal.

Work on the project is expected to begin this summer and take three-to-five years to complete, McDole said. When finished, the lake will have a three-year reserve capacity of water for Spring Valley in addition to supplying about 30 percent of its yearly water supply.

McDole said the project is critical to the long-term water needs of Spring Valley.

Complicating Spring Valley's water situation is its leak-prone distribution system.

"Spring Valley has an old distribution system that is going to need maintenance and repair," Mark Dellinger, Special Districts administrator, said. "Several sections of pipe are going to need to be replaced very soon."

These include pipe between Apache Trail and Pawnee Trail and a section along Indian Hill Road. The Indian Hill pipe "continually breaks" and "a number" of leaks in it have recently been repaired, Dellinger said.

All three water officials said they are worried that the drastic reduction in annual rainfall may be the new normal for Lake County and California.

"We're concerned that we're going to be facing this issue far into the future," McDole said. "I've never lived through a drought like this."

Under the current stage one drought emergency, customers are asked to stop filling swimming pools and the stop watering lawns, trees, shrubs and gardens. Under a stage two emergency, there would be mandatory restrictions on non-essential water use and violators would face fines of up to $350 per day. Water usage would have to be reduced by 25 percent and there would be mandatory water rate increases.

A stage three emergency declaration would require additional conservation measures, additional rate increases and a reduction in water use of 35 percent. Under a stage four emergency, additional conservations measured would be instituted along with additional water rate increases. New connections to the water system would be prohibited.

"We are going to have to make choices on what we use water for," McDole said. "We may have to buy our tomatoes next year instead of growing our own."

A small number of water conserving devices were distributed free-of-charge to residents at the Saturday morning meeting. They included tablets to check toilets for leaks, low-flow shower heads, low-flow aerators, shower timers, and tank bags to lessen the amount of water toilets use per flush. The supply of devices was quickly exhausted.

The items are available free-of-charge from the Special Districts office, 230 N. Main St., Lakeport.

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Can Water Under the Mojave Desert Help Quench California?

By Peter Waldman March 06, 2014

California is parched. The state's worst drought in decades has left its reservoirs half-naked, if not skeletal. Officials say 17 communities could run out of drinking water this summer; some are considering mandatory rationing; and 500,000 acres in the state may be left fallow. For the first time in its 54-year history, the California State Water Project—the world's biggest plumbing network and the way millions of state residents get hundreds of billions of gallons of water—is essentially shutting down. In 2012 the project moved 815 billion gallons of fresh water from Northern California's rivers to 25 million people and a million acres of farmland in the arid central and southern parts of the state. Last year, the driest on record, the system delivered 490 billion gallons, down 40 percent. This year, the planned water distribution is zero.

Two-thirds of California's 38 million people and most of its $45 billion farm products depend on snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountain watersheds, imported via thousands of miles of pipelines, canals, and the Colorado River. Although snowfall is up this winter in the Rockies, precipitation in both mountain watersheds has been going down over the last 14 years, raising scary questions for the nation's most populous state: What if drought is the new normal? Where will California find the water it needs?

Scott Slater is convinced the solution lies underneath the Mojave Desert. His company, Cadiz (CDZI), wants to tap an aquifer beneath 34,000 acres of the eastern Mojave and sell the water to suburbs and subdivisions in the Los Angeles Basin. Cadiz, whose only mission is to sell the desert water, has teamed up with a public water agency in southern Orange County in an audacious proposal to pump 16.3 billion gallons a year toward the coast. Some of it will flow 200 miles from the aquifer. The water will travel through a 43-mile pipeline that Cadiz wants to build along a railroad spur, then merge into the Colorado River Aqueduct into Los Angeles.

Several politicians, ranchers, and environmentalists call Cadiz's proposal ludicrous. "How can a private company come out here and drain an entire basin of its groundwater for L.A.?" asks Ruth Musser-Lopez, an archaeologist in the Mojave town of Needles, Calif., 60 miles east of Cadiz's land. "That took thousands of years to seep down from the mountains. Water is just way too precious in the desert to let them take it away." Some potential beneficiaries of the plan are skeptical, too. "To take that water from the desert and use it to fill Mission Viejo's lakes? It's absurd," says Debbie Cook, the former mayor of Huntington Beach, Calif.

> "We call these 'zombie water projects.' … These things just don't die"

Yet things have gotten dire enough that some Californians are ready to listen. During the week Governor Jerry Brown

declared a drought emergency on Jan. 17, Cadiz's stock price jumped 23 percent, closing at $8.61 a share on Jan. 21, a 15-month high. Slater, a water lawyer who was named Cadiz's chief executive officer last April, already has the necessary permit to pump from San Bernardino County, where the aquifer is located. He also has six utilities in the Los Angeles area eager to buy the desert water.

"The state needs projects like this," says Slater, 56. Tall and lanky with gray-specked blonde hair, he sits in the company's 28th-floor headquarters overlooking downtown L.A. Prior to coming to Cadiz, Slater spent almost a decade representing the San Diego County Water Authority in the biggest farm-to-urban water transfer in U.S. history. He's written a two-volume textbook on California water law and has litigated some of the state's biggest water fights in recent years. In addition to running Cadiz, he remains a partner at Denver-based firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. Slater's confident his plan can work. "I want those molecules," he says. "We've harmonized uses in a way that's balanced and makes sense. This is an environmentally benign project that will help California overcome systemic water shortages." Cadiz hasn't earned a profit in 24 years and has yet to sell water. But it's been even longer since California had a drought like this.

Cadiz was founded in 1983 by British impresario Keith Brackpool and Mark Liggett, a mining geologist. They were looking for water sources that could be developed for farming and sale to California's burgeoning cities, says Timothy Shaheen, Cadiz's chief financial officer. After studying NASA images from space, Liggett persuaded Brackpool that the Fenner Gap, in the eastern Mojave, was the right spot.

Fenner Gap, where the aquifer lies, sits on the confluence of three watersheds spanning four desert mountain ranges. Cadiz bought a patchwork of plots from the railroads, amassing 34,000 acres in the Cadiz and Fenner valleys, plus 11,000 elsewhere in the Mojave. Cadiz took its name from the old railroad hamlet and valley just south of Fenner Gap, where an old Santa Fe railroad spur breaks southeast toward Parker, Ariz., and on to Phoenix. Santa Fe tankers used to supply fresh water from Cadiz Valley wells to silver, talc, and limestone mines in the area.

The company planted about 600 acres of grapes and citrus but had trouble making money, largely because of the expense of diesel to power the irrigation pumps, Shaheen says. The sole purpose became selling water. What Cadiz lacked in lemons, it made up for in juice. Spending personal money and cash raised from investors and lenders, Brackpool and Cadiz became big campaign contributors in California, giving to candidates in both parties, particularly former Governors Gray Davis and Arnold Schwarzenegger. At various times, Brackpool hired Antonio Villaraigosa, a former state assembly speaker and L.A. mayor; Bruce Babbitt, a former U.S. secretary of the Interior; and Susan Kennedy, ex-chief of staff for Schwarzenegger. Former Democratic U.S. Representative Tony Coelho served on Cadiz's board.

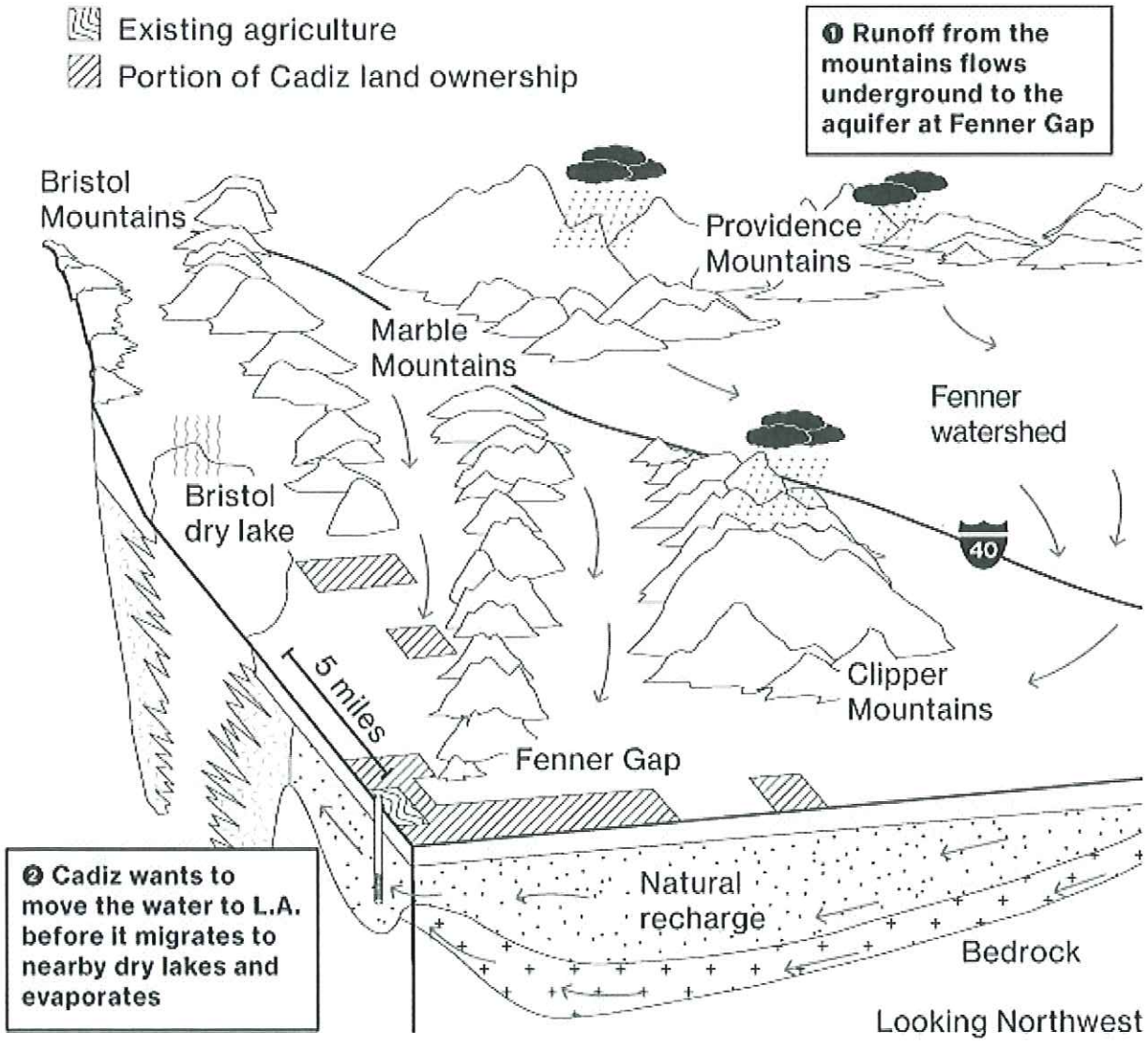
Cadiz declined to make Brackpool, also 56, available for an interview. He remains chairman after ceding the CEO post to Slater and taking a 31 percent cut in base pay, to $275,000 a year. He keeps racehorses in the U.S. and England and owns the Manhattan Country Club in Manhattan Beach. Brackpool was named chairman of the California Horse Racing Board by Schwarzenegger in 2010 and last year became CEO of the Santa Anita racetrack. Liggett is retired from Cadiz.

The company's last major water transport scheme, conceived in the mid-1990s, called for storing excess Colorado River water under Cadiz lands, then selling it to coastal communities during droughts. Cadiz stood to make as much as $20 million a year in revenue from the deal, which it pitched to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Known simply as the Met, the public agency based in Los Angeles distributed about 554 billion gallons of water to 19 million residents in Southern California last year, most of it imported from the State Water Project in Northern California and the Colorado River. After six years of development and controversy, the Met killed Cadiz's Colorado storage plan in 2002.

In the aftermath of the decision, Cadiz's stock tanked, but the company still paid Brackpool a $233,000 bonus in 2002, on top of his $500,000 salary. Lenders and investors covered the company's losses from 2003 through 2012 with multiple cash infusions, lured by the prospect of pumping water someday to L.A. Meanwhile, Brackpool received $14.4 million from Cadiz in salary and stock over the 10-year period, according to Securities and Exchange Commission filings. "I always wondered if this wasn't some sort of Ponzi scheme," says Cook, the former Huntington Beach mayor. She says she couldn't understand why Brackpool was paid so well for an incomplete project at an unprofitable company. Cadiz Vice President Courtney Degener strongly objects to Cook's musings, writing in an e-mail that Cadiz is "a regulated, audited, publicly traded company" and "information that unequivocally demonstrates that Cadiz is not a Ponzi scheme is readily available." Degener defended Brackpool's compensation as shareholder- approved and consistent with the long-term nature of the development.

In 2008, Slater, who had just joined Cadiz as general counsel, began repitching the company as a fresh water supplier. Because there's no excess flow in the Colorado any longer, he put off the storage component and rebranded, without irony, Cadiz's plan to pump the desert aquifer as a "conservation, recovery and storage project." Wells on the property will suck water from the underground rock formations and pump it through the 43-mile pipeline before it merges into the Met's aqueduct carrying Colorado River water from Arizona to the Los Angeles Basin.

Extracting the Water ...

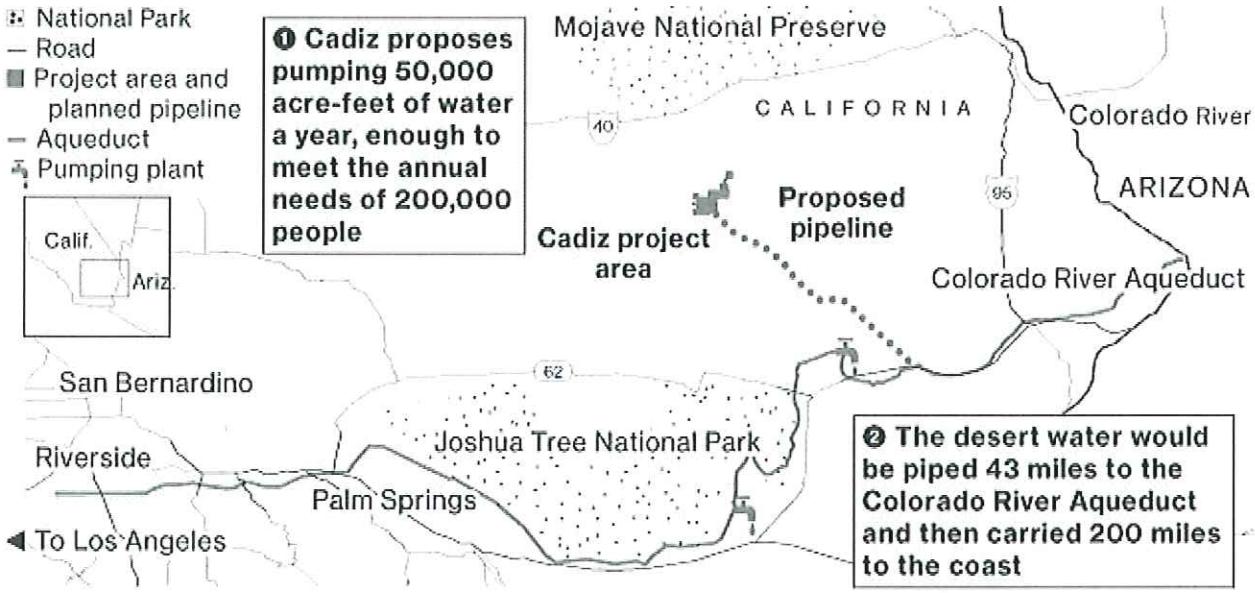


DATA COMPILED BY BLOOMBERG; GRAPHIC BY BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK

Slater says he wants to "conserve" the desert aquifer by pumping water out at a rate that's more than 50 percent faster than the aquifer naturally replenishes. As a result, the water table, or the level below the ground where the water lies, would drop as much as 80 feet.

That may not sound like conservation, but Cadiz consultants say pumping out the "temporary surplus" will reverse the aquifer's natural underground flow, keeping the water from migrating into a pair of nearby dry lakes, where it would evaporate. "Under state law, evaporation is waste. It's called 'unreasonable use,' " says Slater. "You don't let water leave the system if you can harvest it."

... and Moving It 200 Miles



DATA COMPILED BY BLOOMBERG; GRAPHIC BY BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK

The Santa Margarita Water District in southern Orange County, Cadiz's partner in the project, wants to use some of that harvested water. Right now the area's water comes entirely from the Met, says Dan Ferons, the agency's general manager. Santa Margarita plans to co-develop the desert aquifer to reduce its dependence on the Met by "diversifying our portfolio," Ferons says. Cadiz has agreed to pay almost all development costs. The desert water isn't meant to facilitate new real estate projects; all planned expansion in the district has already been accounted for, he says.

Slater says the desert water bonanza won't feed unsustainable growth around L.A., but history suggests otherwise. In a 2009 report called "Paper Water," Orange County's civil grand jury lambasted Santa Margarita's water planning. California law requires real estate projects with 500 or more units to get a "water supply assessment" from a water provider assuring it can service the new development. Santa Margarita's 2003 assessment for a 14,000-unit development called Rancho Mission Viejo was "based on a series of assumptions" about water availability "that have long since been superseded" by drought and other changes, wrote the citizens' watchdog group empaneled by the county. Rancho Mission Viejo is moving forward, while other proposals to build a toll road and housing on the county's southern coast remain held up by regulators.

"The desert aquifer is tied to growth on the southern coast. Why else would a small Orange County water agency do a project in the middle of the desert?" says Conner Everts of the Southern California Watershed Alliance. "We call these 'zombie water projects'—projects that come back to life when people worry about drought. At some point California is going to have to make water a much more serious part of land-use decisions."

Past droughts have produced zombie proposals such as bringing icebergs from Alaska by barge and towing acre-size plastic bags filled with water from Northern California rivers. This time around critics are sneering at Governor Brown's $15 billion plan to bore a pair of 30-mile tunnels east of Sacramento to channel Sierra Nevada runoff to critical agricultural land. The Poseidon desalinization proposal for northern Orange County, an area with plentiful groundwater and a successful water reuse program, also draws ridicule from Everts and other environmentalists, who say desalting seawater is expensive and emits greenhouse gases. "It's like Cadiz. These things just don't die," he says.

In the Mojave National Preserve above Fenner Gap, cowboy-poet Rob Blair, 57, has been running cattle on about 400,000 acres of federal land since childhood. Five generations of his family have lived in the same house on the 7IL Ranch, the last ranchers left in the preserve. His dad, 87, still lives there; so does his son, Cody, 22, who helps run the ranch.

Blair is worried that although Fenner Gap is about 40 miles away and 1,000 feet below the ranch, pumping the aquifer could dry up the springs in the preserve that sustain his 400 cattle. The National Park Service, in written comments on the Cadiz project in 2012, said it's "likely" some springs in the preserve are connected to the aquifer, a claim Slater says makes no scientific sense. The Park Service also said Cadiz's contention that the aquifer refills at the rate of about 30,000 acre-feet of water a year is "not reasonable and should not even be considered."

Blair has seen it take three years for storm runoff in the distant Providence Mountains to reach some of his wells. "There's no margin for error," he says. "If they start pumping and our water drops, I go out of business. They got no business taking our water to waste on lawns and sidewalks and swimming pools."

Blair's ranch and the Mojave National Preserve are protected by strict limits mandated by San Bernardino County in permitting Cadiz's pumping plan, says Christian Marsh, the county's special counsel. The county signed off on the Cadiz project after extensive due diligence and only when Cadiz agreed to monitor its pumping's impact on springs and wells throughout the area, says Marsh. If the water table drops below 80 feet, all pumping must stop. "The only way you'll know how the system reacts is to start pumping," he says.

Blair is unconvinced. "Once they start pumping, it isn't coming back."

Slater says he's hoping Cadiz will clear another hurdle in a few weeks, when a state judge in Orange County rules on whether it was appropriate for Santa Margarita, the project's co-developer and water customer, to lead the environmental review, rather than San Bernardino County, where the impacts will occur.

Photograph by John Francis PetersSlater at his L.A. office with a model of the aquifer under the desert

Senator Dianne Feinstein, who authored the bill that created the Mojave National Preserve in 1994 and sees the Cadiz pumps as a threat to one of her signature achievements, is keeping a close eye on the company. In January, the Democrat inserted a rider into a budget bill that bars the Department of the Interior from spending any money this fiscal year on reviewing the project for permits. "Severely drawing down the aquifer could damage that region of the Mojave Desert beyond repair," she wrote in an e-mail. "The bottom line is that right now we need more responsibility in how we use our water, not less."

Slater says he can be patient: "My 8-year-old son told me sometimes being cool means doing unpopular things."

Waldman is a reporter for Bloomberg News in San Francisco.
