



**REGULAR MEETING 8:00 A.M. OPERATIONS CENTER - 1200 SOUTH GENE AUTRY TRAIL – PALM SPRINGS – CALIFORNIA**

*About Desert Water Agency:*

Desert Water Agency operates independently of any other local government. Its autonomous elected board members are directly accountable to the people they serve. The Agency is one of the desert's two State Water Contractors and provides water and resource management, including recycling, for a 325-square-mile area of Western Riverside County, encompassing parts of Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, outlying Riverside County and Palm Springs.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 16, 2018**

**CIOFFI**

**3. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**KRAUSE**

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS - A. Executive – January 30, 2018**

**CIOFFI**

**5. PUBLIC INPUT:**

Members of the public may comment on any item not listed on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the Agency. In addition, members of the public may speak on any item listed on the agenda as that item comes up for consideration. Speakers are requested to keep their comments to no more than three (3) minutes. As provided in the Brown Act, the Board is prohibited from acting on items not listed on the agenda.

**6. ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

**A. Request Acceptance of 2016-17 Replacement Pipeline Project**

**JOHNSON**

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**A. State Water Contractors' Meeting – January 18, 2018**

**RIDDELL**

**B. Butterfly Garden Project (PPT)**

**METZGER**

**8. OUTREACH & CONSERVATION**

**METZGER**

**A. Media Information**

**B. Activities**

**9. DIRECTORS COMMENTS AND REQUESTS**

**10. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)

Name of Case: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. Coachella Valley Water District, et al

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)

Name of Case: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. County of Riverside, et al

**C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)

Name of Case: Mission Springs Water District vs. Desert Water Agency

**D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Property: APN 680-180-034; 3.23 acre parcel located 1,000 feet East of S. Gene Autry Trail on South Side of Dinah Shore Drive

Agency Negotiators: Mark S. Krause, General Manager

Negotiating Parties: Scott Stokes

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

**11. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**12. ADJOURN**

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting is asked to contact Desert Water Agency's Executive Secretary, at (760) 323-4971, at least 48 working hours prior to the meeting to enable the Agency to make reasonable arrangements. Copies of records provided to Board members, which relate to any agenda item to be discussed in open session may be obtained from the Agency at the address indicated on the agenda.

**MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
DESERT WATER AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2

**January 16, 2018**

DWA Board:	James Cioffi, President	)	<b>Attendance</b>
	Joseph K. Stuart, Vice President	)	
	Kristin Bloomer, Secretary-Treasurer	)	
	Patricia G. Oygur, Director	)	
	Craig A. Ewing, Director	)	

DWA Staff:	Mark S. Krause, General Manager	)
	Steve Johnson, Asst. General Manager	)
	Martin S. Krieger, Finance Director	)
	Sylvia Baca, Asst. Secretary of the Board	)
	Ashley Metzger, Outreach & Conserv. Mgr.	)
	John Ruiz, Interim Human Resources Mgr.	)

Consultant:	Michael T. Riddell, Best Best & Krieger	)
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Public:	David Freedman, P.S. Sustainability Comm.	)
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18001.	President Cioffi opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and asked everyone to join Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer in the Pledge of Allegiance.	<b>Pledge of Allegiance</b>
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18002.	President Cioffi called for approval of the December 19, 2017 Regular Board meeting minutes.	<b>Approval of 12/19/17 Regular Board Mtg. Minutes</b>
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Vice President Stuart moved for approval. After a second by Director Oygur, the minutes were approved as written.

18003.	President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to provide an update on Agency operations.	<b>General Manager's Report</b>
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Mr. Krause stated in late October 2017, a large boulder dislodged from the cliff above the Araby pipeline and slid into the pipeline which caused extensive damage. DWA contracted with Borden Excavating, Inc. to video inspect and replace the damaged pipeline. All of the work has been completed and the pipeline was placed back in service on January 8, 2018.

8" Araby Pipeline  
Repair Update

Mr. Krause reported that for the 2017 calendar year, approximately 378,450 acre-feet was delivered to the Whitewater Spreading Basins and 9,190 acre-feet to the Mission Creek Spreading Basins. The	<b>Water Delivery Update</b>
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Whitewater Hydro Plant produced over 7 million kwh for the year, enough to power approximately 600 homes for a year. The total amount of revenue received from SCE for the power production was \$643,718, which was shared equally between DWA and CVWD.

**GM Report**  
(Cont.)  
Water Delivery Update

Continuing his report, Mr. Krause stated that SGMA regulations do not provide a deadline for DWR's review of the submitted Alternative Plans. According to SGMA regulations, DWR must complete its review of "New" Groundwater Sustainability Plans (non-alternative plans) within 2 years. DWR has stated it wants to treat the Supplemental Plans like "New Plans"; therefore, they intend to review the Alternative Plans within 2 years of the submittal deadline, January 1, 2019. Regardless of the fact that DWR has not completed its review of DWA's submitted Alternative Plans for the Mission Creek and Indio Subbasins, they are requiring an update of the plans by April 1, 2018. It has been proposed by CVWD that the update be carried out by Stantec (formerly Montgomery Watson Harza Global). The GSA's in the Mission Creek and Indio Subbasins are discussing this proposal and funding split. DWA has agreed with approving Stantec's proposal and to an equal funding split among the participants in these subbasins. So far, only CVWD and DWA have reached this agreement.

SGMA Update

Mr. Krause stated on January 4 at approximately 4:30 p.m., construction staff responded to a hit fire hydrant on Radio Rd., east of McCarthy Rd; this was a hit and run. The hydrant was replaced and put back in service. The water loss was a fully open 6-inch hydrant bury which ran for approximately 30 minutes. A police report was filed.

Hit Fire Hydrant

Concluding his report, Mr. Krause noted the current system leak data, and meetings and activities he participated in during the past several weeks.

System Leak Data,  
General Manager's  
Meetings & Activities

18004. President Cioffi noted the minutes for the December 27, 2017 and January 9, 2018 Executive Committee were provided in the Board's packet.

**Committee Reports:**  
Executive 12/27/17 &  
January 9, 2018

18005. President Cioffi opened the meeting for public input.

**Public Input**

There being no one from the public wishing to address the Board, President Cioffi closed the public comment period.

18006. President Cioffi called upon Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer to provide an overview of financial activities for the month of December 2017.

**Secretary-Treasurer's  
Report (December)**

Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer reported that the Operating Fund received \$2,463,843 in Water Sales Revenue, \$90,770 in Reclamation Sales Revenue and \$283,080 in Meter Sales and Services Revenue. \$958,755 was paid out in Accounts Payable. Year-to-date Water Sales are 6% over budget,

Operating Fund

Year-to-date Total Revenues are 11% over budget and Year-to-date Total Expenses are 19% under budget. There were 22,503 active services as of December 31 compared to 22,498 as of November 30.

**Secretary-Treasurer's  
Report  
(Cont.)**

Reporting on the General Fund, Ms. Bloomer stated that \$4,968,175 was received in Property Tax Revenue and \$51,922 from SCE for November Whitewater Hydro Power Sales. There was \$10,000 included in the miscellaneous receipts total from CVWD for Round 1 Proposition 84 grant funds (escrow refund). \$679,825 was paid in State Water Project Charges (YTD SWP Payments \$7,981,820).

General Fund

Reporting on the Wastewater Fund, Ms. Bloomer stated that \$6,751 was received in sewer capacity charges. There were a total of 48 sewer contracts, with total delinquents of 15 (31%). \$64,991 was paid out in Accounts Payable.

Wastewater Fund

18007. President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to present staff's request for approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) update for the Customer Assistance Program with United Way of the Desert (UWD).

**Items for Action:**  
Request Approval of  
MOU Update with  
United Way of the  
Desert

Mr. Krause noted in September 2016, the Agency entered into a MOU with UWD establishing a need-based customer assistance program. Proposed changes include: 1) Allow customers to apply twice a year, and 2) UWD's administration fee change from \$50 per month to 10% of all transactions (\$5 per successful customer inquiry). The Agency expects a reduction in administrative costs with this change. Staff requests Board authorization for the Agency to enter into a new MOU with UWD updating its customer assistance program. Also requested is authorization for the General Manager to make minor modifications, to the MOU in the future; major changes would be brought back to the Board of Directors for review.

Director Ewing made a motion to approve staff's recommendations regarding the United Way of the Desert customer assistance program. Vice President Stuart seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

18008. President Cioffi called upon Assistant General Manager Johnson to present staff's request for approval of addition of an Outreach Specialist I/II and January 1, 2018 Position Classification Schedule.

Request Approval of  
Outreach Specialist I/II  
& January 2018  
Position Classification  
Schedule

Mr. Johnson explained the Outreach and Conservation department is comprised of the Outreach and Conservation Manager and Associate positions. Within the past two years, it has become evident that current staffing levels cannot effectively handle both public outreach and conservation. The 2017/2018 approved budget included money for a new position within the department. The new position (Outreach Specialist I/II)

would focus on public outreach and promote DWA in publications, social media and at public events. Both the Outreach and Conservation Manager and management have recommended this position to focus entirely on public outreach.

**Action Items:**

(Cont.)

Request Approval of  
Outreach Specialist I/II  
& January 2018  
Position Classification  
Schedule

Continuing his report, Mr. Johnson noted that a salary survey was taken of five comparison agencies. Based upon the survey, staff is proposing a monthly salary range 41 (\$5,458-\$6,650) for the Outreach Specialist I position and monthly salary range 45 (\$6,024-\$7,343) for the Outreach Specialist II position. Funding of \$67,982 (\$5665.16 monthly equivalent) was included in the 2017/18 fiscal year budget and will result in a 1% payroll increase. Staff recommends approval of addition of an Outreach Specialist I/II and January 1, 2018 Position Classification Schedule.

Vice President Stuart made a motion to approve staff's recommendation of addition of an Outreach Specialist I/II and January 1, 2018 Position Classification Schedule. After a second by Director Ewing, the motion carried unanimously.

18009. President Cioffi called upon Assistant General Manager Johnson to present staff's request for adoption of DWA policy prohibiting workplace bullying effective January 16, 2018.

Request Adoption of  
DWA Policy  
Prohibiting Workplace  
Bullying

Mr. Johnson explained like harassment, bullying hurts another person through cruel, offensive and insulting behavior, but is not discriminatory. Staff with the recommendation of the Agency's labor attorney; desire to be at the forefront of addressing this issue, which may be regulated in the near future. The proposed policy would prohibit workplace bullying. Staff recommends adoption of the proposed Policy Prohibiting Workplace Bullying effective January 16, 2018.

Vice President Stuart questioned Section IIIB stating "supervisors" who observe.

Discussion ensued regarding the consistency of Section IIIB with the proposed revised Drug Free and Safe Workplace policy in the next agenda item which states "any employee" who observes... rather than "supervisors".

Staff was directed to clarify the reporting procedures as mentioned in Section IIIB.

Director Oygur made a motion to approve staff's recommendation noting the revision as discussed. After a second by Director Ewing, the motion carried unanimously.

18010. President Cioffi called upon Assistant General Manager Johnson to present staff's request for adoption of DWA Drug Free and Safe Workplace Policy Revisions.

**Action Items:**

(Cont.)

Request Adoption of  
DWA Drug Free and  
Safe Workplace Policy  
Revisions

Mr. Johnson stated with the passage of Proposition 64 (Adult use marijuana act), revisions have been proposed to the Agency's Drug Free and Safe Workplace Policy that address Prop. 64. The revisions have been reviewed and approved by the Agency's labor attorney, Joseph Ortiz.

Because of the various changes in this industry, Director Ewing suggested revisiting the policy on a more frequent basis, as needed.

Director Ewing made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. After a second by Director Oygar, the motion carried unanimously.

18011. President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to present staff's request for Board authorization of stipend and mileage reimbursement to Vice President Stuart.

Request Authorization  
of Stipend & Mileage  
Reimbursement to Vice  
President Stuart

Mr. Krause stated there will be an upcoming Irrigation Leader workshop in Phoenix, Arizona. Both General Manager Krause and Vice President Stuart will be meeting with John B. Weldon, Jr. and Patrick Sigl, a Supervising Attorney in the Land and Water Rights Section of Law Services for the Salt River Project advising on water rights and water rights litigation. Vice President Stuart is requesting the Board authorize his expense reimbursement of mileage and one day of service to the Board.

Director Ewing made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. After a second by President Cioffi, the motion carried unanimously.

18012. Mr. Krause provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2017 Capital Improvement projects, which included: (1) Pipeline replacements; (2) Vehicle replacements; (3) Replacement equipment; (4) Vegetation screen installation; (5) Well 17 Fence installation; (6) Reclamation Plant Fence installation; (7) Electrical Upgrades; (8) Valve upgrades; (9) Filter upgrades; (10) Snow Creek Bridge lumber replacement; (11) Operations Center landscape rock installation; (12) Server room air conditioning installation; and (13) Operations Center carpet replacement.

**Discussion Items:**

2017 Capital  
Improvement Projects

18013. President Cioffi asked Agency Counsel Riddell to provide a report on the December 21, 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Water Contractors, Inc.

SWC Mtg. 12/21/17

Mr. Riddell provided a report on the following items: 1) DWR Policy Memo on Water Management Issues, 2) Board Action Items, 3) Water Supply Report, and 4) Update on Water Supply Objections.

**Discussion Items:**  
(Cont.)  
SWC Mtg. 12/21/17

18014. President Cioffi asked General Manager Krause to report on the December water reduction figures.

December Water  
Reduction Figures

Mr. Krause reported that the Agency and its customers achieved a 7% reduction in potable water production during December 2017 compared to the same month in 2013. He noted the amount of fresh water outflow to the ocean was 434,840-acre feet.

18015. President Cioffi noted that Board packets included Outreach & Conservation reports for December 2017.

**Outreach &  
Conservation –  
December 2017**

Mrs. Metzger noted the upcoming events for later this month and February.

18016. President Cioffi stated that he and Outreach & Conservation Manager Metzger attended CVWD's January 9 Board meeting where they presented a resolution recognizing CVWD's 100 year anniversary.

**Directors  
Comments/Requests**

18017. At 9:21 a.m., President Cioffi convened into Closed Session for the purpose of Conference with Legal Counsel, (A) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. Coachella Valley Water District, et al; (B) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), ACBCI vs. County of Riverside, et al; (C) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), Mission Springs Water District vs. Desert Water Agency, (D) Potential Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), One case; and (E) Real Property Negotiators, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, Property: APN 680-180-034, Agency Negotiator(s) Mark S. Krause, General Manager, Negotiating Parties: Scott Stokes, Under Negotiation: Price and Terms.

**Closed Session:**  
A. Existing Litigation –  
ACBCI vs. CVWD, et  
al.  
B. Existing Litigation –  
ACBCI vs. Riverside  
County  
C. Existing Litigation –  
MSWD vs. DWA  
D. Potential Litigation –  
1 Case  
E. Real Property  
Negotiators  
APN No. 680-180-034

18018. At 11:04 a.m., President Cioffi reconvened the meeting into open session and announced there was no reportable action.

**Reconvene –No  
Reportable Action**

18019. In the absence of any further business, President Cioffi adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

**Adjournment**

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Cioffi, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph K. Stuart, Vice President

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT FEBRUARY 6, 2018

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On the weekend of January 19, THE WORKS FLOOR & WALL removed and replaced the carpet in the Board Conference room, Finance Director's office, and the second half of the Information Systems department. Grayco Electric removed the trip hazard in the Finance Director's office by saw cutting a trench in the concrete and routed electrical wiring and data wire through conduit to his computer. Construction and Information Systems departments contributed their skills and talent to this project. This concludes the carpet replacement project for the 2017-18 Capital Improvement budget.



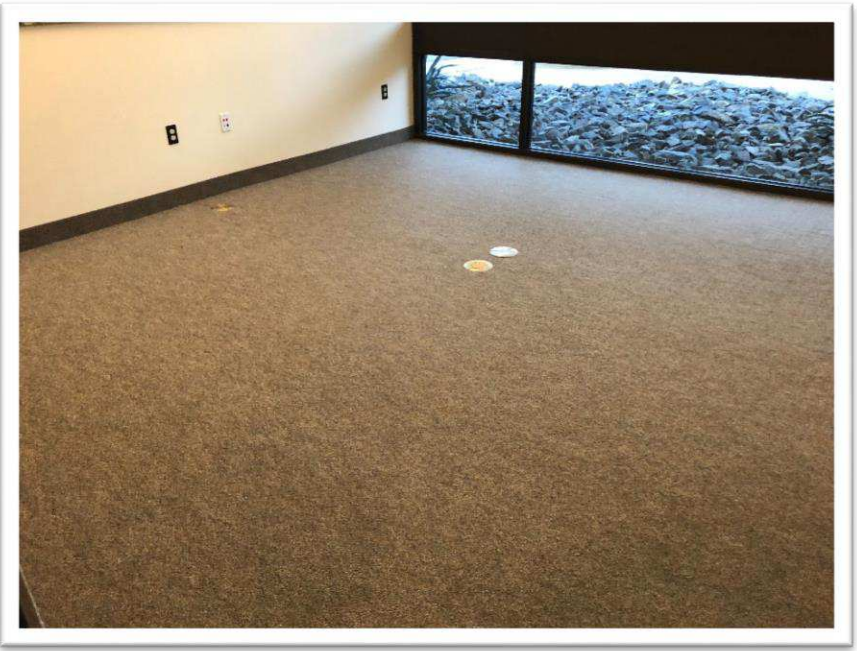
**Board Conference Room**





Carpet Install  
(Cont.)

**Finance Director's  
Office**

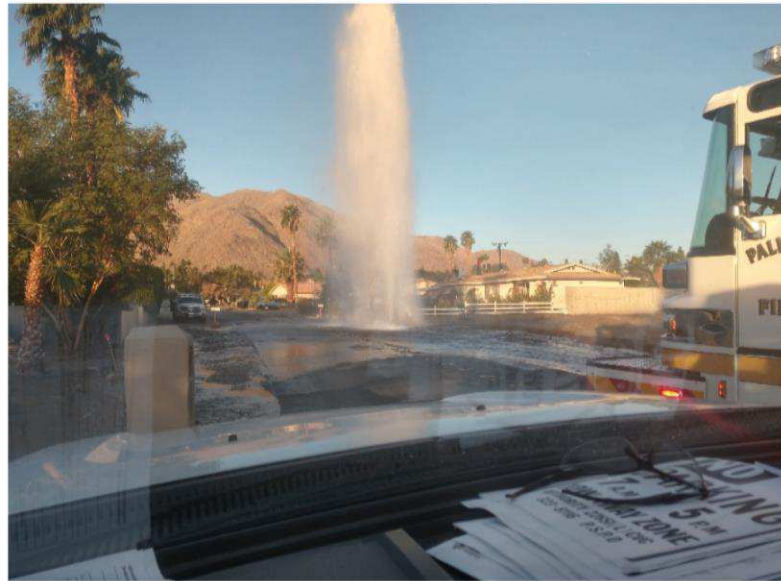


**Carpet Install  
(Cont.)**

**Info. Systems Dept.**

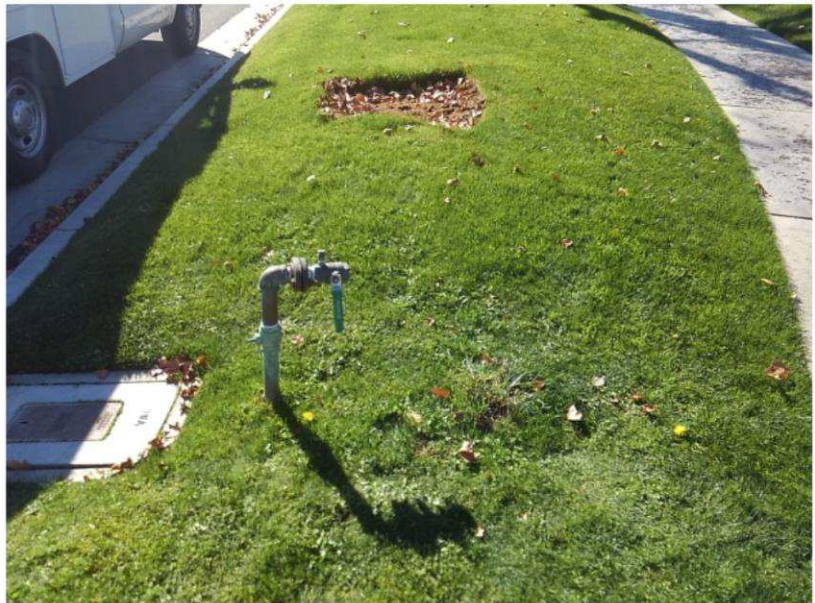


On January 15 at approximately 7:00 a.m., construction responded to a hit fire hydrant on the 500 block of Yorba Rd. Staff was able to replace the gasket, breakaway bolts and put the hydrant back into service. The estimated water loss was based on a fully open 6-inch fire hydrant bury which ran for approximately 40 minutes. A police report was filed.





On January 26, construction was notified that two 2-inch backflows were stolen from 2440 A-F and 2450 A-F Birdie Way (Tahquitz Creek Golf Course area). Construction personnel made repairs, replaced the backflows and put them back into service. The customer filed a police report and the water loss was metered.



On January 26 there was another backflow stolen, also from the Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort area. This was a 3/4-inch backflow located on Brentwood Dr., south of Cherry Hills Dr., which provides service to Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort. Staff received its manager's approval to replace the backflow and placed it back into service. The water loss was metered and a police report was filed by the customer.



DWA offices will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of the President's Day holiday.



### **Water Delivery Update**

For the month of January 2018, approximately 10,200 AC-FT was delivered to the Whitewater Spreading Basins. On January 30, 2018, delivery flows were reduced from 170 CFS to 75 CFS. MWD requested the reduction so that they could deliver more water to their facilities. The reduction forced the shutdown of the hydro plant. The flow rate will remain at 75 CFS until February 13, 2018, when the flow will be reduced to 0 CFS for the aqueduct maintenance. The maintenance work will continue through mid-March 2018.

The Whitewater Hydro plant generated approximately 636,390 kWh for the month of January 2018 and we anticipate receiving approximately \$55,900 from SCE for the electricity produced. The plants turbine and generator equipment will be inspected by a qualified contractor during the aqueduct maintenance shutdown period, making any necessary repairs that may be required.

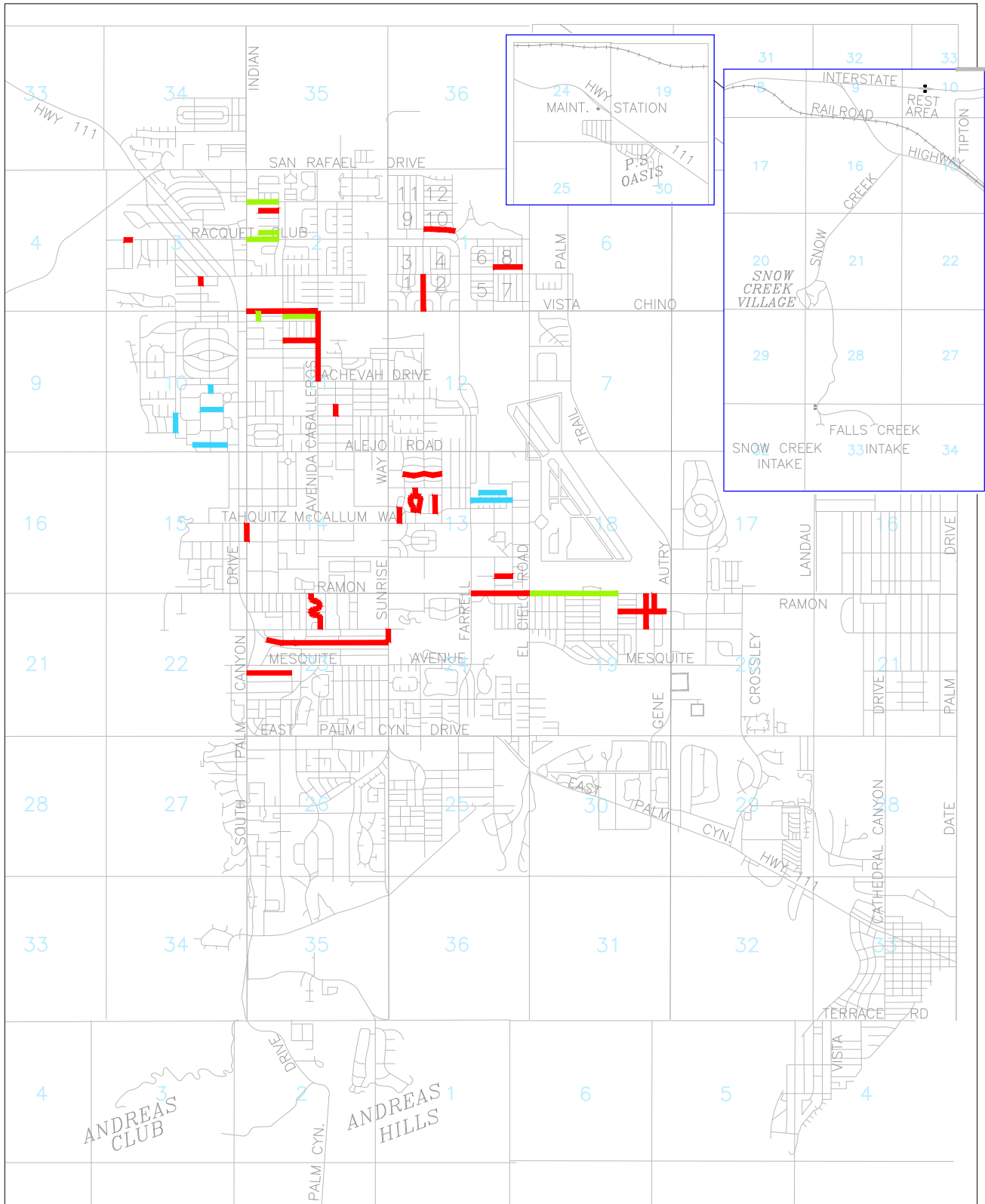
### **SWP Allocation**

On January 29, we received notice from DWR that our water allocation will be increased to 20%.

<b>SYSTEM LEAK DATA</b>		
<b>(PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 10, 2018 THRU JANUARY 30, 2018)</b>		
<b>STREET NAME</b>	<b>QUARTER SECTION</b>	<b>NUMBER OF LEAKS</b>
LIVMOR AVE	4413NE	6
VISTA CHINO (20")	4411NW	6
MOUNTAIN VIEW PL	4410SE	5
CHIA RD	4411NW	5
CAMINO PAROCELA	4519NE	5
RAMON RD (12")	4519NW	3
CHAPARRAL RD	4411NW	2
FRANCIS DR	4402NW	2
VIA MONTE VISTA	4410SW	2
PAROCELA PL (WARM SANDS DR)	4423NE	2
VIA VAQUERO	4413SE	2
COTTONWOOD RD	4411NW	1
RACQUET CLUB RD (8")	4402NW	1
DESERT HOLLY CIR	4402NW	1
LAUREL CIR	4402NW	1
PLAIMOR AVE	4413NE	1
CAHUILLA RD (5")	4410SE	1
CHINO DR	4410SE	1
DESERT PALMS DR	4413NW	1
VENTURA RD	4401SE	1
OLEANDER RD	4519NE	1
PALO VERDE AVE	4423SW	1
WILLIAMS RD	4519NE	1
RACQUET CLUB RD	4403SW	1
CERRITOS DR	4413NW	1
ARQUILLA RD	4411SE	1
DEL LAGO RD	4401NW	1
RAMON RD (12")	4424NE	1
DEBBY DR	4413NW	1
CERRITOS DR	4401SW	1
SUNRISE WAY (8")	4423NE	1
INDIAN CANYON DR (10")	4415SE	1
VIA DEL NORTE	4403SE	1
LURING DR	4413NW	1
AVENIDA CABALLEROS (20")	4411NW	1
N RIVERSIDE DR	4423NW	1
<b>TOTAL LEAKS IN SYSTEM:</b>		<b>65</b>

\* Streets highlighted in green are scheduled to be replaced as part of the  
**2017/2018 Replacement Pipeline Project**

\* Streets highlighted in blue are being proposed as part of the  
**2018/2019 Replacement Pipeline Project**



## SYSTEM LEAKS

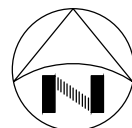
(Period beginning January 10, 2018  
thru January 30, 2018)

DESERT WATER AGENCY  
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

### LEGEND

- LEAK(S) RECORDED
- LEAK(S) RECORDED;  
INCLUDED IN 2017/18  
REPLACEMENT PIPELINES
- LEAK(S) RECORDED;  
INCLUDED IN PROPOSAL  
FOR 2018/19  
REPLACEMENT PIPELINES

DWG. BY  
SR



DATE  
1/18

SCALE  
NTS

EXHIBIT  
"A"



## General Manager's Meetings and Activities:

### Meetings:

01/15/18	Weekly Staff Meeting, I.S. Meeting, Snow Crk Security	DWA
01/16/18	Bi-Monthly Regular DWA Board Meeting	DWA
01/17/18	SWC Monthly Delta Committee Meeting	Sacramento
01/17/18	SWC Policy Meeting	Sacramento
01/18/18	SWC Monthly Board Meeting	Sacramento
01/18/18	SWC-SFWCA Monthly Board Meeting	Sacramento
11/19/18	Sites Reservoir Committee Monthly Meeting	Sacramento
01/22/18	DWA Awards Breakfast Coordination Mtg	DWA
01/22/18	Cal WaterFix Contract Amendment Caucus	Conf. Call
01/22/18	DWA/CVWD/MWD Monthly Coordination Call	Conf. Call
01/22/18	Weekly Bob Reeb Mtg.	Conf. Call
01/23/18	Indio SB Alt. GSP Annual Rpt Kickoff Mtg.	CVWD
01/23/18	2004 Settlement Agmt General Managers Qtrly Mtg	CVWD
01/24/18	Mtg w/CVWD planning for MWD Agmt Amendments	Conf. Call
01/24/18	CRA Shutdown Coordination Meeting	Conf. Call
01/24/18	Colorado Water Congress – Water Law Seminar	Conf. Call
01/24/18	Indio SB GSA & Tribal Workgroup Meeting	Coachella
01/25/18	MSWD PRA DWA Staff Coordination Meeting	DWA
01/26/18	DWA Awards Breakfast	DWA
01/27/18	Weekly Staff Meeting, I.S. Meeting, Snow Crk Security	DWA
01/28/18	Construction Department Mtg	DWA
01/30/18	Irrigation Leader O&M Workshop Presentation	Phoenix
01/30/18	Water Management Discussions	Phoenix

### Activities:

- 1) SGMA – Annual Alternative GW Sustainability Plan Update Due in April 2018
- 2) E-Billing – Implementing customer payment history capabilities
- 3) E-Billing - Implementing Customer One Time Payment Option
- 4) Outreach Talking Points – KESQ
- 5) Snow Creek Hydro SCE contract extension – ongoing
- 6) Whitewater Hydro – Facility Bypass Pipeline
- 7) State and Federal Contractors Water Authority and Delta Specific Project Committee (Standing)
- 8) MSWD Settlement Agreement and MOA from Mediation
- 9) ACBCI Section 14 Facilities & Easements
- 10) Lake Oroville Spillway Damage
- 11) Replacement Pipelines 2017-2018
- 12) CWF – Phasing Concepts
- 13) DWA/CVWD/MWD Operations Coordination/Article 21/Pool A/Pool B/Yuba Water
- 14) DWA/CVWD/MWD Agreements Update
- 15) SGMA Alternative Plans and Bridge Documents
- 16) SWP 2018 Water Supply

Activities:  
(Cont.)

- 17) ACBCI Law Suits
- 18) Lake Perris Dam Remediation
- 19) Section 14 Pipeline Easements
- 20) DOI Regulation
- 21) 218 Applicability to Groundwater Recharge Assessment
- 22) A.B. 1562
- 23) Repair of Facility Access Roads Damaged in the September 10 Storm (Araby)
- 24) Whitewater Hydro Operations Coordination with Recharge Basin O&M
- 25) Multi-Agency Rate Study
- 26) SGMA Tribal Stakeholder Meetings
- 27) Whitewater Spreading Basins – BLM Permits
- 28) Lake Perris Dam Seepage Recovery Project Participation
- 29) Cal Waterfix Cost Allocation
- 30) DWA Surface Water Filtration Feasibility Study
- 31) Modification of our CVRWMP Boundary
- 32) MSWD Mediation
- 33) Review Documents for MSWD Public Records Act Request
- 34) CV-Link Solar
- 35) S1464 - Water Conservation Tax Parity Act (Conservation Rebate Tax)
- 36) CVWD 100 Year Anniversary Resolution
- 37) CRA & SWP Tours 2018
- 38) 3M Glass Shield
- 39) Snow Creek Gate Locks
- 40) MCSB Delivery Updates
- 41) DWA SWP Contract Amendment No. 20

**Minutes**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
January 30, 2018

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**Directors Present:** Jim Cioffi, Joe Stuart

**Staff Present:** Mark Krause, Martin Krieger, Steve Johnson

**1. Discussion Items**

A. Review Agenda for February 6, 2018 Regular Board Meeting

The proposed agenda for the February 6, 2018 meeting was reviewed.

B. CRA Hoover Dam Tour Update

The Committee and staff reviewed the draft list of invitees.

**2. Other**

A. Special District Selection Committee

The Committee reviewed correspondence from Riverside LAFCO regarding Special District appointments to the Oversight Board.

B. Additional Informed Written Consent (CV Link Project)

Staff informed the Committee about Best Best & Krieger's Additional Informed Written Consent concerning the CV Link project. This is an expanded scope of work regarding the waiver signed on April 25, 2014.

**3. Adjourn**

**STAFF REPORT  
TO  
DESERT WATER AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

**RE: REQUEST ACCEPTANCE OF 2016/2017 REPLACEMENT  
PIPELINES (W. PASEO EL MIRADOR, E. PASEO EL MIRADOR,  
PASATIEMPO RD., LINDA VISTA RD., BROADMOOR DR., VIA  
MONTE VISTA, E. CAMINO NORTE, VINE AVE., STEVENS RD.,  
W. CAMINO NORTE, AND SUNNY DUNES RD.)**

The 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Budget included Work Order 16-160 for installation of replacement pipelines in the amount of \$3,372,600.00 (including project engineering, overheads, construction and inspection).

All project work was performed by Borden Excavating, Inc. under Work Order 16-160, a total of 15,989 linear feet of 8" and 16" ductile iron pipe has been installed. Additional streets were added to the project via change order due to a significant increase in leak activity that resulted in the need for immediate pipeline replacement. The original project completion date was extended to December 15, 2017, as a result of the additional streets. The final pipelines were accepted into the system on November 27, 2017. All remaining punch list items and pavement rehabilitation were completed as of January 15, 2018.

The adjusted contract amount is summarized as follows:

Engineer's Estimate	\$3,113,100.00
Original Contract	\$2,314,777.00
Change Order #1	(\$21,916.67)
Change Order #2	\$415,720.00
Change Order #3	\$38,937.20
Final Contract Amount	\$2,747,517.53

Contract Change Order No. 1 yielded a net decrease in the contract amount as a result of the following items:

1. Removal of bid items for pavement, pipe and repair of existing utilities. Said work was not completed.

Contract Change Order No. 2 yielded a net increase in the contract amount as a result of the following items:

1. Addition of 2,625 linear feet of 8" ductile iron pipe and appurtenances on Saturmino Dr., Belding Dr., and Desert Palms Dr., including pavement replacement.

Contract Change Order No. 3 yielded a net increase in the contract amount as a result of the following items:

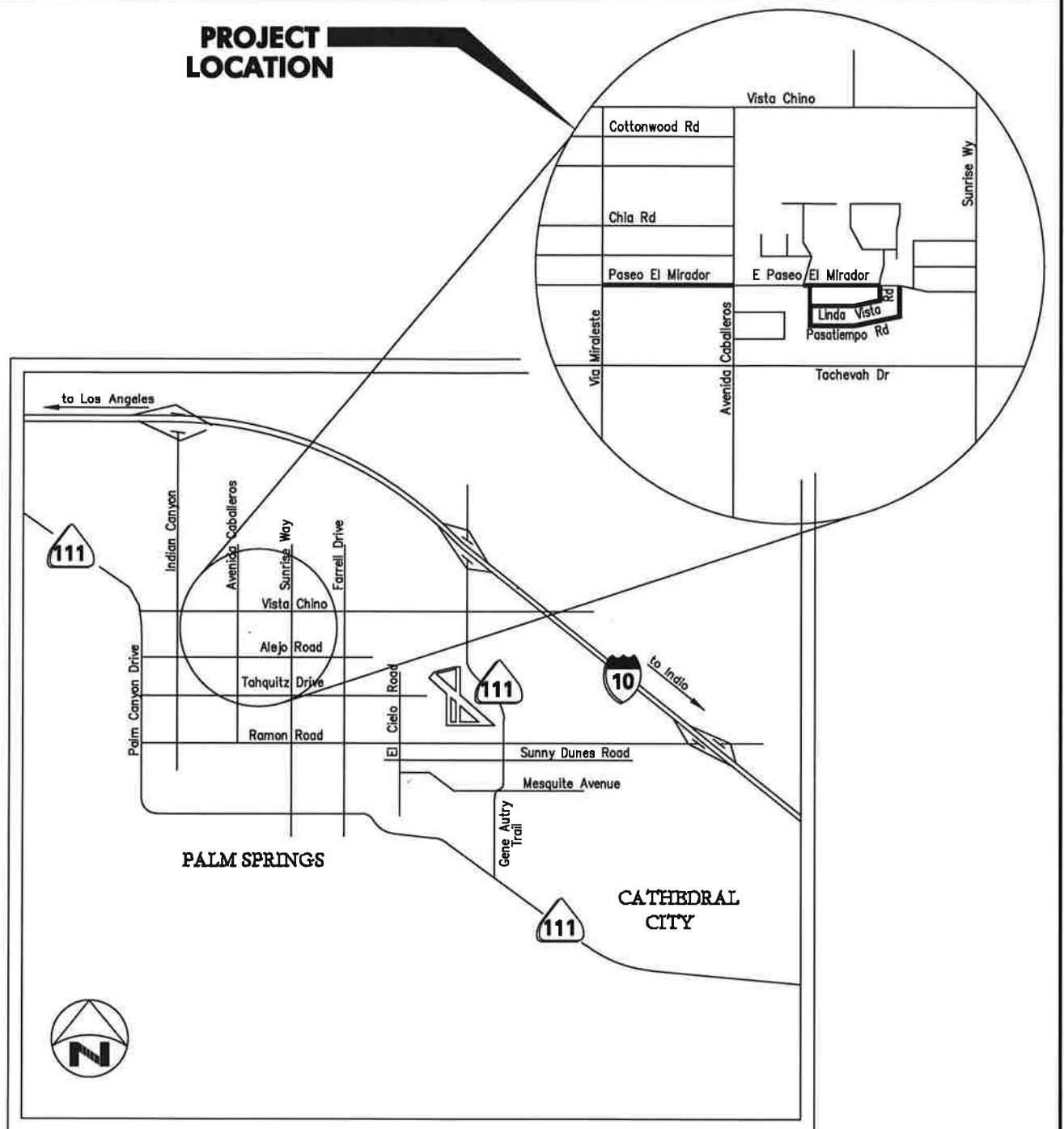
1. Additional paving required in the Las Palmas neighborhood due to the removal of larger than anticipated boulders in the vicinity of the mainline trench that resulted in wider trenches than anticipated.

Total estimated charges for the 2016/2017 Replacement Pipelines project on Work Order 16-160 are \$3,013,850.00 (including project engineering, overheads, construction and inspection).

To date, no stop notices have been filed with the Agency.

Staff recommends the Agency accept said work in the amount of \$2,747,517.53. Subsequent to Board acceptance, a Notice of Completion will be filed and the Agency will make final payment to Borden Excavating, Inc. Thereafter, following the lien period, the Agency will release retained funds to Borden Excavating, Inc.

# PROJECT LOCATION

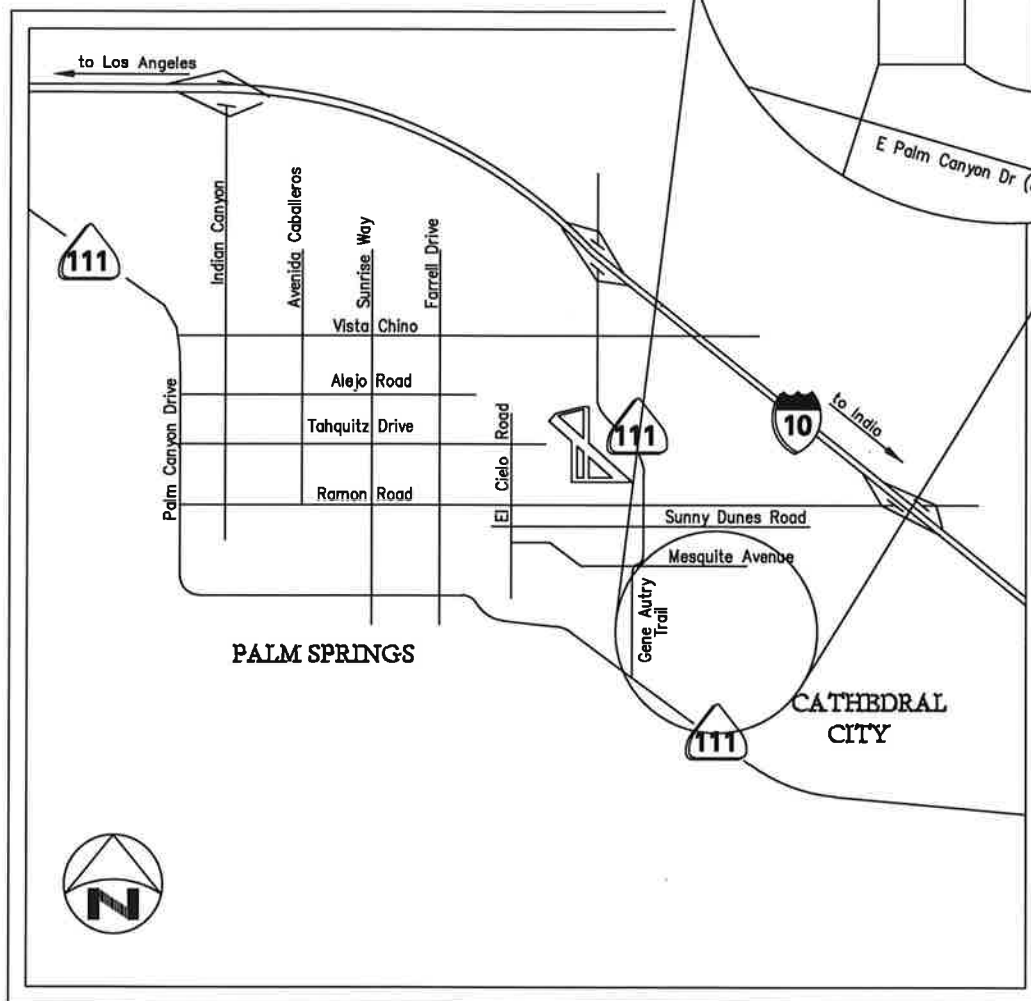


## LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE

<b>FY 2016/2017</b> <b>REPLACEMENT PIPELINES</b> <b>AREA 1</b> <b>DESERT WATER AGENCY</b> <b>PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA</b>	DWG. BY	DATE	SCALE	W.O.NO.
	SER	2/17	N.T.S.	16-160
	APP'D BY	REVISED	PERMIT	FILE NO.
	MK			
	CHK'D BY			SHEET
	DT			1 OF 5

# PROJECT LOCATION

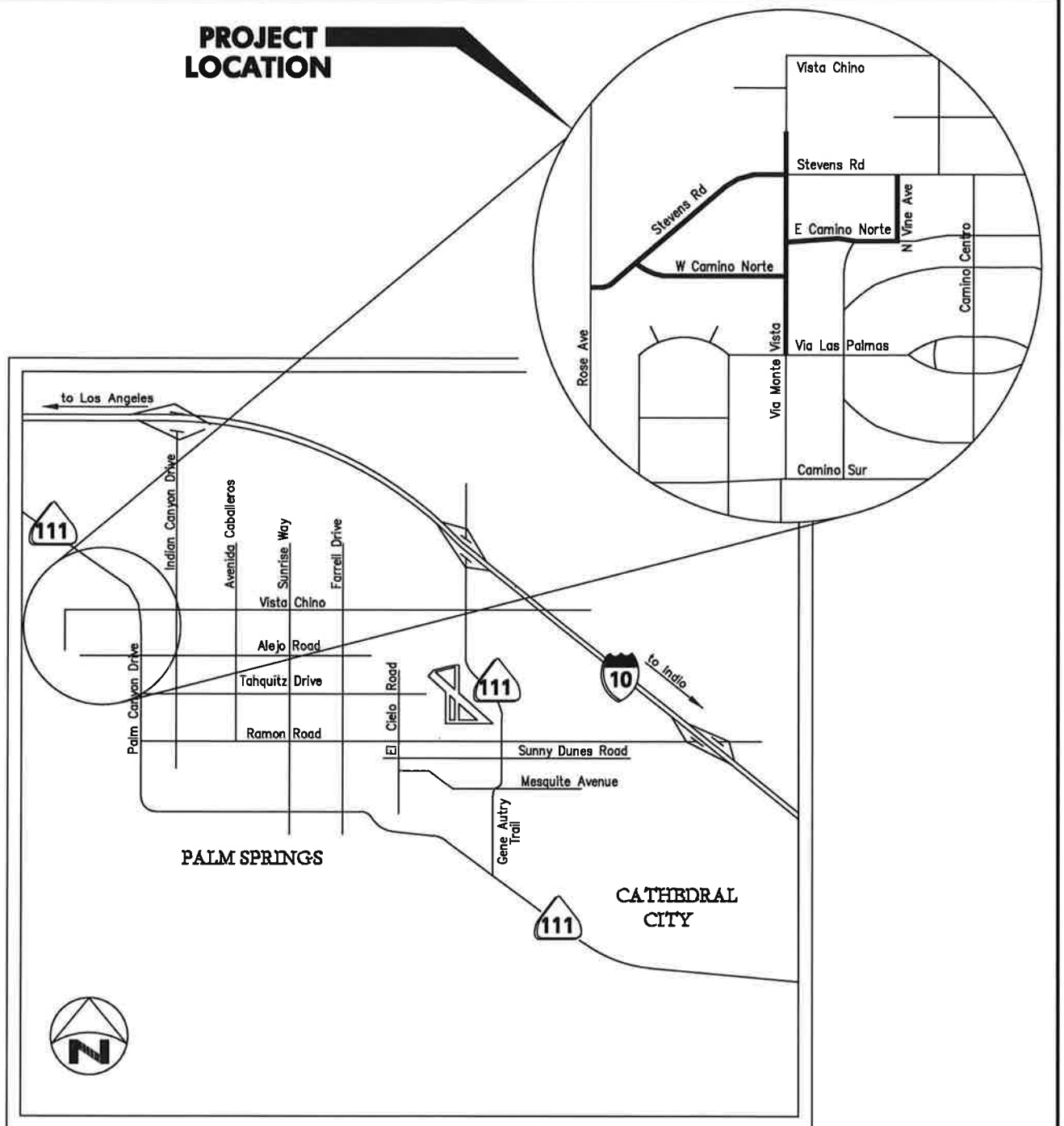


## LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE

<b>FY 2016/2017</b> <b>REPLACEMENT PIPELINES</b> <b>AREA 2</b> <b>DESERT WATER AGENCY</b> <b>PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA</b>	DWG. BY	DATE	SCALE	W.O.NO.
	SER	2/17	N.T.S.	16-160
	APP'D BY	REVISED	PERMIT	FILE NO.
	MK			
	CHK'D BY			SHEET
	DT			2 OF 5

# PROJECT LOCATION



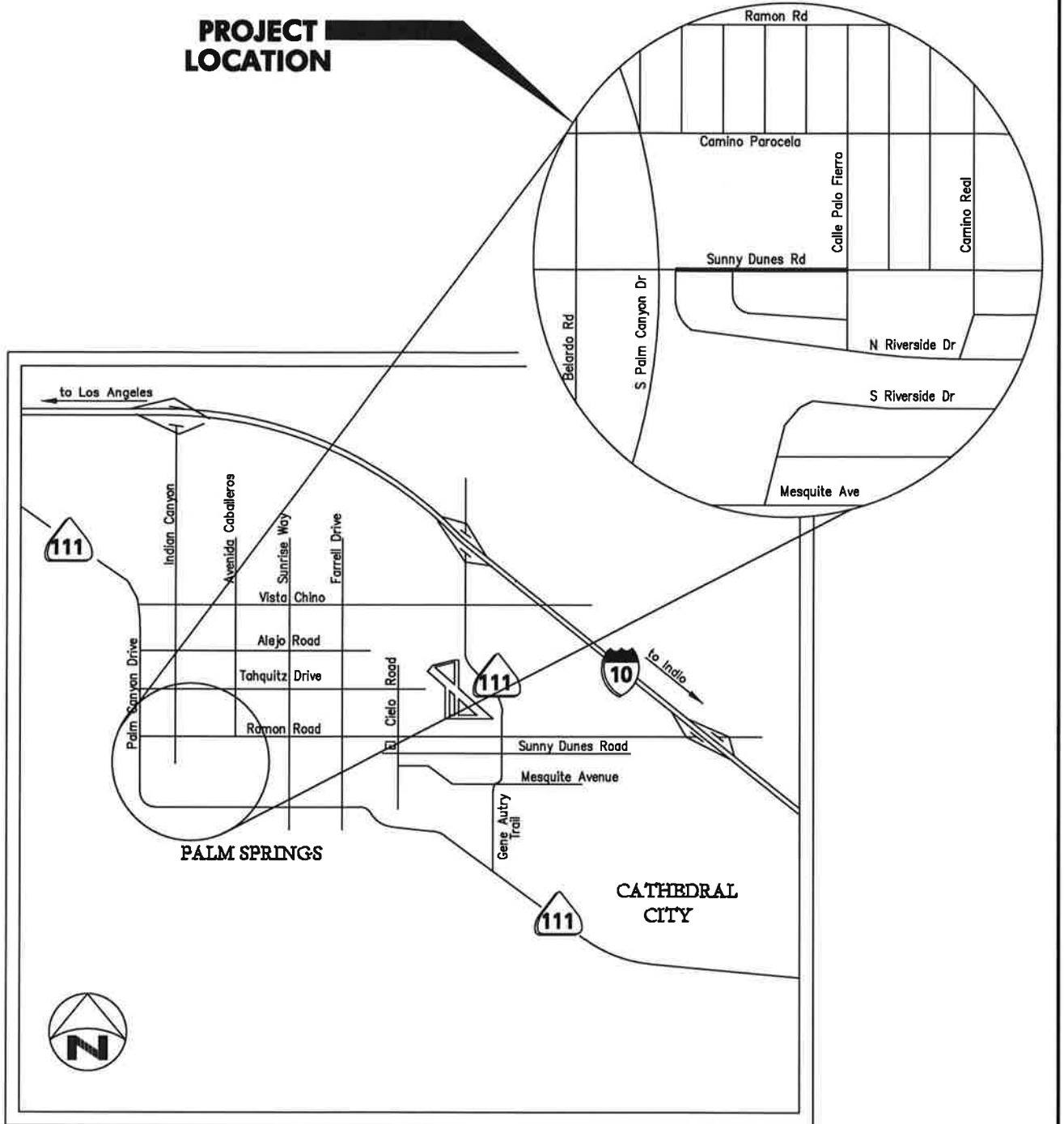
## LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE

<b>FY 2016/2017</b> <b>REPLACEMENT PIPELINES</b> <b>AREA 3</b> <b>DESERT WATER AGENCY</b> <b>PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA</b>	<b>DWG. BY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SCALE</b>	<b>W.O.NO.</b>
	<b>SER</b>	<b>2/17</b>	<b>N.T.S.</b>	<b>16-160</b>
	<b>APP'D BY</b>	<b>REVISED</b>	<b>PERMIT</b>	<b>FILE NO.</b>
	<b>CHK'D BY</b>			<b>SHEET</b>
	<b>DT</b>			<b>3 OF 5</b>



# PROJECT LOCATION

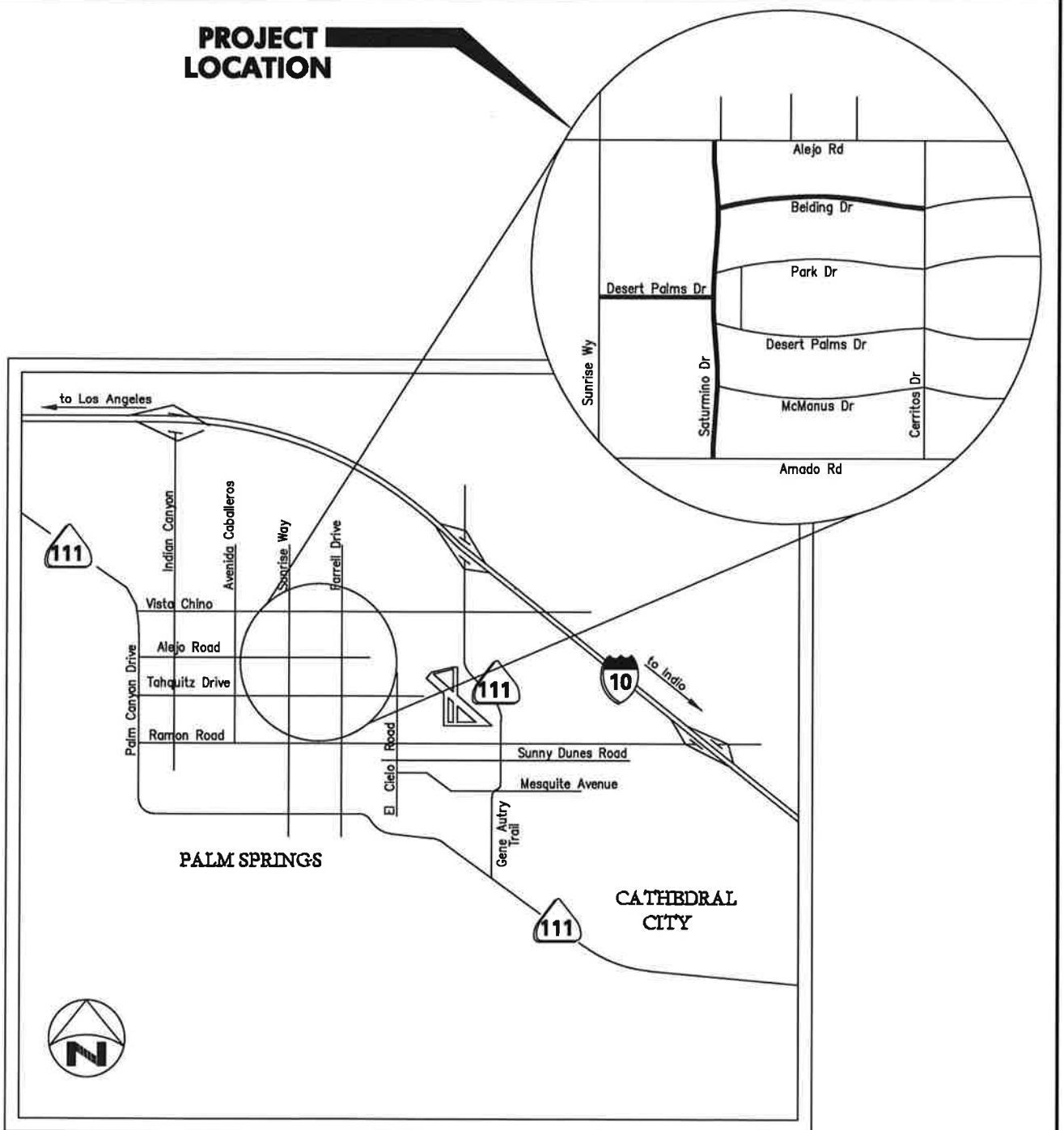


## LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE

<b>FY 2016/2017</b> <b>REPLACEMENT PIPELINES</b> <b>AREA 4</b> <b>DESERT WATER AGENCY</b> <b>PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA</b>	<b>DWG. BY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SCALE</b>	<b>W.O.NO.</b>
	<b>SER</b>	<b>2/17</b>	<b>N.T.S.</b>	<b>16-160</b>
	<b>APP'D BY</b>	<b>REVISED</b>	<b>PERMIT</b>	<b>FILE NO.</b>
	<b>MK</b>			
	<b>CHK'D BY</b>			<b>SHEET</b>
	<b>DT</b>			<b>4 OF 5</b>

# PROJECT LOCATION



## LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE

FY 2016/2017	DWG. BY SER	DATE 12/17	SCALE N.T.S.	W.O.NO. 16-160
REPLACEMENT PIPELINES	APP'D BY MK	REVISED	PERMIT	FILE NO.
AREA 5 (ADD-ON STREETS)	CHK'D BY DT			SHEET 5 OF 5
DESERT WATER AGENCY PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA				

January 18, 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** GENERAL MANAGER AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF DESERT WATER AGENCY

**FROM:** BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

**RE:** JANUARY 18, 2018 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
STATE WATER CONTRACTORS, INC.

The January 18, 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Water Contractors, Inc., was conducted at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria in downtown Sacramento.

1. Meeting with New DWR Director. As is normally the case each month, SWC committee meetings were conducted at the Resources Building the afternoon prior to the SWC Board meeting. Those in attendance at the committee meetings received a visit from new DWR Director Carla Nemeth. Previous DWR Director Grant Davis retired from the position only one month after being appointed, a development that caught most Contractors by surprise. The reason for his departure was not announced, leaving everyone to suspect that there may have been discomfort on both sides. The vacancy was quickly filled by the appointment of Carla Nemeth, who is well known to Contractors as a longtime DWR upper level manager who has been significantly involved in Delta issues, including the Cal WaterFix project. SWC staff have expressed a high level of confidence in her. Director Nemeth addressed several issues, stating that November 15, 2018 is the target date for completing the State Water Contract amendment process, including CEQA, for the Cal Water Fix project. She stated that the plan is to have the “agreement in principle” wrapped up by June. Director Nemeth also confirmed that Governor Brown is “really into” the tunnel project. She noted that he has been talking about the project for the last seven years as Governor.

2. General Counsel’s Report. The SWC Board meeting, the following day, began with a closed session discussion with SWC General Counsel Stefanie Morris. Although some of the detail should remain confidential, the first topic included a lengthy discussion of the

subsidence problems that are impacting the California Aqueduct, resulting in reduced delivery capacity in portions of the aqueduct. The discussion included possible options for addressing the problem, which spans approximately 90 miles of the aqueduct.

Attorney Morris also reported that the continued hearing before the State Water Resources Control Board for approval of a new point of diversion north of Sacramento, to accommodate the tunnel project, had been further continued to February 2, 2018, because some of the parties had filed motions to terminate the proceedings on the grounds that there had been illegal ex parte communications with State Board staff. The State Board will need to rule on those motions. If the State Board does not grant the motions we should anticipate the filing of a legal action in the Superior Court to stay the proceedings.

Attorney Morris also reported that the various CEQA challenges to the tunnel project had been consolidated and will remain with the Superior Court in Sacramento.

3. Water Supply Report. Molly White from DWR was present to provide a report on water supply conditions. She stated that releases from Lake Oroville were at the rate of 1,750 cubic feet per second, and that the elevation of the lake was just under 707 feet, or about 40 feet below the maximum allowed elevation according to this year's operations plan. She said that two to three inches of precipitation were expected for the Feather River Basin from the next storm, which was also expected to increase the snow pack. As of the meeting date, precipitation in the Feather River watershed was only at 44% of average. DWR was diverting water from the Delta at the rate of 3,000 cubic feet per second, and the federal contractors were diverting water at the rate 3,500 cubic feet per second. She also noted that the SWP share of storage in the San Luis Reservoir was at 730,000 acre feet, and that the reservoir was nearly full. Nonetheless, with the anticipated demand from Contractors, she said that it was unlikely that DWR would need to spill the carry over water currently stored in the San Luis Reservoir.

4. Legislative Report. The legislative report was provided primarily in writing, with very little discussion. The Governor released his proposed budget to the State Legislature on January 10. The last date to submit new bill requests to Legislative Counsel was January 19. The last date for each house to pass bills introduced in 2017 was January 31. And February 16 is the last date for introducing new bills for 2018. 2018 will be the final year of

Governor Brown's 16 year tenure as Governor. This year will provide many challenges including the commercialization of marijuana, a growing housing crisis, the impact of federal tax cuts and health insurance roll backs, climate change and criminal justice reform. The two public works commitments at the top of the Governor's list are the high speed rail project and the twin tunnels project of interest to the Contractors.

5. General Manager's Report. General Manager Jennifer Pierre stated that DWR has requested 74 new positions at DWR, and that the Department of Fish and Wildlife has requested 17 new positions. She said that the Contractors support DWR's request for the 74 new positions, but they are confused about the request for 17 new positions at the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

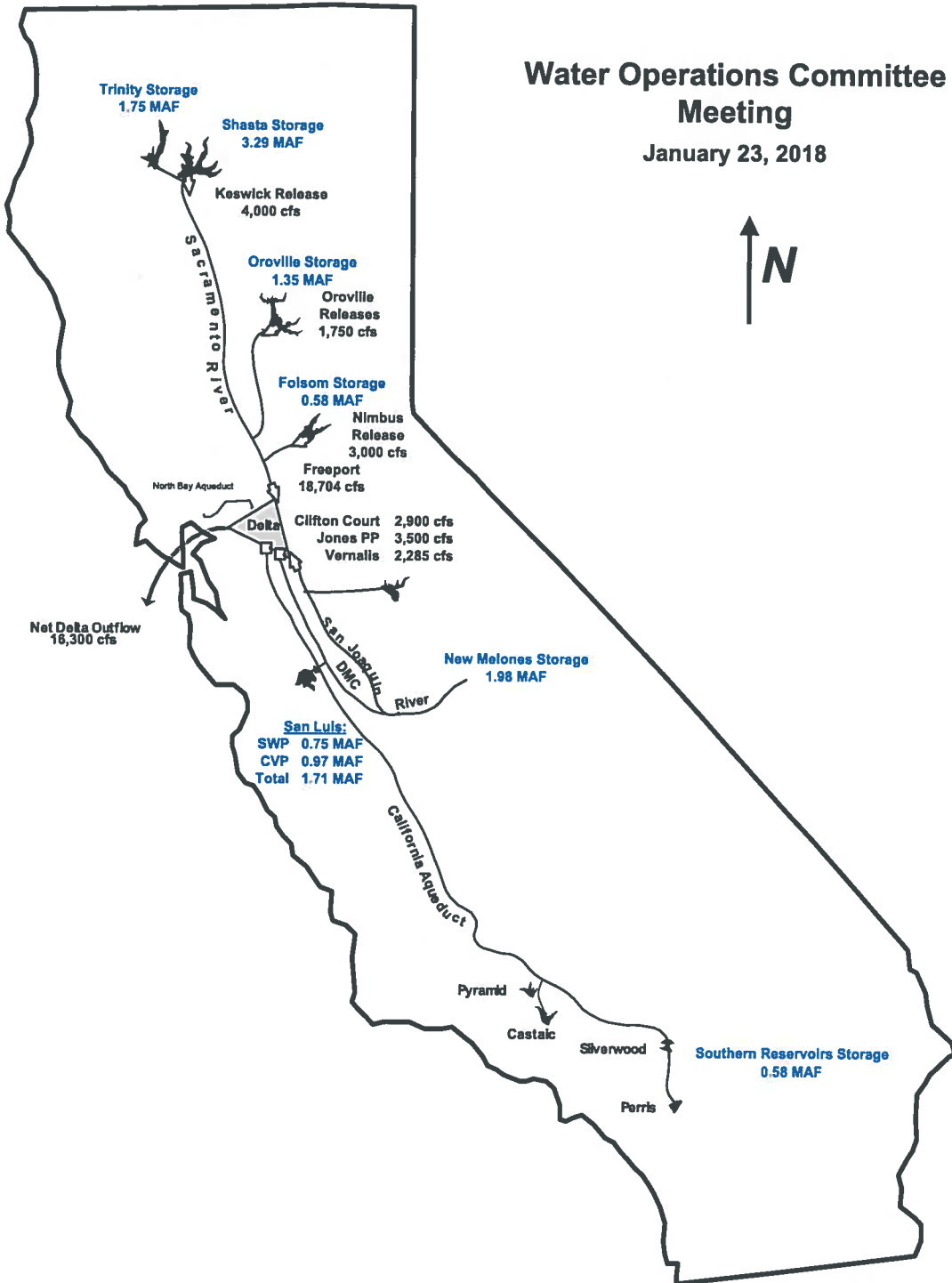
6. Energy Strategic Plan and Priority Objectives. SWC energy expert Tim Haines provided a lengthy discussion of the SWC's strategic plan and priority objectives being developed for energy issues. A copy of the slides used in his presentation are enclosed with this memo. The primary objective is to protect the State Water Project from continuing increases in energy costs, to the extent possible. Tim stated that the energy policy steering committee is attempting to reestablish the role of the State Water Project in the state's energy picture. Years ago the SWP was recognized for its significant part in stabilizing the energy portfolio in California. The slides reveal relatively low SWP energy costs until about the year 2000, when costs began to increase as a result of the creation of the Independent Systems Operator and the state's adoption of a policy to eliminate carbon emissions. Since 2000 energy charges have been increasing at the rate of approximately \$10 per acre foot per year. The strategic plan proposes a more proactive role of the State Water Project going forward. There is recognition that the status quo approach is not effective, leading to suggestions for increased engagement. The proposed strategy will focus on specific opportunities to "bend" the future cost curve, to aggressively pursue price stability, and to create an opportunity to transition to a "comprehensive solution." The comprehensive solution includes active engagement in addressing California's climate challenges, and assessing what the State Water Project currently does to integrate renewable energy into the state's energy portfolio. A straw proposal to be discussed includes completely decarbonizing the State Water Project by the year 2030 (an accelerated schedule) in exchange for receiving emission allowances that the SWP currently does not receive; developing near term operational modifications and receiving

transmission rate freezes; and sponsoring a study of the SWP integration of renewables and its commitment to the state's energy policy. The Contractors proposed to coordinate these efforts with DWR through the DWR Risk Oversight Committee. These initiatives will require some additional funding, possibly increasing the energy portion of the SWC budget from \$530,000 to as much as \$916,000 next year.

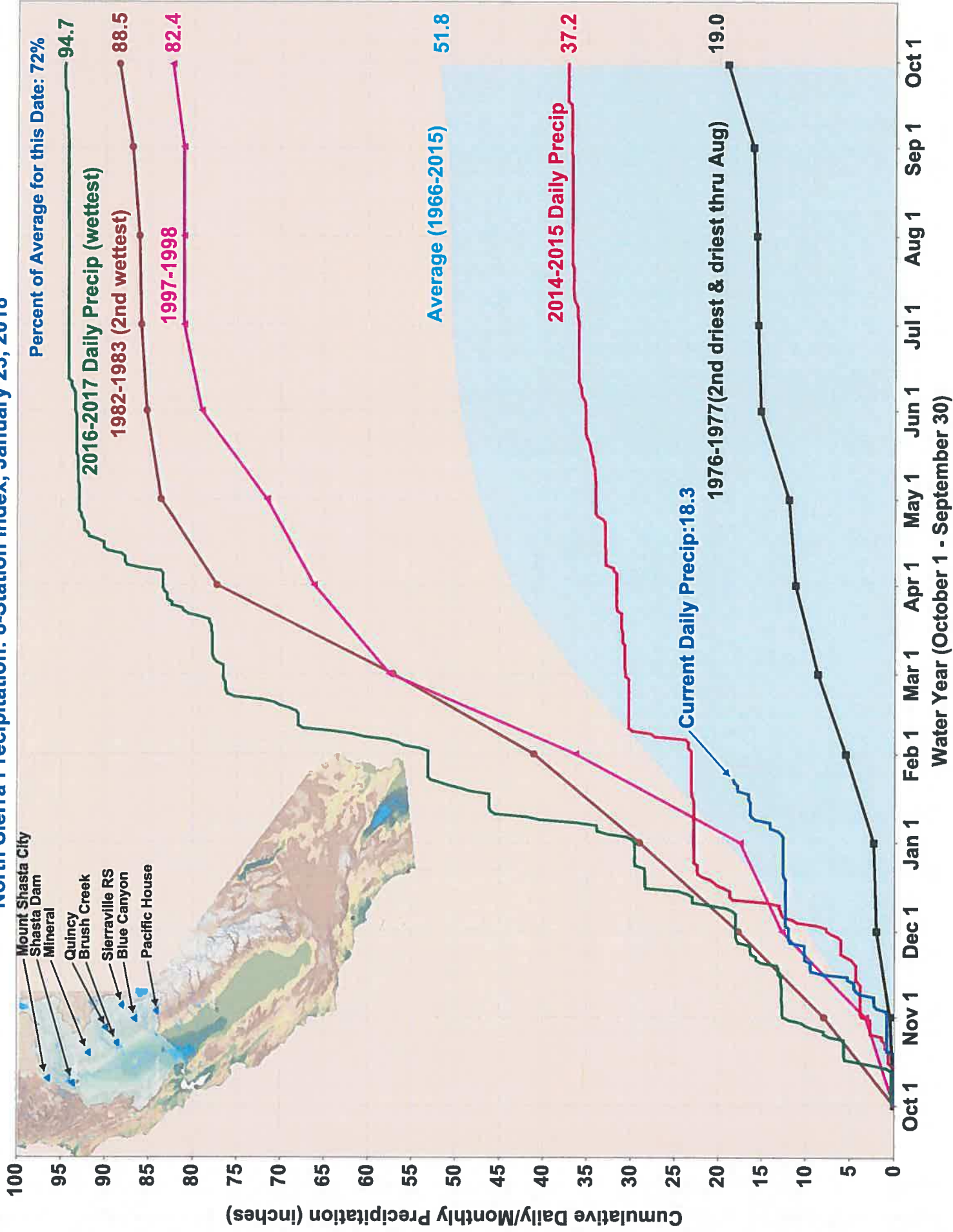
Michael T. Riddell

# Water Operations Committee Meeting

January 23, 2018



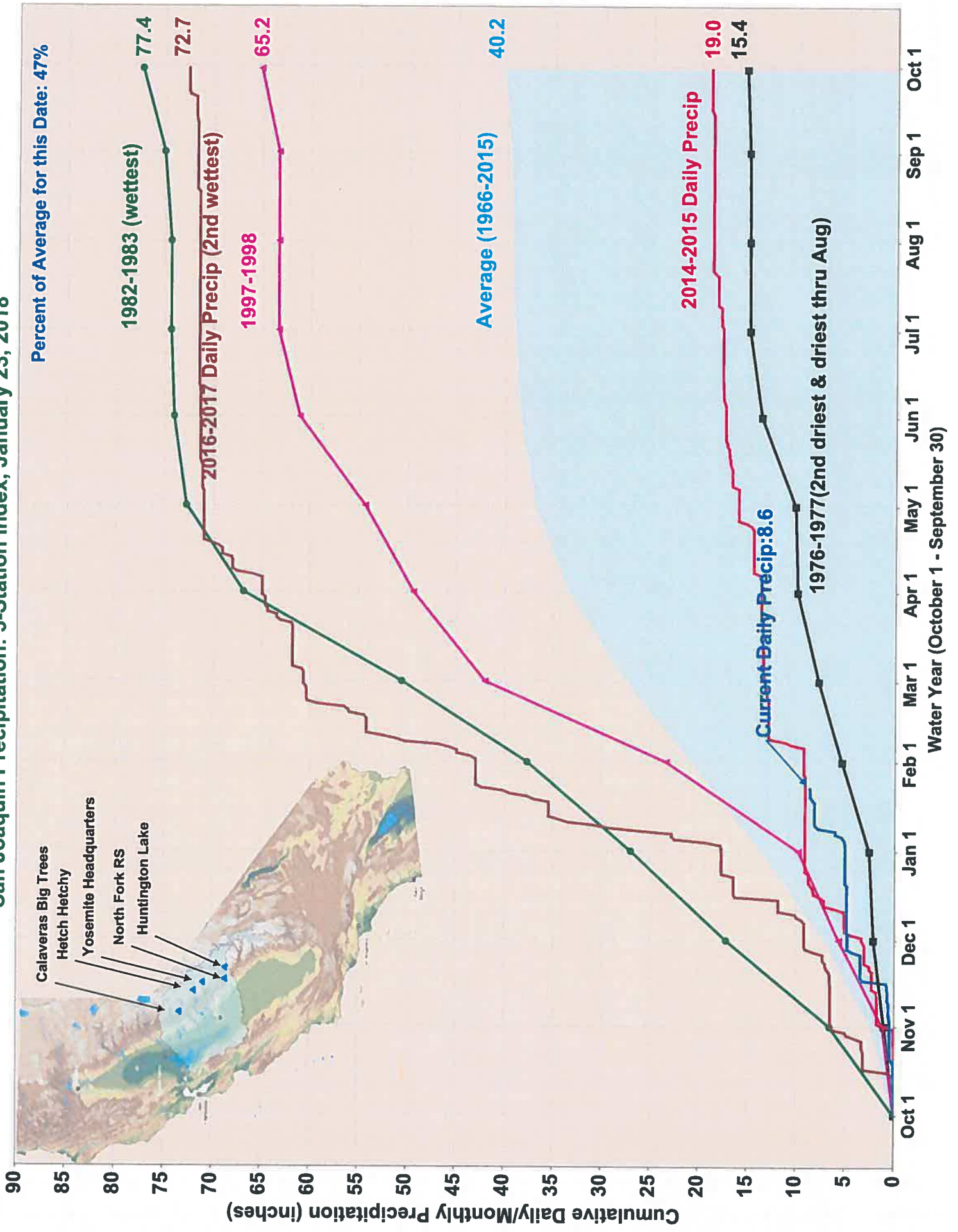
# North Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, January 23, 2018



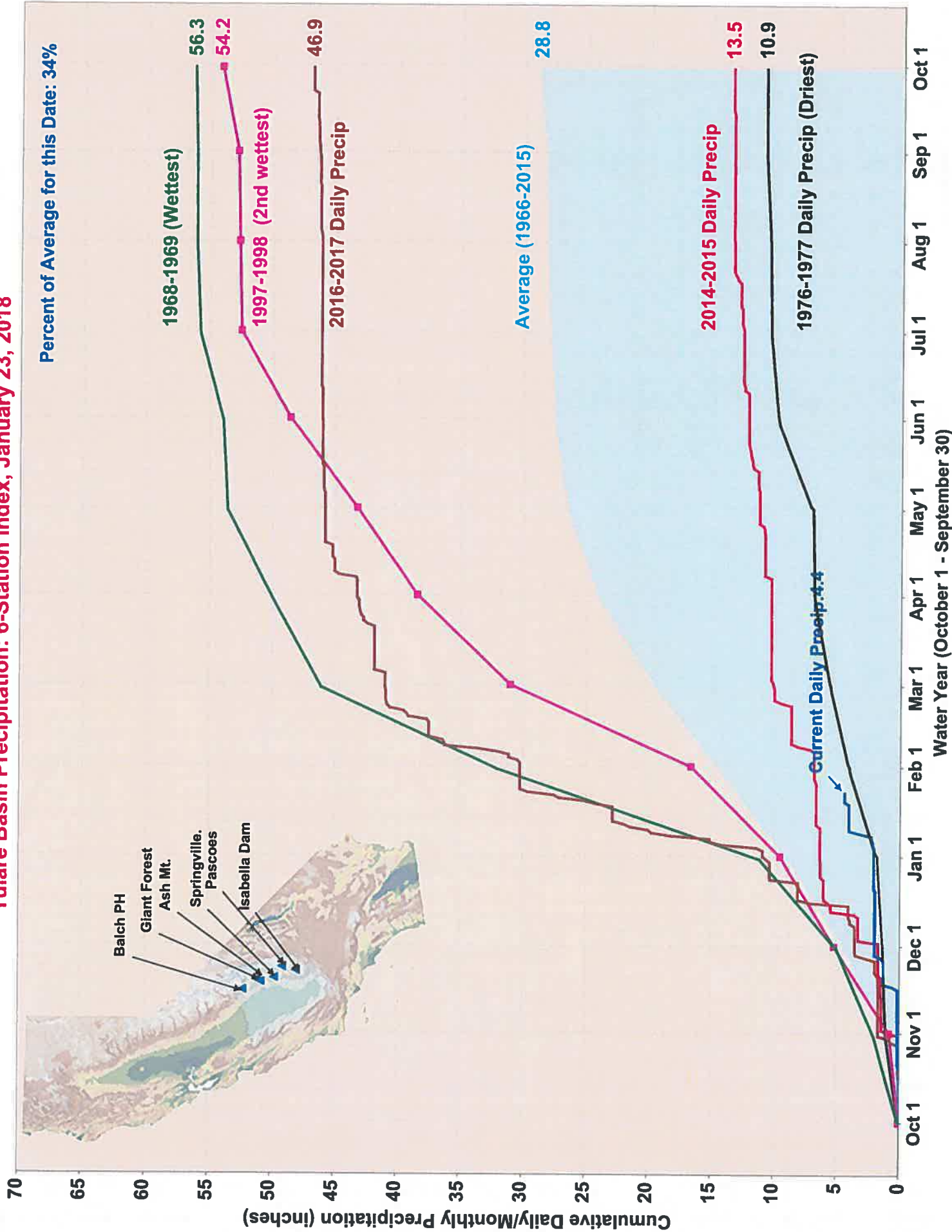
Total Water Year Precipitation



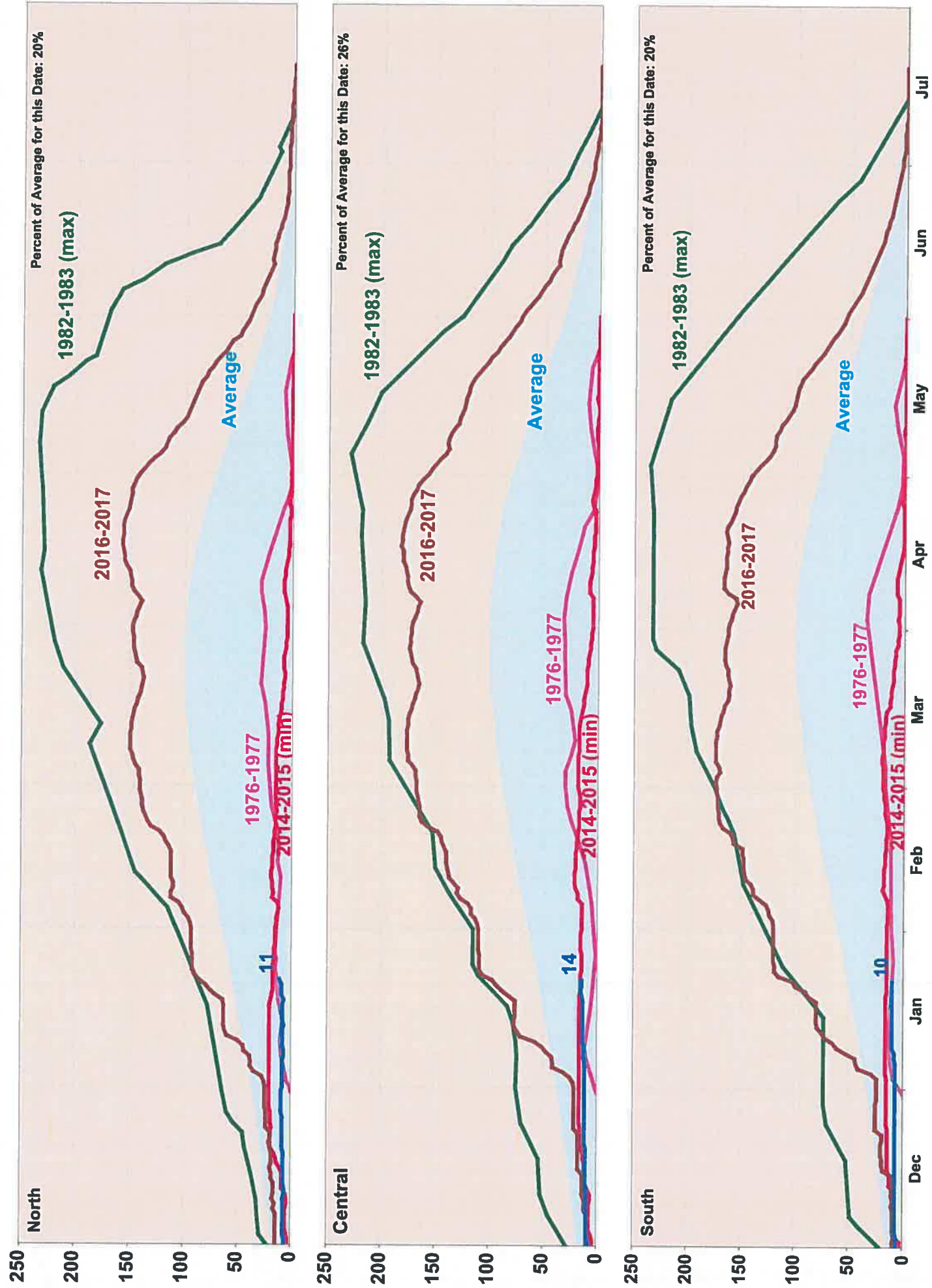
# San Joaquin Precipitation: 5-Station Index, January 23, 2018



Tulare Basin Precipitation: 6-Station Index, January 23, 2018



California Snow Water Content, January 22, 2018, Percent of April 1 Average



Statewide Percent of April 1: 12%

Statewide Percent of Average for Date: 23%

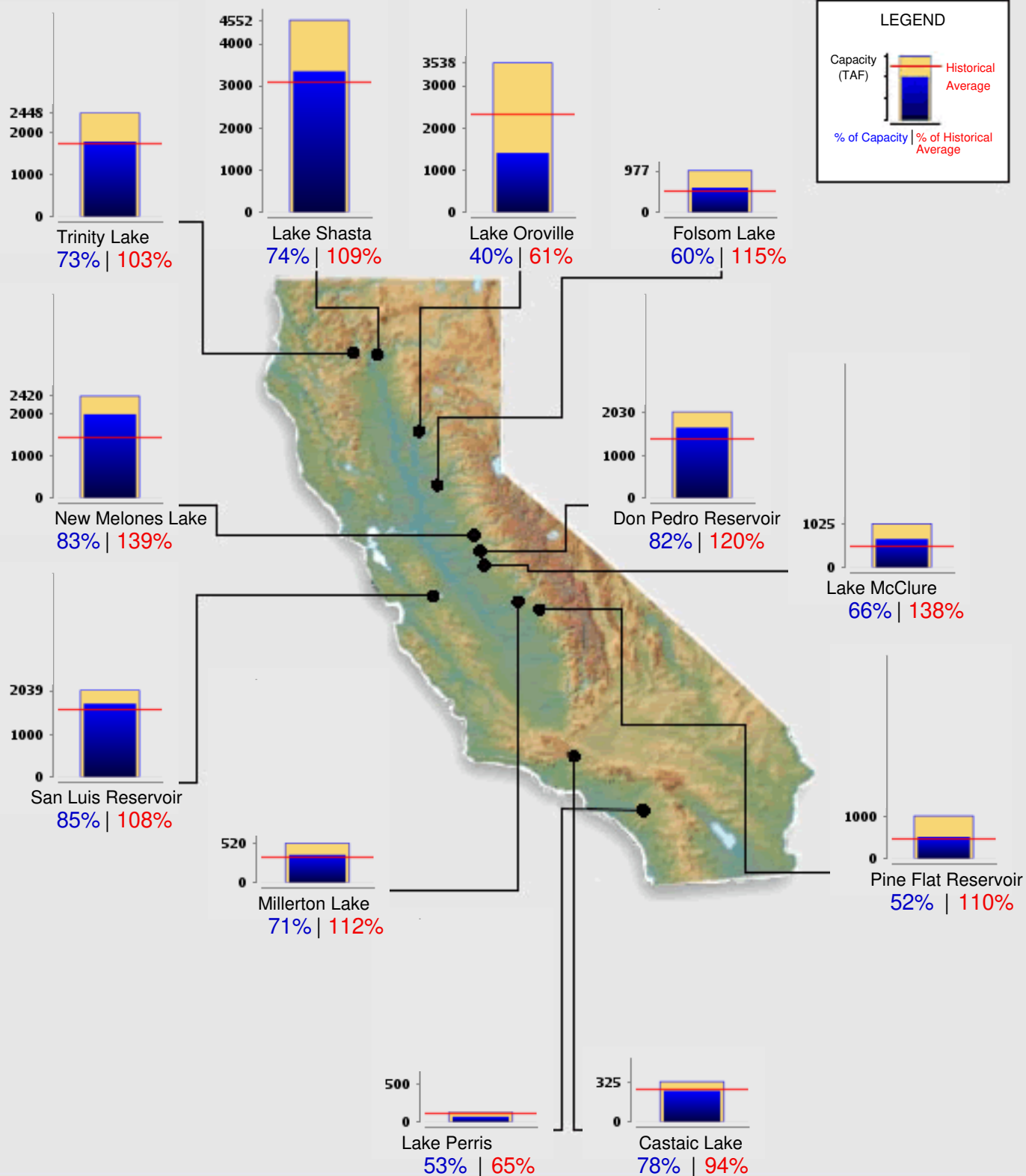




# Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - January 31, 2018

## CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



## Agenda Item 8

# Energy Steering Committee Strategic Plan and Priority Objectives

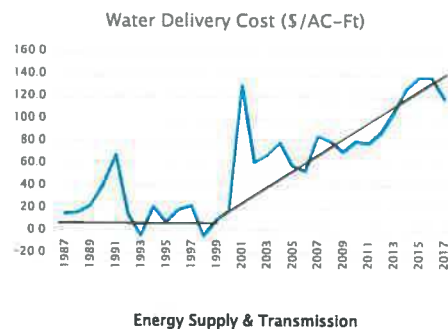
*Coordination with DWR to protect SWP from rising costs*



January 18, 2018

## Energy Impact on Water Delivery Cost

- The last 15+ years has seen a profound shift in the energy markets in California
- California policies and regulations first promoting competition and now confronting climate change have dramatically altered the market
- SWP has seen its electricity costs increase significantly (~\$10/AC-Ft or ~8% per year)
- Status Quo Approach will not bend the curve
- Strategic Plan based on greater coordination with DWR and more proactive engagement is needed



1/18/2018

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## Cost Drivers for SWP

- Drive to Carbon Free Power Supply for SWP
  - Objective – Protect SWP large hydro and minimize purchase costs
- Transmission System Is Being Upgraded and Retooled
  - Objective – Reduce existing and avoid future costs
- Pressure on SWP to Help Integrate Renewables
  - Objective – Protect water supply, increase flexibility in operations, avoid costs not directly associated with water deliveries
- Cap and Trade Extended to 2030
  - Objective – Modify approach to obtain economic treatment similar to utilities

1/18/2018

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## Steering Committee Direction

- Status Quo approach is ineffective
- Increased Engagement
  - Focus on specific opportunities to 'bend future cost curve'
  - Aggressively pursue price stability (i.e. renewable cost have come down, change in SWC transmission charge treatment)
  - Create the opportunity to transition to Comprehensive Solution
- Comprehensive Solution
  - Actively engage as 'part of the solution' to California climate challenges
  - Assess what SWP currently does to integrate renewables, identify limits to doing more, obtain commitments for SWC conditions
  - Build coalition to support long-term goals

1/18/2018

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## Steering Committee Observations

- Develop approach to transition from Status Quo to Enhanced Engagement to Comprehensive Solution
  - Accept 'new normal' but define the SWP role
  - Need to be strategic to avoid negative impacts
  - Requires coordination with DWR but also coalitions with parties that have a presence in climate change solutions

1/18/2018

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## Approach

- Straw Proposal
  - De-carbonize SWP by 2030 and receive emission allowances
  - Develop near-term operational modifications and receive transmission rate freeze
  - Sponsor study of SWP integration of renewables and commitment
- Obtain Board Authority
  - Coordinate with DWR through DWR Risk Oversight Committee (evaluate Straw Proposal and alternatives and implement engagement)
  - Energy Fund Budget and Priority Objectives

1/18/2018

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## Energy Fund Dues and Budget Analysis

(FY2017/18 & FY2018/19)

	Activity	Minimum Dues	Maximum Dues
FY 2017/18	Opening Carryover	325,000	325,000
	Dues	530,551	530,551
	Expenditure / Budget	(564,615)	(885,500)
	Ending/Opening Carryover (rounded)	291,000	(30,000)
FY 2018/19	Ending/Opening Carryover	291,000	(30,000)
	Expenditure / Budget	(885,500)	(885,500)
	Ending Carryover	0	0
		Minimum Dues	Maximum Dues
	FY 2018/19 Dues Level Needed to Support Budget	595,000	916,000
	FY 2017/18 Dues	530,551	

Minimum Dues scenario is based on current burn rate in FY 17/18

Maximum Dues scenario is based on budget for FY 17/18

1/18/2018

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## FY2018/19 Priority Objectives

Objective	Description
Implement Strategic Energy Plan	Protect SWP large hydro and minimize purchase costs
	Reduce Existing and avoid future transmission costs
	Protect water supply, increase flexible operation and avoid non-water delivery costs
Defend Against Liabilities and Claims	Utility Transmission Cases
FERC Relicensing	Oroville and SoCal Facilities

1/18/2018

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**DESERT WATER AGENCY  
MEDIA INFORMATION  
JANUARY 2018**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>PACKET PAGE</b>	<b>MEDIA SOURCE</b>	<b>ARTICLE</b>
01/06/18	1-2	THE DESERT SUN	Snowpack Down For Colorado River
01/14/18	3	THE DESERT SUN	Your Voice; New Water Rights, Rules Require Governance Switch
01/25/18	4-5	LOS ANGELES TIMES	One Possible Delta Tunnels Deal Would Give Cheap Water To Farmers – And More Expensive Water To Cities
01/31/18	6-8	THE DESERT SUN	Winter Heat Wave Bakes The Southwest, Bringing Renewed Worries Of Severe Drought
01/31/18	9-10	PRESS ENTERPRISE	Cadiz New Study Offers No Harm In Water Plan

## **Snowpack down for Colorado River**

*Water source for 7 states could flow at 54% volume*

ASSOCIATED PRESS – January 6, 2018

LAS VEGAS – Rocky Mountains snowpack that feeds Colorado River water supplies was 20 percent below average in December in some areas, prompting a prediction that the key water source for seven U.S. states could flow at 54 percent of its average volume during the April-July snowpack runoff period.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reported Wednesday that the conditions issued by the National Weather Service's Colorado Basin River Forecast Center could improve if more snow falls but that winter precipitation so far has been far below normal.

The river is a critical water source for Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

Lake Mead's surface has dropped more than 130 feet since drought descended on the Colorado in 2000. But the lake that sits upstream from Hoover Dam east of Las Vegas ended 2017 almost 2 feet higher than a year ago, as use of Colorado River water by Nevada, Arizona and California hit its lowest level since 1992.

According to preliminary accounting figures from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, those three states consumed a combined 6.7 million acre-feet from the river last year, driven by wet conditions in California and widening efforts to curb use in Arizona.

That left enough water in Lake Mead to keep it more than 7 feet above the trigger point for a federal shortage declaration, which would mean mandatory cuts for river users in Nevada and Arizona.

The federal projections released last month called for Lake Mead to finish 2018 roughly 4 feet lower than it is now but still safely out of shortage territory. In light of Wednesday's river forecast, the projections for the lake are almost certain to get worse.

Colorado River author and expert John Fleck said the reduction in consumption is impressive considering the population in the areas served by the river has grown by about 7 million people since 1992.

"It's a sign that we are succeeding in using less water in the Lower Colorado Basin," said Fleck, director of the Water Resources Program at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

"It's critical that we're learning to do this, because this isn't enough. . We're going to have to do it more," he told the Review-Journal.

California was able to cut its river use by more than 440,000 acre-feet last year, in large part because of huge snow accumulations in the Sierra Nevada that helped refill the state's drought-depleted reservoirs and above-average precipitation elsewhere that reduced water demand.

Fleck said Arizona cut its river use by almost 360,000 acre-feet mostly to stave off more substantial, mandatory cuts in the future.

“Arizona has been cranking down their use to try to avoid a shortage,” he said.

Nevada used about 239,000 acre-feet of its 300,000 acre-foot allocation in 2017, an increase of roughly 2 percent over the previous year.

Bronson Mack, spokesman for the Southern Nevada Water Authority, said water use went up slightly last year because of increased economic activity and the addition of more water customers. Hotter, drier weather also might have played a part, he said.

One acre-foot of water is enough to supply two average for a little more than a year.

Most of Nevada’s river water goes to supply about 90 percent of the water consumed by the Las Vegas Valley’s 2 million residents and 40 million annual visitors.

## YOUR VOICE

January 14, 2018

### New water rights, rules require governance switch

There are some who believe that the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians stands contrary to the public water agencies in its concerns over management of our regional water resources. The tribe does not.

Many of the issues raised by the tribe are shared by the Mission Springs Water District (MSWD) and its constituents. A lack of transparency and cooperation by its state water contractor, Desert Water Agency (DWA), has caused conflicts, and litigation, between MSWD and DWA over the past few decades.

California recently experienced one of the worst droughts in its history. In 2015, the state responded by enacting our most significant water legislation in a century, known as the Sustainable Ground Water Management Act (SGMA), which substantially changes the way we must manage our limited groundwater. SGMA was established on the principle that all local agencies could participate in the development of a comprehensive, long-term regional plan for valley water.

There are five public water purveyors in the valley, but only two, the state water contractors who import water into our valley, are poised to override local control and make important groundwater management decisions for the rest of us that will impact our daily lives and economic development in the valley.

The federal courts have confirmed that the tribe has “federal reserved rights” with priority over our natural groundwater. The state water contractors, however, have not always recognized, with a level of inclusiveness and transparency, our common, shared interest in sustaining the viability of our lifestyles and economy of the valley.

The impacts of SGMA, coupled with the recognition of the tribe’s groundwater rights, require a new, more inclusive governance model for water management. Our state water contractors should not unilaterally control the outcome of the existing conflicts between federal water rights, SGMA and local control of our limited water resource without participation of all stakeholders.

Every resident and every public water purveyor has a stake in the management of water in our Coachella Valley. Recognizing and accepting change in our water outlook is essential if we are going to retain control over our regional water supply. If we fail to embrace the change responsibly, someone else — the Legislature or the courts — will manage it for us. We do not want that.

As the president of MSWD, I believe we must find common ground and solutions to sustainably and collaboratively manage the groundwater. Territorial infighting over water must cease, for the benefit of all valley residents. Now is the time to rethink the governance model for our state water contractors.

MSWD believes that each retail agency should be managed by its own locally elected officials, distinct and separate from the state water contractors’ replenishment activities. The state water contractors should be governed by representatives from the respective retail agencies and communities for whom they import water. Further, the tribe’s interests must also be recognized in how we sustain our groundwater supply.

It is clear, however, that the status quo is no longer applicable or conducive to transparency, inclusion or accountability to all valley groundwater stakeholders. Our failure to implement a new governance model will result in continued uncertainty. We can and must do better.

# Los Angeles Times

## One possible delta tunnels deal would give cheap water to farmers — and more expensive water to cities

By Bettina Bozall, January 25, 2018

Months of behind the scenes talks have failed to drum up enough money to pay the full costs of replumbing the center of California's sprawling waterworks with two giant water tunnels.

That has left the state with little choice but to scale down a roughly \$17-billion water delivery project to fit a funding pot of less than \$10 billion.

State officials are expected to soon announce exactly what form a revised California WaterFix would take.

While it is assumed the project will shrink from two tunnels to one constructed under the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the capacity of the conveyance system hasn't been settled.

"We don't have a game plan from the state," Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, told an MWD board committee Tuesday.

Driven principally by big irrigation districts' reluctance to pay for a project they have long sought, the downsizing underscores the degree to which California agriculture is addicted to cheap water supplies. The changes could cause more delays in the decade-old proposal, which is designed to stem declines in water deliveries to San Joaquin Valley farms and Southern California cities.

MWD and other agencies that approved the two-tunnel proposal will have to decide if a smaller version is still to their liking. Opponents — primarily delta interests and environmental groups — will no doubt demand that an altered WaterFix undergo a new environmental review.

State officials hope to avoid that, arguing that any version of the project was evaluated in the form of alternatives outlined in thousands of pages of environmental documentation for the two-tunnel proposal.

"The odds are, almost anything within a project has been vetted in an alternative," state Natural Resources Secretary John Laird said last month.

As previously proposed, WaterFix would add a new diversion point on the Sacramento River in the north delta that would feed two 40-foot diameter tunnels connected to existing government pumping plants.

The replumbing is intended to reduce the harmful effects of the powerful pumping operations — and thus ease environmental restrictions that at times limit southbound water exports.

Critics complain that the big river diversions will simply create a different set of environmental problems.

The tunnels' funding was based on the premise that customers of the largely urban State Water Project and the largely agricultural Central Valley Project that receive supplies from the south delta would pick up the tab. Costs would be apportioned according to the size of an agency's water contract.

But that plan fell apart when Westlands Water District, the largest contractor in the federal CVP system, backed out. Accustomed to water deliveries subsidized by the federal taxpayer, the district's board said Westlands growers couldn't afford the tunnel supplies.



The federal government has also refused to cover WaterFix costs allocated to wildlife refuges and senior water rights holders that receive delta deliveries from the CVP.

WaterFix proponents, at least publicly, haven't given up hope that the federal position will change. Instead of saying the project is being scaled back, they say it can be built "in phases," with construction of a second tunnel dependent on future funding.

Though the Metropolitan Water District and other state contractors approved financing, their total WaterFix commitments fell somewhat short of the roughly \$9 billion expected from them.

That has led to months of ongoing negotiations between state contractors in meetings convened by the state.

The major players have been MWD, which imports delta water to the Southland, and the Kern County Water Agency, which distributes delta supplies to farm irrigation districts in the southern San Joaquin Valley.

The MWD, the State Water Project's largest contractor, last year OK'd a \$4.3-billion WaterFix buy-in. But Kern, the state system's second-largest contractor, tentatively agreed to paying only about half its WaterFix share, or roughly \$1 billion.

No deals have been announced. But the MWD staff has outlined various arrangements that boil down to MWD and other urban agencies shouldering a portion of Kern's unfunded WaterFix costs in exchange for a portion of Kern's tunnel deliveries.

Under one scenario, the Kern County Water Agency would gain more access to the cheapest water in the state system.

Called Article 21 deliveries after a section in state contracts, the supplies are available only when certain "excess" conditions exist in the state system.

WaterFix is expected to boost that availability by diverting water into the tunnels during high river flows.

As described in staff presentations, MWD could buy a portion of Kern's share of regular — and more expensive — tunnel deliveries. Kern, for its part, would pay for — and retain — other tunnel benefits, including more bargain Article 21 water.

"Hypothetically, that would certainly be attractive to the ag community," Curtis Creel, Kern's general manager, said last year.

Roger Patterson, MWD's assistant general manager, said it makes sense for his agency to acquire reliable tunnel deliveries from Kern, as opposed to the less frequent Article 21 supplies that "you can't count on."

But the prospect of such an arrangement has raised questions.

If the staff formally proposes that, "Why shouldn't the board be concerned about us buying only expensive water?," said Keith Lewinger, who represents the San Diego County Water Authority on the MWD board.

"Why shouldn't we get the advantage of some of that cheap water too?"

## Winter heat wave bakes the Southwest, bringing renewed worries of severe drought

Ian James, Jan. 31, 2018

TEMECULA, Calif. — The pear trees are already blooming in Celeste Cantú's garden. She usually sees the blossoms appear in late February, but this winter's extreme warmth triggered the bloom a full month early.

As the thermometer hit 80 degrees in her garden, she snapped a photo of the blossoms and posted it on Facebook with the question: "Do you think the three weeks of winter are over in So Ca?"

A winter heat wave has settled over the Southwest and is bringing record-high temperatures to parts of Southern California, along with dry, gusty winds that have prompted warnings of fire danger.

For Cantú, who has managed water agencies for more than two decades, the extraordinary winter heat is also a stark reminder of how the warming climate is compounding the strains on water supplies in the West.

"For January, that's ridiculously warm, and that's not the first time we've hit 80 here this month," Cantú said. "It makes you feel nervous. It's not right. It's too early."

Cantú has worked previously for the State Water Resources Control Board and until last year was general manager of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority. She now leads the Los Angeles-based group Water Education for Latino Leaders.

She's been following the news about the minimal snowpack in the Sierra Nevada and the Rockies, and seeing the warmth trigger the early bloom in her garden left her feeling concerned about the possibility of another severe drought around the corner.

"It tells me we really need to get back to talking about water conservation and water-use efficiency," Cantú said.

Californians coped with the most severe drought in the state's modern history from 2012 through 2016. Gov. Jerry Brown declared the emergency over in April 2017 after one of the wettest winters on record refilled reservoirs across the state.

This winter, snow sensors across the Sierra Nevada show the snowpack is just 30 percent of average for this time of year.

"We have every indication that we're likely to still be in a drought, in spite of a normal year last winter in Northern California," Cantú said. "People kind of had a false sense of reprieve and that's very fleeting. And we really need to buckle down," she said, and again step up conservation efforts.

The amount of snow on the ground is also far below average across the Colorado River Basin, where a 17-year run of mostly dry years has left reservoirs at alarmingly low levels.

Climate scientists and managers of water agencies describe the situation as a "snow drought," driven in part by winter temperatures that are well above the long-term average.

"We can have a decent amount of precipitation in a year and still be in a snow drought," said Laura Feinstein, a senior research associate at the Pacific Institute, an Oakland-based think tank that focuses on water issues. "Even if we get a similar amount of precipitation, more of it falls as rain rather than snow, and runs off relatively



quickly, and we don't have that long-term storage to get us through our summers and falls like we used to. We just don't have as much snow storage as we used to."

With higher average temperatures, more water evaporates off the landscape and more water is taken up by plants, leaving less flowing into streams and reservoirs.

Scientists have found that across much of the West, the snowpack in the mountains has been decreasing on average over the past few decades, and the snow has been melting earlier in the springtime. Research has also shown that higher average temperatures are making droughts more severe, and it's a pattern that's projected to worsen with climate change.

In one study, researchers found that human-caused warming exacerbated California's drought between 2012 and 2014, and that climate change has substantially increased the likelihood of extreme droughts. Another team of scientists found in a 2016 study that extremely dry, hot years are occurring more frequently in California than they once did decades ago.

"When temperatures are warmer, then any kind of low-precipitation year is more likely to turn into a drought," Feinstein said. She said that trend points to a need for greater efforts by local water districts and farm districts to adopt policies that drive conservation and more efficient water use.

Whether California heads into another drought cycle will depend largely on how much rain and snow falls during February and March. But with the rainy season now more than half over, Feinstein and other experts say the chances of reaching even average rainfall are looking slim.

While many of California's reservoirs still stand at above-average levels after last year's wet winter, dry conditions have been spreading across the southern half of the state. The latest map on the U.S. Drought Monitor website shows 54.5 percent of California is now either abnormally dry or in moderate drought conditions.

"The red flags are starting to reemerge and hopefully they'll get us to think about how we might be a little bit more frugal with our water use this spring, in particular if we don't have a couple of good, powerful atmospheric river storms," said Jay Famiglietti, a hydrologist and senior water scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

Famiglietti and his research colleagues have used satellite data in studying groundwater depletion in California and the Colorado River Basin, and they've found that many aquifers are continuing to decline through wet and dry periods.

"We'll have a couple of wet years, like we did in 2010 and 2011, like we did in 2016 and 2017," Famiglietti said. "But in between we have these very powerful droughts that lead to a lot of groundwater depletion, and unfortunately the outflows of groundwater are much greater than the inflows. And so, we're continuing to see this progressive depletion."

Since the biggest use of water is for agriculture, "it just may not be possible to sustain agriculture at its current rate, its current scope – or we'll have to figure out how to do it more efficiently," Famiglietti said. "If we're going to continue to have a vibrant agricultural sector, we're going to have to figure out how to do it more efficiently, because the availability of groundwater will be much more limited."

Gov. Brown and California lawmakers have sought to ameliorate the problem of widespread overpumping through the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which was approved in 2014 and tasks local agencies with developing plans to manage aquifers sustainably.

California officials have also outlined plans for preparing for the impacts of climate change. On Monday, the state Natural Resources Agency released a report titled the Safeguarding California Plan, which lays out

ongoing and planned efforts ranging from assessing local health risks to preparing roads and infrastructure for sea-level rise.

The section on water lists goals including preparing California for flooding, supporting regional groundwater management, diversifying water supplies, helping vulnerable communities, encouraging conservation, improving water storage and preparing for hotter and drier conditions.

Annual average temperatures in the Southwest have been 1.6 degrees warmer during the past three decades as compared to the 20th century average, according to the most recent national climate assessment prepared by federal government scientists. Heat waves are happening more frequently and are projected to continue intensifying.

This week, weather maps turned red across Southern California and people ditched their jackets during the extraordinary warm spell. The daytime highs on Monday broke daily records in Santa Ana (88 degrees), Newport Beach (85), Escondido (88), and Vista (90), among other cities. Indio tied a record high of 86 degrees set in 1953.

The nights have also been very warm. Nighttime minimum temperatures in Palm Springs, Thermal, Riverside and Idyllwild all broke records on Sunday, exceeding the previous records by between 1 degree and 6 degrees.

Intense Santa Ana winds blew across Southern California on Sunday and Monday, unleashing powerful gusts that reached between 60 mph and 89 mph in some areas. The National Weather Service said much of Southern California faced “critical” fire risk due to the winds, which weakened on Monday night.

As the dry wind blew through the oak trees in the hills of western Riverside County near Temecula, Cantú said the heat made her think about how important it is for California to prepare for its worst-case water scenario. She pointed to the crisis in Cape Town, South Africa, where officials are warning residents that “Day Zero” is approaching in April, when the city is forecast to run out of water and will shut off the taps.

“In all cases in water, it’s better to be safe than sorry,” Cantú said. “And in South Africa, you see a major city looking to run out of water, and we certainly don’t want to end up like that, so we need to plan carefully.”

Cantú and other water experts see big differences in California, which has a variety of water sources and reservoirs. Cantú said her concerns are also tempered by knowing the state has scientists and water planners who are looking at severe drought scenarios. But she said that doesn’t take away the need for everyone to rethink their water use – including considering getting rid of thirsty lawns.

“We just don’t have that luxury any longer,” Cantú said. “We have every reason to believe that things are going to be drier and warmer as we go forward.”

Cantú doesn’t have a lawn. She chose to live in the highlands of the Santa Rosa Plateau with climate change in mind, knowing her home would be cooler at higher altitude.

Still, she said she’s had to water her fruit trees more over the past month to keep them alive as the warm wind has sucked the moisture out of her garden. Seeing the changes in her yard as the pear trees bloomed hit home for her at an emotional level.

“It’s disconcerting when things bloom earlier than they should. It tells us that fundamentally nature is changing, the climate is changing,” Cantú said. “When you see it in your own yard, it gives you pause to wonder: What does this portend?”

## Cadiz new study offers no harm in water plan

### ENVIRONMENT

That's the conclusion reached by scientists hired by the company

By Jim Steinberg, January 31, 2018

**LOS ANGELES** » After extensive fieldwork, site observation and geologic mapping, a team of scientists hired by Cadiz Inc. concluded that a proposed water transfer project in a remote part of San Bernardino County desert won't harm one of the largest wildlife water sources in the Mojave Desert.

Cadiz commissioned a peer-reviewed geologic investigation "to address lingering questions as to whether the project could impact Bonanza Spring under any circumstance. That question has now been answered definitively no," Cadiz CEO Scott Slater said, in a statement.

"There could not be more at stake," said David Lamfrom, director, California Desert and Wildlife Programs at National Parks Conservation Association. "Bonanza Springs is the largest spring system in Mojave Trails National Monument," which spans 1.6 million acres.

The study concluded that the aquifer in the Fenner Valley, where Cadiz plans to mine groundwater, and the aquifer that supports Bonanza Springs are independent. Two significant faults keep Bonanza Springs, at about 2,100 feet in the western Clipper Mountains, hydrologically isolated from the Fenner Valley, more than 1,000 feet lower, said Miles Kenney, a geologist in Oceanside, during an interview Tuesday.

The peer-reviewed research project was co-authored by Kenney and Terry Foreman, a hydrologist based in Ventura County.

"The Cadiz project has gained steam under the Trump administration, which reversed two Obama administration decisions that impeded its progress.

The project involves the transfer of millions of gallons of Mojave Desert water annually to south Orange County and other districts in Riverside, Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.

Kenney said, in an interview, that Bonanza Springs is "hundreds of thousands of years old" and has a water source distinct from the Fenner Valley.

"The long-term sustainability of Bonanza is not related to pumping at Cadiz but rather is dependent on the precipitation that provides recharge to the spring catchment," Foreman said in a statement.

"As a result, climate change is a bigger threat to Bonanza than Cadiz ever would or could possibly be."

Kenney said that this study is distinct from one he was involved with for Cadiz in 2011. And that a search of academic research for the western Clipper Mountains, where Bonanza Springs is located, turned up virtually no other scientific research for this area.

Kenney said that he spent many days hiking in the steep terrain of the Clipper Mountains, which rise swiftly some 3,500 feet above the valley below. He praised Cadiz for hiring a panel of hydrologists and other experts to review the study findings.

Lamfrom, from the National Parks Conservation Association, said that the study released is a repackaging of old information.

Reacting to the study, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D California, a long-time opponent of the project, said “independent scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey and National Park Service have consistently disputed Cadiz’s findings and repeatedly stated the project would drain vital desert aquifers. Nothing in this study, bought and paid for by Cadiz, changes those facts. Cadiz can keep peddling these ridiculous claims, but we’re still not buying it.”

“These dubious Cadiz sponsored findings don’t change the fact that objective, independent studies show Cadiz is an unsustainable scheme that will devastate an entire ecosystem,” said Ileene Anderson, a senior scientist with the Center for Biological Diversity.

“You can’t pump 16 billion gallons of groundwater out of the Mojave Desert every year without irreversible damage to wildlife, regional water supplies and precious public lands. This project plunders the desert and endangers wildlife to line the pockets of Cadiz shareholders and promote urban sprawl,” she said.

The Center for Biological Diversity is one of three plaintiffs who, in late November, filed a lawsuit against the federal government for approving the project.

The other plaintiffs are Earthjustice and the Center for Food Safety.

## DESERT WATER AGENCY OUTREACH & CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

January 2018

### Activities:

- 1/03 DWA hosted a tour of the Operations Center, Reclamation Plant, Well 39 and Tahquitz reservoir for the Desert Gateway Highland youth center.
- 1/04 Vicki Petek starred in a conservation PSA to air on KESQ.
- 1/04 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ on tourism.
- 1/04 Ashley Metzger was interviewed on the Joey English radio show.
- 1/05 Vicki Petek completed two turf buy back post inspections.
- 1/09 President Cioffi and Ashley Metzger attended and presented at CVWD's board meeting to commemorate their 100-year celebration.
- 1/10 Director Ewing and Ashley Metzger attended Coffee with DWA at 4 Paws Coffee.
- 1/11 Ashley Metzger attended the ONE-PS meeting.
- 1/11 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about CV Water Counts Academy.
- 1/13 Ashley Metzger and Vicki Petek staffed a table and provided water and information at the Palm Springs Farmer's Market.
- 1/13 Vicki Petek staffed a DWA conservation station at Lowe's.
- 1/18 Vicki Petek attended an event for the Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce.
- 1/18 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about raw water.
- 1/19 Ashley Metzger attended Leadership Coachella Valley.
- 1/25 Ashley Metzger attended a commercial water audit with CVWD.
- 1/25 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ on careers in water.
- 1/27 DWA provided the water trailer, cups and bottles, and Vicki Petek staffed an information table at the Palm Springs Health Run & Fitness Expo at Ruth Hardy Park.
- 1/30 Ashley Metzger was interviewed by KMIR about the dry winter and drought.

### Public Information Releases/eBlasts:

January 2: Free online payment system – social media

January 9: Coffee with DWA Tomorrow 1/10 8:30 – 9:30 at 4 Paws Coffee – social media

January 18: 2018 Water Counts Academy accepting applications – website, social media

### Upcoming Events

February 7, 8:30 to 9:30 – Coffee with DWA at Townie Bagel

February 10, 8:00 to 12:30 – DWA at Palm Springs Farmer's Market

February 6, 13, 20, 27 & March 3 – 2018 Water Counts Academy sessions





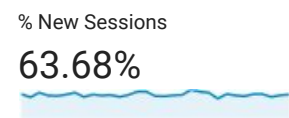
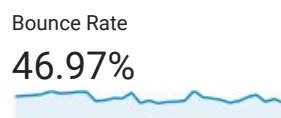
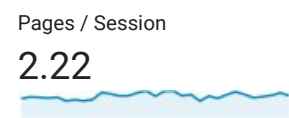
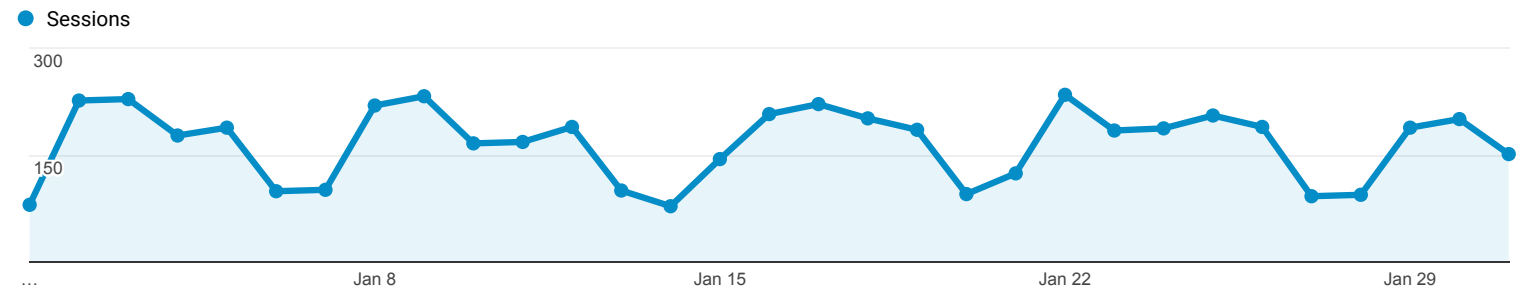
## Audience Overview



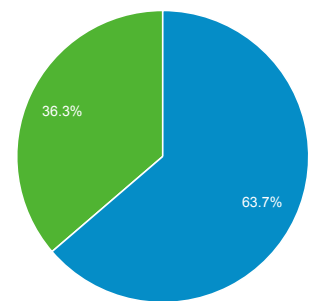
All Users  
100.00% Sessions

Jan 1, 2018 - Jan 31, 2018

### Overview



■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor

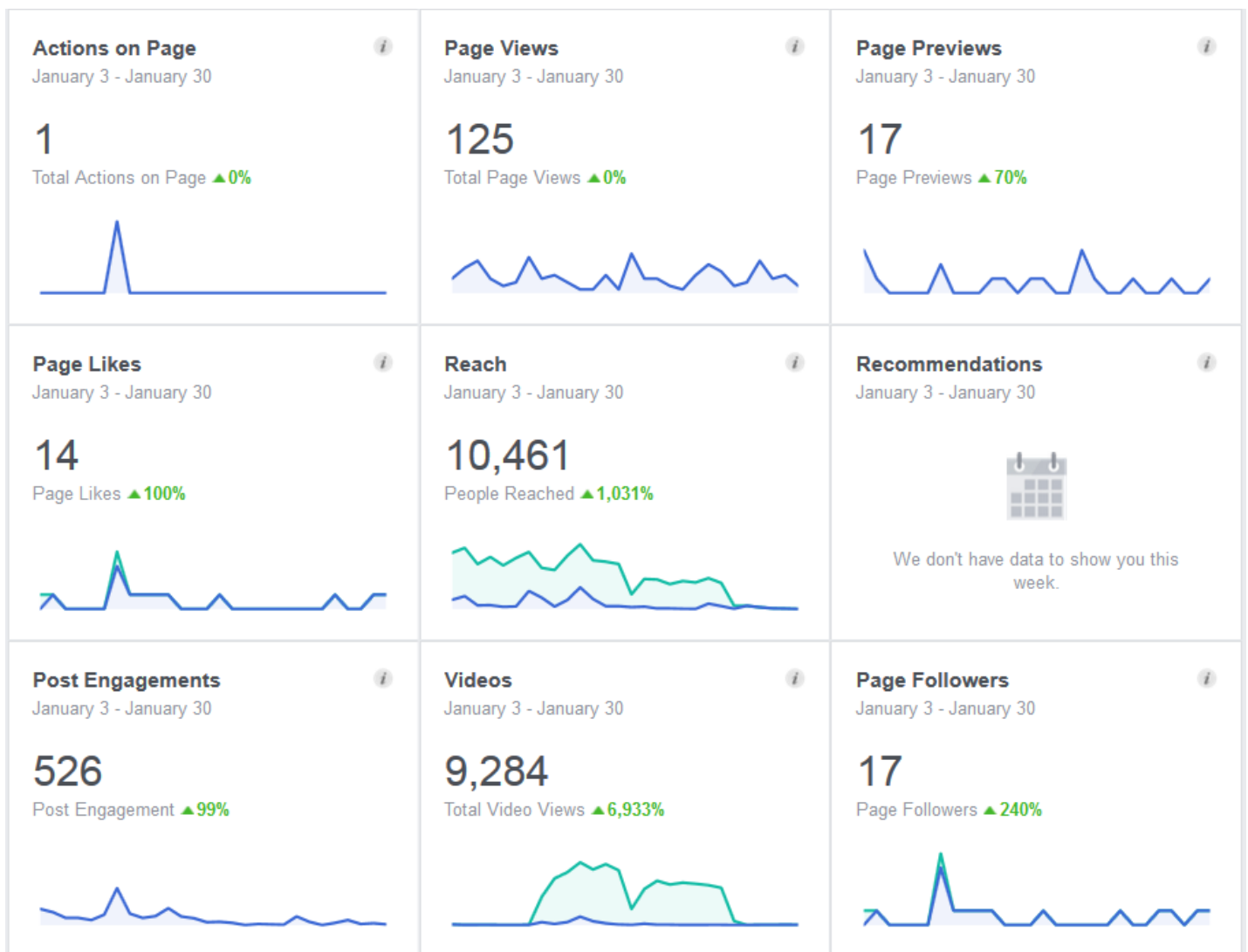


Language		Sessions	% Sessions
1.	en-us	4,896	95.03%
2.	en-ca	104	2.02%
3.	en-gb	38	0.74%
4.	(not set)	27	0.52%
5.	ko	16	0.31%
6.	es-xl	9	0.17%
7.	es-us	8	0.16%
8.	c	5	0.10%
9.	de-de	4	0.08%
10.	es-419	4	0.08%





**Desert Water Agency  
Facebook Analytics  
January 2018**





01/26/2018 11:21 am		Considering a career in water? Apply at			145		10 5		View Promotion
01/23/2018 4:56 pm		JOB OPPORTUNITY: DWA is hiring an Equipment			237		24 8		Boost Post
01/18/2018 8:42 am		Providing water takes big power and even bigger ideas!			3.3K		6 8		View Promotion
01/16/2018 4:56 pm		We are proud to be one of the 29 State Water			100		5 2		Boost Post
01/13/2018 9:04 am		Good morning from the Palm Springs Farmers Market!			89		3 5		Boost Post
01/12/2018 8:42 am		Our office will be closed Monday in honor of Martin			59		1 2		Boost Post
01/10/2018 11:16 am		Q: Why water does water appear cloudy, milky or white			5.4K		59 32		View Promotion
01/09/2018 3:45 pm		You can't have coffee without water. Come enjoy your			643		32 19		Boost Post
01/09/2018 8:28 am		Happy 100th birthday, Coachella Valley Water			107		12 8		Boost Post
01/08/2018 8:42 am		Things to do when rain is in the forecast: *dust off your			550		20 15		View Promotion
01/04/2018 8:11 am		Desert Water Agency shared State Water Contractors's			71		3 2		Boost Post
01/03/2018 5:59 am		Have you decided on a resolution yet? If not, think			4K		77 37		View Promotion
01/02/2018 5:06 pm		Welcome, #PSIFF!			233		9 5		Boost Post
01/02/2018 11:46 am		Have you tried our new online payment tool? Try it on your			1.9K		23 18		View Promotion
01/02/2018 11:15 am		Desert Water Agency shared Be Water Smart's video:			68		2 1		Boost Post



Total Page Likes as of Today: 1,110

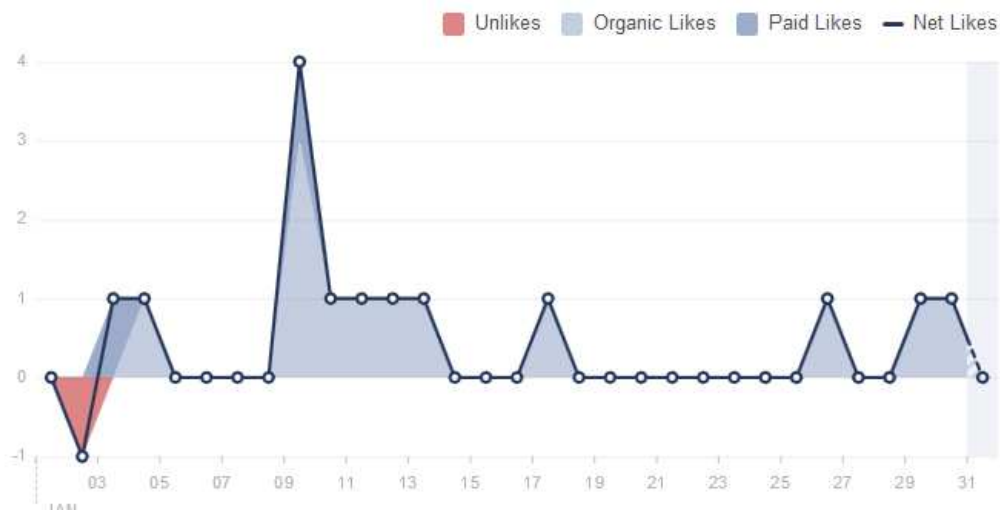


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Total Page Likes

### Net Likes

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Unlikes

Organic Likes

Paid Likes

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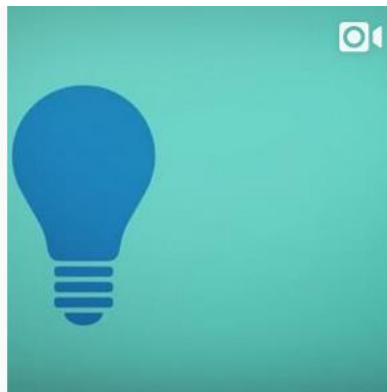
32 likes, 1 comment



30 likes, 1 comment



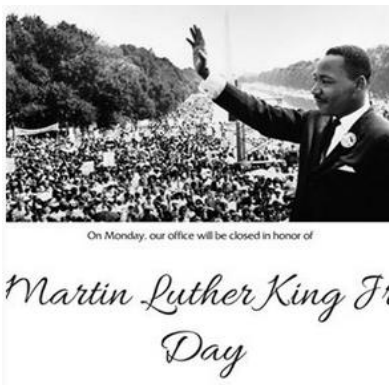
34 likes, 1 comment



33 video plays



22 likes, 1 comment



24 likes



27 likes



12 likes



**Desert Water Agency**

1200 S Gene Autry Trl, Palm Springs, CA 92264



### 2018 Water Counts Academy accepting applications

Outreach & Conservation Manager Ashley Metzger from Desert Water Agency · 18 Jan

CV Water Counts, a group of the local water agencies, is accepting applications for the 2018 session of a FREE program called the Water Counts Academy. Classes will be held 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Palm Desert on February 6, 13, 20 & 27 with a tour and completion ceremony on March 3 from 9:00 to 3:30. The classes will cover local, regional and statewide water issues (groundwater, water quality, imported ... [View more](#)



18 Jan · Subscribers of Desert Water Agency in General

THANK · 4

REPLY · 2



### TOMORROW (1/10, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.) Coffee with DWA

Outreach & Conservation Manager Ashley Metzger from Desert Water Agency · 9 Jan

Join your local water agency tomorrow morning to share input and ask questions at 4 Paws Coffee (2500 N Palm Canyon Dr, Suite A5). You can always ask us questions here, too.



9 Jan · Subscribers of Desert Water Agency in 11 neighborhoods in General

THANK · 1

REPLY · 2





## Desert Water Agency

1200 S Gene Autry Trl, Palm Springs, CA 92264



### Free online payment system - save on stamps!

Outreach & Conservation Manager Ashley Metzger from Desert Water Agency · 2 Jan

Desert Water Agency customers now have another free online bill-pay option.

You can make a single payment using your bank account details. Visit [www.dwa.org/pay](http://www.dwa.org/pay) to try it out. You will be directed to our myDWA site where you can also sign up to have your bills sent via email.



You can still enroll in autopay with no charge. Most banks offer free online bill-pay services that we will continue ... [View more](#)

2 Jan · Subscribers of Desert Water Agency in General

THANK · 4

REPLY · 1





TWEETS 1,129 FOLLOWING 1,511 FOLLOWERS 941 LIKES 432 MOMENTS 0

Desert Water Agency  
Twitter Analytics  
January 2018

Jan 2018 • 31 days so far...

#### TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

##### Top Tweet earned 477 impressions

Are you a Coachella Valley community member interested in water? Apply for the Water Counts Academy  
[CVWaterCounts.com/academy](http://CVWaterCounts.com/academy)  
[@CVWaterCounts](https://twitter.com/CVWaterCounts)

3 2

View Tweet activity

View all Tweet activity

##### No new followers in January

Grow your audience and deliver your content to more people on Twitter.

[Learn more about increasing your followers](#)



##### Top mention earned 45 engagements



On this day in 1918, Coachella Valley residents voted in favor of forming CVWD, 324 to 49. Thanks to [@DWAwater](https://twitter.com/DWAwater) for the proclamation in honor of our 100th anniversary at today's board meeting! Read more here: [goo.gl/oiWuPY](http://goo.gl/oiWuPY)  
[pic.twitter.com/sZrMWptgA](http://pic.twitter.com/sZrMWptgA)



3 13

[View Tweet](#)

##### Top media Tweet earned 471 impressions

Welcome, [#PSIFF!](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/ud9zXud7xa](http://pic.twitter.com/ud9zXud7xa)



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#### JAN 2018 SUMMARY

Tweets

20

Tweet impressions

6,033

Profile visits

465

Mentions

6

New followers

7