



**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 – July 17, 2018**

CIOFFI

**3. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

KRAUSE

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS - A. Executive – August 1, 2018**

CIOFFI

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION**

**A. State Water Contractors' Meeting – July 19, 2018**

RIDDELL

**7. OUTREACH & CONSERVATION**

METZGER

**A. Media Information**

**B. Activities**

**8. DIRECTORS COMMENTS AND REQUESTS**

**9. 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 LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

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

Name of Case: Albrecht et al vs. County of Riverside

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

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

Name of Case: Abbey et al vs. County of Riverside

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

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

Name of Case: Safari Park, Inc. vs. Southridge Property Owners Assoc. of Palm Springs, et al

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

**11. 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**

**July 17, 2018**

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

DWA Staff:	Mark S. Krause, General Manager	)
	Steve Johnson, Asst. General Manager	)
	Martin Krieger, Finance Director	)
	Sylvia Baca, Asst. Secretary of the Board	)
	Ashley Metzger, Outreach & Cons. Mgr.	)
	Esther Saenz, Accounting Supervisor	)

Consultant:	Michael T. Riddell, Best Best & Krieger	)
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Public:	David Freedman, P.S. Sustainability Comm.	)
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18174. President Cioffi opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and asked everyone to join Vice President Stuart in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Pledge of Allegiance**

18175. President Cioffi called for approval of the July 3, 2018 Regular Board meeting minutes. **Approval of 07/03/18  
Regular Board Mtg.  
Minutes**

Director Ewing moved for approval. After a second by Vice President Stuart, the minutes were approved as written.

18176. President Cioffi called upon General Manager Krause to provide an update on Agency operations. **General Manager's  
Report**

Mr. Krause stated on July 6 at approximately 2:00 a.m., stand-by crew responded to a hit fire hydrant inside the Monte Sarno gated community. This was a hit and run. Staff replaced the bolts and gasket and put the hydrant back into service. The water loss was from a fully open 6-inch hydrant which ran for 30 minutes. A police report was filed. **Hit Fire Hydrant**

Mr. Krause stated on July 6 a fire started in the area of the Agency's South Reservoirs. The fire burned along the access road to the reservoir and around the reservoir's perimeter access road. **PS South Reservoirs**

The fire destroyed most of the vegetation, pvc pipe, nozzles and irrigation control valves. It also damaged the vault venting and may have caused smoke and heat damage to inside equipment. Staff responded to the fire but were not allowed access by the Tribe. The Tribe stated vehicular access was denied to avoid blocking the road for emergency vehicles. However, access was allowed to other private individuals that parked their vehicles and ultimately blocked a portion of the road. Staff intends to meet with the Tribe to discuss emergency access to our facilities. The Agency has contacted PSFD Battalion Chief Loya inquiring about the cause of the fire and are waiting for his response.

**GM Report**  
(Cont.)

PS South Reservoirs

Mr. Krause stated on July 10 – 12, the Agency hosted rebate workshops for customers interested in funding for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The workshops targeted landscapers, homeowners associations and local residents. About 50 people attended. Staff expects the workshops will increase awareness and participation in the rebate programs.

Rebate Workshops

Mr. Krause reported for the month of June, the Whitewater Hydro plant generated approximately 639,845 kWh, resulting in a SCE settlement amount of \$59,553. The plant was placed offline on June 29 while MWD evaluated the CRA water levels. It was back online on July 9. Currently, MWD is delivering 165 cfs through the hydro plant and 475 cfs at the MWD outlet structure, for a total of 640 cfs to the Whitewater Spreading Basins. MWD is in the process of replacing a faulty meter at the Mission Creek Spreading Basin outlet structure. Once completed, water will be delivered at a flow of 25 cfs. Approximately 1,660 acre-feet of water is scheduled to be delivered to this basin.

Whitewater Hydro and  
SWP Delivery Update

Mr. Krause noted that the Agency recently began an alternative work schedule (9/80). The majority of departments will be working alternative working hours with every other Friday off. The Agency offices will continue to be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DWA Alternative  
Working Hours

Mr. Krause stated on July 9, the City inspected and approved the work performed by Green Towne, Inc. The project's budget is \$115,000. To date, total spent on the facilities, including extra work to install the roof screen is \$98,452.95.

Operations Center  
Public Restroom  
Project Update

Mr. Krause reported that 99 percent of the work has been completed as scheduled.

Lake Perris Seismic  
Remediation Contract  
Update

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

18177. President Cioffi noted the minutes for the July 11, 2018 Executive Committee were provided in the Board's packet.

**Committee Reports:**  
Executive 07/11/18

18178. 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.

18179. President Cioffi called upon Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer to provide an overview of financial activities for the month of June 2018.

**Secretary-Treasurer's  
Report – June 2018**

Secretary-Treasurer Bloomer reported that the Operating Fund received \$2,752,626 in Water Sales Revenue, and \$205,239 in Reclamation Sales Revenue. Included in the Miscellaneous receipts category is \$5,000 from Wildcat 1 Energy Storage, LLC. \$1,839,420 was paid out in Accounts Payable. Year-to-date Water Sales, Revenues and Expenses will be provided after the 2017/18 audit. There were 22,613 active services as of June 30, 2018 compared to 22,603 as of May 31, 2018.

**Operating Fund**

Reporting on the General Fund, Ms. Bloomer stated that \$396,658 was received in Property Tax Revenue, \$686,955 from CVWD for SWP reimbursements. Included in the Miscellaneous receipts category is \$25,000 from the Wastewater Fund. \$663,688 was paid in State Water Project charges (YTD \$22,822,133).

**General Fund**

Reporting on the Wastewater Fund, Ms. Bloomer stated that \$2,894 was received in sewer contract payments. There are a total of 44 contracts, with total delinquents of 10 (23%). \$136,734 was paid out in Accounts Payable.

**Wastewater Fund**

18180. President Cioffi called upon Assistant General Manager Johnson to present staff's request for Board action regarding a claim for damages filed by Thurman Arnold.

**Item for Action:**  
Request Board Action  
Re: Claim/Thurman  
Arnold

Mr. Johnson explained that this claim is regarding damages caused by a storm that occurred in August and September of last year over the Araby Cove and Araby Road area. He noted that in September 2017, the Agency received a courtesy notice from the City of Palm Springs regarding a public nuisance within the Araby Cove due to a private road that was washed out, preventing fire department access to private properties. The letter was also sent to Mr. Arnold and three other property owners. On March 1, 2018, the property owners, including the Agency met with the City to discuss the nuisance. We were advised that all are responsible for the road repair and must resolve the issues to avoid a fine by the City.

Continuing with his report, Mr. Johnson stated since the meeting, the property owners obtained three construction estimates to repair the road, agreeing to a cost of \$54,775. The owners agreed to contribute \$12,000 each. To date, no work has been started. Mr. Arnold claims he should be compensated for all costs associated with the road repair and filed this

claim for damages to his property. Staff recommends that the Board reject the claim and forward to ACWA/JPIA for their handling.

**Action Items:**  
(Cont.)  
Claim/Thurman Arnold

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

18181. President Cioffi asked Assistant General Manager Johnson to present staff's request for Board action regarding a claim for damages filed by SoCalGas.

Request Board Action  
Re: Claim/SoCalGas

Mr. Johnson stated that SoCalGas is claiming damages by the Borden Excavating, Inc. in the estimate of \$325.68 for damaging its 1-inch plastic service with a backhoe. Borden is the Agency's contractor for the 2017-2018 replacement pipelines project. In its contract, Borden is required to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Agency from all injuries or damages resulting from any cause. The Agency has sent Borden a request for defense and indemnification letter dated July 11 along with a copy to its insurer, United Agencies, Inc., SoCalGas and ACWA/JPIA. Staff recommends that the Board reject the claim and forward to Borden Excavating, Inc. for their handling.

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

18182. President Cioffi asked Agency Counsel Riddell to provide a report on the June 21, 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Water Contractors, Inc.

**Discussion Items:**  
SWC Mtg. 06/21/18

Mr. Riddell noted that Josh Nelson attended the meeting and provided the report. The report discussed the following items: 1) Closed Session, 2) Action Items, 3) Water Operations Report, 4) Water Quality Report, and 5) General Manager's Report.

18183. President Cioffi asked General Manager Krause to report on the June water use reduction figures.

June Water Reduction

Mr. Krause reported that the Agency and its customers achieved a 19.5% reduction in potable water production during June 2018 compared to June 2013. He noted the cumulative savings June 2016 through current is 17.4%. He also noted that one penalty/violation was issued.

18184. President Cioffi asked Outreach and Conservation Manager Metzger to provide her presentation on the impacts of new conservation legislation.

Impacts of New  
Conservation  
Legislation

Mrs. Metzger provided a PowerPoint presentation on the new conservation laws, AB 1668 and SB 606 which become effective January 1, 2019.

**Discussion Items:**  
(Cont.)

18185. President Cioffi asked Outreach & Conservation Manager Metzger to place an item on the next Outreach & Public Affairs Committee agenda regarding an assessment of residential indoor water use.

**Directors**  
**Comments/Requests**

Future Agenda  
Item/Outreach & PA  
Committee

President Cioffi reminded the Board about the upcoming CSDA Conference in Indian Wells in September.

Upcoming CSDA  
Conference-Indian  
Wells

18186. At 9:03 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) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54959.9 (d) (1), Albrecht et al vs. County of Riverside; and (E) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54959.9 (d) (1), Abbey et al vs. County of Riverside.

**Closed Session:**

A. Existing Litigation –  
ACBCI vs. CVWD, et  
al.  
B. Existing Litigation –  
ACBCI vs. Riverside  
County  
C. Existing Litigation –  
MSWD vs. DWA  
D. Existing Litigation –  
Albrecht et al vs.  
Riverside County  
E. Existing Litigation –  
Abbey et al vs.  
Riverside County

18187. At 10:24 a.m., President Cioffi reconvened the meeting into open session and announced there was no reportable action.

**Reconvene – No  
Reportable Action**

18188. In the absence of any further business, President Cioffi adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

**Adjournment**

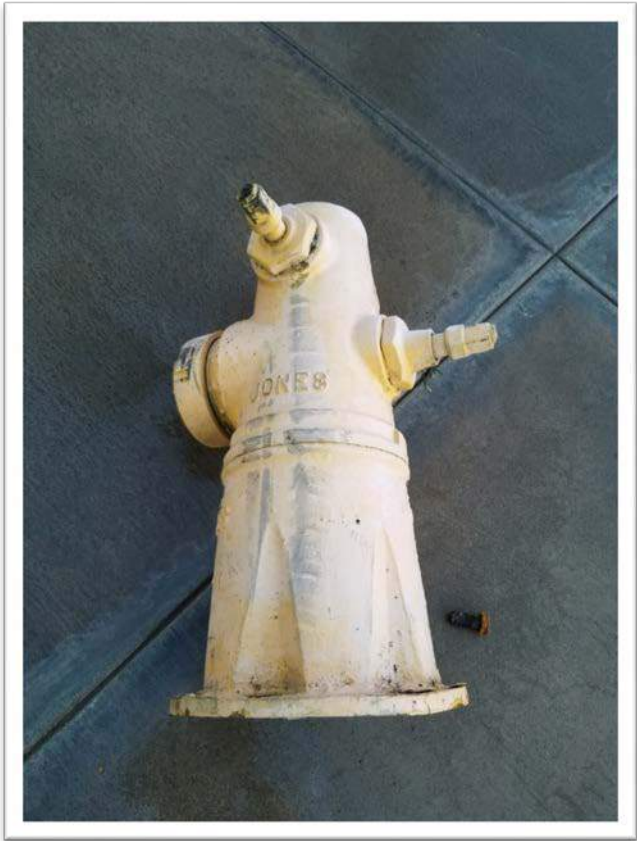
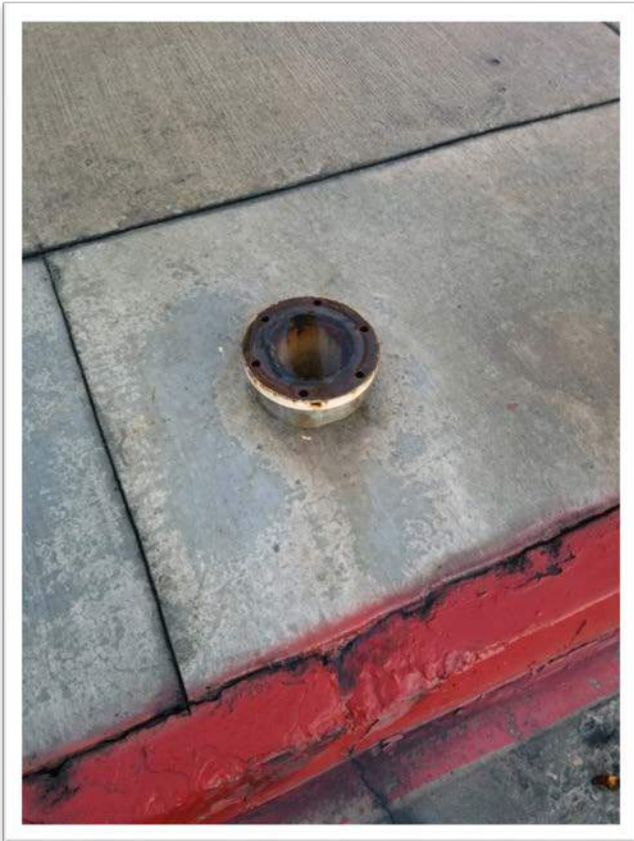
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Cioffi, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristin Bloomer, Secretary-Treasurer

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT  
AUGUST 7, 2018**

On July 28 at approximately 5:30 a.m., stand-by responded to a hit fire hydrant on Calle Encilia and Alejo Rd., it was a hit and run. The hydrant was replaced and put back into service. The water loss was from a fully open 6-inch hydrant bury which ran for approximately 20 minutes. A police report was filed.



### Whitewater Hydro and SWP Delivery Update

For the month of July, the Whitewater Hydro plant generated approximately 358,432 kWh, resulting in a SCE settlement amount of \$33,401.

Currently, MWD is delivering 165 cfs through the hydro plant and 535 cfs at the MWD outlet structure, for a total of 700 cfs to the Whitewater Spreading Basins.

As of the end of June, MWD has delivered approximately 38,731 AC-FT of water to the Whitewater Spreading Basins and 383 AC-FT to the Mission Creek Spreading Basins for 2018.

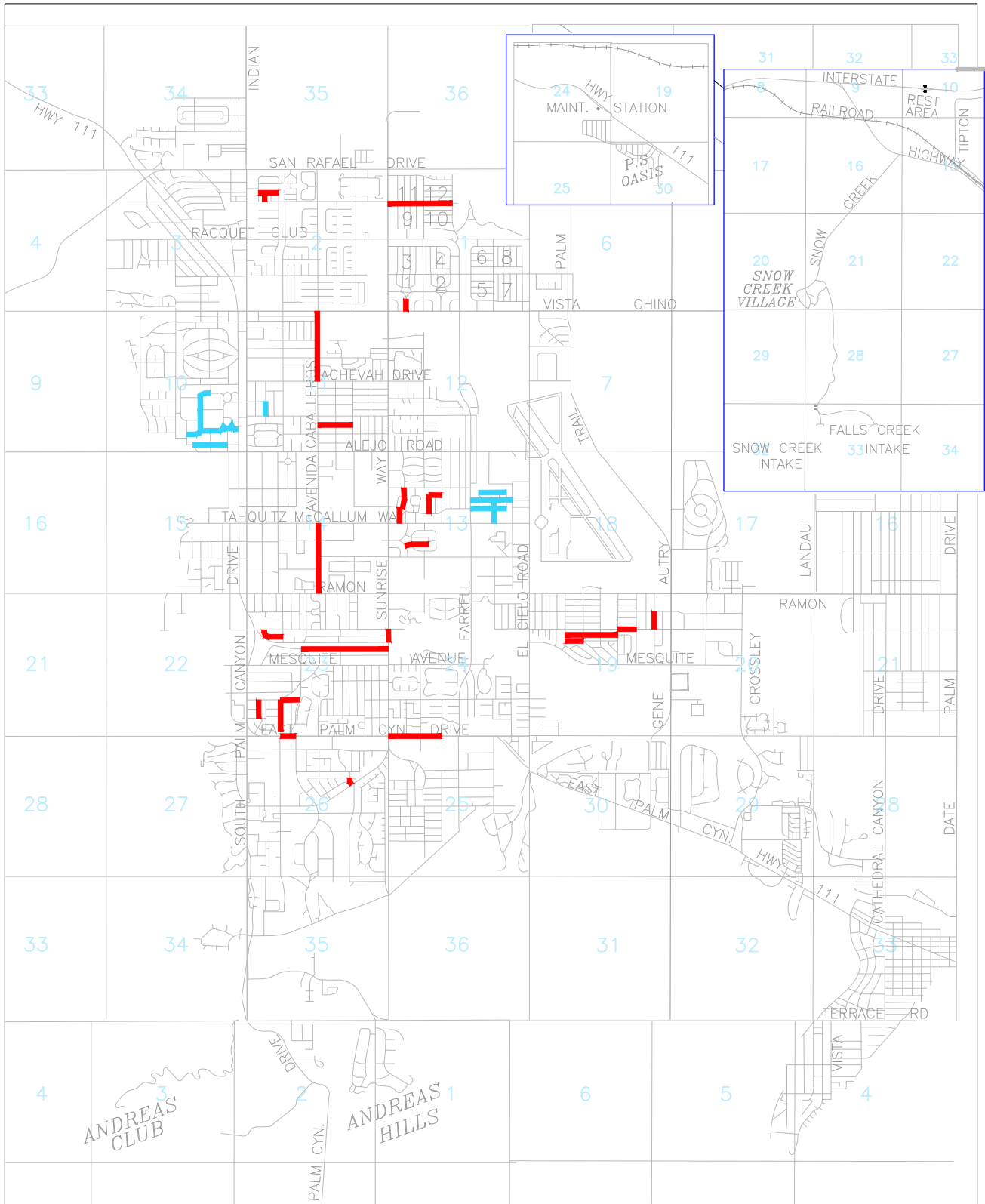
Approximately 1,660 AC-FT is scheduled to be delivered to the Mission Creek Spreading Basin once MWD completes the repair of a meter that measures flow to that basin.

Approximately 79,270 AC-FT is still scheduled to be delivered to Whitewater Spreading Basin by the end of the year.



SYSTEM LEAK DATA		
(PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 10, 2018 THRU JULY 31, 2018)		
STREET NAME	QUARTER SECTION	NUMBER OF LEAKS
LIVMOR AVE	4413NE	10
MERITO PL	4410SE	7
MISSION RD	4410SE	5
TERRY LN	4413NW	3
MICHELLE RD	4413NW	3
SUNNY DUNES RD	4519NE	3
ANDREAS RD	4413NE	2
AVENIDA CABALLEROS (20")	4411NW	2
VIA SOLEDAD	4423SW	2
PLAIMOR AVE	4413NE	1
HERMOSA PL	4410SE	1
AVENIDA PALOS VERDES	4411SW	1
CHINO RD	4410SE	1
LOUELLA RD	4413NE	1
CALLE LILETA	4413SW	1
S RIVERSIDE DR	4423NE	1
WILLIAMS RD	4519NE	1
CALIENTE RD	4426NE	1
WYMAN RD	4402NW	1
LURING DR	4413NW	1
SONORA RD	4423SW	1
INDUSTRIAL PL	4423NW	1
AVENIDA CABALLEROS (14")	4414SW	1
LINDSEY DR	4402NW	1
SATURMINO DR	4413NW	1
CARRIAGE LN (BISKRA RD)	4401SW	1
E PALM CANYON DR	4426NE	1
SUNRISE WY (8")	4423NE	1
E PALM CANYON DR	4424SW	1
FRANCIS DR	4401NW	1
VIA ALTAMIRA	4411SE	1
CALLE SAN ANTONIO	4519NW	1
CALLE PALO FIERRO	4423SW	1
CALLE SAN RAPHAEL	4519NW	1
<b>TOTAL LEAKS IN SYSTEM:</b>		<b>62</b>

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



## SYSTEM LEAKS

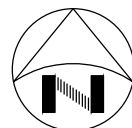
(Period beginning July 10, 2018 thru  
July 31, 2018)

DESERT WATER AGENCY  
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

### LEGEND

- LEAK(S) RECORDED
- LEAK(S) RECORDED;  
INCLUDED IN PROPOSED  
LIST OF STREETS FOR  
2018/2019  
REPLACEMENT PIPELINES

DWG. BY  
SR



DATE  
8/18

SCALE  
NTS

EXHIBIT  
"A"

## General Manager's Meetings and Activities

### Meetings:

07/18/18	SWC Delta Committee & Policy Meetings	SAC
07/19/18	Monthly SWC Board Meeting	SAC
07/19/18	State Federal Contractor Water Authority Board Meeting	SAC
07/19/18	SWC Sites Res Participants Meeting with DWR	SAC
07/20/18	Sites Reservoir Committee Monthly Board Meeting	MAXWELL
07/22/18	Travel to Washington D.C.	PS – DCA
07/23/18	Meetings with DC Representatives	DC
07/24/18	Travel from DC to ONT to PS	DC – PS
07/25/18	Meeting with CVWD on Participation in CWF & Sites Res.	DWA
07/26/18	Meeting to Discuss Section 14 Whitepaper	DWA/Conf.
07/30/18	I.S./Staff/Security Meetings	DWA
08/01/18	Executive Committee Meeting	DWA
08/02/18	CWF Finance JPA Workshop	MWD
08/06/18	I.S./Staff/Security Meetings	DWA
08/07/18	DWA Bi – Monthly Board Meeting	DWA

### Activities:

- 1) Outreach Talking Points – KESQ
- 2) Whitewater Hydro – Automatic Re-start
- 3) State and Federal Contractors Water Authority and Delta Specific Project Committee (Standing)
- 4) ACBCI Section 14 Facilities & Easements
- 5) Lake Oroville Spillway Damage
- 6) Replacement Pipelines 2018-2019
- 7) CWF –Finance JPA Agreement
- 8) DWA/CVWD/MWD Operations Coordination/Article 21/Pool A/Pool B/Yuba Water
- 9) DWA/CVWD/MWD Agreements Update
- 10) SWP 2018 Water Supply
- 11) ACBCI Lawsuits
- 12) Lake Perris Dam Remediation
- 13) Section 14 Pipeline Easements
- 14) DOI Regulation
- 15) Repair of Facility Access Roads Damaged in the September 10 Storm (Araby)
- 16) Whitewater Hydro Operations Coordination with Recharge Basin O&M
- 17) SGMA Tribal Stakeholder Meetings
- 18) Whitewater Spreading Basins – BLM Permits
- 19) Lake Perris Dam Seepage Recovery Project Participation
- 20) Cal Waterfix Cost Allocation
- 21) DWA Surface Water Filtration Feasibility Study
- 22) MCSB Delivery Updates
- 23) Well 6 Meaders Cleaners RWQB Meetings
- 24) SGMA – Indio Subbasin Classification
- 25) SGMA – San Geronio Pass Subbasin
- 26) DWA Annual Water Quality Report

**Minutes**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
August 1, 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 August 7, 2018 Regular Board Meeting

The proposed agenda for the August 7, 2018 meeting was reviewed.

B. Upcoming SWP Tour Registration

Staff provided the Committee with the registration status for the September 9 – 11 SWP Tour.

**2. Other - None**

**3. Adjourn**

July 19, 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

**RE:** JULY 19, 2018 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
STATE WATER CONTRACTORS, INC.

The July 19, 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Water Contractors, Inc., was conducted at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria in downtown Sacramento.

1. Financing Joint Powers Authority. The meeting began with a closed session which included discussion of the agreement to create the Financing Joint Powers Authority. Because the agreement already has been publicly circulated and executed by some of the Contractors, its terms can be discussed openly. The purpose of the agreement is to form a joint powers authority that will issue bonds to finance initial construction activities for Cal WaterFix, until such time as DWR itself can issue bonds after the validation proceedings have been completed. The joint powers authority has no other purpose or function. All Contractors that will benefit from the tunnel project have been invited to execute the agreement and join the JPA. Those who join should be prepared to pay their share of debt service on the bonds even if a court were to determine that the tunnels are not part of the SWP and that taxes may not be levied to pay for the project. The agreement currently does not address the question of how the remaining parties to the agreement would pick up the share of any party that defaulted or decided to exit from the JPA. That issue will be addressed in a subsequent agreement or agreements.

To quickly describe the agreement, the “members” of the agreement will include not only those Contractors that have already signed the agreement, but also Contractors that will sign the agreement in the future. The agreement allows for “successor” agencies in anticipation that Central Valley Project Contractors may wish to join the JPA at a subsequent date, so as to participate in the tunnel project as well. The term of the agreement is effective July 3, 2018, and it will continue in effect for 50 years from the date of the last series of bonds issued by the JPA.

However, the agreement also provides that it can be terminated earlier, upon approval by its members.

The agreement provides that every member can appoint a Director to the Board of Directors. The agreement also provides for the formation of an Executive Committee which will act as a working group. The Executive Committee currently consist of the President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Board, although the Executive Committee can be expanded to include other representatives as well. Decisions on financial issues are approved based on weighted voting in proportion to each Contractor's financial commitment to the project. For administrative matters, decisions are made on the basis of one Director, one vote.

Every Contractor has the right to execute the agreement within five years from its effective date. After that five year period, a Contractor can join upon the affirmative vote of the other members. The agreement provides that a member can withdraw from the JPA at any time prior to the issuance of debt, without penalty. If a member withdraws after debt has been issued, that member must pay off its share of the debt in order to exit from the JPA.

2. DWR Management Report. Deputy Director Joe Ledesma was present to provide a report by DWR Management staff on several issues. He spoke mostly about the repairs to the spillway at Lake Oroville. Work is underway to complete the repairs, and DWR continues to target November 1 as the completion date, prior to the rainy season. In addition, to that work, however, DWR is also performing a Comprehensive Needs Assessment which is expected to be completed by the end of 2019. It will simply be a planning document. It will not provide for the design or construction of any facility. Identified tasks include restoring the spillway capacity to maximum flood levels, restoring the reservoir outflow enhancements for operational purposes, addressing flood control outlet enhancements, identifying alternatives for "low level" outlets, dam and embankment improvements, and technological improvements for monitoring and surveillance.

Following the emergency event last year, a "forensics" report was prepared. DWR agrees with some of the conclusions contained in that report, but does not agree with other coclusions. Actions taken by DWR to address the issues include the following:

- DWR completed a peer review of the events
- DWR has included dam safety as part of its asset management programs

- DWR elevated the position of Dam Safety Engineer to a management level position
- DWR is conducting bi-weekly meetings to discuss dam safety alone
- DWR has updated its safety policy
- DWR is conducting internal workshops including a broader group of DWR positions to discuss dam safety
- DWR has streamlined the hiring process to make it easier to hire and retain engineers
- DWR has submitted “budget change proposals” to increase the number of DWR staff positions, a number of which will be dam safety positions

3. SWC Board Action Items. The Board took action on a number of items, including actions to transfer the Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program from the State Water Project Contractors Authority to the SWC; approval of contracts to continue science projects which include zooplankton classifying, environmental DNA projects, and approval of projects previously undertaken by the State and Federal Contractors Water Agency; approval of contracts for new science projects; authorization to execute letters to DWR in support of two water exchange agreements; and approval of a \$10,000 contribution to the Public Policy Institute of California Water Policy Center, which provides neutral and reliable science of value to the Contractors.

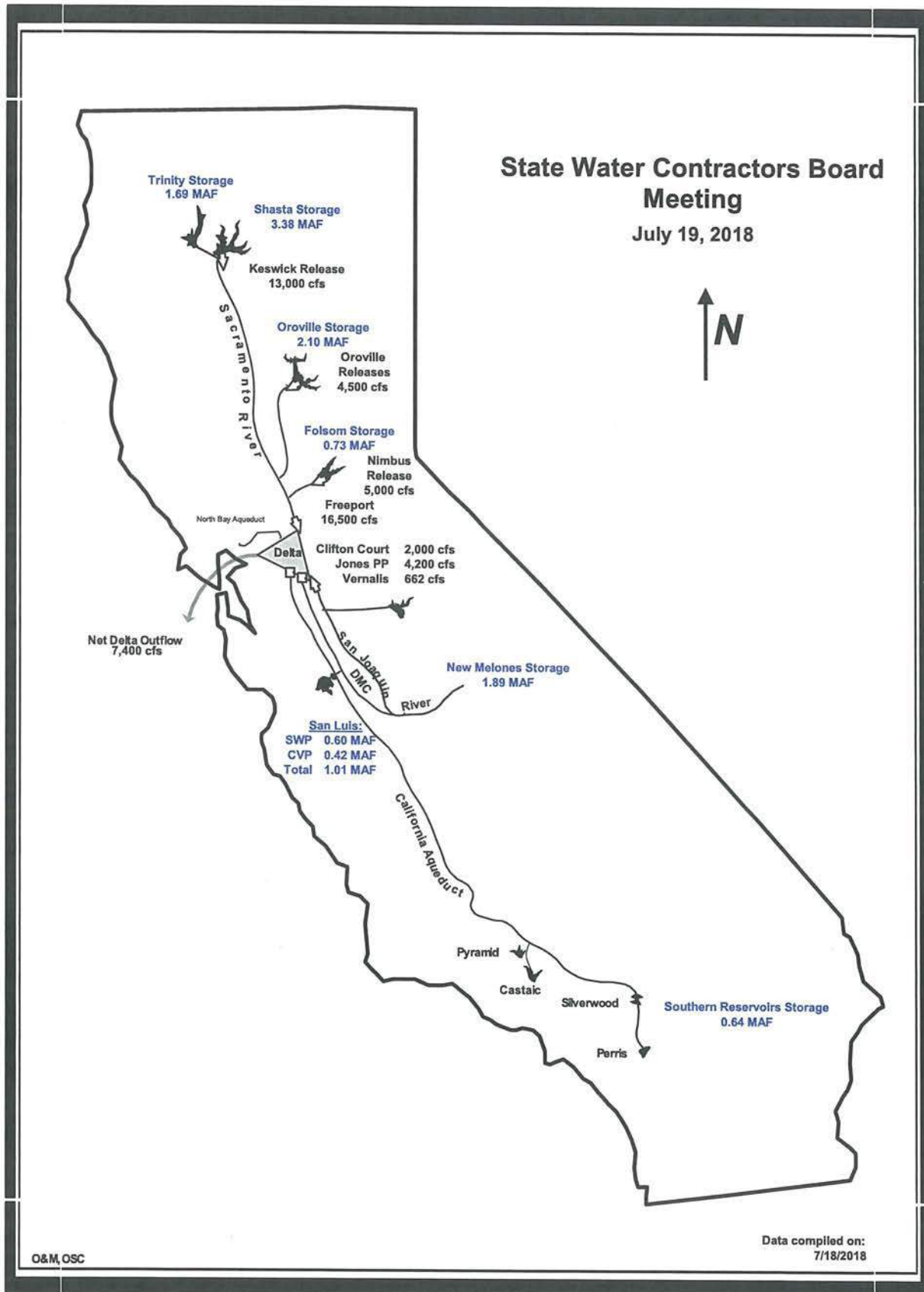
4. SWP Operations Report. There was only a brief report on SWP water operations. DWR was diverting water from the Delta at the rate of 2,500 cubic feet per second. Diversions by both the SWP and the CVP totaled 4,200 cubic feet per second. The state share of storage in the San Luis reservoir was at 588,000 acre feet, of which approximately 205,000 acre feet has been identified as anticipated carry over by Contractors.

5. Delta Compliance Efforts. On behalf of the Delta Compliance Committee, Craig Wallace reported that Chuck Gardner has been hired to help with efforts to ensure compliance with requirements set forth in the biological opinions for Delta Smelt and salmon.

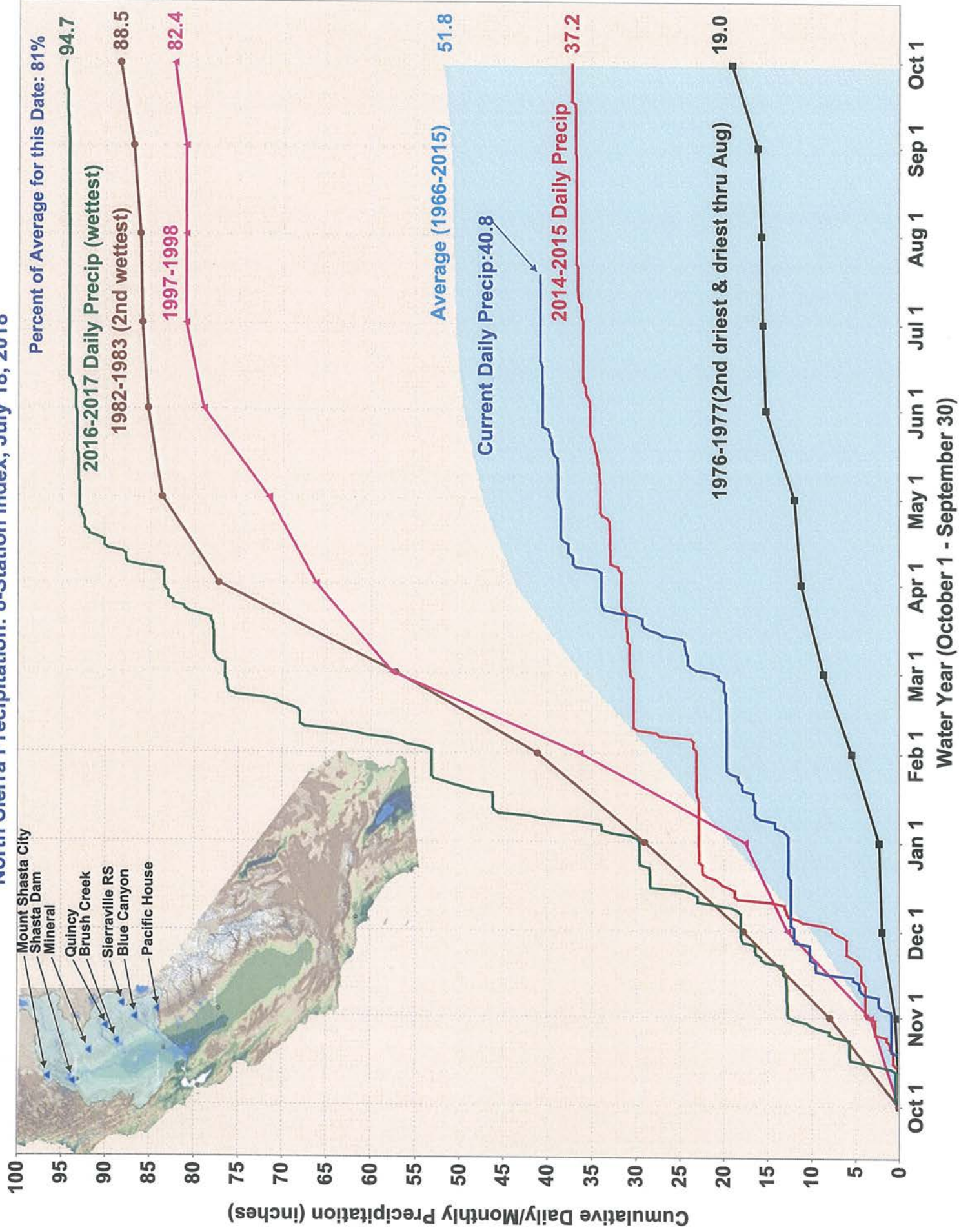
Based upon information received from DWR thus far, Chuck is optimistic that the review will reveal that there is compliance with all requirements set forth in the biological opinions.

Michael T. Riddell





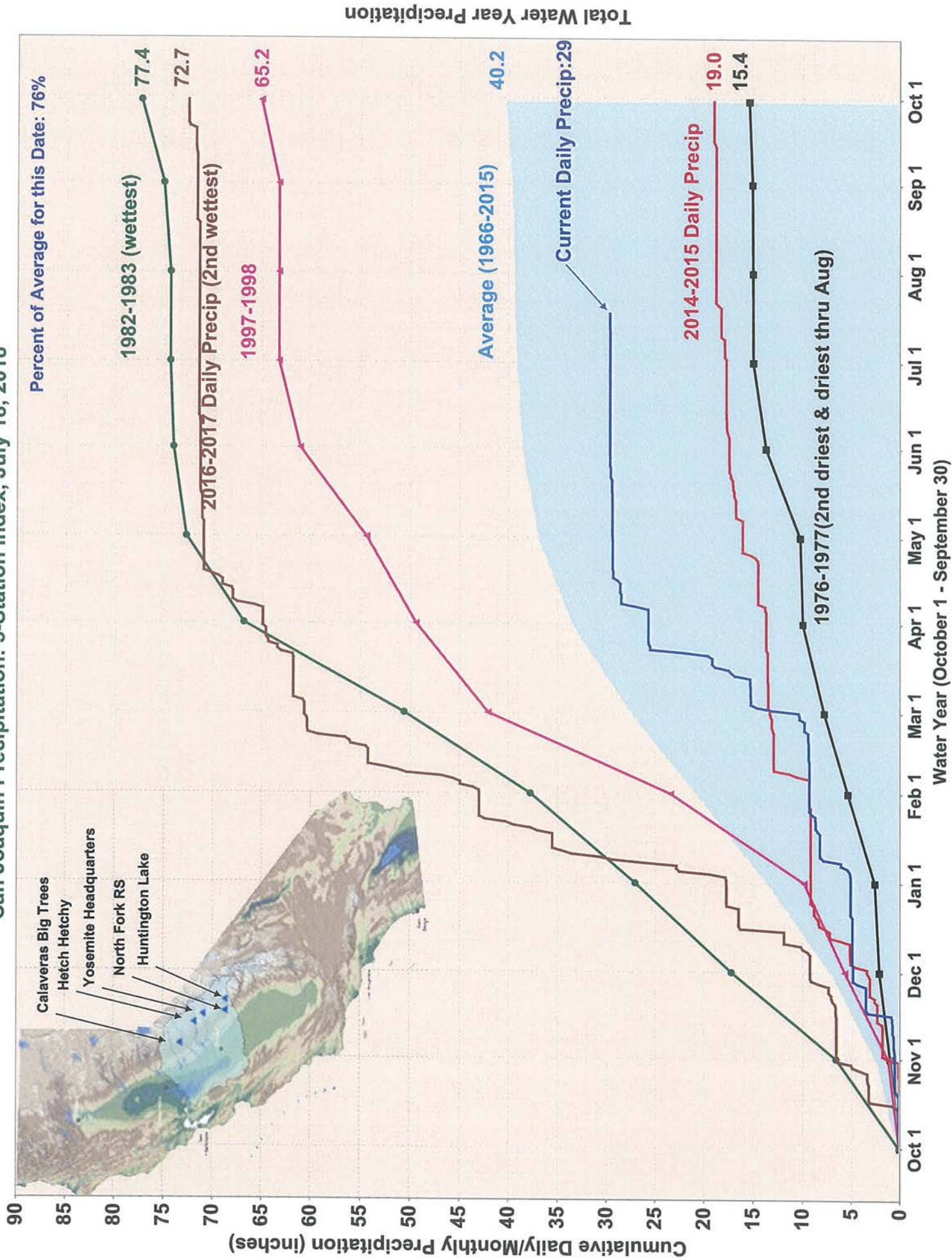
# North Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, July 18, 2018



Total Water Year Precipitation

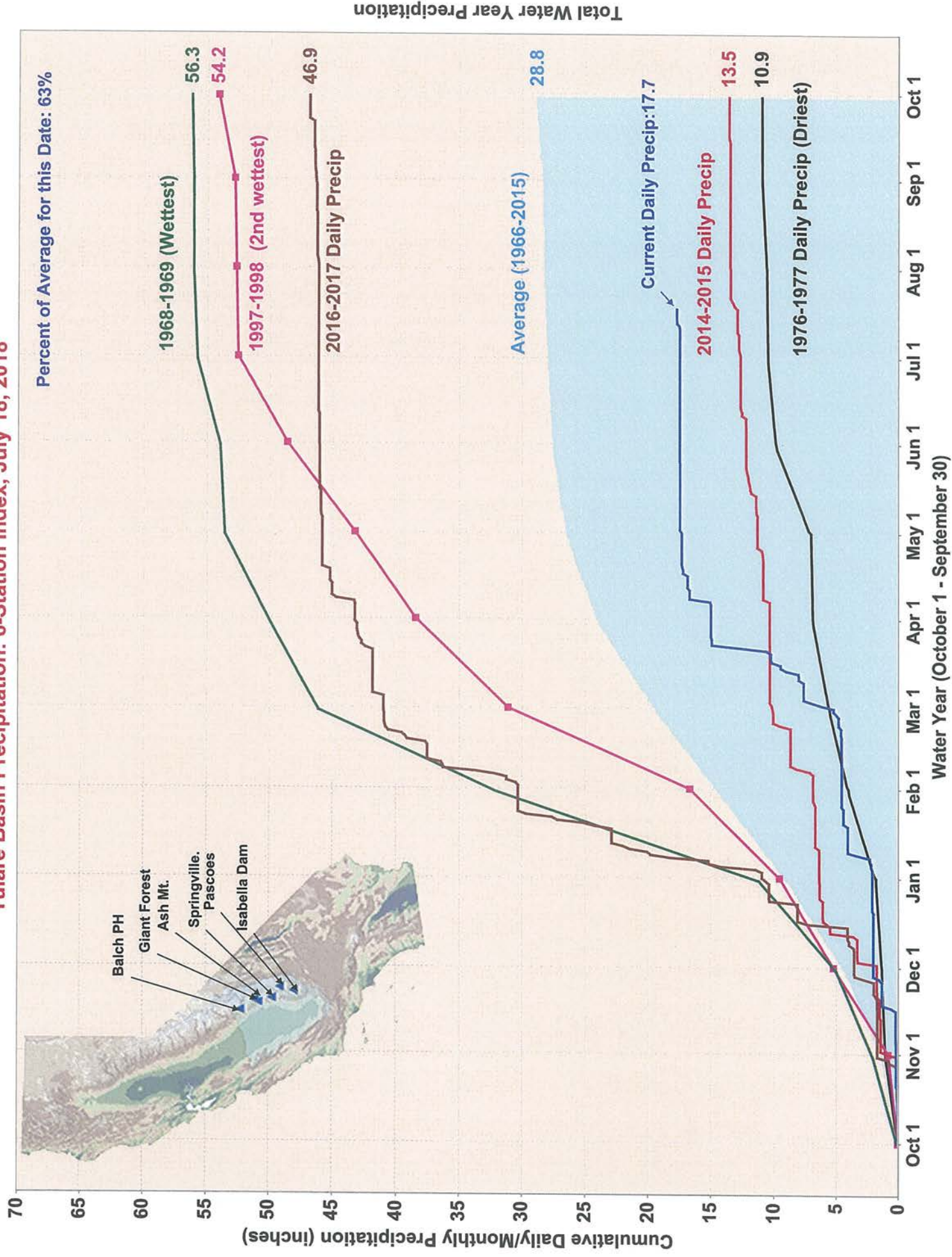


San Joaquin Precipitation: 5-Station Index, July 18, 2018





# Tulare Basin Precipitation: 6-Station Index, July 18, 2018

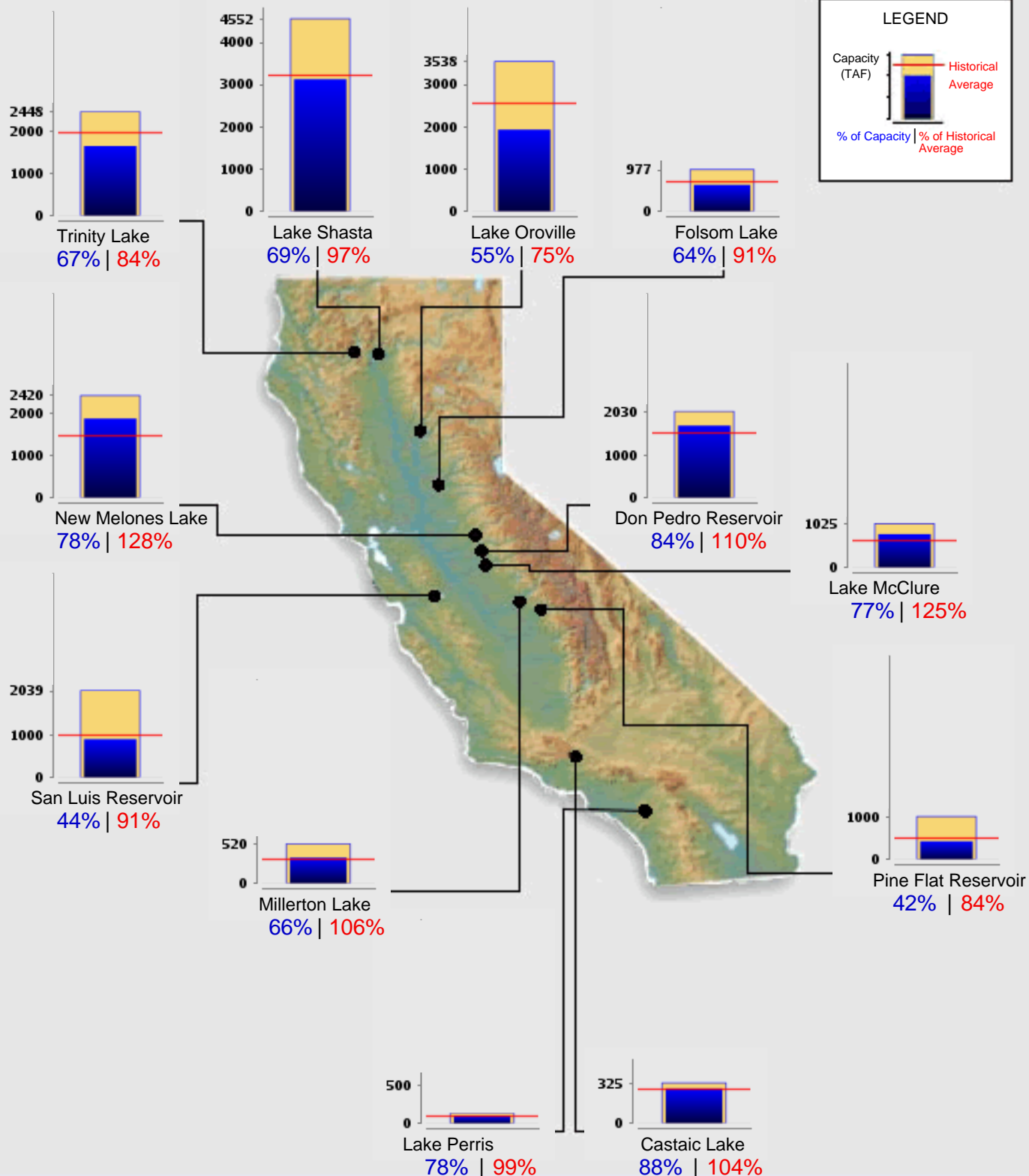




# Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - August 1, 2018

## CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



**DESERT WATER AGENCY  
MEDIA INFORMATION  
JULY 2018**

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## Our next snowpack: Aquifers

By Jacques Leslie, July 5, 2018

Here's a suggestion for decision-makers on the California Water Commission who are now finalizing the distribution of \$7.5 billion in bond money for storage projects: Look underground.

The state should give up — at last — on dated, expensive, environmentally destructive dams and instead put funds toward infrastructure and programs that would help us store more water in aquifers, where there's plenty of room.

In fact, the vacant storage space in California's aquifers is about three times as large as the volume of all the state's surface reservoirs, according to Ellen Hanak, water specialist at the Public Policy Institute of California.

Aquifer storage has been used in California for decades, but it has gotten increased attention since the state passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. That law requires water districts to begin regulating groundwater use. It was inspired, in part, by the understanding that California's other water storage methods — dams and Sierra snowpack — have declined. No large, river-obstructing dams have been built in California since the 1970s (partly because all the best sites are already taken), and the snowpack is dwindling as a result of climate change.

Aquifers offer more resilience than either alternative. They are often located precisely beneath the communities that consume their water, so they reduce pumping costs and promote local control. Recharging them is relatively cheap. And unlike reservoirs, aquifers aren't subject to evaporation. By contrast, the nation's two biggest reservoirs, Lakes Mead and Powell, annually lose about 10% of all the water flowing through the Colorado River basin, according to Ben Livneh, a hydrologist at University of Colorado at Boulder.

Aquifer storage holds particular promise for the southern San Joaquin Valley, where agricultural groundwater use is unsustainably high. Since the mid-1980s, valley farmers have annually pumped an average of 1.8 million more acre-feet of groundwater than is replaced by natural and intended replenishment. So much pumping has occurred, in fact, that in some places, aquifers have compacted and the land above them has subsided by as much as 28 feet. The threat of compaction lends urgency to recharging the aquifers: Leave large portions of them empty for extended periods and many more will contract, losing their storage capacity forever.

The advantages of recharging are sizable. According to Hanak, it's possible to refill the aquifers at a rate that would make up for the extraction of between 500,000 and 1 million acre-feet of water per year, enough to eliminate between a quarter and a half of the valley's overdraft problem.

The simplest way to recharge aquifers is to flood the ground over them, as happened naturally before industrial agriculture and dammed rivers upended the valley's water regime. An emerging replenishment technique, "on-farm recharge," mimics that process in a controlled way: During wet seasons when precipitation is exceptionally high, some of the high flows from reservoirs into aqueducts and canals can be diverted to designated farms where land is fallow or crops can withstand flooding.

To demonstrate the concept, Sustainable Conservation, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, has tracked 200 San Joaquin Valley farmers who agreed to allow flooding on their land in return for water delivered at reduced cost. Even without additional investment in expanding the canals' capacity (a significant impediment now), studies suggest the technique could offset 25% or more of the region's annual groundwater overdraft.

Aquifers can play just as vital a role in cities as in farm country. Since the mid-1970s, the Orange County Water District has been the world's leader in treating urban users' wastewater, storing it in an aquifer, then distributing it as drinking water. By the time the district completes an expansion in 2023, the system will convert enough wastewater to drinking water to serve about a million of its 2.5 million customers.

Los Angeles' San Fernando Basin aquifer is considered a "critical" part of the city's water future, as William VanWagoner, an assistant division director at the city's Department of Water and Power, told me. Groundwater, mostly from the San Fernando aquifer, usually comprises around 11% of the city's water supply, but that amount could double if the aquifer were fully used. Unfortunately, it's contaminated with industrial fluids. The DWP plans to clean it but the city won't be able to draw potable water from all of it for at least a couple of decades.

Even so, an expanded role for aquifer recharge throughout the state is nearly inevitable, among other reasons because of its low cost. According to Sustainable Conservation's calculations, the cost of water collected via on-farm recharge is \$63-\$168 per acre-foot over a 100-year period; the cost of water collected by the proposed Temperance Flat reservoir, on the San Joaquin River above the San Joaquin Valley, is \$1,900 per acre-foot over the same period.

To help expand aquifer storage, the California Water Resources Control Board should establish a simple process for determining when a wet season is bountiful enough to allow diversions for recharge. And the capacity of the canals and aqueducts that feed water to fields for on-farm recharging should be expanded to take advantage of high water seasons. That investment would be far more cost-efficient than building another dam.

Jacques Leslie is a contributing writer to Opinion



# Los Angeles Times

## Pulling the plug on a tiny water district isn't easy

*Smelly tap discharge may be what finally sinks Sativa*

By Angel Jennings and Ruben Vives, July 7, 2018

For its litany of problems, it's been hard to kill the tiny Sativa Los Angeles County Water District.

It has survived scandals involving financial instability, nepotism, poor maintenance and mismanagement.

Then in the last year, brown, smelly water started coming out of the taps — giving county and state officials what they believe is their best chance to close the embattled water district once and for all.

But it won't be easy.

The first challenge is economic: Sativa delivers inexpensive water to 1,600 homes in Compton and Willowbrook, and finding a replacement has been hard.

The second is legal: Laws intended to thwart government overreach make it difficult to close a district — even one as troubled as Sativa.

Across California, there are about 3,000 water agencies, remnants of an archaic system that until about two decades ago allowed anyone with a water source that could serve 15 or more people to apply for a permit to create a community water system. The districts began to flourish in the West in the late 19th century for drinking water and agricultural needs. Sativa was established in 1913.

L.A. County residents receive drinking water from one of 220 community water systems. The population served per system ranges from the 25 customers of Winterhaven Mobile Estates in Antelope Valley to the 4 million customers of the L.A. Department of Water and Power, according to a 2015 UCLA report.

More than 130 water agencies in the county serve fewer than 10,000 people each, the UCLA report found. Sativa, like many small water districts, pumps groundwater locally and delivers it through pipes to customers' homes. A 1965 court order granted the district free access to 474 acre-feet per year from the central groundwater basin, which stretches from east L.A. County to the San Gabriel Valley. Sativa can lease additional water as needed.

Customers pay a flat rate of \$65 a month, which brings in about \$1.3 million in revenue to Sativa. Residents of other parts of Compton who receive water through the city's Municipal Water Department pay an average household bill of about \$100 per month.

But that cheap water comes at a cost.

Sativa says it lacks the \$2.7 million needed to install water meters on properties in its district or the estimated \$10 million to \$15 million needed to upgrade the 70-year-old pipes blamed for depositing manganese in drinking water, which can make faucets run brown.

At a time when the state has pushed to consolidate smaller public water districts in order to pool resources and increase efficiency, oversight officials have repeatedly questioned Sativa's economic feasibility.

"In order to correct the deficiencies they have, they would have to raise water rates on their customers punitively," said Zev Yaroslavsky, a former L.A. County supervisor who sat on the county oversight commission during both of the previous Sativa dissolution attempts.

For customers living paycheck-to-paycheck in the largely black and Latino neighborhoods served by Sativa, "a huge hit on their water bill would be back-breaking," Yaroslavsky added. "They shouldn't have to shoulder that burden. The agency has failed them."

Sativa successfully fended off two previous attempts to dissolve the district by L.A. County's Local Agency Formation Commission — the state-appointed body charged with monitoring special districts. Its 2005 effort showed that Sativa operated without a budget, an auditor or a general manager, but the water district was granted a second chance. Seven years later, a review revealed that then-board president Johnny Johnson had hired his wife and stepdaughter and that board members awarded themselves illegal Christmas bonuses. The board pushed back hard, and LAFCO officials backed off.

But with residents so outraged by poor drinking water, LAFCO is expected Wednesday to initiate its third attempt to dissolve Sativa.

Anticipating that the process could drag into 2019 or beyond, Assemblyman Mike Gipson (D-Carson) introduced a bill that would allow the State Water Board to appoint an administrator for Sativa to manage operations during the dissolution process. If the bill swiftly makes it way through the legislature, Sativa could receive new leadership as early as September.

"Unfortunately, it has become increasingly clear that Sativa cannot effectively manage on its own," Gipson said.

Closing a water district is rare. Paul Novak, executive officer of LAFCO, said the commission has dissolved two in recent years, but neither provided residential service.

Part of the challenge with getting rid of Sativa is that LAFCO would have to find a suitable replacement. As LAFCO sought alternatives in 2012, the nearby city of Compton was on the brink of bankruptcy and the Central Basin Municipal Water District was under fire for spending practices and engaged in a water fight. LAFCO decided that neither was a good fit.

The five existing county waterworks districts are far from Sativa, so dissolving the district into their operations would offer little in the way of savings or economy of scale, Novak said.

LAFCO lacks the authority to consolidate a public agency, like Sativa, with a private water company. But the State Water Resources Control Board can order such mergers, Novak said. He said LAFCO and the state board are exploring the option.

But the biggest hurdle is a law designed to protect tiny agencies and the people they serve.

A vote by LAFCO to dissolve a special district can trigger an election or be overturned. If 10% of either the roughly 2,500 registered voters or 1,800 landowners in the Sativa water district were to file written objections with LAFCO during a "protest period" of at least 30 days, then an election of registered voters would have to be held to confirm the commission's decision, Novak said. If 50% of registered voters submitted objections in writing, then LAFCO approval of the dissolution would be overturned without an election.

“Once a system is set up, it’s very, very difficult for the state or county to shut it down even if they have the mandatory authority,” said Greg Pierce, a UCLA researcher. “Because they get challenged legally and it can take years and millions of dollars, so they have to move very slowly.”

LAFCO commissioners felt in 2012 that they lacked the support of residents, who had reelected the same board despite controversies. They were concerned that the board would successfully campaign to halt their dissolution efforts.

“It is not for a lack of effort or a lack of will on LAFCO’s part,” Novak said. “It has largely been a concern about finding the appropriate agency to take over service and the concern about it being protested out.”

But when residents started documenting brown water flowing from taps earlier this year, Novak said, it shifted public opinion. Now, LAFCO thinks it has a greater chance than ever to get rid of Sativa.

Luis Landeros, Sativa’s board president, said the district has implemented a multiyear plan to tackle some deferred maintenance, which should fix the issue of brown water. He did not elaborate on the plan, but said the district needs financial assistance from the state and federal governments and help from larger organizations, such as the Water Replenishment District, which manages groundwater in L.A. County, to make needed improvements.

Sativa officials blame the discolored water on aging pipes, which they occasionally flush to remove lingering sediment. County officials say the brown water is safe to drink, but acknowledge it contains higher-than-normal levels of manganese. The state water board said the findings did not pose a health threat. Residents have reported rashes and stained clothing.

Landeros, who sat on the board during the 2012 dissolution attempt, did not say whether he would wage a legal battle if oversight officials voted to close or merge the agency with a larger one.

There are signs, however, that the district will put up a fight. At a June 18 town hall meeting held to address the brown water, Sativa allegedly paid people to pose as protesters to defend the agency and hold signs that said “No Dissolution!! No Higher Rates!!”

Though an event organizer told The Times that the water district had hired him to find paid supporters, Sativa’s board and administrative manager, Maria Rachelle Garza, strongly denied any involvement. Days later, Garza was placed on leave.

Compton resident Karen Lewis said her plans to cook a soul food dinner for Father’s Day were upended when discolored water began pouring from her faucet.

“It has been a nightmare,” said Lewis, 67. “I’m the matriarch of my family and I can’t even have them over for the holiday dinners anymore.”

Like many Sativa clients, Lewis believes her cries for clean water have gone unheard because the customer base largely consists of working-class black and Latino residents with little political sway.

For now, Compton City Manager Cecil Rhambo has commissioned an analysis to determine the cost of absorbing the homes in the city that receive water from Sativa. But he said Compton is not in the financial position to take on the entire troubled district with its mounting costs and deferred maintenance.

“There are just too many unknowns coupled with the known existing infrastructure needs,” Rhambo said.



## Water plan aims to boost fish habitat

*Critics of the draft say effort would hurt farmers*

Kathleen Ronayne and Jonathan J. Cooper, July 7, 2018

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO – California water officials on Friday released a plan to increase flows through a major central California river, an effort that would save salmon and other fish but deliver less water to farmers in the state's agricultural heartland.

It's the latest development in California's long-running feud between environmental and agricultural interests and is likely to spark lawsuits.

"The State Water Resources Control Board's decision today is the first shot fired in the next chapter of California's water wars," warned Democratic Assemblyman Adam Gray of Merced, who represents San Joaquin Valley communities that rely on diversion from the river for water supply.

Board chairwoman Felicia Marcus pitched it as a plan to prevent an ecological crisis. John McManus, president of the Golden Gate Salmon Association, said the plan is critical to restoring California's nearly decimated native salmon population, a boon to fishing families and communities.

The plan applies to the lower San Joaquin River, three of its tributaries and the southern end of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The delta is home to many threatened fish species and provides water for vast swaths of farmland and the majority of California's people.

State standards last updated in 1995 allow for up to 80 percent of the water from the lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries to be diverted for agricultural and other uses. The new plan would double that, requiring 40 percent of the water to flow unimpaired, with a range of 30 to 50 percent between February and June.

The change is designed to protect salmon by mimicking natural water flows that fish respond to, the board said in its report. Some fishing groups wanted it to go even farther.

The advocacy group Trout Unlimited advocated for a target closer to 60 percent. The plan lacks key details about how water managers will measure outcomes for fish and determine water flows throughout the year, said Chandra Ferrari, a senior policy adviser.

"It's very hard to look at that plan and say, 'Yes, that's going to protect the fish,' because it just doesn't have the detail that's required to get there," she said.

But farm groups argue that lessening water diversion will deliver a major blow to the economy and cost thousands of jobs in the San Joaquin Valley. It not only will decrease water sent to farmers in some years but significantly increase the year-to-year variation, making it difficult for growers and food processors to make long-term plans, said Mike Wade, executive director of the California Farm Water Coalition.

“Simply dumping more water down the river with the hope that it will solve the Delta’s water issues is an incomplete solution to a complex set of problems,” Wade said.

Gray, who represents the San Joaquin Valley, said it will also hurt communities that rely on river diversion for their water supply. Overflow from agricultural irrigation helps supply the ground water that the majority of his constituents rely on for drinking water.

In a blistering statement, he said the “fish first philosophy will decimate or region” and further charged it is not “environmentally friendly to sacrifice the health of one environment for another.”

# Los Angeles Times

## 4 Compton residents sue tiny water district

*Class-action lawsuit accuses Sativa of failing to provide quality drinking water.*

By Ruben Vives and Aggel Jennings, July 10, 2018

Frustrated by discolored drinking water pouring from their taps, four Compton residents filed a class-action lawsuit late Monday against their water provider, the Sativa Los Angeles County Water District.

The lawsuit, filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court, accuses Sativa of failing to provide quality drinking water, misappropriating taxpayer dollars and causing a financial burden on its low-income customers in Compton and Willowbrook. It comes days before a crucial decision by county oversight officials on whether to dissolve the small public water district.

"Sativa mismanaged public funds by failing to use them for the intended purpose of maintaining and improving the water district's infrastructure for the delivery of potable water," the lawsuit alleges.

The claims in the suit echo some raised by oversight authorities about Sativa in recent years.

The district has been accused of financial instability, nepotism, poor maintenance and mismanagement. It has fended off two previous dissolution attempts by L.A. County's Local Agency Formation Commission — the state-appointed body charged with monitoring special districts.

The commission will meet Wednesday to consider initiating its third attempt to dissolve the district. That decision will come amid mounting complaints by residents of discolored water that smells of chlorine or rust. Residents said the water stains white clothes and forces them to purchase bottled water with which to drink, cook and bathe, according to the lawsuit.

The plaintiffs are mothers who said they are affected by water problems dating as far back as five years.

"It's a wake-up call for everybody, even for those who [oversee] the district," said Martha Barajas, one of the plaintiffs. "Maybe people will listen to us now."

"We've given Sativa plenty of time to fix the problems," she added.

The 1,600 households served by Sativa pay a flat rate of \$65 a month, adding up to nearly \$1.3 million in annual revenue.

Sativa says it lacks the estimated \$10 million to \$15 million needed to upgrade the 70-year-old pipes it blames for depositing manganese in drinking water, which can make faucets run brown.

The lawsuit states Sativa "miserably failed again and again" to meet state clean drinking waters standards. It points to a compliance order from the State Water Resources Control Board last month that said Sativa violated the state's health and safety code when it neglected to maintain the minimum water pressure, delivered "muddy water" and did not engage in proper flushing.

The order said water tested from Sativa wells, faucets and hoses contained higher-than-normal levels of manganese and was sometimes cloudier than standards allow. The state water board noted that from March 2017 to May 2018, Sativa received at least 97 complaints of brown water from customers.

In addition to dirty drinking water, Sativa has come under fire after The Times reported allegations that the district had hired paid supporters to attend a forum to address the problem. Sativa's board and its administrative manager, Maria Rachelle Garza, strongly denied any involvement. Days later, Garza was placed on leave.

The defendants in the lawsuit are Sativa and its five board members: Luis Landeros, Christina Casillas, Juan Aguilar, Roxsana Zepeda and Lucia Castrellon. They could not immediately be reached for comment. Landeros previously told The Times that the district is working to fix the problem but needs financial help from the state and county.



# Los Angeles Times

## MWD again OKs funding for twin delta tunnel plan

*After complaints over transparency, water district reaffirms vote.*

By Bettina Boxall, July 11, 2018

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Tuesday reaffirmed its approval of an \$11-billion investment in a massive water delivery project with a vote that highlighted a deepening division on the agency's board.

The revote followed a complaint that some board members had violated California's open meetings law when they engaged in a series of phone calls and text messages prior to the board's April 10 decision to finance two-thirds of California WaterFix.

While denying that the communications amounted to a violation of the Brown Act, MWD scheduled another vote. The funding package passed with 59.57% of the vote, compared with 61% in April.

Representatives of MWD's two largest member agencies, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the San Diego County Water Authority, again voted against constructing two huge water tunnels under the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The Los Angeles delegation also criticized the behind-the-scenes communications, which MWD released in response to a Public Records Act request filed by two groups that challenged the April vote.

Transparency and "civility was lost," said L.A. representative Mark Gold, who complained of "lies" by some fellow directors.

"It's not our finest hour today or this April," said L.A. representative Lorraine Paskett, who had made copies of the records and distributed them to board members.

"Just a handful of our board members were much better informed of what the vote would be. This is very disappointing," she said.

She added that the politicking reflected an overall lack of openness about board matters.

The communications show board member Brett Barbre of the Municipal Water District of Orange County taking the lead in counting votes and rounding up support for the tunnels investment.

Metropolitan's decision to shoulder much of the \$17-billion bill for the twin tunnels kept the project alive after big agricultural districts in the San Joaquin Valley declined to pay their expected share of the long-planned project.

That refusal had prompted a move to settle for a less expensive, one-tunnel version, a change that Barbre argued would fatally delay the project by triggering another round of environmental reviews.

The texts also revealed state officials' concern that if a final decision weren't made before Gov. Jerry Brown's term ended this year, his successor could kill WaterFix.

Brown, a staunch supporter of the twin tunnels, phoned MWD board members before the April 10 meeting, urging them to vote yes. In one text, Barbre told MWD General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger to "make sure the Governor reminds Leticia [Vasquez-Wilson] that they took a selfie together at



Jensen last year Could be enough to flatter her into a YES vote.”

Tuesday, Vasquez-Wilson, who represents the Central Basin Municipal Water District and supported the tunnels in both votes, said she found “that comment very offensive.”

MWD’s financial backing does not ensure the tunnels will be built. Opponents, which include delta interests and environmental groups, have filed a number of lawsuits challenging the project. WaterFix also still needs key state permits that could reduce the volume of tunnel deliveries.

The battle over the tunnels is the latest in more than two decades of conflict over the environmental impact of delta deliveries to San Joaquin Valley agriculture and urban Southern California.

The huge tunnels would transport Sacramento River water 35 miles under the delta to the government pumping operations that send supplies south. That would reduce withdrawals from the southern delta that cause harmful reverse flows in delta channels.

Opponents contend the tunnels will inevitably be used to rob the failing delta ecosystem and its crashing fish populations of more fresh water.

Proponents, including many of the state’s biggest water agencies and San Joaquin Valley agricultural districts, say that without the tunnels, delta deliveries that make up an important part of their supplies will continue to decline.

# Los Angeles Times

## Agency delivering dirty water faces dissolution

***L.A. County board kicks off process against Sativa district***

By Angel Jennings and Ruben Vives, July 12, 2018

Residents of working-class neighborhoods in Compton and Willowbrook have long fought an uphill battle against their local water district, which over the years has been accused of mismanagement, nepotism, bad service and, most recently, sending brown, smelly water through their taps.

Still, Sativa Los Angeles County Water District managed to stay in business.

But on Wednesday, residents won a decisive victory when county authorities voted unanimously to dissolve the troubled agency. The action by L.A. County's Local Agency Formation Commission, or LAFCO, kicks off a lengthy and rare process to get rid of a water district.

It is the third time that the commission has tried to take over or merge Sativa with a larger water provider. Past efforts fell short when the district fought back and other suitable water providers failed to emerge. But this time the oversight officials said they are committed to providing Sativa customers with clean drinking water — something they no longer believe the district can offer.

"There's a concern about the fact that there have been promises made by the prior board, the general manager and yet it's not getting better," said county Supervisor Kathryn Barger, who is a member of the commission.

Though Sativa serves only Willowbrook and a small portion of Compton, it has become a larger symbol of the challenges communities face in holding California's patchworks of small special districts accountable.

In 2016, about 4,900 special districts provided services such as fire protection, flood control, library and water statewide. Many operate under relative obscurity with limited public oversight until they are embroiled in controversy or corruption, or face financial hardships.

Compton resident Darik McGhee said LAFCO's decision to dissolve Sativa empowered his neighbors and validated the concerns of the community.

"We always felt we could bring change," McGhee, 49, said. "But today's turn of events [is] pushing us to stay even stronger knowing that this fight is still not over."

According to Sativa, the agency delivers drinking water to 1,600 homes. It has said customers pay a flat rate of \$65 a month, which brings in about \$1.3 million in revenue a year. Sativa says it lacks the estimated \$10 million to \$15 million needed to upgrade the 70-year-old pipes responsible for depositing manganese in drinking water, which can make faucets run brown.

For years, customers noticed that discolored water occasionally poured from their taps. In recent months, they said, it got worse, and complaints of brown or urine-colored water that sometimes smelled of chlorine or rust mounted.

County officials say that despite elevated levels of , the water is safe to drink. Still, county Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Janice Hahn launched a separate effort Tuesday petitioning the State

Water Resources Control Board to hand over daily operations of Sativa to the county's Department of Public Works.

"For too long, government — at all levels — has allowed Sativa to operate without sufficient oversight," Ridley-Thomas said in a statement. "The county is willing to step up to facilitate the changes that are necessary to promote the public health and well-being of Sativa customers."

If the State Water Resources Control Board exercises its authority, it could petition courts to temporarily hand over control of Sativa and its assets to another agency while LAFCO finds a permanent replacement, said Kurt Souza, the state board's assistant deputy director of the division of drinking water.

Another option is for the state board to appoint an administrator to run Sativa, but the state would have to pay that person's salary.

Both routes have risks and challenges, and neither is a common course of action.

With or without the state board's involvement, LAFCO will seek a suitable water provider that can serve residents. As that hunt is underway, Sativa could protest the dissolution by galvanizing support among residents or filing a lawsuit.

The push to dissolve Sativa comes two days after several customers filed a class-action lawsuit accusing Sativa of failing to provide quality drinking water, misappropriating taxpayer dollars and causing a financial burden on its low-income customers.

Sativa has also faced scrutiny after the Los Angeles Times reported allegations that the district had hired paid supporters to attend a June forum to address dirty water. Sativa's board and its administrative manager, Maria Rachelle Garza, strongly denied any involvement. Days later, Garza was placed on leave.

The latest effort to shutter Sativa could take months or years — if it is successful at all.

Sativa fended off two previous attempts to dissolve the district.

A 2005 review by LAFCO found that Sativa operated without a budget, an auditor or a general manager, but the water district was granted a second chance.

Seven years later, a review revealed that the then-board president had hired his wife and stepdaughter and that board members had awarded themselves illegal Christmas bonuses. The board pushed back hard, and LAFCO officials backed off.

Luis Landeros, Sativa's board president, did not respond to a request for comment after the dissolution vote.

Thomas Martin, a former Sativa general manager recently rehired as interim general manager, pleaded at the hearing for LAFCO to give the district time to fix its problems.

"What I would like to ask the commission today is to please consider tabling this item or continuing it for at least 60 to 90 days so that I have time to analyze everything and also bring you back more information," he said. "We need more time to bring back information that would be satisfactory for LAFCO."

He said Sativa would obtain funding from the Water Replenishment District of Southern California to address some water issues.

Hahn, one of Sativa's most vocal critics, questioned the work Martin had done to fix the problems at the district when he served as general manager last year. "It's clear that the problem still exist," she said.

"For 2 ½ years I tried to do my best," Martin said.

"But then again, you left," she responded. "We're starting to feel that no matter who is general manager, no matter who sits on the board, nobody sees it through to make sure the consumers of Sativa water have clean, safe water to drink.

"We're sort of done giving you another chance," she said.

After the vote to dissolve, the crowd erupted in applause and cheered.

"I feel happy," said Teresa Aguirre, 44, who was among the 50 or so attendees. "We're finally making progress."



# Los Angeles Times

CAPITOL JOURNAL

## What does Southland get from tunnel project?

George Skelton, In Sacramento, July 12, 2018

The most expensive state public works project ever would be financed primarily by Southern California water users. But it's not exactly clear what they'd be buying.

Gov. Jerry Brown's \$17-billion twin tunnel project in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta would either:

- Deliver more water to Southern California than it gets today.
- Deliver less
- Deliver the same

There are wide-ranging views about how California's largest water hole should be divvied up. More for Southern California homes and industry? More for thirsty San Joaquin Valley farms? More for tanking delta salmon and other endangered species?

Nothing new there, but it's all colliding as key government entities head in seemingly conflicting directions.

The answer is important for Southland water ratepayers because their monthly bills would rise to bankroll most of the ambitious project. What benefit would they receive in return?

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which services 19 million customers, estimates that average monthly bills would increase by \$4.80. But who really knows? That assumes tunnel construction wouldn't balloon into significant cost overruns like virtually every other big government project.

This is the project in a nutshell: Two 35-mile, 40-foot-wide tunnels under the delta from the estuary's northern end on the Sacramento River to aqueducts at the southern edge. The water would flow into the San Joaquin Valley and be pumped over the Tehachapi Mountains to Southern California.

For half a century, the water has been fed into the aqueducts by giant southern delta pumps that have reversed San Joaquin River flows, confusing migrating baby salmon. The pumps chomp up all manner of fish, including salmon and endangered tiny native smelt. Courts have tightened the pump valves to protect the critters, angering valley farmers.

The tunnel operation would be more fish-friendly with modern screening. And water siphoned off the Sacramento River in the northern delta would be fresher than what's pumped now from the more brackish southern region.

But freshwater flows into the delta would be rerouted into the tunnels. Little delta communities, small farmers and environmentalists are fighting the project. They envision saltwater intrusion from the San Francisco Bay. They point out that freshwater fish — even salmon tykes — need fresh water. They're crying "water grab."

Southern California gets 30% of its water from the delta.

The tunnels would carry 9,000 cubic feet of water per second. But roughly half of the delta's exported water still would be fed into the aqueducts by the southern pumps, killing fish.

In recent days, the question of the project's benefits to ratepayers has been raised indirectly in reports issued by the Metropolitan Water District and the powerful State Water Resources Control Board.

The MWD offered a rosy projection of increased delta water imports to board members voting Tuesday to reaffirm a 65%, \$11-billion investment in the project.

It envisioned roughly 1 million acre-feet more delta water being exported annually through the State Water Project if the tunnels are built. About half would go to MWD, the rest to places like Kern and Santa Clara counties.

Meanwhile, the state water board — which must issue permits before tunnel construction can begin — unveiled a preliminary plan last week to increase freshwater flows through the delta by 2 million acre-feet annually. The goal is to help declining fish.

"You can't increase the outflow [into the bay] by 2 million acre-feet and increase delta [export] pumping by 1 million acre-feet," says Barry Nelson, an environmental consultant and longtime veteran of California water wars. "It's a big conflict."

It's a policy that should be resolved before billions more dollars are invested in delta water.

Brown's water resources department, the project's chief overseer and promoter, has been treading a slippery log on this issue for years. It doesn't want northerners to fear losing more water to southerners. But it wants southerners to believe the tunnels would pay off.

"It's not about taking more water from the delta, it's about avoiding further declines," department spokeswoman Erin Mellon says. "If we continue along the path of the status quo, we'll lose 20% of the delivery. We'd lose 1 million acre-feet per year due to increased pumping restrictions."

Felicia Marcus, Brown's appointed water board chairwoman, asserted in an op-ed piece for the Sacramento Bee on Tuesday that "native fish, such as chinook salmon and steelhead, are on the brink of extinction.... Yes, leaving more water to flow into the delta from both the San Joaquin and Sacramento watersheds will be challenging for water users....

"Water users can adapt — by switching crops, becoming more efficient and storing more water in wet times. In contrast, species pushed to the brink of extinction have few options."

Those are fighting words in the San Joaquin Valley.

Brown and the MWD are racing to get all the pre-tunneling done they can before the next governor takes over in January. It's a cinch to be Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, who's not wild about the project. He'd like to compromise on a single tunnel.

"The status quo is unacceptable," Newsom says. An updated water export system "that protects and advances the health of the delta has to be a priority of the next governor."

But he adds: "I strongly believe California must work to reduce our dependence on the delta by focusing on regional solutions ... recycling and groundwater replacement and conservation."

To be continued by the governor.



## Desert residents have been saving a lot of water. Farms and golf courses, not so much

*CITIES IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY HAVE MADE PROGRESS CONSERVING WATER. BUT WATER USE ON FARMS AND GOLF COURSES HAS REMAINED RELATIVELY UNCHANGED.*

*Story by Ian James and Evan Wyloge, July 22, 2018*

Every day, millions of gallons of water flow through pipes across the Coachella Valley and pour out to nourish lawns, artificial lakes, farmlands and a total of 121 golf courses.

This lush oasis in the desert owes its existence to groundwater pumped from the aquifer and an imported supply of water from the Colorado River. And during the past decade, public records show the area has made progress in using less water overall and in combating the long-term problem of groundwater overdraft.

Data from six local water agencies shows that people have dramatically cut their use of drinking water — about 34 percent less last year compared to 2007. The total pumping of groundwater in three areas that make up most of the valley has also decreased markedly over the past decade — about 28 percent less

Much of these conservation gains came about between 2012 and 2016, as Californians coped with the state's worst drought in modern history, and as mandatory water restrictions promoted conservation and the removal of grass in favor of desert landscaping. The amount of water consumed in the valley's cities has increased a bit since Gov. Jerry Brown declared the drought over in 2017, but has remained far below pre-drought levels.

There has been a sharp contrast, though, between the water savings in desert cities and the amounts flowing to some of the biggest water users: farms and golf courses.

Records released by the Coachella Valley Water District in response to a request by The Desert Sun reveal that over the past decade the amount of Colorado River water going to farms has remained relatively unchanged.

Last year's agricultural water use was down slightly from 2016, according to the figures. But the quantity of Colorado River water delivered to farms has shown an upward trend during the past five years, averaging 5.6 percent higher than in the previous five-year period.

That pattern is a concern for Mark Johnson, a vocal critic of CVWD who previously worked as the agency's director of engineering. He said it's troubling that agricultural water use is up and the CVWD board — where three of the five elected members are farmers — hasn't taken steps to change the situation.

"The CVWD board of directors, which is dominated by agricultural interests, has not prioritized water conservation for their own industry as they have for others, and it's unfair," Johnson said. "The urban

customers have been required to conserve. The agricultural customers have not been required to conserve.”

Johnson said the district’s latest numbers show it’s failing to reach the agricultural conservation target established in its water management plan. In that 2012 document, the agency set a goal of 14 percent water-savings on farms by 2020 — a benchmark it’s now far from achieving.

“The trend line is up,” Johnson said. “It should be going the other way.”

Johnson has also raised other complaints about how CVWD is run, arguing that urban customers are being burdened with an unfairly large portion of the district’s costs through a combination of higher rates and property taxes, while farmers are continuing to pay much less.

CVWD officials have defended their water pricing and taxes as fair and equitable, and they say agricultural water conservation shouldn’t be judged solely on how much Colorado River water farms are using from year to year.

“Ag conservation has been very successful, and there’s been huge investment by farmers into conservation,” said John Powell Jr., president of CVWD’s board. He said water use per acre is very low for a desert region and growers have made improvements over the years to become more efficient.

The district’s annual reports to the federal government on crops and agricultural water use show the total acreage under cultivation has varied from year to year, ranging from 61,000 acres in 2010 to more than 66,000 acres in 2016. The irrigated acreage has ticked up slightly during the past several years, totaling more than 65,000 acres last year.

Agriculture accounts for roughly half of all water use in the Coachella Valley, and most of the water arrives from the Colorado River via the Coachella branch of the All-American Canal. Coursing into the valley, the canal water irrigates rows of lemon and date trees, grapevines and fields of peppers, carrots and celery.

Powell is president and CEO of Peter Rabbit Farms, his family business and one of the major players in Coachella Valley agriculture. He said he’s invested in water-saving irrigation techniques and has shut off wells to convert some fields from groundwater to Colorado River water during the past several years.

Powell said changes in farmers’ water sources could be one factor in how much Colorado River water they’re using.

Complete stats on the amount of groundwater pumped by the valley’s farms aren’t available. The Desert Sun filed a request under the California Public Records Act for groundwater pumping figures for agriculture, golf courses and other sectors. But CVWD officials said in a letter that they haven’t created any documents lately with year-to-year groundwater pumping data divided into sectors.

However, other data that the district previously released to The Desert Sun in 2016 showed an increase in groundwater pumping by farms — 41.6 percent more water pumped in 2015 than in 2009. Groundwater makes up a relatively small piece of growers’ total water supplies in the Coachella Valley, accounting for less than 16 percent of the total in 2015.

Powell said the amount of water farms use each year depends on a lot of factors, including the mix of crops, the soil type and the weather. The district’s crop reports show that during the past decade, farmers have planted more date trees, which usually require more water than field crops such as bell peppers or tomatoes.



“Some crops have a higher water demand over a 12-month period than others. It doesn’t make them better or worse,” Powell said, insisting that growers are continuing to take steps to conserve.

The data the district makes public on its website, however, doesn’t include figures on agricultural water conservation. And Johnson said if the district were to achieve even half of the ag water-savings target that was published six years ago, that would generate a tremendous amount of water.

Using more efficient farming methods is critical, Johnson said, given the growing pressures on the Colorado River, which is severely overallocated and dwindling during an 18-year run of dry years — a pattern that’s being exacerbated by climate change. And he said growers have the potential to save much more.

The district’s records show that the acreage under flood irrigation has declined over the years as some farmers have converted to drip systems or sprinklers, but that there were still more than 9,000 flood-irrigated acres last year — nearly 14 percent of the total.

In 2016, as part of the federal government’s efforts to conserve Colorado River water, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation funded rebates in the district to encourage growers to convert flood-irrigated fields to drip irrigation.

The rebates of up to \$1,500 per acre made only a small dent: In the past two years, three farms converted about 71 acres to drip irrigation. Three other farms initially applied but later withdrew when they calculated the costs of electricity necessary to run the drip systems, as well as the costs of building new reservoirs for them.

The economic incentives for farms, golf courses and private well owners have been relatively minuscule compared to the incentives for domestic water customers, who’ve been able to take advantage of millions of dollars in rebates to convert grass to desert landscaping.

CVWD is the largest of the valley’s water suppliers, with about 108,000 customers. The district has long had relatively high per-capita water use because of the hot climate and the history of building resort communities filled with big lawns, pools and ponds. But between 2009 and 2017, the district’s annual deliveries of domestic water fell nearly 25 percent — a trend that’s also emerged to varying degrees in other cities across the Southwest, from Las Vegas to Phoenix.

People who get their drinking water from CVWD, unlike farmers and golf course managers, pay tiered rates that reward those who conserve and penalize those who use more.

The fees for canal water use and pumping from private wells, in contrast, are flat charges. And the district’s managers say that under California water law, they can’t switch those fees to a tiered pricing system.

Katie Evans, director of communications and conservation, said under the state Water Code, “conservation pricing” isn’t allowed for the fees that agencies charge private well owners or users of canal-delivered Colorado River water.

For drinking water customers, the system of tiered rates has been in place since 2009. And it’s generated funds to pay for the rebates that have helped homeowners replace their lawns.

The water district has spent \$17.9 million on rebates to encourage conservation since 2012. Much of the money has gone to help residents and homeowners' associations replace grass with desert landscaping, converting a total of 390 acres.

Though the acreage converted is still a small portion of the area's water-intensive grass, the effort has been one of several changes helping to boost the levels of the aquifer.

### **More imported water boosting aquifer — for now**

Over the past half-century, as subdivisions, resorts and golf courses expanded across the desert, the water table declined beneath much of the Coachella Valley. Water agencies have combated the problem by importing water from the Colorado River to replenish the aquifer at three sites: near Palm Springs, near Desert Hot Springs and in south La Quinta.

The largest declines in the aquifer have occurred away from those replenishment ponds in the middle of the valley. In parts of Palm Desert, Indian Wells and Rancho Mirage, records show water levels in wells have declined by 90-100 feet or more since the 1950s and 60s.

But the aquifer's levels have risen significantly near the groundwater recharge ponds in La Quinta since the facility began receiving water deliveries in 2009. In some areas of the east valley where the aquifer previously had been depleted, the water district says there are now artesian wells where water flows out of the ground.

Next to Windy Point in the desert north of Palm Springs, Colorado River water has also been pouring into the Whitewater River groundwater replenishment facility. Water agencies have been sending imported water to the ponds since 1973.

During the 2012-2016 drought, the ponds in the desert next to Palm Springs' windmills often sat mostly empty and dry. But after California's wet winter in 2017, a record amount of water — 385,995 acre-feet in all — flowed into the Whitewater Groundwater Replenishment Facility, filling the ponds to the brim.

The aquifer took in more imported water last year than was pumped out by all the wells in the valley.

The area's agencies rely on multiple sources of imported water, including the State Water Project, which runs from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to Southern California. Because the canals and pipelines of that system don't reach the valley, local agencies trade their allotments to the Los Angeles-based Metropolitan Water District for equivalent amounts from the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Metropolitan also has a water-banking arrangement with the valley's agencies, and a large portion of the water that soaked into the soil last year belongs to Met. That portion is to be repaid by the Coachella Valley through reduced deliveries in future years. The area's districts now owe Met about 229,489 acre-feet — which is nearly 75 billion gallons, or about 80 percent of the water that's pumped from the ground in the valley each year.

That influx of imported water has helped boost groundwater levels in many areas.

To examine trends in the aquifer, The Desert Sun obtained measurements of water levels in wells from the Coachella Valley Water District and the Desert Water Agency. An analysis of that data shows the aquifer has risen in large portions of the valley in recent years, helped by the large quantities of imported water.

Of 269 wells for which measurements were available in 2007 and 2017, 70 percent of those wells saw increases in average annual groundwater levels, while others declined.

On average, the data showed that groundwater levels across the valley were lower last year than they were 20 years earlier in 1997. In the middle of the valley around Palm Desert, some wells are down more than 40 feet compared to two decades ago. But many of those wells have stabilized or risen. And the rising water levels in a majority of wells during the past several years reveal a significant shift.

Researchers say the trend is also helping to fight another related problem: sinking ground.

Michelle Sneed, a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, has been studying the problem of land subsidence for years, and she said her latest research in the Coachella Valley shows major improvement.

The last USGS study of land subsidence in the area, published in 2014, found that the ground sank by between nine inches and 2 feet from 1995 to 2010 in parts of Indian Wells, La Quinta and Palm Desert where groundwater levels were declining. Sinking ground has caused damage in other parts of the Coachella Valley in the past few decades, cracking the foundations of some homes and damaging swimming pools, roads and other infrastructure.

But Sneed said the increasing amounts of water flowing into the replenishment ponds in La Quinta since 2009 have made a big difference in boosting aquifer levels in many areas and preventing the ground from sinking.

"Mostly, I don't bring good news to anybody. So, this is a nice case. This is the one study that I've worked on personally where the trends are improving," said Sneed, whose research has yet to be published. "I'm really very surprised, pleasantly surprised, that they have really turned it around."

She said the adoption of tiered rates, lawn-removal rebates and the use of imported water have all helped the aquifer after decades of declines.

"I can't obviously predict the future or when they're going to be sustainable or any of that," Sneed said. "But I can say that they're headed in the right direction."

CVWD is also moving ahead with a \$9.8-million plan to recharge the aquifer in the middle of the valley, where the long-term declines have been the largest.

In the past month, workers have been constructing a new cluster of replenishment ponds on a plot of land between the district's Palm Desert offices and a sewage treatment plant.

The first ponds are due to be finished by February, and more ponds will be built later in the Whitewater River stormwater channel. They'll soon be filled with water from the Colorado River.

The district is getting increasing deliveries of water through the All-American Canal, and is set to take even more in the coming years.

Under a 2003 water transfer deal called the Quantification Settlement Agreement, the Imperial Irrigation District is selling growing amounts to CVWD and San Diego County. As the deal sends more water away from Imperial Valley farmlands, California officials are starting to grapple with the effects at the Salton Sea, where the inflow of agricultural runoff is shrinking.



The sea's retreating shorelines are leaving stretches of dry lakebed exposed to the winds, sending more lung-damaging dust into communities that already suffer from high asthma rates.

In an effort to control dust and revitalize deteriorating bird habitats, state officials are working on a \$410 million plan to build thousands of acres of ponds and wetlands on portions of the exposed lakebed around the sea.

As the district gets escalating amounts under the water transfer deal, putting the water to use has required some planning — especially in light of the recent conservation success and population growth that has been slower than once projected before the Great Recession.

In addition to building the Palm Desert groundwater replenishment ponds, the agency has also been hooking up more golf courses to Colorado River water, enabling them to rely less on groundwater.

In the past several years, though, the district hasn't used all the available Colorado River water, and has sent some unused water to the Metropolitan Water District.

Johnson recently wrote a blog post criticizing the district for relinquishing the water instead of using it locally. He cited figures showing that over the past five years, CVWD has sent 52,171 acre-feet of unused water to Met. That's enough to supply about 60 percent of CVWD's domestic customers for a year.

"It's water that we should keep right here in the Coachella Valley. Or they should come up with some arrangement, if they can't use it here, to store it somewhere and get it when they can use it," Johnson said. "It's water that belongs to all the inhabitants of the Coachella Valley, and it should be used here now or sometime in the future, instead of transferring it to Los Angeles."

The district's managers disagree. They say they're complying with the terms of the water transfer agreement and taking steps to put the water to use as more becomes available each year. They plan to start replenishing the aquifer in Palm Desert as soon as the ponds are completed.

In the meantime, they say, the arrangement is helping the region alleviate pressure on the Colorado River by enabling Met to rely a bit less on its own withdrawals from Lake Mead, where the declining water levels have been approaching a threshold that would trigger shortage measures.

### **A steady flow to golf courses**

The Coachella Valley has a total of 121 golf courses, one of the biggest concentrations of courses in the country.

In an effort to reduce groundwater pumping, CVWD has been gradually hooking up more of them to pipes carrying recycled wastewater, Colorado River water or a blend of the two. A total of 15 courses have started receiving those alternative water supplies since 2010, and others are in the works.

A tally provided by the district shows a total of 59 and a half golf courses are now getting recycled water, canal water or a mix. The remaining 61 and a half courses continue to rely on groundwater.

Several years ago, it was easier to track how much groundwater was being pumped by individual golf courses, farms, housing developments and resorts. CVWD used to include detailed information about groundwater pumping by private well owners in its annual reports. But the district stopped releasing that information in 2014 after The Desert Sun published a list of some of the area's biggest water users.

This year, CVWD provided data on total water use by the 106 golf courses within its boundaries between 2010 and 2017 — including groundwater, Colorado River water and recycled water.

The figures show those golf courses used 6.6 percent more water last year than in 2010, and about the same amount as in 2013.

Representatives of the valley's golf courses pledged in 2014 to work toward a goal of cutting water use by 10 percent, and the latest figures show they're falling short of the target.

Managers at some courses say they've taken significant steps to shrink their water footprint, but that higher temperatures have made it tougher to conserve the past few years.

Jim Schmid, director of operations at The Lakes Country Club in Palm Desert, said conservation has been a priority and his club has cut water use by 14 percent since 2014.

Those savings have been achieved by replacing sprinklers with more efficient heads and nozzles, and by installing new irrigation controllers in homeowners' association common areas that are connected to a central system, which adjusts watering depending on the weather.

Hotter temperatures increase the amount of water that grass and other plants need. And the past few years have been some of the hottest on record in the desert, reflecting the influence of climate change.

"We're seeing it in front of us every day," Schmid said. "Even in the face of conditions that are increasingly hot, we have managed to reduce water usage."

The Lakes, which has 212 acres of grass and 30 acres of lakes, uses recycled water. In the past five years, the country club has removed more than seven acres of grass, replacing it with artificial turf and desert landscaping. The club also replaced the liners in six of its lakes to prevent leakage.

The costs for those projects totaled more than \$3 million, Schmid said.

Converting each acre of grass to low-water landscaping cost more than \$100,000, he said, and the country club took advantage of a federally funded rebate through CVWD, which offered \$15,000 per acre.

So far, golf courses have used more than \$1.6 million in the rebates to help take out more than 155 acres of grass.

Schmid and other golf course managers have been participating in a water task force, holding regular meetings to review their water-saving efforts.

"I think we'd all like to see a point where we were a little bit further along in conservation, but I think what we've seen so far is very positive," Schmid said. "It's going a little slower than everyone would hope, but some of these things are longer-term propositions."

Among other things, the golf industry has been donating to support research at the University of California, Riverside, on new varieties of grasses that are capable of staying green through the winter to eliminate the need for the annual practice of over-seeding, which consumes more water. That research is supported by the United States Golf Association as well as a local group, the Hi-Lo Desert Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Representatives of the golf business say the research holds promise for dramatically reducing the amount of watering.

“While the research is of value to all of the game in the arid and hot southwest, its benefits are particularly impactful in the Coachella Valley, where many of the ‘snowbirds’ who elect to spend their winters in the valley have high expectations of wall-to-wall green during winter,” said Craig Kessler, director of governmental affairs for the Southern California Golf Association. “Eliminating the need to overseed would save a substantial amount of water in the Coachella Valley.”

Managers of golf clubs have also been talking over other approaches that would create greater economic incentives to help drive conservation.

“One of the things we’ve asked the water district to look at is water budgets for each course,” Schmid said. “We’ve all seen that tiered rates work and they do help to ensure efficient water usage.”

The individualized water budgets would be calculated for each course based on acreage and other factors, similar to the budgets that now exist for residential customers.

“I do think over the long term, the golf industry will support tiered rates,” he said. “Most people are in favor of higher costs for wasteful users.”

### **Conflicts and growing pressures**

Many areas of California face a daunting task in trying to stop declines in groundwater levels after decades of overpumping.

The state’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which was approved in 2014, focuses on groundwater basins deemed to be “high” or “medium” priority and calls for local agencies to adopt plans for moving toward sustainability.

In the Coachella Valley, the ground is fragmented by the San Andreas Fault and a web of other faults running through the desert. In places, the faults act as underground barriers, dividing the valley’s groundwater basin into several distinct subbasins.

State water regulators have listed the Indio subbasin as “high” priority. Two others — Mission Creek and San Geronio Pass — are “medium” priority, and the Desert Hot Springs subbasin, which has warm water filled with dissolved minerals, is classified as “very low” priority.

The law requires the creation of local “groundwater sustainability agencies.”

Forming these new entities to draft management plans might seem like a relatively straightforward and noncontroversial task. But the boundaries of the subbasins don’t line up with the agencies’ jurisdictional boundaries, and a dispute has flared between the water suppliers.

Mission Springs Water District is suing Desert Water Agency and CVWD to challenge its exclusion from taking part in the management of the Mission Creek and Indio aquifer subbasins. Officials at Mission Springs filed the suit in 2016 and say they’re prepared to keep fighting in court.

“We want a seat at the table,” said Arden Wallum, general manager of Mission Springs. “Everyone that provides water to people in this valley should be a part of the management of that water.”



Desert Water Agency has responsibility for replenishing the aquifer with imported water in a zone that includes the territory where Mission Springs supplies water to customers. Mission Springs pays a replenishment assessment fee to DWA for the water it pumps from wells. Under state law, DWA was designated as the sole groundwater sustainability agency for its area. The agency's officials say they believe they should be in charge.

"We were in mediation and at one point we thought that we had an agreement, and ultimately Mission Springs decided not to sign that agreement," said Ashley Metzger, DWA's outreach and conservation manager. "We were certainly working toward compromise, and it's our prerogative that we are designated as the exclusive GSA (groundwater sustainability agency) for the area."

While the case continues in Riverside County Superior Court, another battle is pending in federal court.

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians sued DWA and CVWD in 2013, seeking to assert rights to groundwater and gain greater influence in decisions about how the aquifer is managed.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in March 2017 that the tribe has a right to groundwater dating back to the federal government's creation of the reservation in the 1870s. The Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal by the water districts, effectively handing the tribe legal backing for its claim to groundwater rights.

The tribe has about 485 members, and its reservation spreads across more than 31,000 acres in a checkerboard pattern that includes parts of Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage and surrounding areas. Its initial victory in the case will likely change how decisions are made about managing groundwater.

Many details have yet to be worked out in court. In upcoming phases, District Court Judge Jesus Bernal will consider how much groundwater the tribe is entitled to, whether it owns storage space within the aquifer and whether its groundwater rights include a water-quality component.

The tribe has accused the water agencies of imperiling the aquifer by allowing its levels to decline over the years and by using saltier, less pure Colorado River water to offset the amounts drawn out.

The Colorado River has a higher concentration of salts and minerals — called total dissolved solids — than the valley's aquifer. And higher concentrations of dissolved salts can affect the taste of tap water. The levels in the groundwater have increased over the decades in areas where imported water has seeped underground.

The agencies, however, defend their efforts to manage water supplies and insist that water from the Colorado River meets all drinking water standards.

These disputes are playing out as water supplies are under mounting strains in the Southwest. The Colorado River has been dwindling during what scientists say is one of the driest 19-year periods in the past 1,200 years.

Climate change is contributing to the pressures, diminishing the flow of rivers and streams. Scientists have projected that warming will likely cause the Colorado River's flow to decrease by 35 percent or more this century.

Lake Mead near Las Vegas now stands at just 37 percent full, and federal water managers have been pressing for California, Arizona and Nevada to finish negotiating a "drought contingency plan," under

which all sides would agree to temporarily take less water to keep the reservoir from falling to disastrously low levels.

Representatives of the Coachella Valley Water District have been involved in discussions about the proposed plan and have signaled they're willing to participate. It's not yet clear how much water CVWD might end up leaving in Lake Mead to contribute to the effort.

Managers of the valley's water districts have also voiced support for California's controversial \$17 billion plan to build two giant water tunnels beneath the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to carry water southward — a project intended to boost the reliability of water deliveries. It's not clear how much the project might end up costing ratepayers.

While the agencies look outward to try to secure their imported water supplies, they're also going to be required to look inward to find ways to conserve more.

New legislation signed this year by Gov. Brown will set water-efficiency goals for cities and agencies statewide, and will require water suppliers to develop annual water budgets. The legislation also includes requirements aimed at encouraging more conservation in agriculture.

More of the state's agricultural water suppliers — including those that irrigate at least 10,000 acres — will be required to measure how much water is delivered to farms, adopt a pricing structure for water customers "based at least in part on quantity delivered," and take other steps to encourage efficiency.

Farming districts will be required to submit agricultural water management plans that include information on "which efficient water management practices have been implemented," and what other improvements are planned to dial back water use.

Depending on how those requirements are implemented in the Coachella Valley, the new legislation might help drive more water-savings on farms.

Whether the area ultimately succeeds in bringing its water supplies into a long-term balance will depend on many factors, including how well local water districts prepare for the possibility of getting less water in the future.

For now, the agencies are working on a new version of their regional water management plan.

*Ian James writes about water for The Desert Sun.*



# Los Angeles Times

## **Board wants senior districts up north to cut back, saying they must help shoulder conservation efforts.**

By Bettina Boxall, July 23, 2018

More than two decades after Los Angeles was forced to cut water diversions to protect California's natural resources, the state is poised to impose similar restrictions on San Francisco and some of the Central Valley's oldest irrigation districts.

The proposal represents a dramatic new front in one of California's most enduring water fights: the battle over the pastoral delta that is part of the West Coast's largest estuary and also an important source of water for much of the state.

Regulators have long focused on the harmful environmental effects of the Sacramento San Joaquin delta's giant pumping operations, which send water south and have helped push native fish to the brink of extinction. As fish populations collapsed, environmental limits on water exports to San Joaquin Valley farms and Southern California cities have tightened.

Now, the State Water Resources Control Board is looking upstream to agricultural districts and cities that have long escaped responsibility for the delta's woes — even though they suck massive quantities of water out of the river systems that feed the delta.

"It's an important milestone," board Chairwoman Felicia Marcus said. "We've laid out a framework ... for taking the next step in reconciling ourselves with the natural world in a way that has been on the plate for decades."

In what environmentalists say is a long overdue move, the board for the first time is asking major upstream diverters to take less from three heavily tapped tributaries of the San Joaquin River, which merges with the Sacramento River to form the delta, a maze of farm islands and meandering water channels.

More water in the Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced rivers will improve conditions for migrating salmon, the board says, increase flows in the much abused lower San Joaquin River and ultimately boost inflow to the delta.

But more water for the delta and salmon means less for San Francisco and the agricultural districts that staked their claims to river flows a century or more ago.

"What gives is going to be a cutback in farming," said Scott Furgerson, general manager of the 131-year-old Modesto Irrigation District, which has historic rights to the Tuolumne. "We're going down a slippery slope."

The Modesto, Oakdale, South San Joaquin, Turlock and other districts take so much water out of the three salmon rivers that average flows on the tributaries range from 21% to 40% of what they would be without dams and diversions. At times the riverbeds hold as little as 10% of their natural flow.

Dams, diversions, pollution and shrinking habitat have driven California's fabled salmon runs onto the endangered species list, triggering environmental lawsuits and efforts to restore some of the water lost to croplands and cities.

The state board proposal would require maintenance of 40% of the natural flow, within a range of 30% to 50%, in the Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced during the February-through-June period, which is critical for salmon survival.

That would collectively cost water users 300,000 acre-feet of supply — or about 15% of their total diversions on all three rivers. (An acre-foot is enough to supply two average households for a year.)

But that could change. The board says less flow might be required if districts agree to measures to improve conditions for salmon, which swim up the tributaries to spawn.

“We’re extending an olive branch to say, if you come up with a better idea, we’ll reward it,” Marcus said.

The board has spent years developing the flow standards. It released a draft of the proposal in 2016, when Gov. Jerry Brown called for voluntary agreements between the state and water districts to avoid a contentious rule-making process.

The state hired former U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt to help with the negotiations. But the off-and-on talks have yet to yield a settlement.

State officials hope this month’s release of the final board plan will kick-start discussions.

“We’re really hoping that we can keep the water users at the table as a result of these documents coming out and see if we can come to closure on agreement that we can present to the water board,” said Karla Nemeth, director of the state Department of Water Resources. “Everybody’s going to need to give a little.”

In place of water cutbacks, San Francisco and the other major diverters have proposed restoration efforts such as rebuilding gravel beds for spawning, control of salmon predators and creation of floodplain habitat.

“We think the state board uses a very simplistic approach,” said Steve Ritchie, an assistant general manager at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which gets most of its supply from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir on the upper Tuolumne.

He warned that the flow requirements would leave San Francisco and the Bay Area communities it serves with less water reserves to ride out droughts.

“We just wouldn’t be able to replenish our storage over time,” Ritchie said.

On the Stanislaus, the 40% flow standard “is surely not anything we will accept,” said Steve Knell, general manager of the Oakdale Irrigation District, which has made roughly \$40 million in the last decade selling some of its river supplies to less water-rich agricultural districts.

Environmental advocates also don’t like the proposed requirements, which they deem too low in the overtaxed San Joaquin system.

“The science is pretty strong,” said Gary Bobker, program director for the Bay Institute, an estuary protection group. “If you want to have anywhere from stabilizing fish populations to actually recovering them and rebuilding the stock to a healthy level, you’ve got to have somewhere between 50 and 60% of the [natural] runoff.”

He added that “you can’t separate flow” from all the other factors — such as invasive species and poor water quality — that contributed to the steep decline of California’s salmon stocks, which were once so abundant that farmers scooped the fish out of rivers and fed them to hogs.

Bobker nonetheless credited the board for extending the pain of water cuts to the most senior agricultural diverters — something the panel of gubernatorial appointees has historically been reluctant to do.

“We’re moving to a mentality where we’re all in this together as Californians,” he said.

Indeed, the board is not stopping in the San Joaquin Valley. It is also developing flow requirements for the Sacramento River basin that would cut diversions in that watershed and send more water to the delta.

And the board wants to increase flows through the delta and out to sea to restore some of the estuary’s natural hydrological rhythm. That could mean less water is pumped south.

“It may take a while. We might have to litigate a while but ... I’m very confident we’ll succeed,” Marcus said.

She cited the Mono Lake case, when the board in 1994 ordered Los Angeles to reduce diversions from the Eastern Sierra to protect the region’s fish and wildlife. To compensate, the city has stepped up development of local supplies, purchased more imported water from the Colorado River and Northern California and promoted conservation. Despite adding 1 million residents, L.A. is using less water than it did two decades ago.

No matter how senior, water-use rights do not confer ownership, Marcus noted.

“Water belongs to all the people of the state of California,” she said. “And fish and wildlife are one of those commonly held assets that we as a water board are supposed to be protecting.”

# The Public Record

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2018

VOLUME 42 - EDITION #59

PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

\$1.50 - PER SINGLE ISSUE

SERVING ALL OF THE DESERT CITIES AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY

## STATE PLAN TO IMPROVE DELTA CONDITIONS FURTHER REFINED TO REDUCE IMPACTS: PUBLIC INVITED TO COMMENT ON CHANGES

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for California WaterFix. The document analyzes several proposed changes designed to reduce the project's footprint and costs, and minimize impacts on environmental resources in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta), including wetlands and other water resources.

Public comment will be accepted through Sept. 17, 2018. DWR will respond to all substantive comments received on the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS and consider them in the decision-making process.

The proposed modifications analyzed in the environmental document released today have not changed the impact conclusions for any resource areas. The modifications include:

- Changing the locations of reusable tunnel material storage sites near the intermediate forebay, on Zacharias Island, on Bouldin Island, and near the relocated Byron Tract Forebay.
- Relocating the tunnel boring machine (TBM) launch shaft and barge landing location on Bouldin Island.
- Creating a new Byron Tract Forebay (eliminating the extensive modifications to Clifton Court Forebay) and relocating the consolidated pumping plant.
- Realigning the 40-foot diameter tunnels slightly to accommodate the relocated Bouldin Island TBM launch shaft and Byron Tract Forebay consolidated pumping plant relocation.
- Relocating or eliminating appurtenant facilities such as barge landing sites, concrete batch plants, and construction access roads to improve facility design.
- Realigning the 40-foot diameter tunnels to avoid the town of Hood and municipal water wells.

DWR released the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS as the lead state agency in compliance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

As the federal lead agency, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will release the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS separately for public review in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

To access the public review draft and associated environmental documents, please visit the California WaterFix web site.



# Los Angeles Times

## **\$2.7 billion approved for water storage in California**

*A commission OKs funding for various projects throughout the state, but they still face other hurdles.*

By Bettina Boxall, July 25, 2018

A state commission on Tuesday approved \$2.7 billion in funding for a variety of water storage projects across California, but the money doesn't guarantee that any of them will be built.

The California Water Commission action was part of a complicated new process designed to depoliticize awards of state water bond funding by judging projects according to stringent guidelines that some of the biggest projects had trouble meeting.

High-profile projects such as the Temperance Flat dam proposal on the upper San Joaquin River lost out, winning a fraction of what backers wanted and throwing the project's future into doubt.

Proponents of another big dam project, the Sites Reservoir in Northern California, walked away with less than a fifth of what they will need to construct an off-stream reservoir that would store water piped from the Sacramento River.

"We do not have the money lined up to do this project," Jim Watson, general manager of the Sites Project Authority, told commissioners.

Two smaller Bay Area dam projects fared better. The Santa Clara Valley Water District was awarded half of what it needs to expand a small reservoir on Pacheco Creek.

The Contra Costa Water District also won half of the cost of raising a dam and expanding Los Vaqueros Reservoir in Contra Costa County.

The commission spread storage money beyond traditional reservoir projects.

In Southern California, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency was awarded \$207 million to expand the Chino Basin water recycling program and reduce the region's use of imported supplies from Northern California.

Two groundwater storage projects in Kern County — the Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project and the Willow Springs Water Bank — also won funding.

In the Sacramento region, bond money was earmarked for the South County Agricultural Program to help pay for a project to use recycled wastewater to irrigate cropland.

Still, under conditions of the Proposition 1 bond, the eight funded projects can't actually collect most of their state money until they have obtained environmental permits and contracts for additional funding.

If they fail to meet those requirements by 2022, they will lose their award. The funding process was a departure from the traditional distribution of storage money, which has tended to reward recipients with the most political muscle.

Proposition 1 mandates that the state in most cases can pay for no more than half of a storage project's cost.

And the state money can be used to underwrite only a project's public benefits, such as recreation, flood control and ecosystem improvements.

Moreover, half of the state share has to pay for ecosystem improvements in the watershed of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the environmentally troubled center of California's water delivery system.

Although many of the commissioners wanted to give more money to the Sites and Temperance Flat proposals, they couldn't after the state Fish and Wildlife Department found the projects would not improve conditions for imperiled salmon runs on the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers.

## DESERT WATER AGENCY

### OUTREACH & CONSERVATION JULY 2018 ACTIVITIES

#### **Activities:**

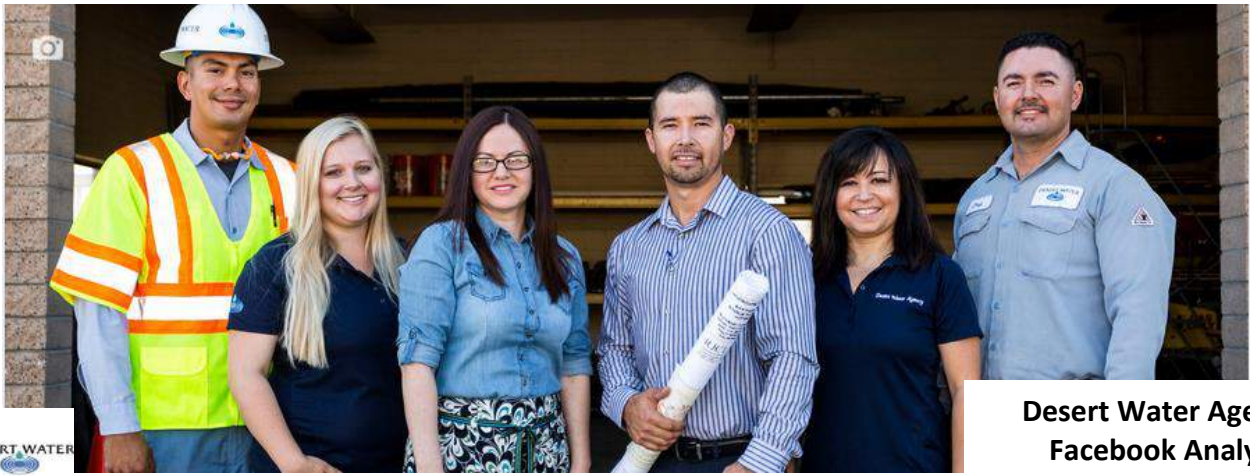
- 7/3 Ashley Metzger and Ryan Molhoek visited Tramview Mobile Home Park and provided information on the manhole replacement project.
- 7/5 Vicki Petek completed 1 turf buy back post inspection.
- 7/5 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about the rebate workshops.
- 7/5 Ashley Metzger was interviewed on the Joey English radio show.
- 7/6-7/9 Ashley Metzger and Maya Zelaya visited businesses on Ramon Road and provided information on the pipeline replacement project.
- 7/10 Ashley Metzger attended and presented at Sunup Rotary.
- 7/10 Outreach & Conservation hosted a rebate workshop for landscapers.
- 7/11 Outreach & Conservation hosted a rebate workshop for homeowners associations and commercial customers.
- 7/12 Outreach & Conservation hosted a rebate workshop for residential customers.
- 7/12 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about Smart Irrigation Month.
- 7/13 Vicki Petek completed 1 turf buy back post inspection.
- 7/19 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about the blood drive.
- 7/21 Suzie Tolkendorf staffed a table and provided water and information at the Palm Springs Farmer's Market.
- 7/26 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about the Ramon Road pipeline replacement.
- 7/31 Ashley Metzger was interviewed by KMIR on back to school and pipeline replacements.
- 7/31 Ashley Metzger was on a live segment with KESQ about Whitewater.
- 7/31 Ashley Metzger was interviewed on the Joey English radio show (to be aired 8/4).

#### **Public Information Releases/eBlasts:**

- July 5: Next week: Rebate workshops to help you save water & money – Nextdoor
- July 12: Rain alert – no irrigation until 8:00 p.m. on 7/13 – Website
- July 16: Water Quality Report – Nextdoor
- July 19: Ramon Road construction – pipeline replacement project – Nextdoor
- July 30: Ramon Road construction – Website

#### **Upcoming Events**

- August 11, 8:00 to 12:30 – DWA at Palm Springs Farmer's Market @ Palm Springs Pavilion Building



**Desert Water Agency**  
**Facebook Analytics**  
**July 2018**

**Actions on Page**

July 4 - July 31



We don't have data to show you this week.

**Page Views**

July 4 - July 31

**102**

Total Page Views ▲7%



**Page Previews**

July 4 - July 31

**15**

Page Previews ▲25%



**Page Likes**

July 4 - July 31

**15**

Page Likes ▲67%



**Reach**

July 4 - July 31

**10,282**

People Reached ▲191%



**Recommendations**

July 4 - July 31



We don't have data to show you this week.

**Post Engagements**

July 4 - July 31

**1,810**

Post Engagement ▲187%



**Videos**

July 4 - July 31

**250**

Total Video Views ▲339%



**Page Followers**

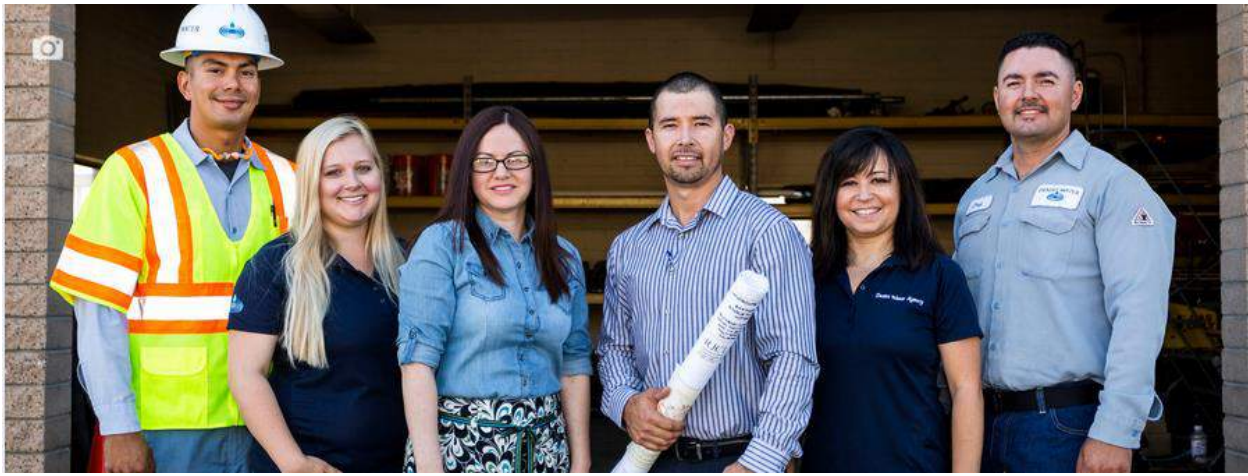
July 4 - July 31

**15**

Page Followers ▲67%







Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach	Engagement	Promote
07/31/2018 8:16 am	 Today is the last day of July, which is Smart Irrigation Month.			80	6 2	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/30/2018 5:00 pm	 Thanks to all who donated blood in the heat this week! If you didn't			227	31 29	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/26/2018 4:37 pm	 This is a great event every year! Get it on your calendar and we'll			134	5 3	<a href="#">Boost Event</a>
07/26/2018 9:30 am	 This week, our Board President and General Manager had			108	7 10	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/25/2018 10:43 am	 It's doggone hot! Tommy wants to remind you and your pets to			2.3K	145 132	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/24/2018 9:00 am	 Come down for our blood drive today (7/24) until 2 pm! 1200			365	44 28	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/18/2018 11:00 am	 Lola is a sweetheart Mini Pinscher mix. She is working out			1.5K	83 93	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/16/2018 2:27 pm	 Help Codi and the community. Donate blood on July 24 at			6.6K	361 307	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/12/2018 7:48 am	 We've enjoyed some rain this week. Give your sprinklers a			86	1 4	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/11/2018 11:38 am	 Meet Chuck the charmer! He is a big hit with the female dogs (and			1.4K	86 85	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/10/2018 4:01 pm	 Great job out there. Our community continues to choose			162	4 4	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/06/2018 2:39 pm	 Join us next week at a rebate workshop to learn how you can			143	4 2	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/05/2018 9:52 am	 Fiona had a great Fourth of July and hopes you did, too. She will			1.8K	60 84	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>
07/04/2018 7:26 am	 Happy Fourth of July! Our office will be closed - but our crews			89	4 2	<a href="#">Boost Post</a>



Total Page Likes as of Today: 1,134



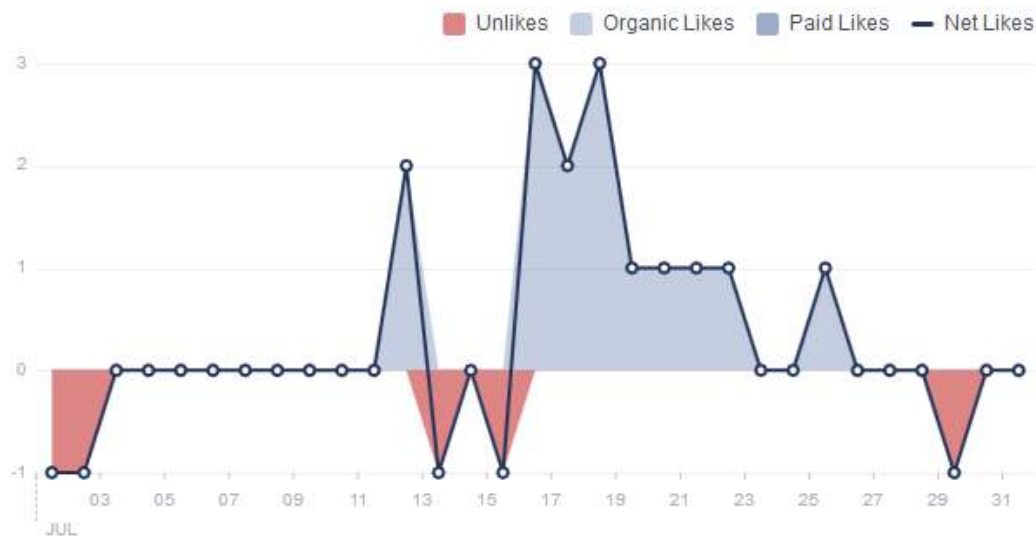
#### BENCHMARK

Compare your average performance over time.

Total Page Likes

### Net Likes

Net likes shows the number of new likes minus the number of unlikes.



#### BENCHMARK

Compare your average performance over time.

Unlikes

Organic Likes

Paid Likes ⓘ

Net Likes

#### WANT MORE LIKES?

Create an ad to get more people to like your Page.

Promote Page







desertwateragency

Edit Profile ⚙

207 posts

474 followers

164 following

Desert Water Agency

💧 Desert Water Agency serves water in Palm Springs & part of Cathedral City. We replenish the aquifer and offer programs to encourage efficiency. 💧

[www.dwa.org](http://www.dwa.org)



8 likes



8 likes



20 likes, 1 comment



26 likes



26 likes



19 likes



20 likes, 3 comments



15 likes



28 likes





Desert Water Agency

1200 S Gene Autry Trl, Palm Springs, CA 92264

DESERT WATER



### Ramon Road construction - pipeline replacement project

On Monday (7/23), crews will be starting work on Ramon Rd between El Cielo and Calle Santa Cruz to replace an old pipeline. This project should take about six weeks. During the day as crews work, lanes will be reduced in both directions but the street will remain open. In the evening and on weekends, the road will be fully open. [See more...](#)





## Water Quality Report

Have you taken a look at Desert Water Agency's most recent Water Quality Report? We test the water thousands of times every year to make sure it's safe.

The water we serve is required to meet all state standards, which are the strictest in the nation and some of the strictest in the world.

Visit [www.dwa.org/wqr](http://www.dwa.org/wqr) to see the full report.



wqr - Desert Water Agency

[DWA.ORG](http://DWA.ORG)

## Next week: Rebate workshops to help you save water & money

Desert Water Agency is hosting workshops to update customers on some important improvements to our rebate programs. Please join us to learn more - or check our website for the workshop presentations. We'll have SNACKS and PRIZES for those who attend. On July 12, we're raffling off a new toilet and two smart (weather-  
[See more...](#)



Rebates - Desert Water Agency

[DWA.ORG](http://DWA.ORG)




**Desert Water Agency**  
 Twitter Analytics  
 July 2018

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

Jul 2018 • 31 days

TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

Top Tweet earned 891 impressions

The female dogs (& even cats) [@PSAnimalShelter](#) love Chuck the charmer but he's looking for a long-term relationship. He hopes to find a place with a yard & maybe even a few kids. RT to help him find a home. All dogs adopted this summer go home with a DWA bandana & water bowl. [pic.twitter.com/36qy7QFIGD](https://pic.twitter.com/36qy7QFIGD)



1 4 5

View Tweet activity

View all Tweet activity

Top Follower followed by 946 people




**lifestream bloodbank**

[@lifestreamblood](#) FOLLOWS YOU

View profile

View followers dashboard

Top mention earned 16 engagements

 **lifestream bloodbank**  
[@lifestreamblood](#) · Jul 22

The [#9CitiesChallenge](#) Blood Drive will include a stop this week at the [@DWAwater](#). The drive will honor 12-year-old Codi Pelton who needs a heart transplant. She also needs donated blood. Get more details here: [lstream.org/desertwater/](https://lstream.org/desertwater/) [pic.twitter.com/IGFWTI3or0](https://pic.twitter.com/IGFWTI3or0)



1 2

View Tweet

Top media Tweet earned 872 impressions

Fiona had a great 4th and hopes you did, too! She'll be riding out the heatwave in the AC. [@PSAnimalShelter](#) but is hoping to find a home this summer. Remember - people & pets need extra water when heat spikes. [pic.twitter.com/OGZOv7geIP](https://pic.twitter.com/OGZOv7geIP)



1 3 9

View Tweet activity

View all Tweet activity

ADVERTISE ON TWITTER

Get your Tweets in front of more people

Promoted Tweets and content open up your reach on Twitter to more people.

Get started

JUL 2018 SUMMARY

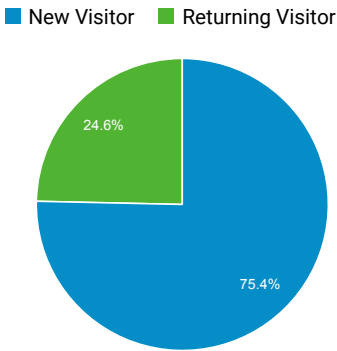
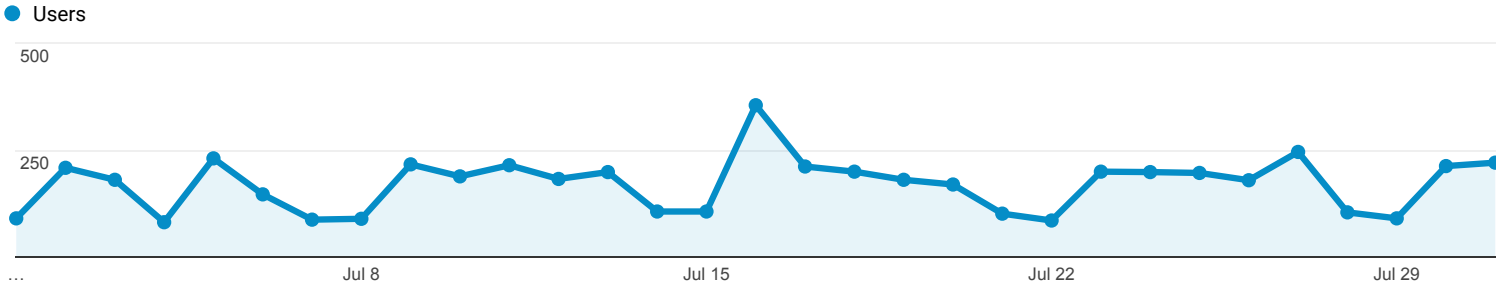
Tweets	Tweet impressions
23	11.8K
Profile visits	Mentions
465	7
New followers	
4	

Audience Overview

All Users  
100.00% Users

Jul 1, 2018 - Jul 31, 2018

Overview



Language		Users	% Users
1.	en-us	4,261	95.37%
2.	fr	39	0.87%
3.	en-gb	27	0.60%
4.	en-ca	26	0.58%
5.	en-au	11	0.25%
6.	fr-fr	11	0.25%
7.	es-xl	10	0.22%
8.	ko	9	0.20%
9.	de-de	8	0.18%
10.	en	7	0.16%