



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

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, there will be no public location for attending in person. Members of the public who wish to participate may do so by calling in at:

Toll Free: (877) 309-2073
Access Code: 798-312-381

or Via Computer:
<https://www.gotomeeting.com/meeting/join-meeting>
9 digit Meeting ID: 798312381

Members of the public who wish to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Agency or any item on the agenda should submit comments by emailing sbaca@dwa.org before 5:00 p.m. November 30. Comments will become part of the Board meeting record. Board members and staff will be participating in this meeting via teleconference.

**In order to reduce feedback, please mute your audio when you are not speaking.*

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE STUART
2. ROLL CALL BACA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 17, 2020 STUART
4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT KRAUSE
5. COMMITTEE REPORTS – BLOOMER
 A. Finance – November 16, 2020 STUART
 B. Executive – November 24, 2020
6. **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.
7. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. Request Adoption of Resolution No. 1244 Extending Appreciation to Craig A. Ewing for Dedicated Service KRAUSE/STUART
 - B. Request Approval of Contract Extension with Reeb Government Relations, LLC KRAUSE
 - C. Request Authorization to Participate in the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Authority (ACWA JPIA) Commitment to Excellence Program HOPPING
8. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A. Outreach & Conservation – Activities and Events (November) METZGER
 - B. Proposition 218 Rate Increases and Future Rate Study Scheduling SAENZ
 - C. Director's Report on ACWA JPIA Board Meeting – November 30, 2020 CIOFFI
 - D. State Water Contractors' Meeting – November 19, 2020 RIDDELL
9. DIRECTORS COMMENTS/REQUESTS
10. CLOSED SESSION
 - A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)
Name of Case: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians vs. Coachella Valley Water District, et al
(Two Cases)

B. 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

C. 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

D. 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

E. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

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

Bonnie Kessner, et al vs. Desert Water Agency, et al

F. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

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

Name of Case: AT&T vs. County of Riverside

G. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2)

(One Case)

11. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

12. ADJOURN

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting is asked to contact Desert Water Agency's Assistant Secretary of the Board, 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 that 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**

3

November 17, 2020

DWA Board via Joseph K. Stuart, President)
Teleconference: Kristin Bloomer, Vice President)
Craig Ewing, Secretary-Treasurer)
Patricia G. Oygar, Director)
James Cioffi, Director)

DWA Staff via Mark S. Krause, General Manager)
Teleconference: Steve Johnson, Assistant General Manager)
Esther Saenz, Finance Director)
Sylvia Baca, Asst. Secretary of the Board)
Kris Hopping, Human Resources Director)
Ashley Metzger, Outreach & Conserv. Mgr.)

Consultants via Michael T. Riddell, Best Best & Krieger)
Teleconference:

Public via Ray Amico, Palm Springs Resident)
Teleconference: David Freedman, Palm Springs Resident)
Steve Grasha, Mission Springs Water District)
Paul Ortega, Palm Springs Resident)
Margaret Park, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla)
Indians

18952. President Stuart opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Pledge of Allegiance**

18953. President Stuart called upon Assistant Secretary of the Board Baca to conduct the roll call: **Roll Call**

Present: Cioffi, Oygar, Ewing, Bloomer, Stuart

18954. President Stuart called for approval of the November 3, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. **Approval of 11/03/20 Regular Board Mtg. Minutes**

Secretary-Treasurer Ewing moved for approval. After a second by Director Oyar, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote: **Approval of 11/03/20 Regular Board Mtg. Minutes (Cont.)**

AYES: Cioffi, Oyar, Ewing, Bloomer, Stuart
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

18955. President Stuart called upon General Manager Krause to provide an update on Agency operations. **General Manager's Report**

Mr. Krause provided an update on Agency operations and noted his meetings and activities for the past several weeks.

18956. President Stuart noted the minutes for the November 12, 2020 Executive Committee meeting were provided in the Board's packet. **Committee Reports Executive 11/12/20**

18957. President Stuart opened the meeting for public comment. **Public Comment**

Assistant Secretary of the Board Baca read into the record a letter received from the Sierra Club California regarding Agenda Item 8-A urging the Board not to fund the next phase of the Delta Conveyance (aka the Delta Tunnel) project. **Sierra Club California**

Mr. Amico congratulated Vice President Bloomer on her reelection to the Board of Directors and Mr. Ortega for his appointment to the Board of Directors and thanked staff for their assistance in answering all of his questions. **Ray Amico**

Mr. Ortega congratulated Vice President Bloomer on her reelection to the Board of Directors and stated he is looking forward to working with the Board. **Paul Ortega**

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

18958. President Stuart called upon Secretary-Treasurer Ewing to present an overview of financial activities for the month of October 2020. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report (October)**

Secretary-Treasurer Ewing reported that the Operating Fund received \$3,753,036 in Water Sales Revenue and \$90,383 in Reclamation Sales Revenue. \$4,060,356 was paid out in Accounts Payable. Year-to-date Water Sales are 8% over budget, Year-to-date Total Revenues are 8% over budget; and Year-to-date Total Expenses are 16% under budget. There were a total of 22,952 active services as of October 31, compared to 22,930 active services as of September 30. **Operating Fund**

Reporting on the General Fund, Mr. Ewing stated that \$588,427 was received in Property Tax, \$1,627,533 in Groundwater Assessments (\$40,302 from private pumpers and \$1,587,231 from DWA), and \$17,804 from SCE for Whitewater Hydro Power Sales for September 2020. \$767,959 was paid in State Water Project charges (YTD \$7,714,214).

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

General Fund

Reporting on the Wastewater Fund, Mr. Ewing reported \$0 was received in Sewer Contract payments. There are a total of 4 Sewer Contracts, 0 paid in full, with total delinquents of 3 (75%) with \$1,002 principal payments remaining. \$85,136 was paid out in Accounts Payable.

Wastewater Fund

18959. President Stuart called upon General Manager Krause to present staff's Request for Authorization to Participate in the Delta Conveyance Project, Execute Funding Agreement and Approve Funding for Planning & Design Costs, Approve Amendments to the Design & Construction Authority Joint Powers Agreement, Approve MOU for Class 8 Election Procedures to DCA Board and Make Determination that the Actions are Exempt from CEQA (Resolution No. 1245)

Items for Action:

Request Authorization to Participate in the Delta Conveyance Project, Execute Funding Agreement and Approve Funding for Planning & Design Costs, Approve Amendments to the Design & Construction Authority Joint Powers Agreement, Approve MOU for Class 8 Election Procedures to DCA Board and Make Determination that the Actions are Exempt from CEQA (Resolution No 1245)

Mr. Krause reported that on July 21, 2017, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) approved the California WaterFix Project (WaterFix). The Desert Water Agency Board of Directors previously approved participating in WaterFix in the amount of \$2,176,786. He explained that in order to assist DWR with the design and construction of WaterFix and potential financing, certain State Water Project contractors entered in a Joint Powers Agreement in 2018 forming the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Joint Powers Authority (DCA) and the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority. At the time, the project had approvals under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), and California Endangered Act (CESA). He went on to state that on January 2019, Governor Newsom announced that he did not support WaterFix configured as two tunnel but that he did support a one tunnel conveyance project. Consistent with this, in May 2019 the Department of Water Resources (DWR) rescinded its approvals of the WaterFix project and began planning for a single tunnel option. Shortly thereafter, DWR began public negotiations with the State Water Project (SWP) public water agencies (PWAs) to agree upon a framework, referred to as an Agreement in Principle (AIP), for the amendment of SWP water supply contracts to allocate costs and benefits in the event that a potential single tunnel facility was ultimately approved. He noted that the AIP will be the basis for a future contract amendment only if a project is ultimately approved and only after necessary environmental review is completed.

Mr. Krause pointed out that in January 2020, DWR released a Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to CEQA for a proposed single tunnel project with 6,000 cfs of capacity referred to as the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP). He noted that DWR is currently

conducting environmental review and is relying on the DCA for engineering work related to defining the Project's footprint. He then explained that after fifteen public negotiations, DWR and PWAs developed a draft AIP that contains provisions for the allocation of costs and benefits for a potential Delta Conveyance Project. The draft AIP allows PWAs an option to: 1) execute a contract amendment to participate the Delta Conveyance Project at no less than each PWAs Table A (DWA's percentage is 1.34%) percentage or more, or 2) opt out of the Delta Conveyance Project costs and benefits entirely. He noted that in the draft AIP, there is a table with the names of each SWP contractor and a space to fill in the participation percentage in order to complete the AIP and proceed with the planning and the environmental review efforts related to the Delta Conveyance Project. DWR is asking SWP contractors to fill in the allocation factor table with each PWA's participation percentage assuming a 6,000 cfs facility. Currently, the proposed project is a SWP project only as the CVP has not indicated any interest in pursuing Delta Conveyance at this time. Again, the participation options are zero (opting out), 100% of Table A, and more than 100% of Table A (DWAs proposed participation is 1.52%). This participation percentage will first be used to inform the percentage of planning funding allocated to participating PWAs.

He then reported that upon completing the environmental process, the AIP will be converted into contract amendment language and PWAs will consider an amendment to their contracts consistent with the AIP. At this time, each PWAs participation percentage in the Delta Conveyance Project will be decided. Mr. Krause then explained that DWR is asking that PWAs enter into a new funding agreement to advance their participation percentage of \$340.7 million that is needed for the preliminary design, environmental planning, and other preconstruction activities to assist in the environmental process for the proposed project. The funding agreements provide that PWAs would be reimbursed or receive a credit for the advanced funds upon the first sale of revenue bonds to pay for the Delta Conveyance Project. To the extent the Delta Conveyance Project does not proceed, the advanced funds would not be recovered.

Mr. Krause stated that given the shift from a two tunnel WaterFix project to a potential single-tunnel Delta Conveyance Project and a significant change in the participation for the Delta Conveyance Project, the PWAs have been discussing amendments to the Joint Powers Agreement that created the DCA to better align representation with PWA participation. The proposed amendments would primarily amend the governance structure to align current participation interest in the Delta Conveyance Project. He reported that the DCA JPA amendment added four additional seats to the three member board. Two of the four additional seats are to be selected by the Class 8 Contractors. There are nine member agencies in the Class 8 Contractor group, including DWA. An election process has been developed by the Class 8 Contractor Agency designated representatives for the State

Items for Action:

(Cont.)

Request Authorization to Participate in the Delta Conveyance Project, Execute Funding Agreement and Approve Funding for Planning & Design Costs, Approve Amendments to the Design & Construction Authority Joint Powers Agreement, Approve MOU for Class 8 Election Procedures to DCA Board and Make Determination that the Actions are Exempt from CEQA (Resolution No 1245)

Water Project. The detailed election process is described in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). All Class 8 Contractor Agencies are expected to approve the MOU.

Concluding his report Mr. Krause pointed out that the proposed actions discussed herein do not constitute the approval by Desert Water Agency of the Delta Conveyance Project or its construction, of any amendment to the long term water supply contract with DWR, or to any actions by the DCA that may cause direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect environmental impacts. As such, the actions recommended herein are not a “project” requiring environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act, and if the actions were to be considered a CEQA “project,” these actions would be statutorily exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15262 because the actions merely call for the funding and completion and feasibility and planning studies, including the completion of CEQA review itself.

Items for Action:

(Cont.)

Request Authorization to Participate in the Delta Conveyance Project, Execute Funding Agreement and Approve Funding for Planning & Design Costs, Approve Amendments to the Design & Construction Authority Joint Powers Agreement, Approve MOU for Class 8 Election Procedures to DCA Board and Make Determination that the Actions are Exempt from CEQA (Resolution No 1245)

Mr. Krause then presented a Power Point Presentation detailing the overall explanation of the project and agreements previously mentioned.

Staff recommends the Board approve the following actions: 1) Adopt Resolution No. 1245 indicating a level of participation in the Delta Conveyance Project of 1.52% DWA’s Table A percentage of the State Water Project water supply is 1.34%, 2) Authorize the General Manager to execute a funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources for environmental planning costs associated with the Delta Conveyance Project in the amount of up to \$1,900,132 (1.52% of \$340.7M) for the first two years. Payment of the project is spread over 4 years. If after 2 years we continue to participate through year 4 our total cost will be \$5,184,310, 3) Authorize the General Manager to execute an amended Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Joint Powers Agreement, 4) Authorize the General Manager to enter into an MOU for Class 8 Member Agencies Election Procedures for DCA Board of Directors, 5) Determining the actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Secretary-Treasurer Ewing moved for approval. After a second by Vice President Bloomer, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Cioffi, Oygur, Ewing, Bloomer, Stuart
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Items for Action:
(Cont.)

Resolution No. 1245
Adopted

RESOLUTION NO. 1245
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
DESERT WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING (1) A LEVEL OF
PARTICIPATION IN THE DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT; (2)
THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FUNDING
AGREEMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COSTS FOR
THE PROJECT; (3) ENTERING INTO THE DELTA CONVEYANCE
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY JOINT POWERS
AGREEMENT; AND DETERMINING THAT THE ACTIONS ARE
EXEMPT FROM CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

In response to Director Cioffi, Mr. Krause explained that the additional cost would be for increased reliability and more capacity in the tunnel.

In response to Director Oygar, Mr. Krause indicated this project works well with the water exchange agreement and guarantees the Agency on receiving supplemental water.

Secretary-Treasurer Ewing pointed out that the California WaterFix costs more than the Delta Conveyance Project.

In response to Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Krause indicated that there is a no project alternative and he is not sure how it would be analyzed. Secretary-Treasurer Ewing added that the reliability issue cannot be understated by this project.

In response to President Stuart, Mr. Krause explained the Agency is already doing the alternatives noted in the Sierra Club California letter and pointed out the Agency still needs imported water and noted with projected future growth, the imported water is needed.

18960. President Stuart called upon Finance Director Saenz to present staff's request for Board Approval for Extension of COVID-19 Financial Relief to Customers.

Request Board
Approval for Extension
of COVID-19
Financial Relief to
Customers

Mrs. Saenz gave an update on the financial impact COVID-19 has had on the Agency. She reported to date, the Agency has experienced lost revenues of \$89,300.00 and a net increase in expenses of \$14,300.00, totaling a net impact of \$103,600.00 when compared to pre COVID-19 anticipated revenue and expenses. She pointed out that one area she is monitoring that has potential negative impact is Accounts Receivable. Accounts Receivable has increased by over \$615,400 as compared to the pre-COVID-19 average. This has decreased by approximately \$300,000 compared to last month which is an improvement. She stated that the Agency will continue to monitor the ongoing revenue losses and expenses related to COVID-19 and will provide ongoing updates to the Board.

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors extend financial relief for customers (suspension of late fees, disconnection of service for non-payment and absorption of remote payment fees) for an additional 63 days, from November 18 through January 19 and noted staff will bring this item back to the Board of Directors for consideration at its January 19 meeting. Staff will also continue to monitor the ongoing revenue losses and expenses related to COVID-19 and will provide ongoing updates to the Board.

Items for Action:
(Cont.)

Request Board
Approval for Extension
of COVID-19
Financial Relief to
Customers

Director Cioffi moved for approval. After a second by Secretary-Treasurer Ewing, the motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Cioffi, Oyar, Ewing, Bloomer, Stuart
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

18961. President Stuart called upon Outreach & Conservation Manager Metzger to provide a report on the October Water Use Production Figures.

Discussion Items:
October Water Use
Reduction Figures

Mrs. Metzger reported that the Agency and its customers achieved an 6% reduction in potable water production during October 2020 compared to the same month in 2013.

18962. President Stuart called upon Vice President Bloomer to provide her report on the NWRA Virtual Conference, November 10 & 12, 2020.

Directors' Report on
NWRA Virtual
Conference Attendance
11/10/20 – 11/12/20

Vice President Bloomer reported that she attended all the sessions that were available which she noted; 1) NWRA Municipal Caucus Meeting, 2) Commissioner Burman Keynote, 3) Congressional Outlook, 4) Western Water and Wildfire, and 5) Inside Washington.

Vice President
Bloomer

18963. Director Oyar congratulated Vice President Bloomer on her reelection to the Board.

**Director's
Comments/Requests**
Secretary-Treasurer
Ewing

Secretary-Treasurer Ewing congratulated Vice President Bloomer on her reelection to the Board and encouraged Mr. Amico to continue to seek out opportunities of public service.

18964. At 9:59 a.m., President Stuart convened into a Teleconference 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 (2 Cases); (B) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), Mission Springs Water District vs. Desert Water Agency; (C) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), Albrecht et al vs. County of Riverside; (D) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1), Abbey et al vs. County of

Closed Session:
A. Existing Litigation –
ACBCI vs. CVWD, et
al. (2 Cases)
B. Existing Litigation –
MSWD vs. DWA
C. Existing Litigation –
Albrecht et al vs.
Riverside County
D. Existing Litigation –
Abbey et al vs.
Riverside County

Riverside; (E) Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1) Bonnie Kessner, et al vs. Desert Water Agency, et al; (F) Pending Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2), Possible Intervention in Case: AT&T vs. County of Riverside, and, (G) Potential Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2) (1 Case).

18965. At 11:15 a.m., General Manager Krause reconvened the meeting into open session and announced there was no reportable action taken.

18966. In the absence of any further business, General Manager Krause adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

Closed Session:

(Cont.)

E. Existing Litigation-
Bonnie Kessner, et al
vs. Desert Water
Agency et al
F. Pending Litigation -
Possible Intervention in
Case: AT&T vs.
County of Riverside
G. Potential Litigation-
(1 Case)

Reconvene – No
Reportable Action

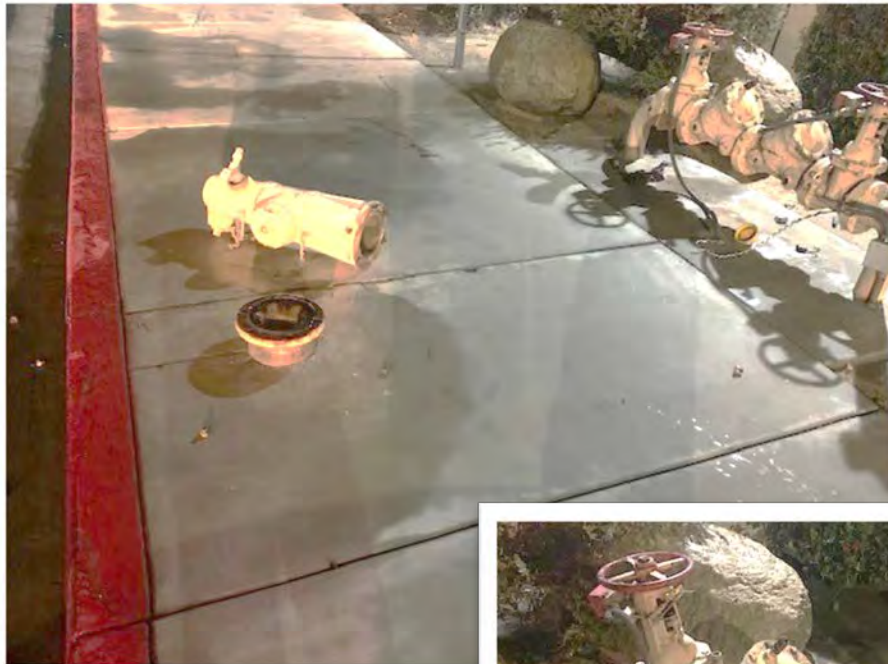
Adjournment

Sylvia Baca
Assistant Secretary of the Board

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT DECEMBER 1, 2020

Damaged Fire Hydrant – S. Indian Canyon Dr./Camino Parocela

On November 15 at approximately 10:30 a.m., Construction stand-by responded to a hit fire hydrant and fire service on the east side of S. Indian Canyon Dr. north of Camino Parocela. Staff replaced the fire hydrant and placed it back in service. The fire service had some damage to the by-pass assembly so staff is waiting to hear back from the customer to see how they want to proceed with the repairs. A police report was filed. The water loss was from a fully open 6-inch fire hydrant bury which ran for approximately 30 minutes.



Damaged Fire Hydrant – S. Indian Canyon Dr./Camino Parocela
(Cont'd.)



Blood Drive

DWA will be hosting a blood drive on **Thursday, December 3, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** In order to maintain social distancing you are encouraged to make an appointment to donate. Appointments can be made online by clicking here: [LifeStream Donation Appointment Portal](#)

All donors will also be screened for COVID-19 Antibodies as a free service for donors. Information on this new benefit for donors can be found here: [COVID-19 Antibody Testing FAQ](#)

SYSTEM LEAK DATA					
(PERIOD BEGINNING NOVEMBER 10, 2020 THRU NOVEMBER 22, 2020)					
STREET NAME	NUMBER OF LEAKS	PIPE DIAMETER (INCHES)	YEAR INSTALLED	PIPE MATERIAL	PIPE CONSTRUCTION
INDIAN CANYON DR	4	6	1951	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
ALEJO RD	3	8	1960	STEEL	CML
VIA ALTAMIRA	2	4	1954	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
CAMINO REAL	1	12	1953	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
TAHQUITZ CANYON WY	1	8	1946	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
SUNNY DUNES RD	1	6	1946	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
RAMON RD	1	6	1955	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
VIA VAQUERO	1	6	1958	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
PABLO DR	1	4	1936	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
AVENIDA HOKONA	1	4	1937	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
SATURMINO DR	1	4	1946	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
CALLE SAN ANTONIO	1	4	1946	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
TERRY LN	1	4	1956	STEEL	BARE/UNLINED
TOTAL LEAKS IN SYSTEM:		19			

Streets highlighted in green are being proposed as part of the
2020/2021 Replacement Pipeline Project

SYSTEM INFORMATION:	
OLDEST PIPE IN THE SYSTEM (YEAR OF INSTALLATION):	1935
AVERAGE YEAR OF INSTALLATION OF UNLINED STEEL PIPE (SYSTEMWIDE):	1952
AVERAGE AGE OF UNLINED STEEL PIPE (SYSTEMWIDE):	66 YEARS
AVERAGE AGE OF PIPELINE AT THE TIME OF REPLACEMENT:	68 YEARS
TOTAL LENGTH OF PIPE IN SYSTEM OLDER THAN 70 YEARS (LINEAR FEET):	128,186
TOTAL LENGTH OF UNLINED PIPE SYSTEMWIDE (LINEAR FEET):	297,672
*AVERAGE LENGTH OF PIPE REPLACED ANNUALLY (LINEAR FEET):	14,500
PROJECTED TIME FRAME FOR 100% REPLACEMENT OF UNLINED STEEL PIPE:	21 YEARS
PROJECTED TIME FRAME FOR 100% REPLACEMENT OF PIPE OLDER THAN 70 YEARS:	9 YEARS
YEAR AGENCY TRANSITIONED TO CEMENT LINED STEEL PIPE:	1960
<p>*PLEASE NOTE THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS THE AVERAGE LINEAR FOOTAGE OF PIPELINE REPLACED ANNUALLY GIVEN AN AVERAGE ANNUAL BUDGET OF \$3 MILLION.</p>	

General Manager's Meetings and Activities

Meetings:

11/17/20	DWA Bi-Monthly Board Mtg.	Conf Call
11/17/20	WWRF BLM R/W Grant Cooperators Mtg.	Conf Call
11/17/20	MC Management Cmte. Coordination Mtg.	Conf Call
11/18/20	FEMA Funding Discussion	Conf Call
11/18/20	DCP Update with Tony Meyers	Conf Call
11/18/20	SWC Delta Cmte. Mtg.	Conf Call
11/19/20	SWC Mthly. Board Mtg.	Conf Call
11/19/20	Indio Subbasin Tribal Workshop	Conf Call
11/19/20	Sites Reservoir Cmte. Mthly. Mtg.	Conf Call
11/20/20	Sewer Spill RWQCB Mtg. Prep w/ BB&K	Conf Call
11/23/20	DWA Weekly Staff Mtgs.	Conf Call
11/23/20	SWC Class 8 Mtg.	Conf Call
11/23/20	RWQCB Sewer Spill Mtg.	Conf Call
11/24/20	DWA Executive Committee Mtg.	Conf Call
11/24/20	Water Rights Lawsuit Mediation Mtg.	Conf Call
11/30/20	DWA Weekly Staff Mtgs.	Conf Call
11/30/20	Whitewater All Team BLM R/W Grant Mtg.	Conf Call
12/01/20	DWA Bi-Monthly Board Mtg.	Conf Call

Activities:

- 1) SWP Contract Extension Amendment
- 2) DWA Remote Meter Reading Fixed Network
- 3) Whitewater Hydro – Automatic Re-start
- 4) State and Federal Contractors Water Authority and Delta Specific Project Committee (Standing)
- 5) Whitewater River Surface Water Recharge
- 6) Lake Oroville Spillway FEMA funding
- 7) Replacement Pipelines 2020-2021
- 8) DC Project – Finance JPA Committee (Standing)
- 9) DWA/CVWD/MWD Operations Coordination/Article 21/Pool A/Pool B/Yuba Water (Standing)
- 10) DWA/CVWD/MWD Exchange Agreement Coordination Committee (Standing)
- 11) SWP 2020 Water Supply
- 12) ACBCI Water Rights Lawsuit
- 13) Whitewater Hydro Operations Coordination with Recharge Basin O&M
- 14) SGMA Tribal Stakeholder Meetings
- 15) Whitewater Spreading Basins – BLM Permits
- 16) Delta Conveyance Project Cost Allocation
- 17) DWA Surface Water Filtration Feasibility Snow Creek Village/Palm Oasis
- 18) MCSB Delivery Updates
- 19) Well 6 Meaders Cleaners RWQB Meetings
- 20) SWP East Branch Enlargement Cost Allocation
- 21) UWMP Population Calculation Update/Valley-Wide UWMP

Activities:
(Cont.)

- 22) RWQCB Update to the SNMP
- 23) SGMA – San Geronio Pass Subbasin

**Minutes
Finance Committee Meeting
November 16, 2020**

Directors Present: Kristin Bloomer, Craig Ewing

Staff Present: Mark Krause, Steve Johnson, Esther Saenz

Discussion Items

1. Review Potential Operating Fund Water Rate Increase
The potential for a January 1, 2021 rate increase was discussed. Staff will present the Finance Committee recommendations to the Board at the December 1 Board meeting.
2. Discuss Future Rate Study
The Committee reviewed potential timeline for conducting the next five-year rate study.

Adjourn

Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
November 24, 2020

Directors Present: Joseph Stuart, Kristin Bloomer

Staff Present: Mark Krause, Steve Johnson, Sylvia Baca

1. Discussion Items

A. Review Agenda for December 1, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

The proposed agenda for the December 1, 2020 meeting was reviewed.

2. Adjourn

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

DECEMBER 1, 2020

**RE: REQUEST ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 1244, EXTENDING
APPRECIATION TO CRAIG A. EWING**

Attached is a copy of Resolution No. 1244 extending appreciation to Craig A. Ewing, Secretary-Treasurer of the Board.

Mr. Ewing is to be acknowledged for his 13 years of dedicated service to Desert Water Agency.

Staff requests Board adoption of Resolution No. 1244.

RESOLUTION NO. 1244
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE DESERT WATER AGENCY
EXTENDING APPRECIATION TO
CRAIG A. EWING
FOR DEDICATED SERVICE

WHEREAS, Craig A. Ewing began his tenure on the Desert Water Agency’s Board of Directors in November of 2007; and

WHEREAS, Craig, during his tenure with the Board, has served in each position on the Board (Board President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer) and, in addition, has served, almost without exception, on every Board Committee at one time or another; and

WHEREAS, Craig represented the Agency in a number of capacities, including Chair of the Association of California Water Agency’s Region 9, Vice Chair of its Water Storage Policy Task Force, member of its Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, Craig has brought a unique perspective with decades of experience working in local government; and

WHEREAS, Craig has long been a faithful advocate of the Desert Water Agency, it’s Board, Management, and Staff, and has served with concern for the well-being of the Agency’s financial stability, its workforce, and with foresight for the future water needs of this community, and

WHEREAS, Craig has faithfully discharged his duties as a Director of the Desert Water Agency for more than 13 years, ever aware of the importance of his stewardship in relation to the acquisition, storage, treatment, conservation and disbursement of nature’s most precious gift of water,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Desert Water Agency Board of Directors that

CRAIG A. EWING

is acknowledged for his many years of service. It is the wish of the Board that Craig will often reflect back on his unwavering service to the Agency with great pride, and that he is mindful of the respect bestowed upon him for all he has accomplished and provided to both Desert Water Agency and the community at large. With infinite deep gratitude for all that he has done for this Agency and the community, the Board and Staff of DWA extend a heartfelt thank you, and the wish that Craig spends countless years enjoying a happy and healthy retirement, for he has earned it.

ADOPTED this 1ST day of December 2020.

JOSEPH K. STUART - President

KRISTIN BLOOMER – Vice President

PATRICIA G. OYGAR – Director

JAMES CIOFFI - Director

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

DECEMBER 1, 2020

**RE: REQUEST APPROVAL OF CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH REEB
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, LLC**

Since December of 2004, Desert Water Agency has maintained a Legislative Representation Contract with Robert J. Reeb, of Reeb Government Relations, LLC. That contract has been renewed annually since that time to ensure Mr. Reeb continues to represent Desert Water Agency's interest in Sacramento.

Attached for your review is a copy of the proposed contract renewal that will extend the term of Mr. Reeb's contract through December 31, 2022. Agency Counsel has reviewed the document on the Agency's behalf. The proposed contract represents a 6.67% increase. The last increase was in 2017. Since that time, Mr. Reeb has added two employees to better serve his clients.

Staff requests authorization for the General Manager to execute the proposed Contract with Reeb Government Relations, LLC, extending services to Desert Water Agency through December 31, 2022.

.

Reeb Government Relations, LLC

1107 9th Street, Suite 620
Sacramento CA 95814
Phone: 916-558-1926
Facsimile: 916-558-1932

LOBBYING FIRM RETENTION CONTRACT

The following constitutes a lobbying firm retention contract between **REEB GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, LLC** (“RGR” hereinafter), or its legal successor in interest, and **DESERT WATER AGENCY** (“DWA” hereinafter), or its legal successor in interest.

1. **SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED**— DWA engages the services of RGR as an independent contractor. RGR will provide advice and representation on behalf of DWA on California legislative and regulatory matters. Such services shall include:
 - A. Representation in the State Capitol and with the Executive Branch in regard to the 2021-22 Regular Session of the California Legislature.
 - B. Research and analysis of state legislative and regulatory issues and related initiatives; drafting legislation and amendments thereto relating to such issues.
 - C. Legislative reporting services as may be required by DWA.
 - D. Participation and attendance at DWA meetings to discuss current events, tasks under the scope of work and other business related to the governmental relations program. Attendance and participation at other meetings, upon request by DWA, including, but not limited to, meetings related to issues management and formation of lobbying coalitions.

RGR will work under the direction of the General Manager and will coordinate services to be performed with same.

Desert Water Agency
Lobbying Firm Retention Contract
Page 2 of 3

2. TERMS OF PAYMENT— DWA will pay RGR, according to terms and conditions set forth herein, a fee of ONE HUNDRED NINETY-TWO THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$192,000.00) for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. This amount shall be paid in twenty-four (24) equal installments of EIGHT THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$8,000.00) due on the first (1st) of each month from January 2021 through December 2022, inclusive. Payment shall cover all time expended by RGR personnel unless otherwise agreed to by RGR and DWA.

- A. Invoices shall be submitted monthly by RGR for payment by DWA. Payment is past due the next business day following the fifteenth of the month. If DWA has any valid reason for disputing any portion of an invoice, DWA will so notify RGR within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of invoice, and if no such notification is given, the invoice shall be deemed valid. The portion of RGR's invoice that is not in dispute shall be paid in accordance with the procedures set forth herein.
- B. DWA shall reimburse RGR all costs incurred in connection with the services rendered. Reimbursable costs shall include travel costs and other costs approved by the steering committee. Travel costs are defined as air travel, lodging, meals and incidentals, ground transportation, and all costs associated with travel. All travel expenses must receive DWA's prior approval. RGR shall provide to DWA substantiation of reimbursable costs incurred.
- C. A finance charge of 1.5% per month on the unpaid amount of an invoice will be charged on past due accounts. Payments by DWA will thereafter be applied first to accrued interest and then to the principal unpaid balance. Any attorney fees, court costs, or other costs incurred in collection of delinquent accounts shall be paid by DWA. If payment of invoices is not current, RGR may suspend performing further work.

3. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR—It is understood that RGR will function as an independent contractor and will hold itself out as such and will be without authority to obligate DWA for indebtedness, contracts, or other legal obligations.

**Desert Water Agency
Lobbying Firm Retention Contract
Page 3 of 3**

4. **POLITICAL REFORM ACT**—RGR will be solely responsible for its filing and reporting obligations pursuant to the Political Reform Act of 1974, as it may be amended from time to time. DWA will be solely responsible for its filing and reporting obligations pursuant to the Political Reform Act of 1974, as it may be amended from time to time.

5. **GOVERNING LAW** - This agreement shall be governed by and construed pursuant to the laws of the State of California.

6. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT** - This is the entire agreement of the parties and no other representations, promises or agreements, oral or otherwise, shall be of any force or effect. This agreement may be supplemented, amended or revised only in writing by agreement of the parties.

7. **TERM OF CONTRACT**—The engagement shall be subject to review at any mutually agreed upon time. Either party may terminate this engagement without cause by giving written notice at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of termination. DWA's obligation to pay any further monthly installments shall cease upon the date of the termination and DWA shall have no further monetary obligation to RGR as of that date of termination. The effective date of this agreement is January 1, 2021, and it shall terminate on December 31, 2022.

DESERT WATER AGENCY

P. O. Box 1710
Palm Springs CA 92263-1710

By: _____
Mark S. Krause
General Manager & Chief Engineer

Date:

**REEB GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS, LLC**

1107 9th Street, Suite 620
Sacramento CA 95814

By: _____
Robert J. Reeb
Managing Officer

Date:

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

DECEMBER 1, 2020

**RE: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES JOINT
POWERS AUTHORITY (ACWA JPIA) COMMITMENT TO
EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**

ACWA JPIA has announced that there are grant monies available to members to help purchase safety equipment for their agencies. In order to apply for a grant, each applicant is required to have a “Commitment to Excellence” agreement signed by our Board members on file with ACWA JPIA. Staff is submitting this agreement for approval and signature so that we can apply for the grant funding with ACWA JPIA.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no impact to the approved budget in participating in the Commitment to Excellence program. If selected for the safety grant, we would receive \$10,000 that would be used to purchase valve-exercising equipment that reduces the risk of staff injury.

Staff is requesting the Board of Directors:

1. Approve the ACWA JPIA Commitment to Excellence statement.
2. Authorize the General Manager to sign the Commitment to Excellence statement for submission to ACWA JPIA.
3. Sign the Commitment to Excellence statement for submission to ACWA JPIA (all Board member signatures included).

Attachments

Attachment #1 – ACWA JPIA Commitment to Excellence statement



Commitment to Excellence

Desert Water Agency

and the ACWA JPIA in mutual support for ensuring the most consistent, cost effective, and broadest possible affordable insurance coverage and related services, and in partnership with all JPIA members, and in the interest of reducing **Desert Water Agency's** insurance costs, commit to a program of excellence that, through the implementation of "best practices" reduces the potential and frequency of:

- **Vehicle Losses**
- **Infrastructure Related Losses**
- **Construction Related Losses**
- **Employment Practices Claims**
- **Ergonomic (Musculoskeletal) and Fall Injuries**
- **Wildfire Prevention**

and fully support the goal of implementing effective preventative measures that work to achieve these loss reductions.

Walt "Andy" Sells (CEO, ACWA JPIA)
Signature

Signature (General Manager)

Signature (Board Member)

Signature (Board Member)

Signature (Board Member)

Signature (Board Member)

Signature (Board Member)

DESERT WATER AGENCY
OUTREACH & CONSERVATION
ACTIVITIES

November 2020

Activities

- 11/2 Staff participated in a CV SNMP work plan conference call.
- 11/3 Staff met with FEMA regarding flooding assistance.
- 11/4 Director Cioffi and Ashley Metzger were interviewed on the Free Little Library on KESQ.
- 11/4 Ashley Metzger recorded a segment for the Joey English radio show.
- 11/5 Staff participated in a Coachella Valley RUWMP workshop.
- 11/5 Ashley Metzger attended an ACWA Communication Committee meeting.
- 11/7 DWA launched the Free Little Library.
- 11/10 Xochitl Peña attended a CAPIO Power Lunch webinar.
- 11/10 Staff met with FEMA regarding flooding assistance.
- 11/10 Xochitl Peña attended the ONE-PS meeting and provided an update.
- 11/12 Ashley Metzger attended Mission Springs Water District board meeting.
- 11/17 Staff met with FEMA regarding flooding assistance.
- 11/17 Xochitl Peña participated in a phone conference with CV Water Counts
- 11/17 Staff attended the Mission Creek Subbasin Management Committee Coordination Meeting.
- 11/18 DWA hosted a virtual webinar: Pipeline replacement – the 411 on how it's done.
- 11/18 Ashley Metzger attended the UWMP Guidebook Public Update.
- 11/19 Staff attended a Residential Landscape Area Measurement Study meeting.
- 11/19 Ashley Metzger attended the Indio Subbasin Tribal Workgroup meeting.
- 11/19 Ashley Metzger attended the Indio Subbasin Public Workshop #3.
- 11/20 Ashley Metzger attended the SWC Urban Water Management Plan Workshop #1.
- 11/23 Ashley Metzger participated in the Coachella UWMP / Workshop + Outreach Planning meeting.
- 11/24 Ashley Metzger attended the ACWA WUE Work Group quarterly meeting.
- 11/24 Ashley Metzger attended a virtual town hall meeting with Senator Melissa Melendez.
- 11/24 Ashley Metzger attended a Zoom meeting with City of Palm Springs on plant selection for the airport demonstration garden.

Public Information Releases/eBlasts/Customer notifications

November 5: DWA opens mod-inspired Little Free Library - Website
November 12: Webinar: Pipeline replacement – the 411 on how it's done – Website, Nextdoor
November 12: Palm Regency HOA – DWA Construction – Nextdoor
November 13: Oasis Del Sol – Desert Water Agency Construction – Nextdoor
November 17: Customer relief extended to January, assistance available – Website
November 20: Workshop: Let's get crafty – succulent ornaments – Website

Legislative/Regulatory Outreach

Upcoming Events

December 8 @ noon – DWA Succulent Ornament Workshop
January, date and time TBD – Water Education webinar
February, date and time TBD – Careers in Water webinar

Conservation Programs

16 grass removal inspections
4 grass removal projects pre-approved
6 grass removal projects given final approval

12 washing machines requested
12 washing machines approved

7 smart controllers requested
4 smart controllers approved

71 nozzles requested
71 nozzles approved

0 toilets requested (commercial only)
0 toilet rebates approved (commercial only)

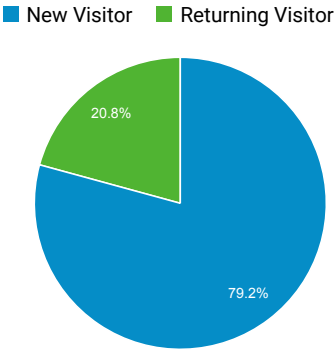
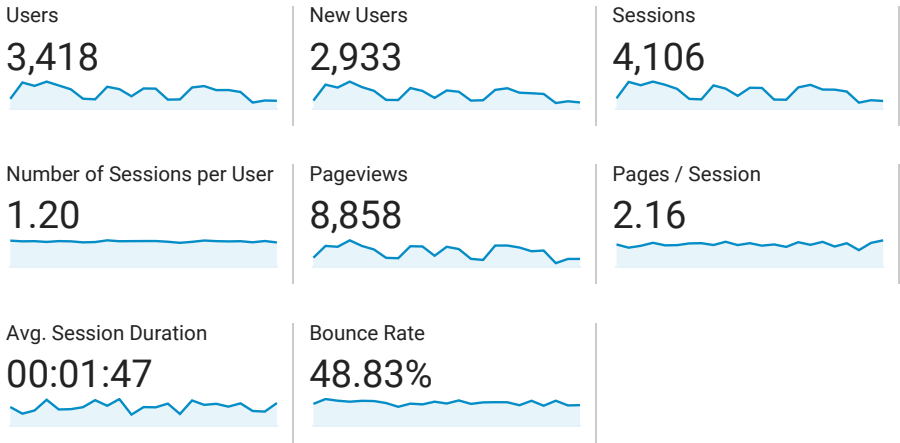
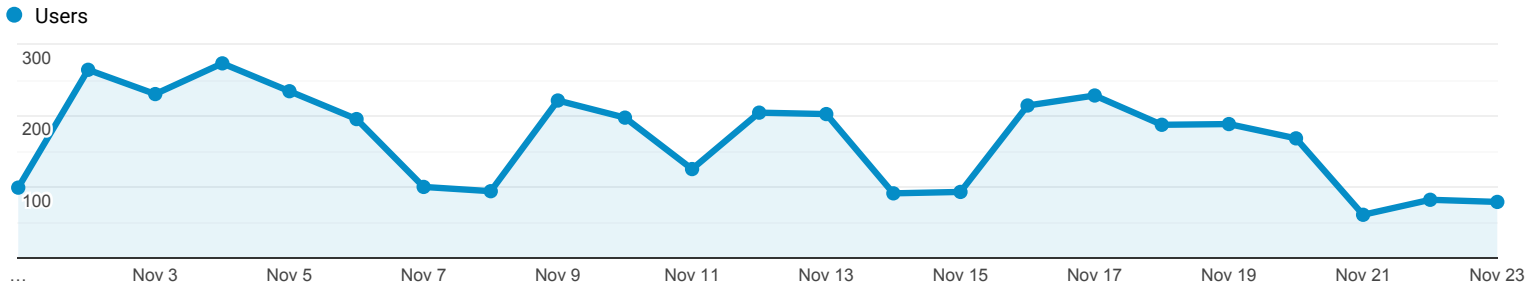


Audience Overview

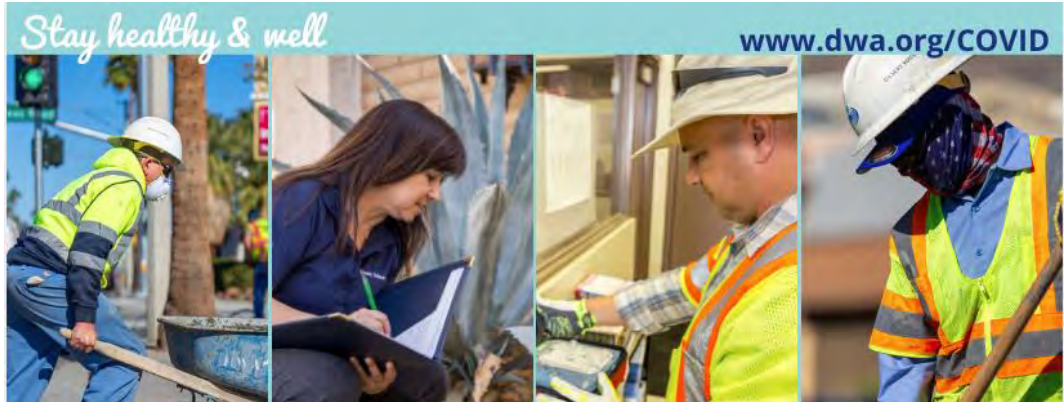
All Users
100.00% Users

Nov 1, 2020 - Nov 23, 2020

Overview



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	3,101	90.67%
2. en	204	5.96%
3. en-gb	30	0.88%
4. en-ca	12	0.35%
5. zh-cn	10	0.29%
6. c	6	0.18%
7. fr-fr	6	0.18%
8. de	4	0.12%
9. es-es	4	0.12%
10. ko-kr	4	0.12%



Actions on Page

November 16 - November 22



We have insufficient data to show for the selected time period.

Page Views

November 16 - November 22

67

Total Page Views ▲ 81%



Page Previews

November 16 - November 22



We have insufficient data to show for the selected time period.

Page Likes

November 16 - November 22

2

Page Likes ▲ 100%



Post Reach

November 16 - November 22

706

People Reached ▼ 33%



Story Reach

November 16 - November 22

Get Story Insights

See stats on how your Page's recent stories have performed.

[Learn More](#)

Recommendations

November 16 - November 22



We have insufficient data to show for the selected time period.

Post Engagement

November 16 - November 22

60

Post Engagement ▼ 35%



Responsiveness

As of November 21, 2020

70%

Response Rate ▲ 0%

1 day 6 hrs

Response Time ▲ 0 hrs 0 mins

Videos

November 16 - November 22

64

3-Second Video Views ▲ 611%



Page Followers












































































November 16 - November 22

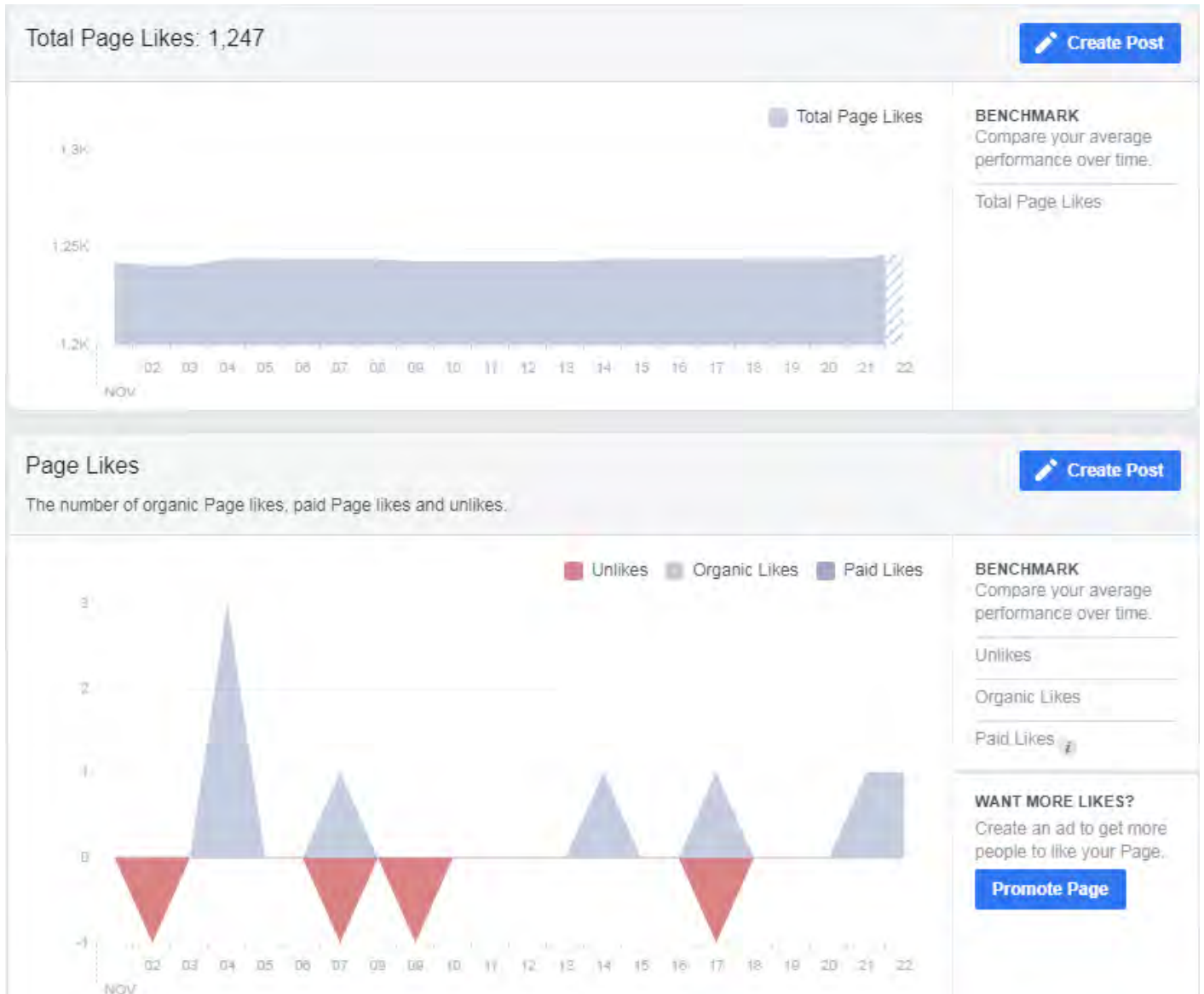
2

Page Followers ▲ 100%



Facebook Analytics, November 2020

11/23/2020 12:30 PM	 Please - no fats, oil or grease down the drain because it can cause			6		0 0		Boost Post
11/20/2020 12:00 PM	 Check out our latest water quality video and learn why COVID-19			30		1 0		Boost Post
11/18/2020 12:01 PM	 DWA Board: no late fees, no water shutoffs and no payment fees -			200		5 9		Boost Post
11/18/2020 11:58 AM	 Check out our pipeline replacement webinar. Learn how we fix leaky			59		17 0		Boost Post
11/17/2020 1:17 PM	 Don't forget! TOMORROW is our pipeline replacement webinar. Learn			98		0 4		Boost Post
11/16/2020 6:00 PM	 Check out our new Free Little Library! Follow us and share this post			41		0 6		Boost Post
11/16/2020 11:52 AM	 Learn about DWA's pipeline replacement plan on Nov. 18 at			37		2 4		Boost Post
11/12/2020 12:00 PM	 Nice ride! This is what a meter reading truck looked like back in			671		10 42		Boost Post
11/11/2020 9:00 AM	 We honor all veterans who have served, especially our DWA team			62		0 7		Boost Post
11/10/2020 11:02 AM	 Here's a fun & educational project for students of all ages that helps			62		1 3		Boost Post
11/09/2020 12:00 PM	 Don't forget to adjust your sprinklers with the change in weather. A smart			48		5 5		Boost Post
11/07/2020 8:59 AM	 Our first #LittleFreeLibrary visitor! It's National Book Lover's Day - stop by			57		0 9		Boost Post
11/05/2020 4:00 PM	 Our new, mod-inspired Little Free Library opens on Saturday – Book			2.6K		109 143		Boost Post
11/04/2020 12:00 PM	 Our next webinar on Nov. 18 will share the strategy behind DWA's			94		1 6		Boost Post
11/03/2020 10:00 AM	 Don't forget to make a difference and vote! Learn more about DWA's			71		5 6		Boost Post



Instagram November 2020



109 impressions



116 impressions



155 impressions



211 impressions



143 impressions



181 impressions



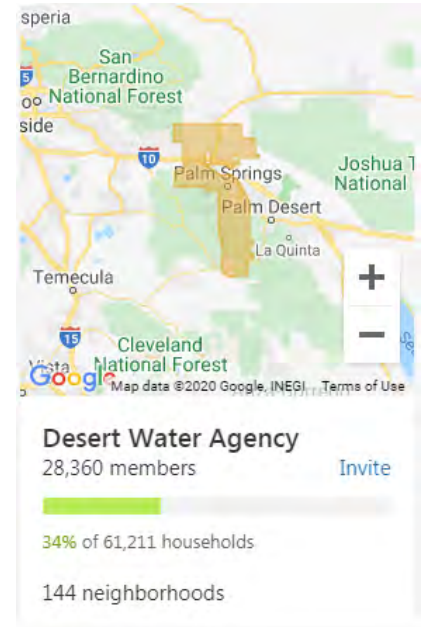
112 impressions



150 impressions



226 impressions



✓ **Desert Water Agency**

Outreach Specialist Xochitl Pena • 13 Nov

Webinar: Pipeline replacement – the 411 on how it's done. Our webinar at noon on Nov. 18 will focus on DWA's critical pipeline replacement plan. Experts will share the strategy behind replacing old and leaky pipes, discuss current projects and share what neighborhoods are next on the list for See more...



Webinar: Pipeline replacement – the 411 on how it's done

Desert Water Agency

Going? ▼

Posted to **Subscribers of Desert Water Agency**

♡ Like 💬 1 Comment

• 1131 Impressions



✓ Desert Water Agency

Outreach & Conservation Manager Ashley Metzger • 13 Nov



Oasis del Sol - Desert Water Agency construction. Desert Water Agency crews will work on water service line replacements in your area starting 11/16 until the end of the year on the following streets: - N Calle Loro - N Camino Condor - E Camino Pelicano - N Calle Quetzal - E El Alameda
See more...

Posted to **Subscribers of Desert Water Agency** in 1 neighborhood



Like



Comment

73 Impressions



✓ Desert Water Agency

Outreach & Conservation Manager Ashley Metzger • 12 Nov



Palm Regency HOA - DWA Construction. Desert Water Agency will be doing some construction work in Palm Regency HOA to prevent catastrophic failure of existing pipelines by swapping them out. Our crews intend to replace water service pipelines starting Monday, November 16
[See more...](#)

Posted to **Subscribers of Desert Water Agency in 1 neighborhood**



Like



Comment

57 Impressions

Desert Water Agency Twitter Analytics November 2020



Tweets
2,370

Following
1,537

Followers
1,206

Nov 2020 • 22 days so far...

TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

Top Tweet earned 533 impressions

Our first [#LittleFreeLibrary](#) visitors! Stop by & grab a book too! Tag us in a pic of yourself at the library & you could win a Kindle. Go here for more info: dwa.org/library pic.twitter.com/yRYN0KdwFn



1 2 5

[View Tweet activity](#)

[View all Tweet activity](#)

Top Follower followed by 1,710 people



waterloop

@thewaterloop [FOLLOWS YOU](#)

A nonprofit platform presenting [#podcast](#) conversations about [#water](#) in our lives and in our communities. Produced by [@travisloop](#)

Top mention earned 3 engagements



Uken Report

@UkenReport • Nov 6

Little Free Library Opens Saturday, Nov. 7
[@DWAWater](#) Learn more here:
ukenreport.com/little-free-li...

1

[View Tweet](#)

Top media Tweet earned 299 impressions

Our new, mod-inspired Little Free Library opens Saturday – Book Lovers Day! Stop by & grab a book -1200 S. Gene Autry Tr., Palm Springs. We're giving away a Kindle to celebrate! Click here for info:
dwa.org/littlelibrary [#LittleFreeLibrary](#) [#BookLoversDay](#)
pic.twitter.com/x3eWJUIOLS



1 4

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](#)

NOV 2020 SUMMARY

Tweets	Tweet impressions
14	5,114
Profile visits	Mentions
65	5
New followers	
-1	

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

DECEMBER 1, 2020

**RE: PROPOSITION 218 RATE INCREASES AND FUTURE RATE
STUDY SCHEDULING**

In 2016, Desert Water Agency performed a rate study which resulted in an approved five-year rate increase plan beginning January 1, 2017. This plan provided funding for increased pipeline replacements and large maintenance projects in order to address the Agency's aging infrastructure. This plan also phased in increased fixed charges from 17% to 30% of revenues to improve revenue stability for the Agency while still incentivizing conservation.

The fifth and final rate increase in the five-year plan was scheduled to be implemented on July 1, 2020. Due to COVID-19, the Board elected to not implement this rate increase on its planned implementation date of July 1, 2020 but rather to reassess the rate increase potential in six months. In order to balance the 2020/2021 budget without the planned rate increase, the Agency deferred \$3.6 million in capital improvement projects.

The rate increase, as approved through the Prop 218 process, can be approved at any point in time up until June 30, 2021. After this date, any future rate increases will require a new rate study and Prop 218 approval process.

On November 16, 2020, the Finance Committee met to discuss the potential January 1, 2021 rate increase. It was recommended by the Committee to not implement the rate increase effective January 1, 2021 but to re-address the implementation of the fifth and final rate increase in June 2021. A June 2021 implementation would allow for approximately \$4.7 million in increased revenues to support increased pipeline replacements to allow the Agency to begin increasing annual pipeline replacements starting in fiscal year 2021/2022.

The Agency has 56 miles of unlined bare steel pipe to replace, 43% is beyond its expected life cycle (68 years). At the current rate of pipeline replacement it will take 21 years to replace all 56 miles of pipe and by the end of that 21 year period the pipelines will have also aged an additional 21 years, resulting in an average pipeline age of 89 years. This introduces a significant risk that pipeline leaks and failures may escalate to a critical level. Accelerating the amount of pipeline replaced annually is recommended to reduce this risk. However, water rates must support this proposed increase. Future increased pipe

failures may leave us no other choice than to make an increased financial investment in pipeline replacement.

After June 30, 2021, any future rate increases will require a new rate study and Prop 218 process. This year long process to solicit and select a vendor, perform the rate study and undergo the Prop 218 hearing process may not be agreeable to the community considering the current economic state as a result of COVID-19. The potential of delaying the rate study and Prop 218 process was discussed with the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee recommended to pursue the rate study to determine if the need exists to undergo a Prop 218 proceeding to approve a future rate increase plan, or to hold off and update the rate study at a later date to then pursue the adopting of a rate increase plan through the Prop 218 process.

STATE WATER CONTRACTORS MEETING
November 19, 2020

I. ELECTION UPDATE

- (a) 79.3% voter turnout in California (46.1% Democrat, 24.1% Republican)
- (b) Election results must be certified by December 12
- (c) 30 Democrats elected in the Senate (Democrats retain super-majority)
- (d) 60 Democrats elected to Assembly (Democrats retain super-majority)
- (e) In Congress, 42 Democrats and 11 Republicans elected from California
- (f) New State Legislature reconvenes on January 7, 2021
- (g) Governor must submit draft budget by January 10, 2021

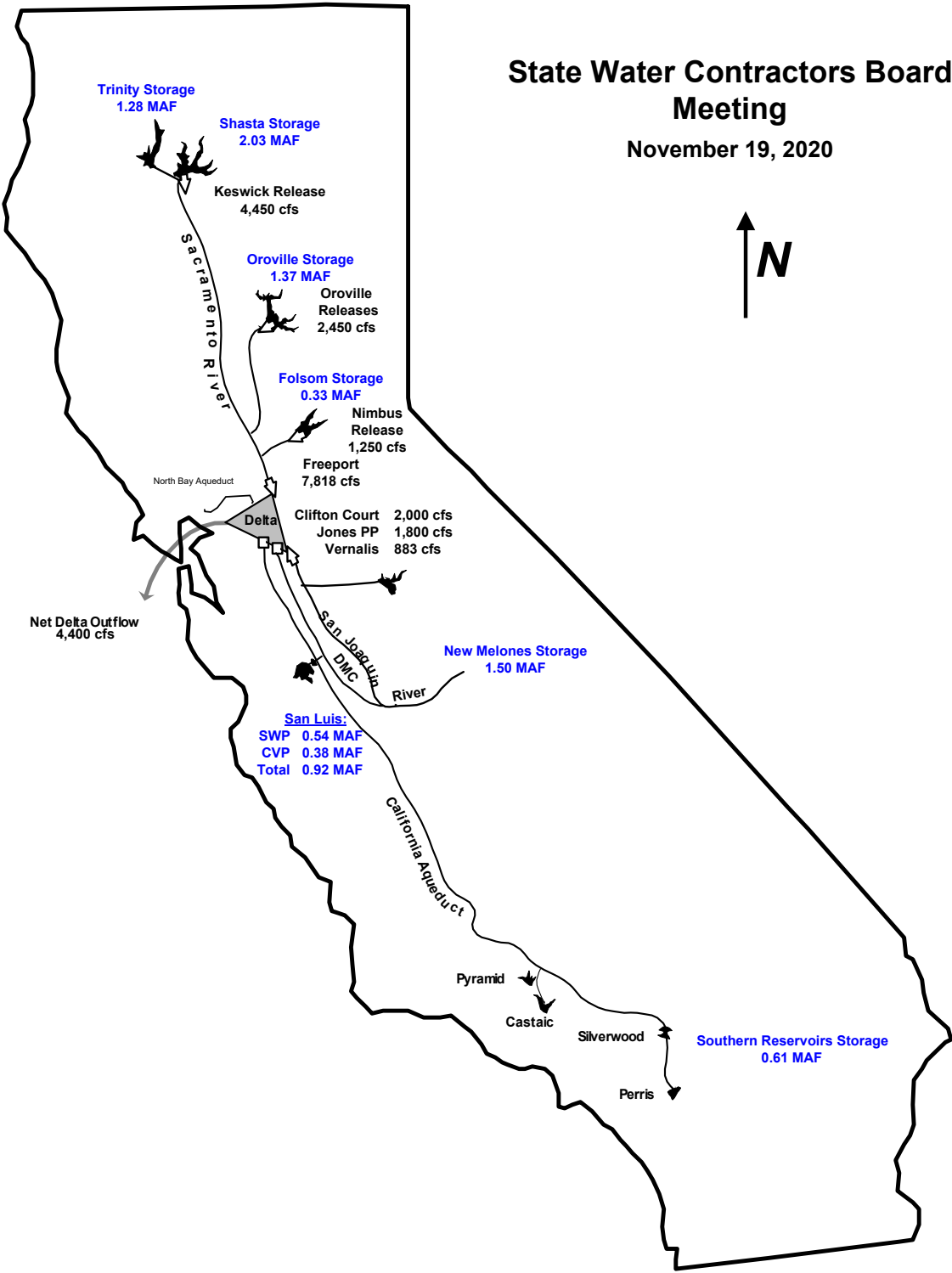
II. OROVILLE DAM COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- (a) Prepared pursuant to DWR's commitment to FERC following spillway event
- (b) DWR calls it "the most comprehensive needs assessment it has ever done."
- (c) Goal is to identify measures to restore and improve safety and reliability of dam
- (d) No dam safety deficiencies were identified – no immediate actions needed
- (e) The highest risks warrant more analysis immediately (flood control gate valve)
- (f) Task reports have been completed
- (g) Design has been initiated for some recommended interim measures
- (h) The needs assessment is a process that will also look at other SWP facilities (Castaic Dam, for example).

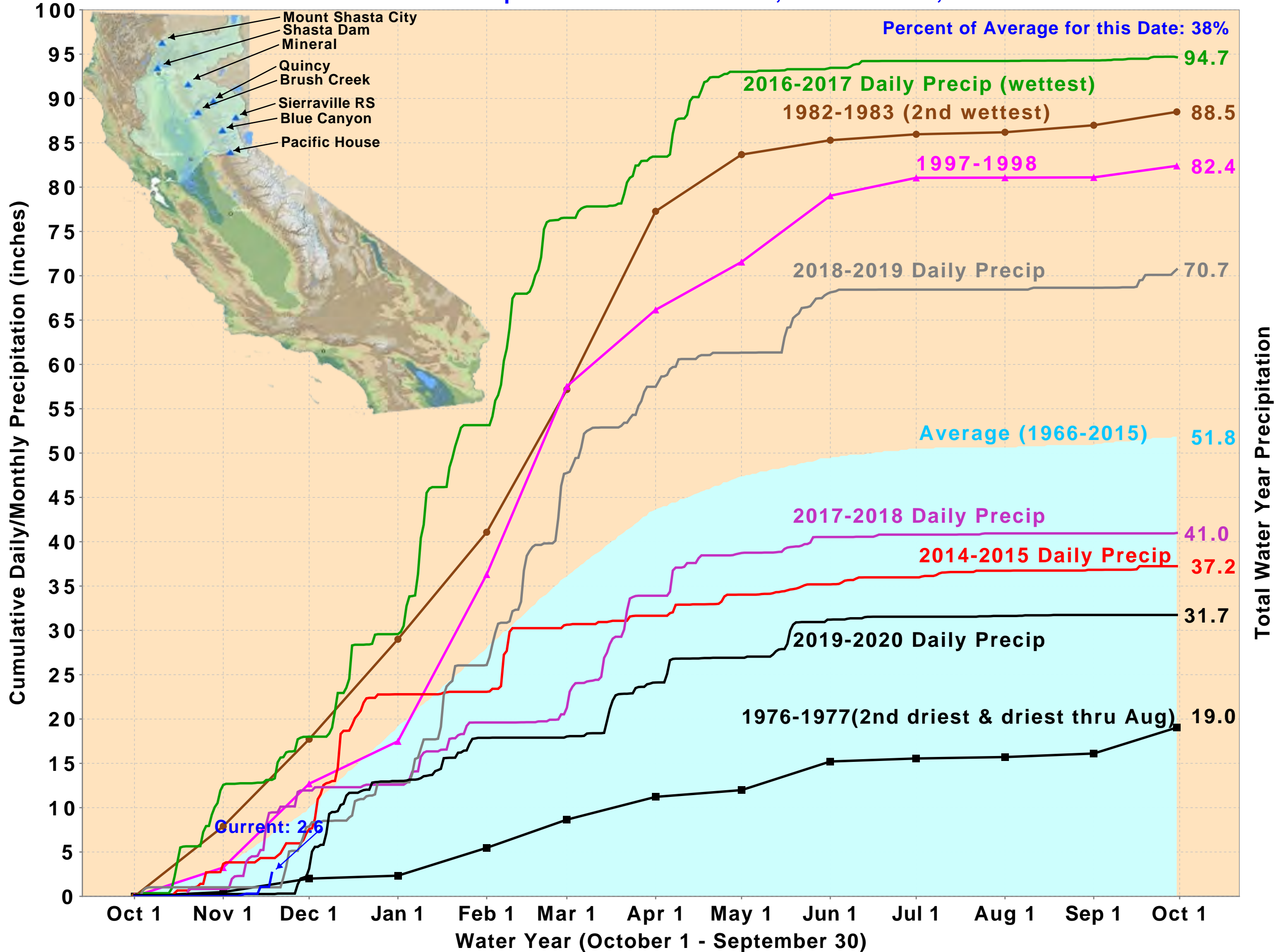
III. WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

- (a) Zero precipitation in October
- (b) Deficit position to start the year
- (c) 1.5 inches predicted for the week that the meeting occurred - Feather River
- (d) Precipitation below average across the State
- (e) Long term projections: dryer than average

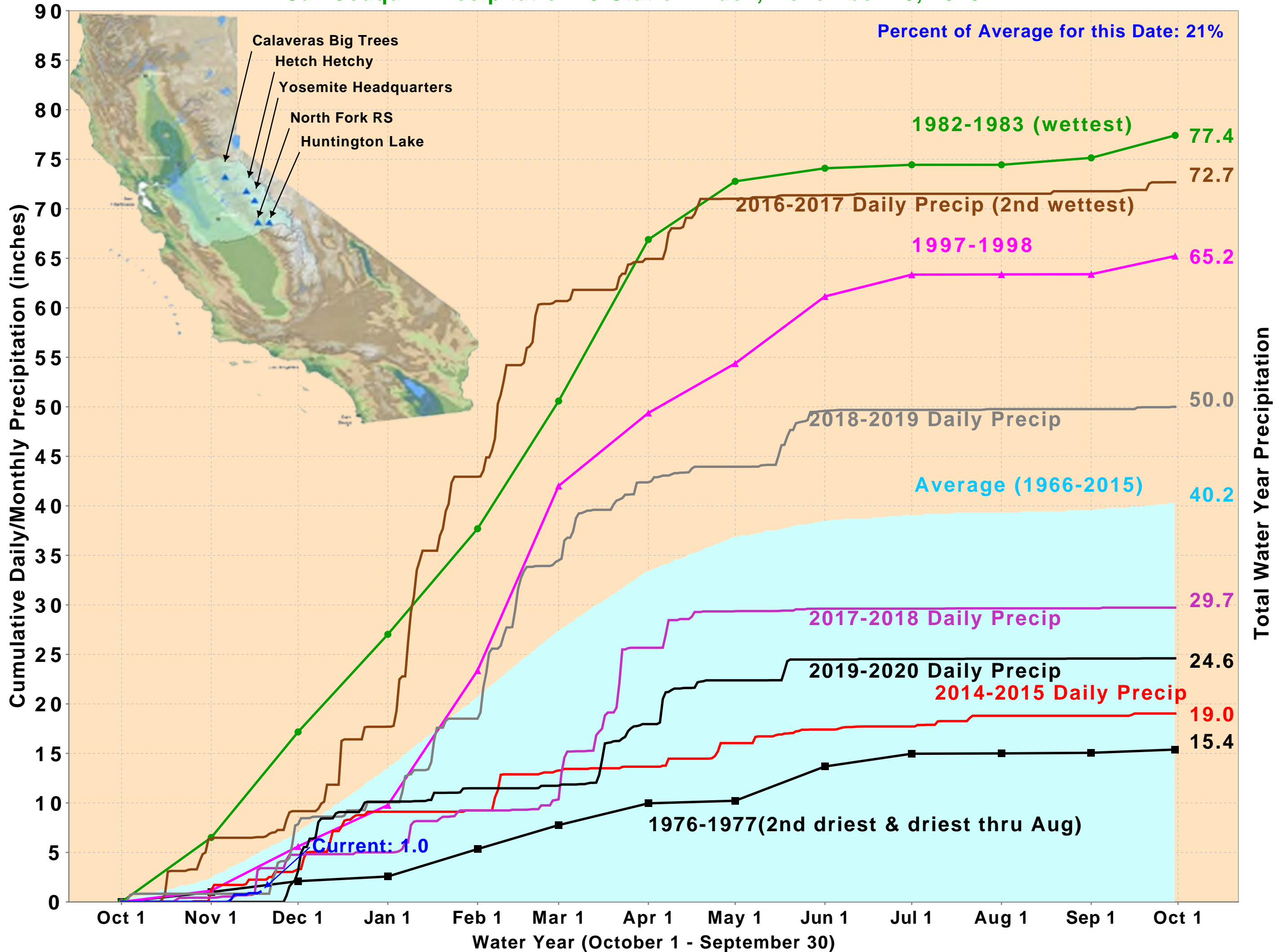
State Water Contractors Board
Meeting
November 19, 2020



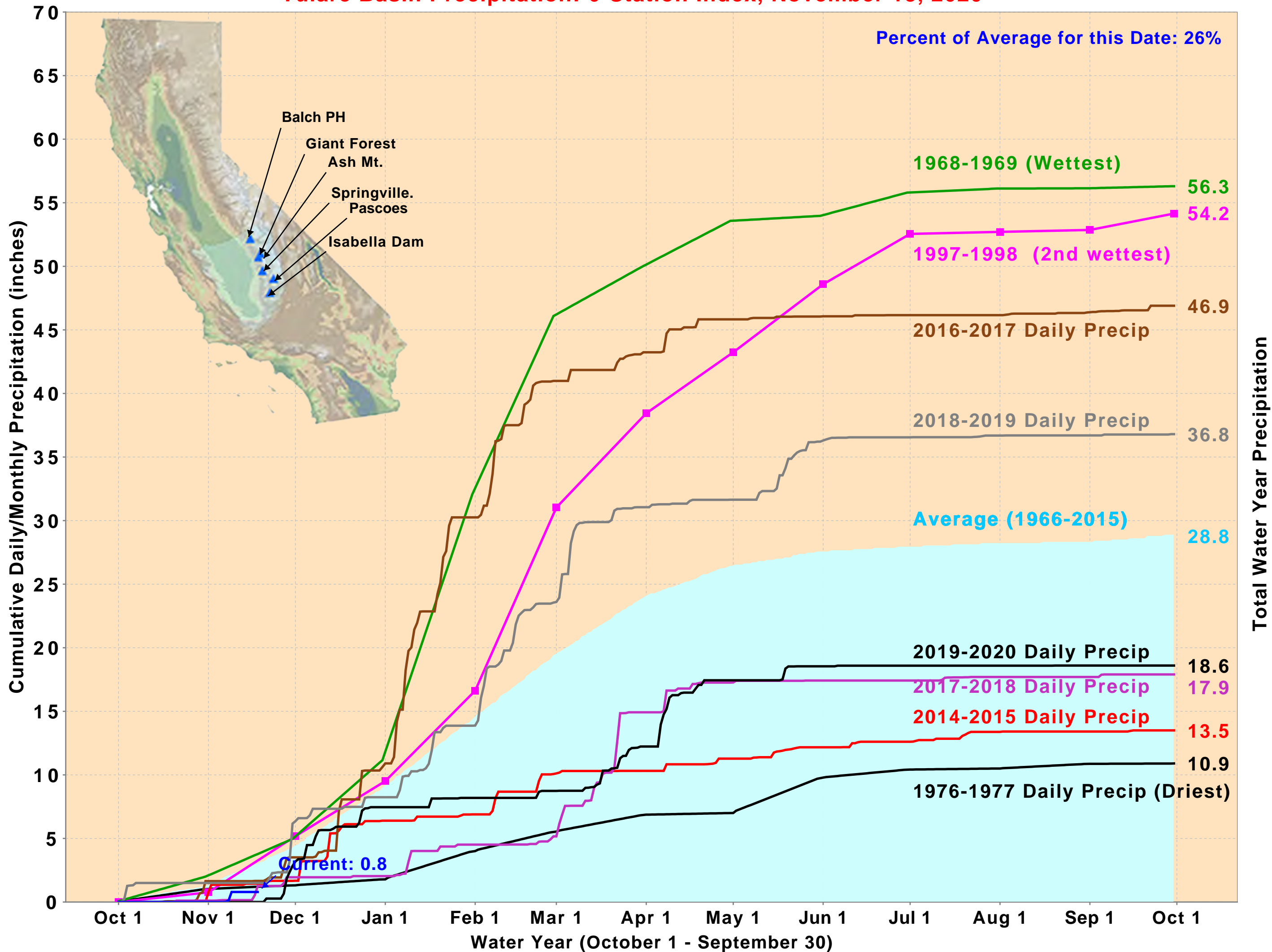
Northern Sierra Precipitation: 8-Station Index, November 18, 2020



San Joaquin Precipitation: 5-Station Index, November 18, 2020



Tulare Basin Precipitation: 6-Station Index, November 18, 2020





Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - November 17, 2020

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

