



# Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: 4/9/2026 | 9:30 AM

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

## Board of Directors Regular Meeting

842 6th Street, Los Banos  
(List of Member/Alternate Telephonic Locations Attached)

### Public Participation Information

#### Join Zoom Webinar -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88313905033?pwd=aHlaW6dD3bbHV8uopGHYyO4uzTTE4D.1>

NOTE: Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any item on the agenda before or during consideration of that item.

NOTE FURTHER: Meeting materials have been made available to the public on the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority’s website, <https://www.sldmwa.org>, and at the Los Banos Administrative Office, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA 93635.

### Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	
2.	Board to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 <i>et seq.</i>	
3.	Opportunity for Public Comment – Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any matter not on the agenda, but within the Board’s jurisdiction. Public comment is limited to no more than three minutes per person. For good cause, the Chair of the Board may waive this limitation.	
<b><u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u></b>		
4.	<b>Approval of March 5, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes</b>	
5.	<b>Acceptance of Financial &amp; Expenditures Reports</b>	
6.	<b>Acceptance of Staff Reports:</b>	
	a. <b>O&amp;M Budget to Actual</b>	
	b. <b>Operations &amp; Maintenance</b>	
	c. <b>Science Program</b>	
	d. <b>Activity Agreements</b>	
	e. <b>Procurement Activity</b>	

**ACTION ITEMS**

- |            |   |                    |
|------------|---|--------------------|
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Selection and Appointment of Fiscal Year 2027 San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board Officers</b>                        | Barajas            |
| <b>8.</b>  | <b>Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation</b>                 | Petersen           |
|            | <b>A. A.B. 1754 (Pacheco), State general obligation bonds: requirements</b>   |                    |
|            | <b>B. A.B. 1772 (Papan), Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: golden mussels</b>  |                    |
|            | <b>C. A.B. 2013 (Bennett), Fire risk areas: water suppliers: emergency preparedness plan</b>  |                    |
|            | <b>D. A.B. 2026 (Aguiar-Curry), Water diversion: groundwater recharge: permit</b>   |                    |
|            | <b>E. A.B. 2032 (Ransom), Fish and wildlife: restricted species permits</b>   |                    |
|            | <b>F. A.B. 2218 (Kalra), Water policy: California Native American tribes</b>  |                    |
|            | <b>G. A.B. 2630 (Bennett), Water diversion and use: adoption of regulations</b>   |                    |
|            | <b>H. A.B. 2728 (Soria), Open and Transparent Water Data Act</b>  |                    |
|            | <b>I. A.C.A. 11 (Macedo), California Water Resiliency Act</b>   |                    |
|            | <b>J. S.B. 872 (McNerney), Climate Change: funding priorities</b>   |                    |
| <b>9.</b>  | <b>Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Execution of Agreement with MM Water Resources for Technical Support Services</b> | Petersen           |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Adoption of Communications Framework and Communications Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2027</b>   | Petersen           |
| <b>11.</b> | <b>Ratification of Execution of North to South Water Transfers CEQA Support Task Order with CDM Smith</b>                               | Arroyave,<br>Harms |

**REPORT ITEMS**

- |            |   |                                |
|------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>12.</b> | Expression of Appreciation for Dan Keppen, Former Executive Director of Family Farm Alliance  | Barajas,<br>Michael            |
| <b>13.</b> | Presentation of Resolution of Commendation to the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors by the DM Subbasin JPA  | Petersen                       |
| <b>14.</b> | Status Update Regarding the DMC Subsidence Correction Project   | Barajas,<br>Arroyave           |
| <b>15.</b> | Report on State and Federal Affairs   | Petersen,<br>Cardoza,<br>Olsen |
| <b>16.</b> | Executive Director's Report<br>(May also include reports on activities re: 1) CVP/SWP water operations; 2) California infrastructure projects; 3) regulation of the CVP/SWP; 4) existing or possible new State and Federal policies; 5) Water Authority activities) | Barajas                        |

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17. Chief Operating Officer’s Report (May include reports on activities re: 1) OM&R; 2) infrastructure projects; 3) water transfers, exchanges, and release program) Arroyave
18. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts Arroyave, USBR
19. Committee Reports
- a. Water Resources Committee Activities, Bourdeau
  - b. Finance & Administration Committee Activities, Hansen
  - c. O & M Technical Committee Activities, White
  - d. Planning Committee Activities, Diener
20. Outside Agency/Organization Reports
- a. Family Farm Alliance
  - b. Farm Water Coalition
  - c. Association of California Water Agencies
  - d. San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint Effort
  - e. San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program
  - f. Central Valley Project Water Association
  - g. Great Valley Farm Water Partnership
21. Board Member Reports
22. **CLOSED SESSION** Akroyd, Barajas

**THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITY**

Consultation with: Executive Director / General Counsel

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 – 2 potential cases

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 – 2 potential cases

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Existing Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9

- A. California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA), et al. v. Nickels, et al., U.S. District Court, E.D. Cal., Case No. 2:11-cv-02980; 9th Cir. Case No. 23-15599; U.S. Supreme Court Case No. 25-989 (GBP Citizen Suit)
- B. CSPA, et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), et al., Sac. Co. Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003761 (2021 TUCP Order)
- C. CSPA, et al. v. SWRCB, et al., Sac. Co. Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003763 (2021 Temp. Mgmt. Plan)
- D. SWRCB, Administrative Hearings Office, Petitions for Change of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Water Right Permits, Delta Conveyance Project (DWR Change Petition)
- E. Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, et al. v. DWR, et al., Sacramento Co. Superior Court, Case No. 24WM000183 (SWP 2024 EIR Challenge)

- F. San Francisco Baykeeper, et al. v. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, et al. U.S. District Court, E.D. Cal., Case No. 2:26-cv-00671 (2025 CVP Operations)
- 23.** Return to Open Session
- 24.** Report from Closed Session, if any, Required by Government Code Section 54957.1
- 25.** Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)
- 26.** ADJOURNMENT

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Cheri Worthy or Sandi Ginda at the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Office, 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 2157, Los Banos, California, via telephone at (209) 826-9696, or via email at [cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org](mailto:cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org). Requests should be made as far in advance as possible before the meeting date, preferably 3 days in advance of regular meetings or 1 day in advance of special meetings/workshops.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Section 54950 et seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of the Authority's bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of the Authority's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by the Authority on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/>.

SLDMWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING TELEPHONIC LOCATIONS

April 9, 2026

7357 W. Tenaya Ave  
Fresno, CA 93723

15671 W. Oakland Ave  
Five Points, CA 93624



# Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 3/5/2026 | 9:30 AM  
Location: SLDMWA Boardroom  
842 6th Street, Los Banos

## San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

### Board of Directors Present

- Division 1: Dave Weisenberger, Director  
Anthea Hansen, Director  
Ed Pattison, Director  
Lea Emmons, Alternate
- Division 2: Justin Diener, Director  
William Bourdeau, Director  
Aaron Barcellos, Director  
Bill Diedrich, Director (ZOOM)
- Division 3: Chris White, Alternate  
Jarrett Martin, Director  
Michael Gardner, Alternate  
Ric Ortega, Director (item 11)
- Division 4: Aaron Baker, Alternate  
Richard Santos, Director  
Brett Miller, Alternate
- Division 5: Bill Pucheu, Director  
Allison Febbo, Director  
Manny Amorelli, Director
- Friant Representative:  
Wilson Orvis, Alternate

- Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
- Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
- Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
- Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director (ZOOM)
- Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
- Jaime McNeil, Engineering Manager
- Jacob Bejarano, Senior Civil/Maintenance/Engineer
- Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager (ZOOM)
- Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician

### Others Present

- John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District
- Chase Hurley, Pacheco Water District
- Brandon Souza, Farm Water Coalition
- Michelle Paul, Farm Water Coalition
- Mitch Partovi, Water Agency
- Julian Torres, Pacheco Water District
- Scott Taylor, USBR
- Mat Maucieri, USBR
- Rain Emerson, USBR
- Kristen Olsen-Cate, California Strategies (ZOOM)
- Levi Johnson, Reclamation (ZOOM)
- Dennis Cardoza, Foley & Lardner, LLP (ZOOM)

### Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director

## Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
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1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair William Bourdeau and roll was called.  
During roll call, Director Bill Diedrich was identified as participating remotely via teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953(b), consistent with traditional teleconference rules.
2. **Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.** – No additions or corrections.
3. **Opportunity for Public Comment** – No public comment.

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4. **Agenda Items 4-6: Board to Consider: 4) February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes, 5) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, and 6) Acceptance of Staff Reports** - M/S - Motion by Director Bill Pucheu, seconded by Director Richard Santos, the Board accepted the February 5, 2026 meeting minutes with minor edits, financial & expenditure reports, and staff reports. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Miller, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.
5. **Agenda Item 7: Water Resources Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Staff Recommendation on Positions on Legislation** Petersen  
a. S. 3738 (Padilla), Making Our Communities Resilient through Enhancing Water for Agriculture, Technology, the Environment, and Residences (MORE WATER) Act (Support & Amend)
- Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the staff recommendation for position adoption on one piece of legislation: S. 3738. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.
- M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Alternate Chris White, the Board adopted the staff recommendation for position on S. 3738 (Padilla). Vote: Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Miller, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.
6. **Agenda Item 8: Selection and Appointment of Fiscal Year 2027 San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board Officers** – Executive Director Federico Barajas noted the requirement for annual selection of and appointment of Fiscal Year 2027 Water Authority Board Officers. The Vice-Chair William Bourdeau suggested deferring this item to next month. Barajas  
M/S - Motion by Alternate Chris White, seconded by Director Richard Santos, the Board unanimously approved deferring this item to next month. Vote: Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Miller, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.
7. **Agenda Item 9-10: Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Termination of Northern Delta-Mendota Region Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA) Services Activity Agreement, and Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Termination of Central Delta-Mendota Region SGMA Services Activity Agreement** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the Cost-Sharing Agreement expired when the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs formed the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs Joint Powers Authority (“DM Authority”), entered into an Amended and Restated Memorandum of Agreement, and the DM Authority notified the Authority that its services were no longer needed, in February 2026. Petersen reported that the intent behind the formation of the DM Authority was to create a Joint Powers Authority that could provide the services previously provided by the Authority for the member agencies of the DM Authority. Petersen reported that following adoption of the proposed resolutions, the Water Authority will continue to provide fiscal and Petersen
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administrative support services for the remaining activities in fiscal year 2026, including the completion of the Annual Report for the Subbasin, which is due for submittal by April 1. Petersen reported that following final invoice submittal all activities formerly provided by the Authority and its staff will be performed by the D-M Subbasin JPA. Petersen reported that the Authority will issue a letter to relevant Activity Agreement members and SS-MOA members terminating the relevant Activity Agreements for approval.

**Item 9:** M/S - On a motion made by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Jarrett Martin, the Board authorized Termination of Northern Delta-Mendota Region Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA) Services Activity Agreement. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Miller, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli – 0; Abstentions – 0.

**Item 10:** M/S - On a motion made by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Jarrett Martin, the Board authorized Termination of Central Delta-Mendota Region (SGMA) Services Activity Agreement. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Diedrich, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Miller, Pucheu, Febbo, Amorelli – 0; Abstentions – 0.

8. **Agenda Item 11: Report on State & Federal Affairs – Water Policy** Petersen  
Director Scott Petersen introduced Dennis Cardoza, who provided updates regarding DC trip, elections, and federal affairs. Petersen added additional details including opportunities for appropriation requests, congressional letter on Port Chicago Standard, CVP initial allocations, and the Farm Bill. Petersen introduced Kristin Olsen-Kate, who provided a State Affairs update. Petersen, Cardoza, and Olsen-Kate answered questions throughout the presentation.
12. **Agenda Item 12: Executive Director’s Report** Arroyave
- a. **USBR Update** – Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced Mat Maucieri, Senior Advisor for Operations in DC, who is serving as Acting Regional Director in Sacramento for a couple of weeks. Maucieri introduced Scott Taylor and Rain Emerson. Maucieri provided an update on DC activities, regional priorities, and recent funding allocation announcements. Mr. Maucieri answered Board member questions throughout his presentation.
  - b. **Golden Mussels Update** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reviewed the memo included in the packet. Special Programs Manager Cindy Meyer presented a PowerPoint presentation with additional information on the Golden Mussels. Water Policy Director Scott Petersen also provided additional information.
  - c. **Training** – General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reminded the Board of the training requirements for ethics, sexual harassment, and the new financial training, and to please send in their training certificates.

- d. **Social Luncheon** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the Water Authority will be recognizing Dan Keppen next month as he marks his retirement after more than two decades of outstanding leadership as Executive Director of the Family Farm Alliance. Dan Keppen will be attending the April Board meeting, and there will be a social luncheon after the meeting.

- 13. **Agenda Item 13: Chief Operating Officer’s Report** Arroyave
  - a. **Jones Pumping Plan Operations** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that the Unit 5 repairs at Jones Pumping Plant is the top priority at this time.
  - b. **Colgate Penstock Failure at Yuba** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that due to the Colgate Penstock failure, the groundwater substitution component of the Yuba Transfer Program will not be in play for 2026. Arroyave reported that they are still waiting to hear on the surface water supplies.
  - c. **Volta Wasteway** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported an amendment was executed to extend the Volta Wasteway Project.
  - d. **Consolidated Place of Use** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that he sent an email out on behalf of Reclamation seeking input to pursue a Consolidated Place of Use.
  
- 14. **Agenda Item 14: Update on Water Operations and Forecasts** - Levi Johnson from Reclamation provided updates regarding operations, CVP supply, and reservoir storage. Johnson answered Board member questions throughout the presentation. Arroyave,  
USBR
  
- 15. **Agenda Item 15: Committee Reports** – No reports.
  
- 16. **Agenda Item 16: Outside Agency/Organization Reports**
  - a. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)** – Report included in the packet.
  - b. **Farm Water Coalition** – Michelle Paul reviewed the report included in the packet and provided additional information.
  - c. **Association of California Water Agencies** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that ACWA conference in DC was very good. Barajas reported that there is a GM group working on preparation for the new governor. Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported on ACWA DC conference speakers.
  - d. **San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint Effort** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief update.
  - e. **San Joaquin Collaborative Action Plan** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief update. Petersen noted that Director Jarrett Martin was recently added to the Steering Committee. Director Jarrett Martin reviewed the SJCAP report that was included in the Water Resources Committee packet.
  - f. **Central Valley Project Water Association** – Director Anthea Hansen reported that there is a Finance meeting next week.

- g. **Great Valley Farm Water Partnership** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen identified high priority items of the group. Petersen reported that there is an upcoming meeting/tour in Turlock next week. Director Anthea Hansen provided additional information.

- 17. **Agenda Item 17: Board Member Reports** – No reports.
- 18. **Agenda Items 18-20: Closed Session** – Vice-Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:24 a.m. Upon returning to open session at approximately 11:51 a.m., Vice-Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.
- 19. **Agenda Item 21: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)** – No reports.



# Official Memorandum

**TO:** Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer  
**FROM:** Raymond Tarka, Director of Finance

**SUBJECT:** April 2026 BOD Meeting Report – Finance  
Fiscal Year - March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026

**DATE:** April 09, 2026

Attached are the Financial & Expenditures Reports.

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**Receivable Activity Report (Does Not Include Water Payment Transactions)**  
**Month Ending February 28, 2026**

	MEMBERS	USBR EMERGENCY	OTHER	TOTAL RECEIVABLE
<b>RECEIVABLE BALANCE JANUARY 31, 2026</b>	<b>\$ 381,496.62</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,597,972.25</b>	<b>\$ 1,979,468.87</b>
<b>Billings:</b>				
Cobra - Various Employees			3,749.79	3,749.79
DHCCP Project - Series 2021B Bond - Various Districts			315,807.00	315,807.00
Miscellaneous - Reimbursed (vendor refund)			445.00	445.00
SGMA Grant Implementation/Grant Admin - Various Districts			11,251.50	11,251.50
USBR - Emergency Services Contracts		34,996.35		34,996.35
Volta Wells PG&E Costs - Various Districts			241.88	241.88
<b>TOTAL BILLINGS</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 34,996.35</b>	<b>\$ 331,495.17</b>	<b>\$ 366,491.52</b>
<b>Collections:</b>				
ACWA/JPIA - Claim reimbursement			1,265.39	1,265.39
Cobra - Various Employees			3,694.17	3,694.17
DHCCP Project - Series 2021B Bond - Various Districts			310,331.00	310,331.00
Miscellaneous - Reimbursed (vendor refund)			445.00	445.00
Membership - FY26 Installments	95,353.00			95,353.00
Long-Term North to South Transfer Costs - Various Districts			235.04	235.04
Yuba County Water Agency Transfer - Various Districts			85,376.00	85,376.00
SGMA Grant - Single GSP Development			6,224.73	6,224.73
SGMA Grant - P1R1			11,251.50	11,251.50
USBR - JPP Excitation Contract			123,754.00	123,754.00
Volta Wells Groundwater - Various Districts			241.88	241.88
				0.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 95,353.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 542,818.71</b>	<b>\$ 638,171.71</b>
<b>RECEIVABLE BALANCE FEBRUARY 28, 2026</b>	<b>\$ 286,143.62</b>	<b>\$ 34,996.35</b>	<b>\$ 1,386,648.71</b>	<b>\$ 1,707,788.68</b>

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
SLDMWA  
AR | Aging Summary by Category  
As of February 28, 2026**

Customer	Current	(30)	(60)	(90)	(>90)	Category	Total	
CAMP-MEMB Camp 13 Drainage District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,982.00	MEMBERSHIP	\$42,982.00	
FARMERS WD-MEMBER Farmers Water District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$95,353.00	MEMBERSHIP	\$95,353.00	
OFWD-MEMB Oak Flat Water District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,188.00)	MEMBERSHIP	(\$1,188.00)	
PWD-MEMB Pacheco Water District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$0.01)	MEMBERSHIP	(\$0.01)	
SLWD-MEMB San Luis Water District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$10.00)	MEMBERSHIP	(\$10.00)	
WWD-MEMB Westlands Water District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$149,005.63	MEMBERSHIP	\$149,005.63	\$286,142.62
0265 St of CA Depart of Tax & Fee Admin	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,258.00	MISC	\$2,258.00	
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,231.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	MISC	\$1,231.39	
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$55.62)	MISC	(\$55.62)	
DWR Department of Water Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,066,324.47	MISC	\$1,066,324.47	
EFWD-MISC Eagle Field Water District	\$0.00	\$5,476.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	MISC	\$5,476.00	
PATT CITY MISC City of Patterson	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,797.47	MISC	\$10,797.47	
USBR-MISC U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44,536.00	MISC	\$44,536.00	
WWD-MISC Westlands Water District	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$256,082.00	MISC	\$256,082.00	\$1,386,649.71
USBR-SERVICES U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,996.35	USBR-SERVICES	\$34,996.35	\$34,996.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,476.00</b>	<b>\$1,231.39</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,701,081.29</b>		<b>\$1,707,788.68</b>	<b>\$1,707,788.68</b>

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Cash Activity Detail Report - Operational  
For Month Ending February 28, 2026**

Daily Interest Rates:			0.00%	0.00%	0.50%	0.50%	3.81%	3.94%	3.87%	3.84%	3.87%		
Type of Account:		Cash	CWB	CWB	CWB	CWB	CWB	Cal Trust	Cal Trust	Cal Trust	LAIF	Petty	Total
Account #:		on Hand	Checking	Payroll	Transactional	Emergency Reserve	Money Mkt	2510	2510	2510	4-006	Cash	
			0471	0489	0463	4858	8343	Short Term 201	Medium Term 202	Liquidity 203			
<b>Cash Balance as of 1/31/26</b>		0.00	(2,244,532.59)	5,000.00	3,744,730.33	2,200,110.70	38,174.65	588,399.59	540,984.08	20,099,179.50	70,395.97	1,000.00	25,043,442.23
<b>Date Receipts - Remote Deposit</b>													
02/02/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,028.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,028.72
02/03/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,167.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,167.39
02/04/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	74,576.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74,576.73
02/05/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,346.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,346.30
02/09/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	154,272.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	154,272.21
02/12/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,251.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,251.50
02/12/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,990.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,990.50
02/17/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	325,280.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	325,280.50
02/18/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	41,385.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41,385.70
02/19/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	451,784.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	451,784.64
02/23/26	Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,821.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,821.27
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	1,095,905.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,095,905.46
<b>Date Receipts - Wires &amp; ACH</b>													
02/04/26	San Luis Water District Accounts	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,168.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,168.00
02/06/26	San Benito County Water District	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,853.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,853.95
02/12/26	Panoche Water District	0.00	0.00	0.00	87,978.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	87,978.76
02/12/26	Panoche Water District	0.00	0.00	0.00	113,120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	113,120.00
02/13/26	San Luis Water District Accounts	0.00	0.00	0.00	215,183.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	215,183.38
02/13/26	Friant Water Authority	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,234,064.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,234,064.79
02/17/26	Westlands Agriculture LLC	0.00	0.00	0.00	568.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	568.76
02/17/26	Westlands Water District	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,470,953.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,470,953.96
02/20/26	Westlands Water District	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,139.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,139.00
02/20/26	Bureau of Reclamation	0.00	0.00	0.00	123,754.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	123,754.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	3,296,784.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,296,784.60
<b>Date To/From Operational / DHCCP</b>													
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date To/From Grant Funds-Trans</b>													
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date Checks Written</b>													
02/03/26	Accounts Payable	0.00	(340,336.89)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(340,336.89)
02/10/26	Accounts Payable	0.00	(149,583.27)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(149,583.27)
02/17/26	Accounts Payable	0.00	(397,125.66)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(397,125.66)
02/18/26	Attendance Awards	0.00	0.00	(1,800.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,800.00)
02/25/26	Accounts Payable	0.00	(1,011,423.04)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,011,423.04)
02/26/26	Attendance Awards	0.00	0.00	(2,000.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,000.00)
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	(1,898,468.86)	(3,800.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,902,268.86)
<b>Date ACH Payments</b>													
02/03/26	EE Assoc 1/17/26-1/30/26	0.00	(450.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(450.00)
02/03/26	ICMA Retirement 1/17/26-1/30/26	0.00	(110,026.20)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(110,026.20)
02/20/26	EE Assoc 1/31/26-2/13/26	0.00	(450.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(450.00)
02/20/26	ICMA Retirement 1/31/26-2/13/26	0.00	(109,743.02)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(109,743.02)
02/25/26	Shepherd OU	0.00	(3,708.09)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,708.09)
02/25/26	Visa Payments	0.00	(21,803.60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(21,803.60)
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	(246,180.91)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(246,180.91)
<b>Date Transfers</b>													
02/02/26	Interest from Solar to 0463 for USBR Payment	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.24
02/18/26	Funding for Attendance Awards	0.00	0.00	1,800.00	(1,800.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/23/26	Funding Attendance Awards	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/24/26	Funding for Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,400,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,400,000.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	3,800.00	11,396,265.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,400,000.00)	0.00	0.00	65.24

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Cash Activity Detail Report - Operational  
For Month Ending February 28, 2026**

Daily Interest Rates:			0.00%	0.00%	0.50%	0.50%	3.81%	3.94%	3.87%	3.84%	3.87%		
Type of Account:	Cash	0.00%	0.00%	0.50%	0.50%	3.81%	3.94%	3.87%	3.84%	3.87%		Petty	Total
Account #:	on Hand	CWB	CWB	CWB	CWB	CWB	Cal Trust	Cal Trust	Cal Trust	LAIF		Cash	
		Checking	Payroll	Transactional	Emergency Reserve	Money Mkt	2510	2510	2510	4-006			
		0471	0489	0463	4858	8343	Short Term 201	Medium Term 202	Liquidity 203				
<b>Cash Balance as of 1/31/26</b>		0.00	(2,244,532.59)	5,000.00	3,744,730.33	2,200,110.70	38,174.65	588,399.59	540,984.08	20,099,179.50	70,395.97	1,000.00	25,043,442.23
<b>Date</b>	<b>Wire Payments</b>												
02/04/26	Funding for 2/6/26 Payroll & Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	(447,994.46)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(447,994.46)
02/10/26	DWR Yuba Water Transfer (C1)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(90,752.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(90,752.00)
02/18/26	Funding for 2/20/26 Payroll & Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	(441,179.95)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(441,179.95)
02/23/26	Funding for 2/23/26 Taxes Attendance Awards	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,120.58)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,120.58)
02/26/26	DWR Intertie Conveyance Costs (April-June 2025)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(44,617.48)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(44,617.48)
02/26/26	DWR Intertie Conveyance Costs (Jan-March 2025)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,844,775.93)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,844,775.93)
02/26/26	DWR Intertie Conveyance Costs (July-Sept 2025)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,387,387.21)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,387,387.21)
02/26/26	USBR Power-Tracy, Intertie, O'Neill, DA & Banks	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,600,000.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,600,000.00)
02/27/26	US Bank Invoice #3115071	0.00	0.00	0.00	(352,685.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(352,685.00)
02/27/26	US Bank Invoice #3114463	0.00	0.00	0.00	(315,809.30)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(315,809.30)
		0.00	0.00	0.00	(8,526,321.91)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(8,526,321.91)
<b>Date</b>	<b>CWB Sweep Checking/Trans Muni</b>												
02/02/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	74,914.28	0.00	(74,914.28)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/03/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	1,739,781.71	0.00	(1,739,781.71)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/04/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	31,792.04	0.00	(31,792.04)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/05/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	2,753.01	0.00	(2,753.01)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/06/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	123,592.36	0.00	(123,592.36)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/09/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	199,798.77	0.00	(199,798.77)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/10/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	85,821.72	0.00	(85,821.72)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/11/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	57,387.92	0.00	(57,387.92)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/12/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	1,397.63	0.00	(1,397.63)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/13/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	207,250.79	0.00	(207,250.79)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/17/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	40,172.18	0.00	(40,172.18)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/18/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	173,242.75	0.00	(173,242.75)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/19/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	5,956.02	0.00	(5,956.02)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/20/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	112,616.09	0.00	(112,616.09)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/23/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	67,091.24	0.00	(67,091.24)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/24/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	44,607.52	0.00	(44,607.52)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/25/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	319,413.34	0.00	(319,413.34)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/26/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	29,446.66	0.00	(29,446.66)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
02/27/26	Sweep from Transactions Account	0.00	1,455.69	0.00	(1,455.69)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	3,318,491.72	0.00	(3,318,491.72)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Bank Fee/Bank Error/Adjustments</b>												
02/27/26	Change in Share Price	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,636.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,636.04
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,636.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,636.04
<b>Date</b>	<b>Interest Earned</b>												
02/27/26	Interest Earned	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,542.34	843.88	109.52	1,776.12	1,609.88	53,189.51	0.00	0.00	59,071.25
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	1,542.34	843.88	109.52	1,776.12	1,609.88	53,189.51	0.00	0.00	59,071.25
<b>Cash Balance as of 2/27/26</b>		0.00	(1,070,690.64)	5,000.00	7,690,414.34	2,200,954.58	38,284.17	590,175.71	544,230.00	8,752,369.01	70,395.97	1,000.00	18,822,133.14

Note: Daily Interest Rates are through 2/28/2026

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**Grant and USBR Funds Cash Activity Detail Report**  
**For Month Ending February 28, 2026**

		<b>CWB Checking Grants</b>	<b>CWB Checking DMC Subsidence Correction Funding</b>	<b>CWB Checking USBR Rewind</b>	<b>CWB Checking IRWM P1R1</b>	<b>CalTrust Solar Over Canal</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Account #:</b>		<b>*8778</b>	<b>*1787</b>	<b>*8751</b>	<b>*0659</b>	<b>0200</b>	
<b>Cash Balance as of 1/31/26</b>		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.24	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Receipts - Remote Deposit</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Receipts - Wires &amp; ACH</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Checks Written</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Wires In from</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Wires Out</b>						
02/02/26	Funds to be returned to USBR to 0463	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(65.24)	(65.24)
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Interest Earned</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(65.24)	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Reversal of Annual Fee</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Bank Fee/Bank Error/Adjustments</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Cash Balance as of 2/27/26</b>		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

\*Non-Interest Bearing Account

I:\FIN\_Reports\Finance\_SS\CASH\Cash Activity\FYE2-26\12-February 2026\12 Cash Activity Feb 2026 2.27.26.xlsx\2026 Operational

03/09/26

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**Cash Activity Detail Report - JPP Unit Rewinds Bond 2021A**  
**For Month Ending February 28, 2026**

		Account Information:	CWB Bond 2021A	US Bank Bond 2021A	Total
		<b>Cash Balance as of 1/31/26</b>	0.00	459,823.28	459,823.28
<b>Date</b>	<b>Payment Receipts</b>				
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>To/From CAR - Operational</b>				
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Reversal of Annual Fee</b>				
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Interest Earned / Adjustments</b>				
02/27/26	Interest Earned		0.00	1,304.42	1,304.42
			0.00	0.00	0.00
			0.00	1,304.42	1,304.42
		<b>Cash Balance as of 2/27/26</b>	0.00	461,127.70	461,127.70

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
SLDMWA  
AR | Monthly Invoices  
February 1, 2026 - February 28, 2026**

Customer	Trans Type	Date	Document #	Category	Amount	Memo
PANOCHÉ-MISC Panoche Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1600	MISC	\$113,120.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1601	MISC	\$150,522.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
BVWD-MISC Broadview Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1602	MISC	\$31,139.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
EFWD-MISC Eagle Field Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1603	MISC	\$5,476.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
MSWD-MISC Mercy Springs Water Distirct	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1604	MISC	\$3,420.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
PWD-MISC Pacheco Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1605	MISC	\$12,130.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1606	MISC	\$120.94	Services 10/21/25 - 01/21/26
DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District	Invoice	2/2/2026	INVWA1607	MISC	\$120.94	Services 10/21/25 - 01/21/26
	Invoice	2/10/2026	INVWA1609	MISC	\$55.62	
	Invoice	2/10/2026	INVWA1610	MISC	\$1,231.39	
	Invoice	2/10/2026	INVWA1611	MISC	\$1,231.39	
	Invoice	2/10/2026	INVWA1612	MISC	\$1,231.39	
DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District	Invoice	2/11/2026	INVWA1646	MISC	\$11,251.50	SGMA P1R1 Inv#13 Reimbursement to be refunded to participants
0342 Central Valley Project Water Association	Invoice	2/23/2026	INVWA1647	MISC	\$445.00	Water Users Conference - Registration Refund
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$331,495.17</b>	

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**SLDMWA**  
**AR | Monthly Payment History**  
**February 1, 2026 - February 28, 2026**

Transaction	Type	Date	Payment	Check #	Amount	Memo
Payment #PYMTWA3016 - DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District	Payment	2/3/2026	Check	19563	\$7,936.00	2025 Yuba County Water Agency Transfer
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3016 - DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District</b>					<b>\$7,936.00</b>	
	Payment	2/3/2026	Check	2356	\$1,231.39	
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3018 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District</b>					<b>\$1,231.39</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3018 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District	Payment	2/4/2026	Wire		\$7,168.00	2025 Yuba County Water Agency Transfer
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3018 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District</b>					<b>\$7,168.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3019 - EFWD-MISC Eagle Field Water District	Payment	2/4/2026	Check	003573	\$256.00	2025 Yuba County Water Agency Transfer
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3019 - EFWD-MISC Eagle Field Water District</b>					<b>\$256.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3020 - GWD-MISC Grassland Water District	Payment	2/4/2026	Check	6981	\$6,224.73	SGMA True Up & EKI Single GSP Billing
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3020 - GWD-MISC Grassland Water District</b>					<b>\$6,224.73</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3021 - WWD-MISC Westlands Water District	Payment	2/4/2026	Check	61087	\$68,096.00	2025 Yuba County Water Agency Transfer
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3021 - WWD-MISC Westlands Water District</b>					<b>\$68,096.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3022 - ACWA ACWA/JPIA	Payment	2/5/2026	Check	269394	\$1,265.39	Claim # 26-0450 2015 Ford F350
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3022 - ACWA ACWA/JPIA</b>					<b>\$1,265.39</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3023 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District	Payment	2/9/2026	Check	48167	\$150,522.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3023 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District</b>					<b>\$150,522.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3024 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District	Payment	2/9/2026	Check	48182	\$120.94	Services 10/21/25 - 01/21/26
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3024 - SLWD-MISC San Luis Water District</b>					<b>\$120.94</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3025 - VALLEY-MISC Valley Water	Payment	2/9/2026	Check	728880	\$1,920.00	2025 Yuba County Water Agency Transfer
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3025 - VALLEY-MISC Valley Water</b>					<b>\$1,920.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3047 - DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District	Payment	2/11/2026	Check	1165	\$11,251.50	SGMA P1R1 Inv#13 Reimbursement to be refunded to participants
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3047 - DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District</b>					<b>\$11,251.50</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3048 - PANOCHÉ-MISC Panoche Water District	Payment	2/12/2026	Wire		\$113,120.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3048 - PANOCHÉ-MISC Panoche Water District</b>					<b>\$113,120.00</b>	
	Payment	2/17/2026	Check	1151	\$1,231.39	
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3050 - MSWD-MISC Mercy Springs Water District</b>					<b>\$1,231.39</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3050 - MSWD-MISC Mercy Springs Water District	Payment	2/17/2026	Check	01625	\$3,420.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3050 - MSWD-MISC Mercy Springs Water District</b>					<b>\$3,420.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3051 - MSWD-MISC Mercy Springs Water District	Payment	2/17/2026	Check	01626	\$235.04	North to South Water Transfer EIS/EIR Payment #1 of 2 for \$125,000
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3051 - MSWD-MISC Mercy Springs Water District</b>					<b>\$235.04</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3052 - PWD-MISC Pacheco Water District	Payment	2/17/2026	Check	7754	\$12,130.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3052 - PWD-MISC Pacheco Water District</b>					<b>\$12,130.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3058 - DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District	Payment	2/18/2026	Check	19608	\$120.94	Services 10/21/25 - 01/21/26
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3058 - DPWD-MISC Del Puerto Water District</b>					<b>\$120.94</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3053 - FARMERS WD-MEMBER Farmers Water District	Payment	2/19/2026	Check	6408	\$95,353.00	FY26 1st Installment - Membership Dues
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3053 - FARMERS WD-MEMBER Farmers Water District</b>					<b>\$95,353.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3054 - BVWD-MISC Broadview Water District	Payment	2/20/2026	Wire		\$31,139.00	DHCCP Project, Series 2021B Bond-3/1/26 Principal & Interest
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3054 - BVWD-MISC Broadview Water District</b>					<b>\$31,139.00</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3055 - USBR-MISC U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	Payment	2/20/2026	ACH		\$123,754.00	JPP Excitation Contract # 23-WC-20-6181
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3055 - USBR-MISC U.S. Bureau of Reclamation</b>					<b>\$123,754.00</b>	
	Payment	2/23/2026	Check	8765	\$1,231.39	
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3057 - 0342 Central Valley Project Water Association</b>					<b>\$1,231.39</b>	
Payment #PYMTWA3057 - 0342 Central Valley Project Water Association	Payment	2/23/2026	Check	1141	\$445.00	Water Users Conference - Registration Refund
<b>Amount Unapplied - Payment #PYMTWA3057 - 0342 Central Valley Project Water Association</b>					<b>\$445.00</b>	
<b>Total Payments</b>					<b>\$638,171.71</b>	

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**SLDMWA**  
**SLDMWA | A/P Register**  
**February 1, 2026 - February 28, 2026**

Account Type	Date	Document	Vendor	Billed	Paid
<b>ACCOUNTS PAYABLE</b>					
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44358	25716 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, IN		\$4,355.83
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44359	25598 APPLIED BEST PRACTICES		\$3,500.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44360	1679 BIG T HYDRAULIC INC.		\$799.69
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44361	2217 C.A. SHORT COMPANY, INC		\$1,337.63
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44362	2088 CAL-SIERRA PIPE, INC.		\$3,752.03
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44363	2407 CDM SMITH INC.		\$121,176.28
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44364	2188 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA		\$90.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44365	2368 CRAMER FISH SCIENCES		\$7,984.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44366	2611 DIEPENBROCK ELKIN		\$9,261.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44367	3597 FOLEY & LARDNER LLP		\$32,000.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44368	25831 GANNETT FLEMING, INC.		\$25,931.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44369	12019 GRAINGER INC.		\$350.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44370	25626 HALLMARK GROUP		\$41,896.96
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44371	25875 IRIS POWER LP		\$26,515.13
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44372	6026 KRONICK, MOSKOVITZ, TIEDEMA		\$4,183.36
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44373	25518 LOS BANOS PROPERTY MANAG		\$9,009.95
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44374	7008 MARFAB INC.		\$650.19
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44375	10262 MATRIX SCIENCES INTERNATIC		\$11,000.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44376	7083 MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO. / (		\$116.89
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44377	7005 PACIFIC VALLEY COFFEE		\$110.80
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44378	25529 PG&E 0664015301-8		\$88.86
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44379	15074 PLATT		\$562.53
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44380	6805 RELX INC. DBA LEXISNEXIS		\$242.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44381	10069 SUMMERS ENGINEERING, INC.		\$21,500.93
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44382	25873 THE FERGUSON GROUP, LLC		\$5,000.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44383	12063 THOMSON REUTERS		\$252.32
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44384	25600 TRI VALLEY HOSE INC.		\$944.47
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44385	10580 TRIANGLE ROCK PRODUCTS, L		\$678.99
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44386	10601 TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRIC		\$154.19
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44387	12111 WARDEN'S		\$522.43
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44388	4122 WILLIAM R. GRAY & CO./DBA Gra		\$5,764.75
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44389	25656 ZOLEO USA INC.		\$406.09
Vendor Bill Payment	2/3/2026	44390	13605 ZORO TOOLS, INC.		\$198.09
ACH	2/3/2026	26271	25536 SLDMWA EE ASSOCIATION		\$450.00
ACH	2/3/2026	26272	5004 ICMA RETIREMENT TRUST		\$110,026.20
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44391	9623-EMPLOYEE		\$250.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44392	1269 AT&T 831-001-0448 912		\$995.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44393	1671 BAKER MANOCK & JENSEN		\$13,326.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44394	1636 BAKER SUPPLIES & REPAIRS		\$5,165.63
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44395	1654 BOBCAT CENTRAL INC.		\$4,616.36
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44396	2250 CDW GOVERNMENT		\$684.95
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44397	25591-EMPLOYEE		\$109.95
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44398	3086 EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, IN		\$2,079.48
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44399	4004 GILTON SOLID WASTE MANAGEI		\$117.90
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44400	25574 JG NURSERIES, LLC		\$580.37
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44401	6049 KAHN, SOARES & CONWAY, LLP		\$225.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44402	2602 KNIFE RIVER CONSTRUCTION - S		\$380.92
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44403	6026 KRONICK, MOSKOVITZ, TIEDEMA		\$83,422.75
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44404	7008 MARFAB INC.		\$160.12

Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44405	25863 MATARAZZO LAW, A PROFESSI	\$19,782.40
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44406	7009 MERCED COUNTY REG. WASTE	\$66.30
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44408	15066 PAPE MACHINERY INC. / 353006	\$35.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44409	25794 RAMOS OIL COMPANY	\$1,719.41
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44410	25814 RAT INCORPORATED	\$220.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44411	25895 RUTH HALPERN dba HALPERN I	\$10,000.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44412	10325 SHRED-IT, C/O STERICYCLE, IN	\$333.40
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44413	10002 SORENSEN'S ACE HARDWARE	\$1,186.26
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44414	25502 THE CINCINNATI LIFE INSURAN	\$2,610.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44415	25643-EMPLOYEE	\$374.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44416	12063 THOMSON REUTERS	\$193.58
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44417	11029 UNITED PARCEL SERVICE	\$25.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44418	25521 UNWIRED BROADBAND INC. AC	\$249.98
Vendor Bill Payment	2/10/2026	44419	7204 MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OF	\$672.51
WIRE	2/10/2026	26273	2514 DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES	\$90,752.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44420	1041 ACWA/JPIA - Insurance Premiums	\$259,118.99
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44421	1154 AIRGAS, INC.	\$2,521.40
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44422	25716 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, IN	\$935.03
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44423	25906 AMERICAN TRAINCO LLC dba TI	\$1,495.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44424	10196 AT&T LONG DISTANCE BAN:806	\$13.86
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44425	25891 AVO TRAINING INSTITUTE INC.	\$3,910.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44426	2217 C.A. SHORT COMPANY, INC	\$49.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44427	2088 CAL-SIERRA PIPE, INC.	\$4,527.04
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44428	2407 CDM SMITH INC.	\$45,583.20
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44429	2630 DIRECT SECURITY & SOUND, INC	\$870.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44430	25767 EAGLE GRAPHICS LLC	\$3,829.80
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44431	10116 FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$232.21
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44432	3542 FGL ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.	\$169.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44433	25550 GILTON SOLID WASTE MANAGE	\$88.85
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44434	12019 GRAINGER INC.	\$7,538.75
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44435	4531 HIXCO	\$1,383.86
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44436	4500 HOLT OF CALIFORNIA	\$3,285.19
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44437	5047 INDUSTRIAL SCIENTIFIC CORP.	\$984.59
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44438	11547 INTERSTATE TRUCK CENTER	\$560.02
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44439	5025 IVES TRAINING & COMPLIANCE (	\$4,352.16
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44440	6071 KELLOGG'S SUPPLY	\$4,486.15
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44441	2602 KNIFE RIVER CONSTRUCTION - S	\$3,481.04
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44442	7009 MERCED COUNTY REG. WASTE	\$1,133.73
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44443	7077 MODESTO STEEL COMPANY, INC	\$3,884.44
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44444	7027 MODESTO WELDING PRODUCTS	\$12.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44445	8055 O'REILLY / TRACY 2347935	\$1,678.60
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44446	8000 OFFICE SUPPLY EXPRESS	\$640.54
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44447	15035 PAPE KENWORTH / 1051618	\$60.03
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44448	15007 PAPE MATERIAL HANDLING / 50	\$17.74
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44449	8511 PG&E 7262165466-3	\$5,494.70
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44450	25861 POWER SOLUTIONS GROUP, LI	\$12,036.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44451	25851 PRIMO BRANDS / LBFO	\$218.29
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44452	25847 PRIMO BRANDS / OPP	\$172.87
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44453	25902 RADIO RESOURCE, INC.	\$1,161.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44454	25794 RAMOS OIL COMPANY	\$1,411.05
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44455	10623 TRI AIR TESTING, INC.	\$256.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44456	10580 TRIANGLE ROCK PRODUCTS, L	\$5,401.11
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44457	12057 WINDECKER. INC.	\$8,388.39
Vendor Bill Payment	2/17/2026	44458	13605 ZORO TOOLS, INC.	\$5,744.03
ACH	2/20/2026	26274	25536 SLDMWA EE ASSOCIATION	\$450.00
ACH	2/20/2026	26275	5004 ICMA RETIREMENT TRUST	\$109,743.02
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44459	25687 AAA WORKSPACE	\$488.10
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44460	1141 AFLAC	\$1,110.93

Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44461	2178 ALAMEDA COUNTY ENVIRONMEI	\$6,165.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44462	25716 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, IN	\$8,242.26
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44463	25844 APEX POWER, ELECTRICAL SU	\$4,799.13
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44464	25615 AT&T MOBILITY 287314028407	\$3,070.47
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44465	25888 BELKORP AG, LLC	\$3,170.65
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44466	1667 BLANKINSHIP, A BOWMAN COMF	\$1,002.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44467	1677 BURLINGTON SAFETY LABORATI	\$402.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44468	2217 C.A. SHORT COMPANY, INC	\$1,353.94
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44469	2088 CAL-SIERRA PIPE, INC.	\$2,876.67
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44470	25749 CAPITAL RUBBER & GASKET, IN	\$250.63
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44471	25505 CENCAL AUTO & TRUCK PARTS	\$2,234.02
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44472	25704 CITRIN COOPERMAN ADVISORS	\$3,420.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44473	2105 COUNTY OF STANISLAUS / Fink F	\$391.11
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44474	2248 CPUTREND	\$660.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44475	2368 CRAMER FISH SCIENCES	\$1,307.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44476	2631 D8A COMMUNICATION TECHNOL	\$853.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44477	2519 DELTA DISPOSAL SERVICE - 335	\$885.80
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44478	25665 DELTA DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC	\$1,552.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44479	25841 DENNIS D MURPHY	\$7,215.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44480	2639 DHR HYDRO SERVICES INC.	\$51,582.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44481	10311-EMPLOYEE	\$102.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44482	25818 EDWARDS & SONS EQUIPMENT	\$575.04
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44483	25689 EMERALD LANDSCAPE COMPA	\$1,678.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44484	3542 FGL ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.	\$246.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44485	25899 FLEXTG LLC	\$1,893.40
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44486	12019 GRAINGER INC.	\$5,492.61
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44487	4026 GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMF	\$488.36
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44488	4610 H.T. HARVEY & ASSOCIATES	\$8,651.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44489	25903 HANNA INSTRUMENTS, INC.	\$330.74
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44490	4531 HIXCO	\$1,802.49
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44491	4500 HOLT OF CALIFORNIA	\$10,351.10
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44492	7143-EMPLOYEE	\$250.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44493	15078-EMPLOYEE	\$141.58
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44494	6049 KAHN, SOARES & CONWAY, LLF	\$374.39
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44495	6071 KELLOGG'S SUPPLY	\$5,533.70
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44496	2025 KNIFE RIVER - 444672	\$1,548.01
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44497	2602 KNIFE RIVER CONSTRUCTION - 3	\$8,003.46
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44498	25889 LUCAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS, LLC	\$13,375.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44499	7008 MARFAB INC.	\$64.63
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44500	10262 MATRIX SCIENCES INTERNATIC	\$8,426.20
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44501	7030 MCMMASTER-CARR	\$78.14
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44502	7198 MELLO TRUCK REPAIR CO., INC.	\$400.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44503	7009 MERCED COUNTY REG. WASTE	\$482.29
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44504	7204 MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OF	\$672.51
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44505	25636 MIZUNO CONSULTING, INC.	\$3,412.50
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44506	5555 MLJ ENVIRONMENTAL	\$5,918.70
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44507	7077 MODESTO STEEL COMPANY, INC	\$4,893.39
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44508	7027 MODESTO WELDING PRODUCTS	\$1,249.25
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44509	7083 MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO. / (	\$130.76
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44510	7529 NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE	\$778.03
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44511	8595 PACIFIC ECO-RISK LAB. INC.	\$4,157.11
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44512	7005 PACIFIC VALLEY COFFEE	\$110.80
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44513	15035 PAPE KENWORTH / 1051618	\$4,248.53
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44514	7583 PETTY CASH LBFO	\$76.10
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44515	25530 PG&E 8833159983-2	\$3,947.09
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44516	9574 PITNEY BOWES-RESERVE ACCC	\$1,500.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44517	15074 PLATT	\$297.96
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44518	25874 POWER PROS	\$652,533.29

Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44519	25850 PRIMO BRANDS / LBAO	\$198.85
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44520	25859 PRIMO BRANDS / TFO	\$369.59
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44521	25611 PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE CO	\$4,000.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44522	15015 PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE CO	\$7,164.24
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44523	15003 PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONS	\$4,736.10
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44524	25794 RAMOS OIL COMPANY	\$5,081.03
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44525	1610 RAPTOR BLASTING SOLUTIONS,	\$300.71
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44526	25638-EMPLOYEE	\$484.74
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44527	25837 RONALD MILLIGAN	\$6,840.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44528	10129 SANTOS FORD, INC.	\$2,233.60
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44529	10274 SC FUELS	\$1,281.94
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44530	10204 SC INDUSTRIES INC. / DBA COI	\$4,008.11
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44531	10245 SCHWEITZER ENGINEERING LA	\$302.24
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44532	10269 SHERWIN-WILLIAMS	\$168.75
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44533	25706 SOUTHERN TIRE MART, LLC	\$2,067.54
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44534	25791 TECHNOFLO SYSTEMS	\$3,642.14
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44535	10661 THE DON CHAPIN CO. INC.	\$1,623.62
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44536	25858 THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVER	\$10,558.54
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44537	25892-EMPLOYEE	\$105.13
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44538	11042 ULINE	\$1,670.89
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44539	25779 ULTEIG OPERATIONS, LLC	\$1,349.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44540	11060 UNWIRED BROADBAND INC. A	\$799.97
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44541	12091 WHITE CAP, L.P.	\$3,193.13
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44542	12119 WIENHOFF DRUG TESTING	\$85.00
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44543	12123 WOODARD & CURRAN INC.	\$89,874.15
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44544	13511 YANCEY HOME CENTER	\$324.21
Vendor Bill Payment	2/25/2026	44545	13605 ZORO TOOLS, INC.	\$1,712.45
ACH	2/25/2026	26276	10327 SHEPHERD OU	\$3,708.09
ACH	2/26/2026		VISA PAYMENT	\$21,803.60
WIRE	2/26/2026	26293	2514 DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES	\$44,617.48
WIRE	2/26/2026	26294	2514 DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES	\$1,844,775.93
WIRE	2/26/2026	26295	2514 DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES	\$2,387,387.21
WIRE	2/26/2026	26296	11045 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION - SL	\$2,600,000.00
WIRE	2/27/2026	26297	25584 U.S. BANK / 6712285200	\$352,685.00
WIRE	2/27/2026	26298	25583 U.S. BANK / 6712291400	\$315,809.30
<b>Total - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE</b>				<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$9,780,676.69</b>

# San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

## Activity Agreements Budget to Actual

### Paid/Pending Comparison Summary

March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026

FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

	FY Budget 3/1/25 - 2/28/26	Actual To Date Paid/Expense	% of Budget	Amount Remaining
03 General Membership	1,253,323	1,112,058	88.73%	141,265
05 Leg/CVP Operations	3,789,242	2,423,849	63.97%	1,365,393
35 Contract Renewal Coordinator	200	1,858	929.03%	(1,658)
28 Yuba County Water Transfers	23,000	30,362	132.01%	(7,362)
22 Grassland Basin Drainage #3A	1,793,749	1,156,631	64.48%	637,118
63 SGMA - Coordinated	1,320,895	731,453	55.38%	589,442
64 SGMA - Northern Delta-Mendota Region	451,451	206,159	45.67%	245,292
65 SGMA - Central Delta-Mendota Region	451,451	208,688	46.23%	242,763
67 Integrated Regional Water Management	110,977	17,768	16.01%	93,209
68 Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project	1,700	272	16.02%	1,428
44 Exchange Contractors - 5 Year Transfer	20,000	44,526	222.63%	(24,526)
56 Long-Term North to South Water Transfer	40,832	2,880	7.05%	37,952
57 North to South Water Transfer Program	88,448	51,969	58.76%	36,479
69 B.F. Sisk Dam Raise & Reservoir Exp	4,084,755	1,731,838	42.40%	2,352,917
16 DHCCP	166	103	61.90%	63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,430,189</b>	<b>7,720,414</b>	<b>57.49%</b>	<b>5,709,775</b>
	12/12 X 13,430,189	\$ 13,430,189	100.00%	
	Budget vs. Actual	<u>5,709,775</u>		



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Baños, CA 93635  
sldmwa.org

**TO:** Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer

**FROM:** Raymond Tarka, Director of Finance  
Darlene Neves, Accounting Supervisor

**DATES:** 04.06.26 FAC and 04.09.26 BOD

**RE:** FY26 O&M Budget to Actual Report Through February 28,2026

2025 Water Year (FY 3/1/24-2/28/25 attachment 1

Self-Funding actual expenses (paid and pending) for SLDMWA Routine O&M through February 28,2026 are under budget by \$420,446, or 1.85%. This favorable variance is the result of underspending for O&M expenses in all cost pools except for the DCI Conveyance Pool, which is \$1,348,199 over budget. DCI Conveyance Costs continued to trend over budget throughout the year because of conveyance rate increases.

Intertie Conveyance Cost Update

On April 23, 2025 Staff were advised by DWR that the FY26 conveyance charges for water movement from the DCI to O'Neill Forebay have been revised to include a capital component. The 14% change over the prior year resulted in the budget overage experienced in FY26.

In March,2025, DWR provided Authority staff with the conveyance rates to be charged for calendar year 2026. The conveyance rate for the current year is \$ 38.73 per acre-foot, reflecting an 18.6% increase over the 2025 rate.

Outstanding

Audited Financial Statements FY2024 & FY2025

The FY2024 audit will be completed in the next few days. Additional review of the historical transactions relating to the financing of the Jones Pumping Plant Rewind project has pushed out the completion of the audit beyond the window to act on this item this month. It will be presented for approval at the May meetings. Staff continues work to complete the FY2025 audit as soon as possible.



**San Luis & Delta Mendota-Water Authority  
FY26 O&M Budget to Actual Report  
04.06.26 FAC and 04.09.26 BOD**

**ANNUAL R, O&M BUDGET BY COST POOLS MARCH 1, 2025 - FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

	Total	UPPER	Intertie	Volta Wells	LWR/POOL	O'NEILL O&M		
						DIRECT	STORAGE	SL DRAIN
DMC	\$ 9,181,247	\$ 5,539,964			\$ 3,641,283			
JPP	\$ 5,118,006	\$ 5,118,006						
WW	\$ 138,430	\$ 103,823			\$ 34,609			
Intertie O&M	\$ 571,255	\$ 571,255						
DCI DWR Conveyance	\$ 3,519,425		\$ 3,519,425					
Volta Wells	\$ 31,810			\$ 69,935				
Mendota Pool	\$ 226,779				\$ 226,779			
O'Neill	\$ 3,783,275					\$ 2,988,787	\$ 794,487.75	
SL Drain	\$ 180,904							\$ 245,213
<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 22,751,131</b>	<b>\$ 11,333,048</b>	<b>\$ 3,519,425</b>	<b>\$ 69,935</b>	<b>\$ 3,902,670</b>	<b>\$ 2,988,787</b>	<b>\$ 794,488</b>	<b>\$ 245,213</b>
O&M	\$ 19,231,706							
DCI DWR Conveyance	\$ 3,519,425							

**R, O&M BUDGET BY COST POOLS THROUGH: FEBRUARY 28, 2026**  
100.00%

	Total	UPPER	Intertie	Volta Wells	LWR	O'NEILL O&M		
						DIRECT	STORAGE	SL DRAIN
DMC	\$ 9,181,247	\$ 5,539,964			\$ 3,641,283			
JPP	\$ 5,118,006	\$ 5,118,006						
WW	\$ 138,430	\$ 103,823			\$ 34,608			
Intertie O&M	\$ 571,255	\$ 571,255						
DCI DWR Conveyance	\$ 3,519,425		\$ 3,519,425					
Volta Wells	\$ 31,810			\$ 31,810				
Mendota Pool	\$ 226,779				\$ 226,779			
O'Neill	\$ 3,783,275					\$ 3,487,554	\$ 295,721	
SL Drain	\$ 180,904							\$ 180,904
<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 22,751,131</b>	<b>\$ 11,333,048</b>	<b>\$ 3,519,425</b>	<b>\$ 31,810</b>	<b>\$ 3,902,669</b>	<b>\$ 3,487,554</b>	<b>\$ 295,721</b>	<b>\$ 180,904</b>

**R, O&M Actual COSTS BY COST POOLS THROUGH: FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

	Total	UPPER	Intertie	Volta Wells	LWR/POOL	O'NEILL O&M		
						DIRECT	STORAGE	SL DRAIN
DMC	\$ 8,273,629	\$ 4,992,308			\$ 3,281,321			
JPP	\$ 4,739,984	\$ 4,739,984						
WW	\$ 96,754	\$ 72,566			\$ 24,189			
Intertie O&M	\$ 474,249	\$ 474,249						
DCI DWR Conveyance	\$ 4,867,624		\$ 4,867,624					
Volta Wells	\$ 2,531			\$ 2,531				
Mendota Pool	\$ 288,835				\$ 288,835			
O'Neill	\$ 3,486,395					\$ 3,213,880	\$ 272,515	
SL Drain	\$ 100,684							\$ 100,684
<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 22,330,685</b>	<b>\$ 10,279,106</b>	<b>\$ 4,867,624</b>	<b>\$ 2,531</b>	<b>\$ 3,594,345</b>	<b>\$ 3,213,880</b>	<b>\$ 272,515</b>	<b>\$ 100,684</b>

**R, O&M BUDGET vs Actual COSTS THROUGH: FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

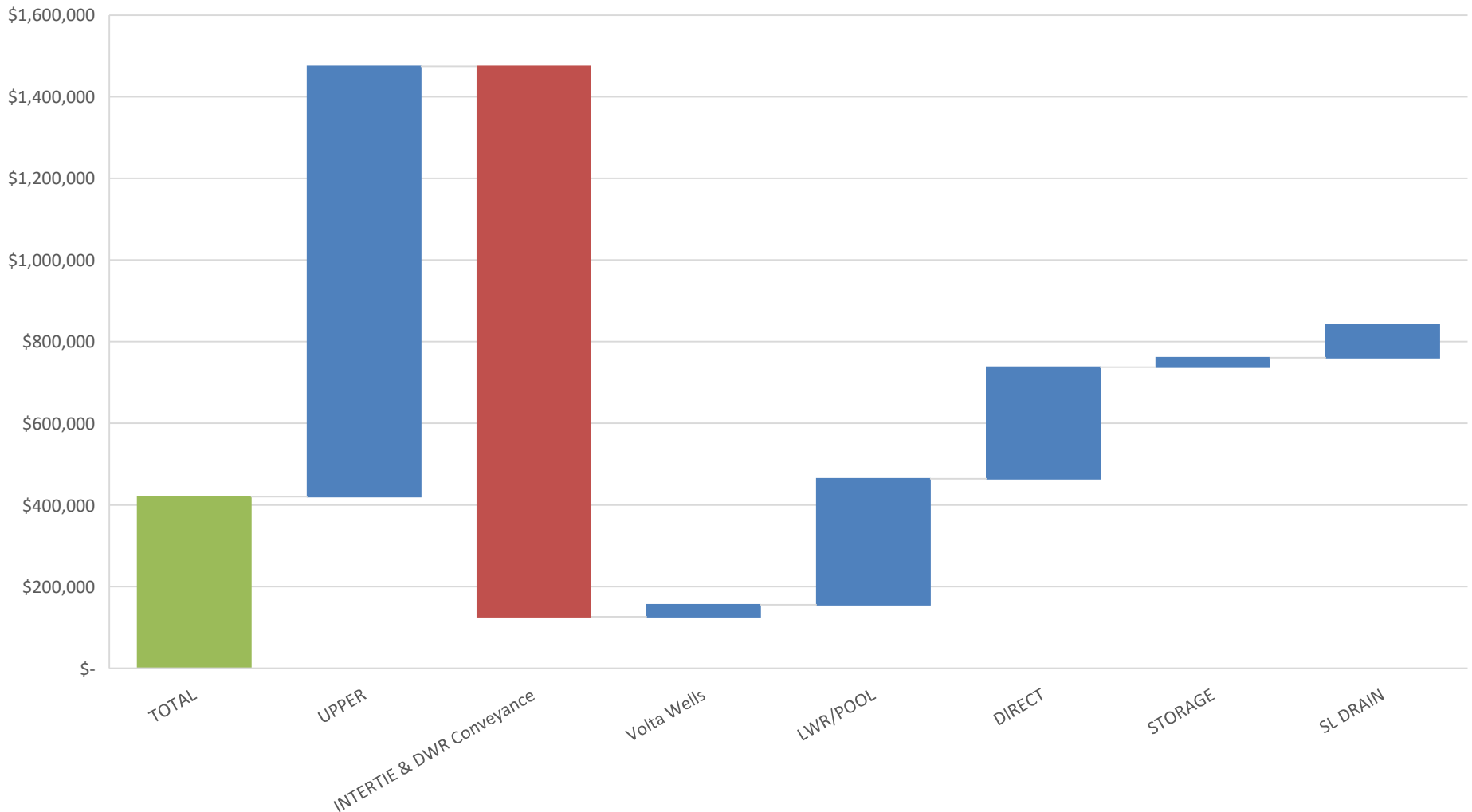
	TOTAL	UPPER	INTERTIE & DWR		LWR/POOL	O'NEILL O&M		
			Conveyance	Volta Wells		DIRECT	STORAGE	SL DRAIN
R, O&M Budget	\$ 22,751,131	\$ 11,333,048	\$ 3,519,425	\$ 31,810	\$ 3,902,669	\$ 3,487,554	\$ 295,721	\$ 180,904
R, O&M Actual	\$ 22,330,685	\$ 10,279,106	\$ 4,867,624	\$ 2,531	\$ 3,594,345	\$ 3,213,880	\$ 272,515	\$ 100,684
Difference	\$ 420,446	\$ 1,053,942	\$ (1,348,199)	\$ 29,279	\$ 308,324	\$ 273,674	\$ 23,206	\$ 80,220
	UNDER	UNDER	OVER	UNDER	UNDER	UNDER	UNDER	UNDER
	<b>1.848022% UNDER BUDGET</b>							

subject to rounding



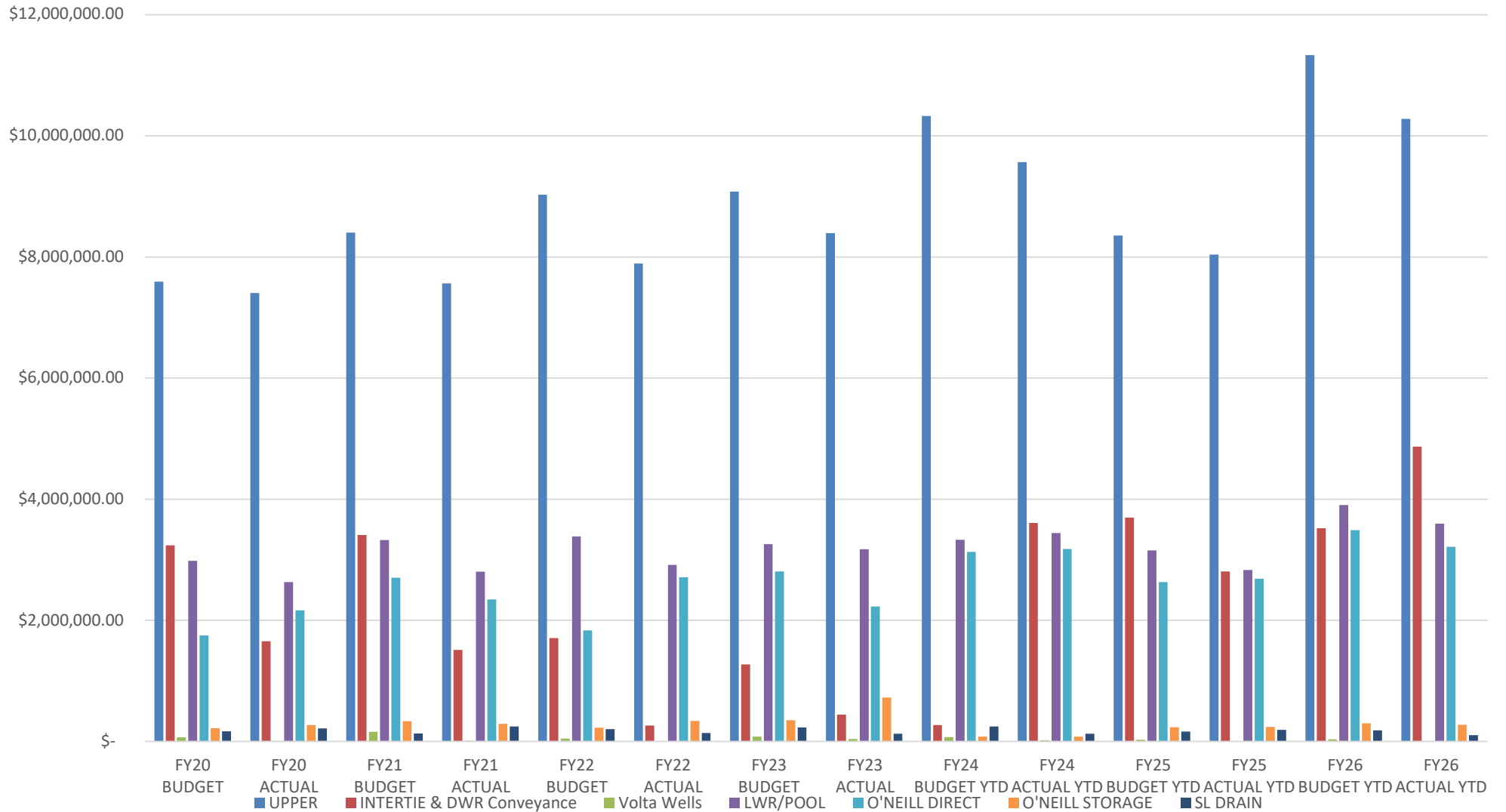
**San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority**  
**FY26 Budget to Actual Report through February 28, 2026**  
**BUDGET VARIANCES**  
**FAC 04/06/2026 BOD 04/09/2026**

■ Increase    ■ Decrease    ■ Total



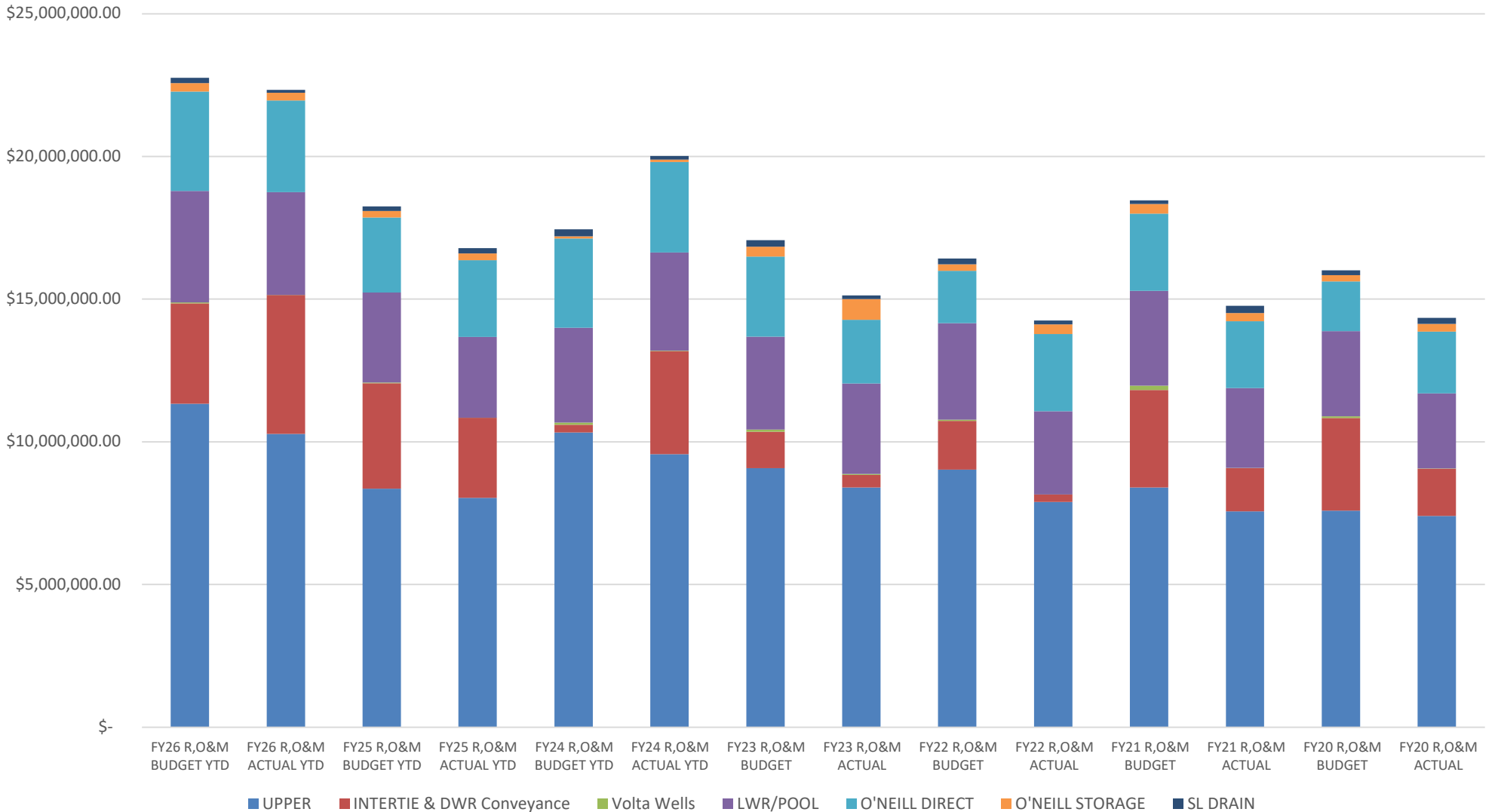


**San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**O&M Budget to Actual-Side by Side**  
**FY20-FY26 YTD ( 02/28/2026)**  
**FAC 04/06/2026 BOD 04/09/2026**



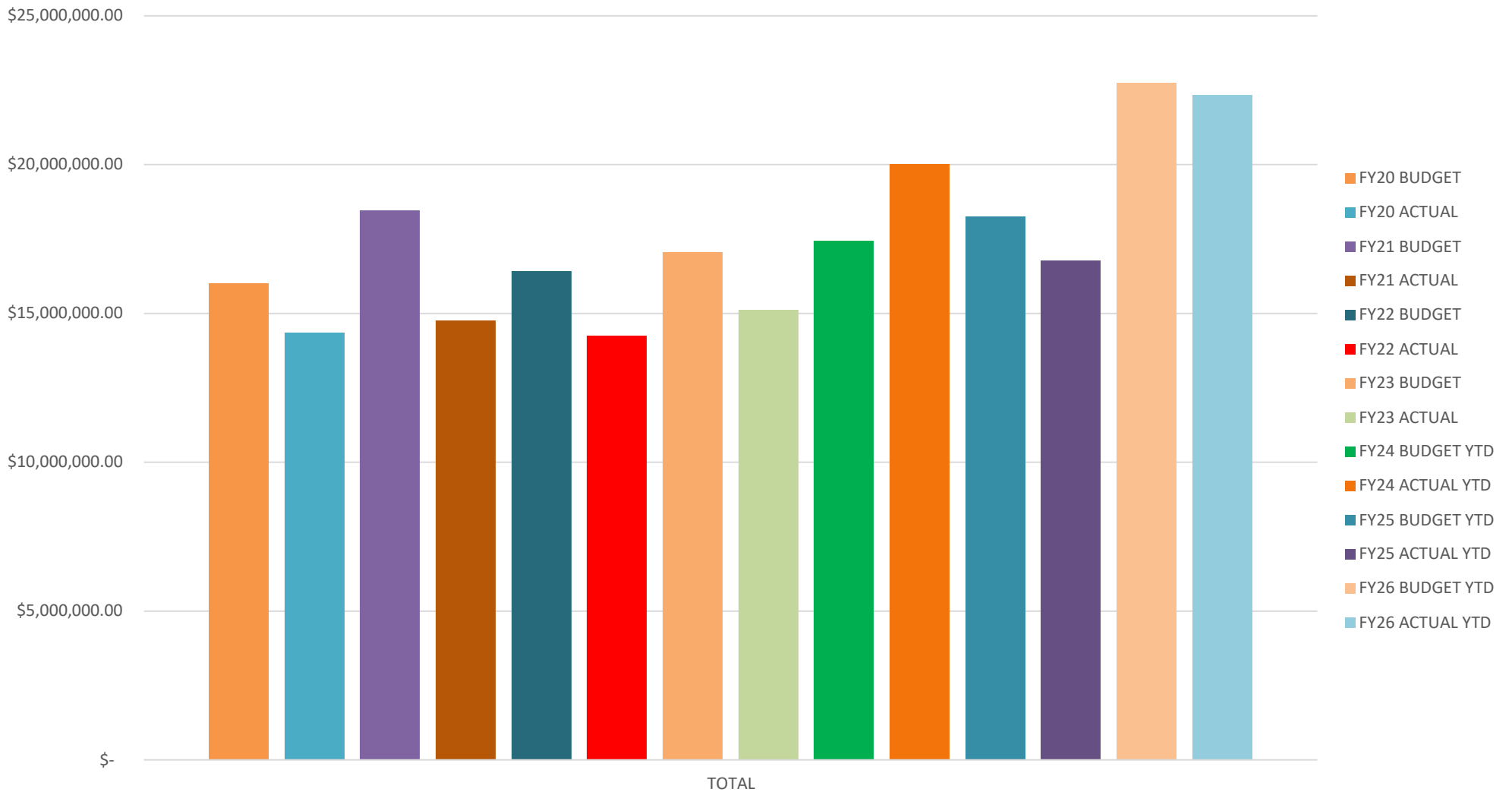


**San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**O&M Budget to Actual -Stacked**  
**FY20-FY26 YTD ( 02/28/2026)**  
**FAC 04/06/2026 BOD 04/09/2026**





**San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**HISTORICAL O&M BUDGET TO ACTUAL TOTAL**  
*FY20-FY26 YTD ( 02/28/2026)*  
*FAC 04/06/2026 BOD 04/09/2026*  
**Total By Year**



**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**DMC WITH CIP / E O & M**  
**Budget to Actual Paid/Pending Comparison Summary**  
**March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026**  
 FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

		<b>FY Budget 3/1/25 - 2/28/26</b>	<b>Actual To Date Paid/Pending</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Budget Amount Remaining</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Projects</b>	<b>CIP 25</b>	30,838,742	4,437,775	14.39%		26,400,967
<b>Extra Ordinary O&amp;M</b>	<b>EO&amp;M 26</b>	8,546,501	6,056,755	70.87%		2,489,746
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain DMC</b>	<b>S/F 02</b>	6,206,891	5,738,534	92.45%		468,357
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain Wasteways</b>	<b>S/F 04</b>	90,136	62,027	68.82%		28,109
<b>Mendota Pool</b>	<b>S/F 05</b>	141,406	185,232	130.99%		(43,826)
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain JPP</b>	<b>S/F 11</b>	3,287,271	3,149,843	95.82%		137,427
<b>Intertie Maintenance</b>	<b>S/F 12</b>	397,958	305,606	76.79%	<b>A</b>	92,352
<b>Volta Wells Pumping</b>	<b>S/F 13</b>	21,633	1,649	7.62%		19,983
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain O'Neill</b>	<b>S/F 19</b>	2,391,665	2,298,392	96.10%		93,273
<b>Maintain Tracy Fish Facility</b>	<b>USBR 30</b>	389,372	33,323	8.56%		356,049
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain San Luis Drain</b>	<b>S/F 41</b>	117,534	64,764	55.10%		52,770
<b>Maintain Delta Cross Channel</b>	<b>USBR 44</b>	10,187	12,183	119.60%		(1,997)
<b>WAPA</b>	<b>USBR 45</b>	-	-	0.00%		-
<b>Safety Equipment Training</b>	<b>50</b>	132,088	121,772	92.19%		10,316
<b>IT Expense</b>	<b>51</b>	1,158,337	905,426	78.17%		252,912
<b>Warehousing</b>	<b>52</b>	240,629	89,331	37.12%		151,298
<b>SCADA</b>	<b>53</b>	573,721	434,738	75.78%		138,984
<b>Tracy Field Office Expense</b>	<b>54</b>	592,116	584,431	98.70%		7,685
<b>Direct Administrative/General Expense</b>	<b>56</b>	2,116,312	1,365,403	64.52%		750,909
<b>Indirect O &amp; M LBAO Admin.</b>	<b>58</b>	3,193,978	3,102,250	97.13%		91,728
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>60,446,476</b>	<b>28,949,434</b>	<b>47.89%</b>		<b>31,497,042</b>
		<b>YTD %</b>	<b>91.67%</b>			

**A** Does NOT include DWR Wheeling

# San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

## Self-Funding Portion of DMC

### Budget to Actual Paid/Pending Comparison Summary

March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026

FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

		FY Budget 3/1/25 - 2/28/26		Actual To Date Paid/Pending	% of Budget	Budget Amount Remaining
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain DMC</b>	<b>02</b>	6,206,891		5,738,534	92.45%	468,357
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain Wasteways</b>	<b>04</b>	90,136		62,027	68.82%	28,109
<b>Mendota Pool</b>	<b>05</b>	141,406		185,232	130.99%	(43,826)
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain JPP</b>	<b>11</b>	3,287,271		3,149,843	95.82%	137,427
<b>Intertie Maintenance</b>	<b>12</b>	397,958	A	305,606	76.79%	92,352
<b>Volta Wells Pumping</b>	<b>13</b>	21,633		1,649	7.62%	19,983
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain O'Neill</b>	<b>19</b>	2,391,665		2,298,392	96.10%	93,273
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain San Luis Drain</b>	<b>41</b>	117,534		64,765	55.10%	52,769
<b>Total Direct O &amp; M</b>		<b>12,654,493</b>		<b>11,806,048</b>	<b>93.30%</b>	<b>848,444</b>
<b>Safety Equipment Training</b>	<b>50</b>	108,499		104,321	96.15%	4,178
<b>IT Expense</b>	<b>51</b>	951,475		775,668	81.52%	175,806
<b>Warehousing</b>	<b>52</b>	197,656		76,529	38.72%	121,127
<b>SCADA</b>	<b>53</b>	471,263		372,435	79.03%	98,828
<b>Tracy Field Office Expense</b>	<b>54</b>	486,372		500,675	102.94%	(14,303)
<b>Direct Administrative/General Expense</b>	<b>56</b>	1,738,369		1,169,724	67.29%	568,645
<b>Indirect O &amp; M LBAO Admin.</b>	<b>58</b>	2,623,579		2,657,661	101.30%	(34,082)
<b>Total Indirect Allocated to O &amp; M</b>		<b>6,577,212</b>		<b>5,657,013</b>	<b>86.01%</b>	<b>920,199</b>
<b>Total SLDMWA O&amp;M</b>		<b>19,231,706</b>		<b>17,463,061</b>	<b>90.80%</b>	<b>1,768,645</b>

A. Does NOT include DWR Wheeling

# San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

## USBR Service Agreement portion of DMC

### Budget to Actual Paid/Pending Comparison Summary

March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026

FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

	FY Budget 3/1/25 - 2/28/26	Actual To Date Paid/Pending	% of Budget	Budget Amount Remaining
<b>Maintain Tracy Fish Facility</b> <b>30</b>	389,372	33,323	8.56%	356,049
<b>Maintain Fish Release Site</b> <b>32</b>	-	-	0.00%	-
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain Tracy USBR</b> <b>33</b>	-	-	0.00%	-
<b>Maintain Delta Cross Channel</b> <b>44</b>	10,187	12,183	119.60%	(1,997)
<b>WAPA</b> <b>45</b>	-	-	0.00%	-
<b>Total Direct USBR Facilities</b>	<b>399,559</b>	<b>45,506</b>	<b>11.39%</b>	<b>354,052</b>
<b>Safety Equipment Training</b> <b>50</b>	3,740	431	11.52%	3,309
<b>IT Expense</b> <b>51</b>	32,794	3,204	9.77%	29,590
<b>Warehousing</b> <b>52</b>	6,812	316	4.64%	6,496
<b>SCADA</b> <b>53</b>	16,243	1,538	9.47%	14,704
<b>Tracy Field Office Expense</b> <b>54</b>	16,763	2,068	12.34%	14,695
<b>Direct Administrative/General Expense</b> <b>56</b>	59,915	4,831	8.06%	55,084
<b>Indirect O &amp; M LBAO Admin.</b> <b>58</b>	90,425	10,978	12.14%	79,448
<b>Total Indirect Allocated USBR Facilities</b>	<b>226,693</b>	<b>23,366</b>	<b>10.31%</b>	<b>203,327</b>
		<b>68,872</b>		
<b>TOTAL USBR FACILITIES</b>	<b>626,251</b>	<b>68,872</b>	<b>11.00%</b>	<b>557,379</b>

# San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

## DMC Indirect Cost Allocated to Special Projects

March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026

FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

			Allocated To Date		
<b>Safety Equipment Training</b>	<b>50</b>		110		
<b>IT Expense</b>	<b>51</b>		815		
<b>Warehousing</b>	<b>52</b>		80		
<b>SCADA</b>	<b>53</b>		391		
<b>Tracy Field Office Expense</b>	<b>54</b>		526		
<b>Direct Administrative/General Expense</b>	<b>56</b>		1,229		
<b>Indirect O &amp; M LBAO Admin.</b>	<b>58</b>		2,791		
<b>Total Indirect Allocated to SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>			<b>5,942</b>		
<b>TOTAL INDIRECT ALLOCATED TO SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>			<b>5,942</b>		

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**DMC without CIP / E O&M**  
**Budget to Actual Paid/Pending Comparison Summary**  
**March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026**  
**FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26**

		<b>FY Budget 3/1/25 - 2/28/26</b>		<b>Actual To Date Paid/Pending</b>		<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Budget Amount Remaining</b>
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain DMC</b>	<b>S/F 02</b>	6,206,891		5,738,534		92.45%		468,357
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain Wasteways</b>	<b>S/F 04</b>	90,136		62,027		68.82%		28,109
<b>Mendota Pool</b>	<b>S/F 05</b>	141,406		185,232		130.99%		(43,826)
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain JPP</b>	<b>S/F 11</b>	3,287,271		3,149,843		95.82%		137,428
<b>Intertie Maintenance</b>	<b>S/F 12</b>	397,958	<b>A</b>	305,606		76.79%		92,352
<b>Volta Wells Pumping</b>	<b>S/F 13</b>	21,633		1,649		7.62%		19,983
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain O'Neill</b>	<b>S/F 19</b>	2,391,665		2,298,392		96.10%		93,273
<b>Maintain Tracy Fish Facility</b>	<b>USBR 30</b>	389,372		33,323		8.56%		356,049
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain San Luis Drain</b>	<b>S/F 41</b>	117,534		64,764		55.10%		52,770
<b>Maintain Delta Cross Channel</b>	<b>USBR 44</b>	10,187		12,183		119.60%		(1,997)
<b>WAPA</b>	<b>USBR 45</b>	-		-		0.00%		-
<b>Safety Equipment Training</b>	<b>50</b>	112,238		104,861		93.43%		7,377
<b>IT Expense</b>	<b>51</b>	984,268		779,687		79.21%		204,582
<b>Warehousing</b>	<b>52</b>	204,468		76,925		37.62%		127,543
<b>SCADA</b>	<b>53</b>	487,506		374,365		76.79%		113,141
<b>Tracy Field Office Expense</b>	<b>54</b>	503,136		503,269		100.03%		(133)
<b>Direct Administrative/General Expense</b>	<b>56</b>	1,798,284		1,175,784		65.38%		622,500
<b>Indirect O &amp; M LBAO Admin.</b>	<b>58</b>	2,714,004		2,671,431		98.43%		42,574
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>19,857,957</b>		<b>17,537,875</b>		<b>88.32%</b>		<b>2,320,082</b>
				<b>YTD %</b>	<b>91.67%</b>			

A. Does NOT include DWR Wheeling

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**DMC WITH CIP / E O & M With Indirect Allocated**  
**Budget to Actual Paid/Pending Comparison Summary**  
**March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026**

FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

		<b>Actual Paid/Pending Expense</b>	<b>% Direct Labor to Total Labor</b>	<b>Allocated Indirect Based on Direct Labor %</b>	<b>Total Expense Direct &amp; Indirect</b>
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain DMC</b>	<b>S/F 02</b>	5,738,534	38.39%	2,535,095	8,273,629 *
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain Wasteways</b>	<b>S/F 04</b>	62,027	0.53%	34,727	96,754 *
<b>Mendota Pool</b>	<b>S/F 05</b>	185,232	1.57%	103,602	288,834 *
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain Jones Pumping Pl</b>	<b>S/F 11</b>	3,149,843	24.08%	1,590,141	4,739,985 *
<b>Intertie Maintenance</b>	<b>S/F 12</b>	305,606	2.55%	168,643	474,249 *
<b>Intertie DWR Conveyance</b>	<b>S/F 12</b>	4,867,624	0.00%	-	4,867,624 *
<b>Volta Wells Pumping</b>	<b>S/F 13</b>	1,649	0.01%	882	2,531 *
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain O'Neill</b>	<b>S/F 19</b>	2,298,392	17.99%	1,188,003	3,486,395 *
<b>Maintain Tracy Fish Facility</b>	<b>USBR 30</b>	33,323	0.25%	16,747	50,070
<b>Operate &amp; Maintain San Luis Drain</b>	<b>S/F 41</b>	64,764	0.54%	35,920	100,684 *
<b>Maintain Delta Cross Channel</b>	<b>USBR 44</b>	12,183	0.10%	6,619	18,802
<b>WAPA</b>	<b>45</b>	-	0.00%	-	-
<b>CIP</b>	<b>25</b>	4,444,275	4.59%	303,259	4,747,533
<b>EO&amp;M &amp; Scada Project</b>	<b>26</b>	6,050,256	9.29%	613,770	6,664,025
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>XX</b>		0.09%	5,942	5,942
				<b>6,603,349</b>	<b>33,817,057</b>
			100.0%		
<b>Safety Equipment Training</b>	<b>50</b>	121,772			
<b>IT Expense</b>	<b>51</b>	905,426			
<b>Warehousing</b>	<b>52</b>	89,331			
<b>Scada</b>	<b>53</b>	434,738			
<b>Tracy Field Office Expense</b>	<b>54</b>	584,431			
<b>Direct Administrative/General Expense</b>	<b>56</b>	1,365,402			(11,411,559) less CIP&EO&M
<b>Indirect O &amp; M LBAO Admin.</b>	<b>58</b>	3,102,249			(68,872) less USBR Facilities
<b>Total Indirect to be Allocated</b>			<b>6,603,349</b>		(5,942) less Special Projects
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>33,817,057</b>			<b>22,330,684</b> *SLDMWA O&M Costs
		includes intertie DWR conveyance			

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**  
**CIP / EO&M / PAT Grants**  
**Budget to Actual Paid/Pending Comparison Summary**  
**March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026**

FAC 4/6/26 & BOD 4/9/26

			FY Budget 3/1/25 - 2/28/26	Actual To Date Paid/Pending	% of Budget	Notes	Budget Amount Remaining
CIP-Unit Rewind	25	F4	-	6,450	0.00%		(6,450)
CIP OPP Rotor & Stator Rewind Design (All Units)	25	F5	593,781	-	0.00%		593,781
CIP JPP Exc System & Control Modernization Ph 3	25	F9	5,799,287	1,773,555	30.58%		4,025,732
CIP-DMC Subsidence Correction Project	25	I3	11,686,645	1,469,407	12.57%		10,217,238
CIP-Pump Bowl Replacement	25	J2	8,281,850	1,188,363	14.35%		7,093,487
CIP-OPP Upgrades	25	J3	-	6,500	0.00%		(6,500)
CIP Floating Solar Project - 5 Year Pilot Study	25	P3	4,477,179	-	0.00%		4,477,179
Replacement Computer/Network Comm. Equip	D0		436,027	91,223	20.92%		344,803
Replacement Vehicles	D1		550,950	416,389	75.58%		134,562
Purchase New Heavy Equipment	D2		78,209	51,763	66.18%		26,447
All Facility Infrastructure Replacement	D3		249,293	93,088	37.34%		156,205
SCADA Replacement & Modernization Program	D4		272,625	71,534	26.24%		201,091
DMC O&M Road Maintenance Program	E6		582,159	422,426	72.56%		159,733
Main Transformer Rehabilitation	G3		1,800,000	1,168,216	64.90%		631,784
DMC Subsidence Correction Project	I3	26		538,016	0.00%		(538,016)
Unit Rewind	F4	26		283,558	0.00%		(283,558)
DMC Turnout Flowmeter Upgrade-Phase 2	I6			15	0.00%		(15)
JPP Purchase Wear Rings for Pumps	J1			168,271	0.00%		(168,271)
OPP Pump Bowl Replacement	J2	26		9,129	0.00%		(9,129)
JPP Concrete Slab by Trashrake Dumpster	K1		-	558,500	0.00%		(558,500)
ONP Cooling Water System Rehabilitation Design	L0			135,865	0.00%		(135,865)
Electric Vehicle Charging Station	L1			46,556	0.00%		(46,556)
ONP Sand Filter System Rehabilitation Design	L2			13,068	0.00%		(13,068)
DMC Underdrain Sediment Removal	L5			2,850	0.00%		(2,850)
EO&M Program Management Services	L6		811,170	278,021	34.27%		533,149
Warehouse Building Design & Construction	M0		779,523	4,145	0.53%		775,378
Rehab Coating on Pump Casing	M1			49,293	0.00%		(49,293)
Unit Valve Replacement	M10			3,668	0.00%		(3,668)
O&M Road Repair (Full Depth Rehab)	M11			228,581	0.00%		(228,581)
Sand Filter (JPP) System Rehab	M3			3,290	0.00%		(3,290)
Machine Shop Crane Rehab	M5			152	0.00%		(152)
Motor Protect Relay Replace	M6			18,801	0.00%		(18,801)
Siphon Breaker Comm Upgrades	M7			29,144	0.00%		(29,144)
Trashrake Controls Modern	M8			26,715	0.00%		(26,715)
DCI U1 & U2 Restoration and Plant Electrical Upgrade	Q1		1,127,479	1,049,631	93.10%		77,848
OPP U5 Unplanned Shaft and Pump Repairs	Q2			138,882	0.00%		(138,882)
JPP U5 Leak Investigation & Repair	Q4		1,859,066	149,467	8.04%		1,709,599
<b>Total Direct CIP/EO&amp;M/PAT</b>			<b>39,385,243</b>	<b>10,494,531</b>	<b>26.65%</b>		<b>28,890,712</b>
Safety Equipment Training	50		19,849	16,911	85.20%		2,939
IT Expense	51		174,069	125,739	72.24%		48,329
Warehousing	52		36,160	12,406	34.31%		23,755
SCADA	53		86,216	60,374	70.03%		25,842
Tracy Field Office Expense	54		88,980	81,162	91.21%		7,818
Direct Administrative/General Expense	56		318,028	189,618	59.62%		128,410
Indirect O & M LBAO Admin.	58		479,974	430,818	89.76%		49,155
<b>Total Indirect Allocated to CIP/EO&amp;M/PAT</b>			<b>1,203,276</b>	<b>917,028</b>	<b>76.21%</b>		<b>286,248</b>
<b>Total CIP / EO&amp;M / PAT</b>			<b>40,588,519</b>	<b>11,411,559</b>	<b>28.12%</b>		<b>29,176,960</b>

Subject to Rounding



April 9, 2026

To: Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer

From: Bob Martin, Facilities O&M Director

Subject: O&M Report for March 2026

**OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

The C.W. “Bill” Jones Pumping Plant (JPP) operated with 1-5 units for the month of March. The average rate of pumping for the JPP was 3,925 CFS for the month.

Total pumping at the JPP for March was 241,350 acre-feet. The O’Neill Pump/Generating Plant (OPP) generated 1,381 acre-feet and pumped 147,311 acre-feet for the month. 21,031 acre-feet were pumped at the Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie Plant (DCI), and zero acre-feet was reversed from the DCI into the DMC for the month.

The Federal share in the San Luis Reservoir at the end of March was 769,969 acre-feet as compared to 818,845 acre-feet for March 31<sup>st</sup> of 2025.

During the month of March, releases from Friant Dam ranged from 427 to 1,100 CFS with 31,080 acre-feet entering the Mendota Pool. Flows for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) were 27,422 acre-feet for the month.

**Canal Operations Department**

The Canal Operations crew worked on the following activities this month:

- Open channel & pitot tube flow measurements at MP’s

17.77 R	19.15 R	25.63 R	26.21 R
27.80 R	29.19 L	29.19 R	29.19 L
30.43 R	32.36 L	32.38 R	34.08 L
34.63 R	36.01 L	36.39 L	42.50 R
43.73 L	46.83 L	48.60 LA	48.96 R
49.56 R	50.66 L	58.26 L	58.73 R
59.50 RB	62.08 R	63.96 L	64.32 L
66.73 L	76.05 L	78.56 RA	79.13 L
84.39 L	86.17 R	105.05 L	CAFW 1B
SJR Bifurcation	3.32 R NP	79.12 R NP	

- Maintenance and serviced flow meters at MP’s

08.51 L	14.81 L	18.05 L	19.18 L
26.21 R	27.80 R	29.95 R	30.43 R
31.60 L	32.62 R	33.07 R	34.63 R

35.04 R	35.18 L	39.78 L	41.03 L
41.53 L	42.51 L	45.35 R	45.78 R
45.79 R	46.02 L	46.19 R	46.83 L
55.34 R	64.32 L	81.08 RA	88.65 R
93.25 R2	93.25 R3		

- Bi-weekly meter readings on all active two hundred plus turnouts
- Inspected Wasteways
  - Westley
  - Newman
  - Volta
  - Firebaugh
- Water samples taken at MP sites: 10.62, 20.63, 29.95, 39.21, and 45.77
- Groundwater well soundings
  - USGS Monitoring Wells
  - ARRA Wells
  - Upper DMC Warren Act Wells
  - Lower DMC Warren Act Wells
- Routine patrols
  - DMC
  - Mendota Pool
  - San Luis Drain
- Additional operational activities
  - San Joaquin River flow measurement (SJRRP)

### **Control Operations**

The Control Operations crew performed the following switching/clearance orders this month:

- C-26-JP-02                    JPP Unit 5 warranty inspection
- C-26-JP-02A                JPP Unit 5 warranty inspection
- C-26-JP-03                    JPP Unit 5 suction elbow
- C-26-DCI-09                DCI Unit 2 discharge valve actuator replacement
- C-26-DCI-10                DCI Unit 6 annual maintenance and electrical testing
- C-26-DCI-11                DCI Unit 4 annual maintenance and electrical testing

### **Jones Pumping Plant (JPP)**

#### Electrical/C&I Maintenance Crew:

- JPP Unit 5 5-year warranty inspection work
- JPP Unit 5 Impeller removal, leak investigation, and repair
- JPP flooding alarm test and inspection 3-month PM
- JPP switchyard lighting test and inspection 3-month PM
- JPP plant lighting test and inspection 3-month PM
- JPP ¼-ton monorail hoist test and inspection 3-month PM
- JPP C&I test and inspection 1-month PM
- JPP station service battery bank test and inspection 1-month PM
- JPP emergency lighting test and inspection 1-month PM
- Switchyard C&I test and inspection 1-month PM
- Replace 125 DC control power cable from JPP to the Siphon House Bldg.
- JPP 21-ton portable gantry crane VFD failure, troubleshoot and repair
- JPP 80-ton hoist VFD malfunction troubleshoot and repair
- BFV air compressor #2 failure to close alarm troubleshoot and repair

#### Mechanical Maintenance Crew:

- JPP Unit 5 impeller removal, leak investigation, and repair
- JPP air wash unit 1-month PM

- Provide facilities support for the control of Golden Mussel Colonization
- Sandblast and paint available Unit 5 parts while disassembled

Civil Maintenance Crew:

- JPP Unit 5 impeller removal, leak investigation, and repair

**O’Neill Pumping/Generating Plant (OPP)**

Electrical/C&I Maintenance Crew:

- OPP Unit 1 DC control relay 33SBA burnt coil replacement
- OPP UPS battery internal resistance test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP 5-ton stop log gantry crane test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP security gates North/South test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP station service dry transformer test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP station service battery test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP station service battery internal resistance test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP annunciator panels test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP trash rake crane test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP compressed air systems HP test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP emergency lighting inspection 1-month PM
- OPP cathodic protection system anode test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP Transformer Rehabilitation Project
- OPP Siphon Building 480V 30A disconnect switch replacement
- OPP Control Floor Panel CIC upgrades
- Tracy CCA panel SCADA alarm failure troubleshoot and repair
- OPP Siphon Building 480V 100A emergency generator disconnect switch replacement
- HVAC system repairs to warehouse managers office
- TFO Admin Building HVAC system replacement
- OPP sump pump skimmer controls troubleshoot and replacement
- OPP foreman office network cable investigation and repair

Mechanical Maintenance Crew:

- JPP Unit 5 impeller removal, leak investigation, and repair
- OPP 5-ton stop log gantry crane test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP sewage system test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP service air & siphon house LP compressor test and inspection 1-month PM
- OPP sump inspection test and inspection 1-month PM

Civil Maintenance Crew:

- None to report

**DMC/CA Intertie Pumping Plant (DCI)**

Electrical/C&I Maintenance Crew:

- DCI Units 1 & 2 restoration and plant electrical upgrades
- DCI Unit 2 discharge valve failure investigation, troubleshoot and repair
- DCI Unit 4 discharge valve failure investigation, troubleshoot and repair
- DCI Unit 6 Motor Protection Relay C&I test and inspection 12-month PM
- DCI Unit 6 Motor test and inspection 12-month PM
- DCI Unit 4 Motor test and inspection 12-month PM
- DCI Unit 2 Motor test and inspection 12-month PM
- DCI HVAC system test and inspection 6-month PM
- DCI jib hoist test and inspection 3-month PM
- DCI supervisory C&I test and inspection 1-month PM

#### Mechanical Maintenance Crew:

- None to report

#### Civil Maintenance Crew:

- None to report

### **Delta-Mendota Canal (DMC)**

#### Electrical/C&I Maintenance Crew:

- LBFO main gate controller test and inspection 1-month PM
- LBFO mechanics garage lighting and vehicle lift wiring
- Check 1 Gate 2 comm loss troubleshoot and repair
- NWW drive system test and inspection 6-month PM
- WWW drive system test and inspection 6-month PM
- Provide facilities support for the control of Golden Mussel Colonization
- DMC Check 20 gear box leaking oil seal cleanup and repair
- LBAO kitchen and bathroom receptacle upgrades

#### Mechanical Maintenance Crew:

- None to report

#### Civil Maintenance Crew:

- DMC trash collection at MP's 77.98, 97.68 to 107.42
- DMC weed spraying on DMC from MP 58.46 to 77.83 and 96.61 to 115.00
- DMC mechanical weed control at MP 80.03 and VWW
- DMC roadway grading from MP 58.46 to 77.63
- DMC rodent abatement from MP 57.95 to 90.16
- Repair pipe leak at MP's 54.01, 55.19 and 55.85
- Road repair on JPP inlet bank
- Erosion repairs on the VWW from MP 2.97 to 5.98
- Blew out dirty turnouts at MP's 15.10, 33.90, and 65.34,
- Fabricate metal cover for meters at MP 18.60, 19.17, 22.78 and 23.41
- Assisted Water Operations with the installation of line meters at MP 93.25
- Painting safety ladders on top of the DMC liner from MP 86.19 to 97.68
- Removed a beaver dam from Check 20 on the SLD
- SLD trash collection at MP 110
- Lock box fabrication for a gate at Bass Ave on the SLD
- DMC guardrail painting from MP 77.63 to 80.34
- Built a pad for a new Tuff Shed used to monitor Golden Mussels
- Fabricated prototype ice chest for Golden Mussel monitoring
- Picked up Rain for Rent pumps from WSID and hauled back to LBFO
- Fire extinguisher, eyewash station, and AC filter 1-month PM's
- Numerous vehicle oil changes and minor repairs

### **Tracy Field Office**

#### Electrical/C&I Maintenance Crew

- TFO industrial water storage tank #1 anode inspection 12-month PM
- TFO Admin HVAC system test and inspection 6-month PM
- CMT/VMT 2-ton monorail hoist electrical test and inspection 3-month PM
- Tracy meter maintenance shop lighting inspection 3-month PM
- Tracy SLDMWA entrance gate test and inspection 3-month PM
- Tracy USBR entrance gate test and inspection 3-month PM
- Tracy UBSR exit gate test and inspection 3-month PM
- TFO Warehouse loading dock gate test and inspection 3-month PM
- TFO Warehouse lighting test and inspection 3-month PM

- TFO ESHOP ½-ton monorail hoist test and inspection 3-month PM
- TFO ESHOP 2-ton monorail test and inspection 3-month PM
- TFO Control Building 1-ton monorail test and inspection 3-month PM
- Control Room Annunciator C&I test and inspection 1-month PM
- Control Building emergency lighting system test and inspection 1-month PM
- Tracy UPS battery bank test and inspection 1-month PM
- Replace lighting fixtures and lights throughout TFO compound
- Water Treatment Plant flowmeter and tank indication failure troubleshoot and repair
- HVAC system repairs to warehouse managers office
- Siphon Breaker Communication upgrade project
- Dug trench and laid conduit for internet expansion to the sandblast and meter buildings

Mechanical Maintenance Crew:

- Provide facilities support for the control of Golden Mussel Colonization

Civil Maintenance Crew:

- Provide facilities support for the control of Golden Mussel Colonization

Other Activities:

- None to report

**USBR Support Services**

The Water Authority crew supported the following work at USBR facilities during the outage this month:

- Technical proposal submittal to USBR for Solicitation #140R2025Q0073

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

The Engineering staff worked on the following O&M projects this month:

- Data management of well readings and creation of Warren Act hydrographs
- LBFO vehicle lift upgrade
- JPP station service battery troubleshooting and replacement
- Pressure vessel certification
- DCI electrical as-built drawings
- OPP crane control relay replacement
- JPP siphon house cable replacement
- Replacement of VFD's on JPP stub shaft crane
- SEL protective relays seminar
- Gravity budgeting software training

**Land Management Activity Summary**

Access Permits issued – Three:

- Access Permit Amendment P2602051 was issued to Larry Buehner allowing the development of property adjacent to the Delta-Mendota Canal right-of-way from Milepost 39.87-L to Milepost 40.00-L.
- Access Permit P2602052 was issued to Abel Lopez allowing grazing on the Delta-Mendota Canal right-of-way at Milepost 2.67-R.
- Emergency Access Permit P2702001 was issued to Firebaugh Canal Water District to repair the leaking underground pipeline servicing the turnout at Milepost 100.85-R on the Delta-Mendota Canal.

Land Management Projects:

- Koster Road guard rail replacement and access road realignment
- City of Patterson MP37.95 Trade Center Bridge Project
- Stanislaus County request to install water line over DMC at Fink Road
- Costco development of adjacent land at MP10.62R – MP11.28R

## Contract Updates

Spec. No.	Title	Status
F26-JPP-021	JPP Siphon House Cable Replacement	Contract executed 3/16, work ongoing
F25-JPP-007b	Excitation System - Unit 4	Contract executed 8/18, bonds and required documents will be requested in the future prior to NTP
F25-JPP-007c	Excitation System - Unit 2	Contract executed 8/18, bonds and required documents will be requested in the future prior to NTP
F25-JPP-007d	Excitation System - Unit 3	Contract executed 8/18, bonds and required documents will be requested in the future prior to NTP
F25-JPP-007e	Excitation System - Unit 5	Contract executed 8/18, bonds and required documents will be requested in the future prior to NTP
F26-ALL-001	NetSuite Support Services - Master Agreement	Master Agreement, Per Task, pending FY27 task orders
F26-ALL-001	NetSuite Support Services - Task Order 1 FY27	Pending FY27 task order renewal
F26-ALL-019	Voith Maintenance and Support Services	Pending Negotiations
F27-DMC-002	DMC Subsidence Project Management Services - Master Agreement	pending signatures, insurance certificates
F27-DMC-002	DMC Subsidence Project Management - Task 1 FY27	pending signatures, insurance certificates
F25-DMC-005	DMC Subsidence Utility Locating and Mapping Services	Work completed, contract is on call for possible additional services for Phase 1
F26-O&M-011	Miscellaneous Professional Consulting Services - Master Agreement	Work ongoing, 2nd amendment executed 3/18 to modify Task Order 1 FY27 work description
F26-O&M-011	Miscellaneous Professional Consulting Services - Task Order 1 FY27	Work ongoing, 2nd amendment executed 3/18 to modify Task Order 1 FY27 work description
F26-JPP-014	JPP Station Battery Replacement	Work ongoing, pending change order for a revised rack and containment barrier
F26-ALL-001	NetSuite Support Services - Task Order 1 FY26	Work ongoing, pending FY27 task order renewal
TBD	CP System Survey Blanket	Working with Charles, pending SoW

## SAFETY DEPARTMENT

The Safety Department worked on the following items this month:

- Issued Safety Training materials for the month of March to all staff members
- Worked with Siemens to diagnose issues with fire panels at TFO, and scheduling corrective work for April

- Completed RFQ for fire suppression systems at all facilities with a 5-year contract for testing and maintenance
- FR clothing distributed to Tracy Electrician Department.
- FHECP gap assessments are complete with Supervisors and Manager review
  - Corrective action will continue into the next couple of months
- Began trials of new digital JHA process using Shepherd

## **PROCUREMENT AND WAREHOUSE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

The Procurement and Warehouse Management Department worked on the following items this month:

- 225 Purchase Orders were issued this month
- 91 Inventory Checkouts
- Prepared final weekly PO Invoicing Packets for submittal to A/P for payment
- Developed skills testing questions and answer key for Buyer role for second interviews
- Participated in Procurement Technician/Buyer interviews
- Assisted with various Activity Agreements/Task Orders/Amendments
- Participated in onboarding and training of new positions, Procurement Technician and Buyer
- Participated in Public Works / Procurement training topics with legal counsel
- Developed various instructions and standard operating procedures for Procurement Technician and Buyer positions, as well as various Net Suite Instructions and procedures/cheat sheets
- Finalized delegation of Authority Procurement Guide for distribution

### **Ongoing:**

- Purchasing in support of O&M crews to maintain/replenish Warehouse stock
- Warehouse receiving, stocking, and distribution
- Inventory cycle counts
- Invoicing/vendor bills/vendor credits and processing/invoice disputes
- Routine janitorial activities at the TAO/TFO/JPP/Control Room facilities
- NetSuite bi-weekly meetings
- Bi-weekly staff meetings to discuss updates/issues
- Bi-weekly meeting with O&M Director to review project updates
- Bi-weekly COO Staff meetings
- Bi-weekly working sessions with Citrin Cooperman (NetSuite Consultant)
- Review/approve timesheets

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

The Information Technology Department worked on the following items this month:

### **Administrative Activities:**

- Monthly FAC, WRC and BOD meetings
- Management and review of FY26 RO&M and EO&M Budgets
- Support FY27 EO&M & RO&M budgets, regions 51 and 53
- Crafts Coordination Meeting to discuss status of various projects and open SO
- Review Budget to Actuals for Regions 51 & 53 FY26
- Create Blanket PO's for FY27
- Campus Security discussion with DOI and BOR
- Modify agreement and create FY27 task order for NetSuite support
- Employee exits conducted

- Gravity training sessions
- Meet cybersecurity vendors
- Discuss Zoom security and collaborate with Westlands IT Officer

### **General Network & Desktop Support:**

- Desktop support per incident
- Updated all Firewall VPN access
- Upgraded Backup appliance
- On Board 3 new employees

### **Ongoing:**

- Prep new iPhones and iPads for MDM and deployment
- O365 Deployment
- Point to Point antennas to Meter and paint shops
- iPad(s) configured and deployed to Water Operations
- Android Tablets to ESHOP and craft teams for CMMS
- Conversion to Net Extender for VPN Access to network
- Upgrade AV LBAO Board Room
  - Install scheduled week of 4-13-26
- Desktop/printer/peripheral
  - 26-D0-FY24/FY25 laptop refresh
  - Surface Pro deployment
  - Rugged laptop order
- Servers
  - Performance monitoring
  - Prepping servers for redeployment and sandbox
  - LBFO AD server migration
  - System wide critical server patches deployed
- Document Management
  - Monthly Status Meetings
  - Server data file inventory
  - Policy Dept migration discussions
  - HR Dept. data migration interviews
- NetSuite
  - User and Administration
  - Bi-Weekly Implementation Team meetings
  - Monitor Citrin Cooperman activities for NetSuite
  - Gravity software
- Shepherd
  - Weekly progress meetings
  - Continue testing tablets in field
  - Additional modifications to User roles
- Cybersecurity
  - Monitor Active Directory
  - Monitor Symantec anti-virus management console
  - Update Symantec definitions
  - Update additional AV security settings
  - Monitor Firewall logs and alerts
  - Multi Factor Authentication
  - Cybersecurity training and webinars

- Cyber Readiness Institution Certification Course
  - Monitor Knowbe4 Phishing Campaign
  - Cybersecurity Team
    - Cybersecurity Incidence Response Plan
    - Disaster Recovery Plan
    - Business Continuity Plan
    - Table Top Exercise Plan
  - Monitor IBM (MAAS360) mobile device management
  - Symantec message gateway server
  - Review InfraGard dispatches – FBI Cyber Security group
  - Monitoring Darktrace Cybersecurity appliance in IT network
    - Applied latest patched/updates
  - Monitor and adjust Cloud immutable backups
  - Monitor and adjust “Cold” air gapped local backups
  - GPOs for domain administration and Cybersecurity
- DWR regarding use of fiber from a 1992 contract agreement
  - USBR contact DWR
  - Zoom, emails, phone calls
  - Gather requested info for DWR
  - Begin creation of requirements and SOW
- Data migration
  - GIS server migration Phase 3
- New asset control and tracking
- AP installs
  - OPP office and motor floor
  - LBFO office
  - SAC office
  - JPP control floor
- VLAN's for network segmentation
- AT&T discussions/negotiations for future terms
  - Replacing Unwired with FirstNet cellular to OPP and LBFO
  - Updates to existing copper analog lines
  - Updates to WAN and Internet discussions
- 26D0 Avaya phone system upgrades
  - deployed VOIP for x220 and new employee

## **SCADA DEPARTMENT**

The SCADA staff worked on the following items this month:

### **Administrative Activities:**

- Monthly Crafts Coordination Meeting

### **General SCADA Network Support:**

- Troubleshoot annunciator OPP and SCADA alarms
  - Repairing and developing alarms for SCADA A and B
  - OPP Annunciator troubleshooting and repairs
- J troubleshoot West tube totalizer
- J5 SCADA alarm SEL relay mismatch
- J3 Assist Elec and C&I troubleshoot multiple annunciator anomalies
- Del Puerto NVRWP meters located at MP 37.33 Left

- Support for OPP Syphon house error
- Configured Screentech to Linux thin client
- Guidance for gate encoder selection

### **Ongoing:**

- Bi-weekly review of DCI plans for SCADA and remote annunciation
- New Un-Wired circuit installed at Control Room Building.
- Continued writing scope for Aveva to Ignition conversion
  - Ignition conversion in progress
- Network segregation plan and design
- Continued Cybersecurity training
- Server Room
  - Upgrades of Operator A and B in progress
- DCI
  - Upgrade 9 PLCs to version 15-Completed
    - Edit start/stop logic in U1 through U6 PLC's
    - Verify logic function on U1 & U2 PLCs after contract work
  - Added Tags to SCADA stations A & B and DCI PC
  - Added Tags to EOD scripts and Top Server
- OPP
  - Vibration sensor testing for replacement of outdated sensors
  - AT&T FirstNet to move SCADA data from OPP to Control Room
  - Support for Transformer Upgrade Project
  - Battery room sensors and venting controls
  - Alarms not appearing in Control Room
    - Technical limitations of outdated alarm/annunciator
    - Quotes for upgraded replacements
  - Vega level sensors added to OPP SCADA
- DMC
  - AT&T FirstNet APN with DIGI devices 1-12 installed
    - APN configuration and setup tested good
    - Volta Wasteway
      - Convert to FirstNet
      - Level sensor received for testing
      - Flow Meter Replacement Research
  - Meter 115 move to FirstNet or Radio to Check
- JPP
  - Water treatment plant SCADA integration-completed
  - Additional animation to Andon boards as requested
  - Excitation Project support
    - Meeting with vendors and Droose
    - Build Proxmox virtual server
    - Provide settings from existing devices to vendors
    - Review of Cyber requirements
- 26-M7; Siphon House communications
  - Received PLC parts for project
  - CCA panel equipment
    - New fiber to Siphon House to be pulled
  - C&I redlined CCA Panel-Complete
  - AutoCAD Drawings and wiring diagrams
  - Point to Point WIFI for temporary comms to accommodate pulling of existing control and signal lines to make room for fiber-Completed
  - awaiting new control cable to be pulled on WAPA poles

- 26-M8; Trash Rake
  - Received PLC parts for project
  - Started program rewrite and documentation
  - Fiber pulled from cable floor to trash rake panel
  - Fiber pulled from cable floor to server room
  - C&I terminated into SCADA Cabinet at trash rake
  - Fiber Hub installed at cable floor and cross patch server room to trash rake
  - Development of Headless HMI for control interface
  - Additional trash rake configs to accommodate concrete slab pours
    - Returned PLC controls back to Normal location operation
  - No additional work in March
- LBFO
  - Andon board configuration

## **HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT**

The Human Resources Department worked on the following items this month:

### **General Administrative Activities:**

- Active Recruitments
  - Procurement & Warehouse Supervisor
- Closed Recruitments
  - Control Operator
  - Mechanical Engineer
  - Procurement Technician
- Resume/Candidate Reviews
  - Control Operator
  - Procurement Technician
  - Mechanical Engineer
- Interviews/Skills Testing
  - Procurement Technician
  - Mechanical Engineer
- Job Offers –
  - Procurement Technician
  - Mechanical Engineer

### **Trainings:**

- Cyber Security training tracking (all staff)
- Sexual Harassment Prevention training tracking (all staff)
- Defensive Driving training and tracking (all staff)
- Ethics training tracking (executive & supervisory staff)
- Workplace Violence Prevention training (all staff)
- Navigating reasonable accommodations
- Data management software training RiskStar (Property Insurance, JPIA)

### **Government Reporting:**

- EEOC tracking/reporting
- Affirmative Action report tracking

### **Ongoing:**

- Performance appraisal tracking
- FMLA notices/follow-ups
- COBRA notices/follow-ups

- Worker's Comp follow-ups
- Monthly safety points distribution
- Health benefits eligibility/employee assistance
- Job Description updates
- Policy updates
- Employment Law updates
- Maintain OSHA logs for calendar year
- PIV Cards (USBR)
- Wellness Program

# EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS



## **EXTRAORDINARY O&M and CAPITAL PROJECTS**

### **DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL (DMC)**

#### **Bridge Abutment Repair at MP 92.73 (FY21)**

Status: No activity this month. Repair plan has been designed, and the conflicting PG&E line has been relocated. Project needs to be scheduled.

#### **DMC Subsidence Correction Project**

Status: SLDMWA continues to work closely with Reclamation on the DMC Subsidence Correction Project (Project) and is managing the \$2.4M CDM Smith Feasibility Study contract, the \$5.7M Upper DMC Design contract with USBR Technical Services Center (TSC), and a \$2.15M contract for utility locating and mapping along the Upper DMC. As approved by the Planning Committee, Phase 1 is the current focus. Phase 1 consists of 4 tasks, (1) Lining & Embankment Raise MP 3.5 to 7.2, (2) Liner Raises at Sag Locations, (3) Upper DMC Underwater Liner Repairs, and (4) Lower DMC Underwater Liner Repairs. Kiewit Construction was awarded a \$200,000 Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/CG) Contract to perform preconstruction services for Tasks 1 & 2. Preconstruction accomplishments this week included a partnering workshop, cost estimating activities to align unit rates between Kiewit and Reclamation, construction innovations, borrow source investigations, and establishing the document management system. The team is on schedule to complete the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) negotiations next month in order to bring back to the May board meeting to execute the construction contract.

Environmental: The FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) and ROD (Record of Decision) were executed on March 10. Water Authority and Reclamation have signed the Programmatic Agreement and are now consulting on the areas specific to Phase 1 activities. SHPO consultation letters will be sent early April, which starts the 60-day clock to allow construction activities to commence. All CEQA documentation and deliverables were transferred to DWR to obtain their concurrence, with approval anticipated in April. The USACE 401/404 exemption has been deemed acceptable for Task 1 and Reclamation is in concurrence and no challenges are anticipated.

Design Data Support: Staff continued to manage the Professional Services Agreement with Sandis Engineering (executed Aug 2024) for utility locating and mapping services. The Design team has received final deliverables and invoicing. The contract will be closed out substantially below budget. Final close-out activities of the contract are currently underway.

#### **Funding**

- CA Department of Water Resources (DWR): SLDMWA is currently in agreement with DWR for entire \$42M appropriation.
- Aging Infrastructure Act (AIA): \$25M awarded in FY23. \$50M awarded in FY24. Received notice of \$204M award for FY25 for a total award of \$279M in reimbursable funding. Staff submitted a new application in July 2025 for the remaining balance of the Upper DMC. Award notices are pending.

## **EXTRAORDINARY O&M and CAPITAL PROJECTS**

- OBBB: The DMC Subsidence Correction Project received award notice this month for \$235M of non-reimbursable federal funding.

### DMC Solar Over Canals 5 Year Pilot Project – USBR Grant Funded

Status: No activity this month. Project is on hold until further notice.

### DMC Underdrain Sedimentation Removal Project (FY25)

Status: No activity this month, project is on hold.

## **C.W. “BILL” JONES PUMPING PLANT (JPP)**

### JPP Excitation System & Control Cabinet Modernization

Status: Contract award was executed in August to Power Pros. The advance funding process with Reclamation has been established, with quarterly requests being submitted by the SLDMWA. SLDMWA and TSC continue to provide support and site access for design information. The 90% design was successfully completed this month and the project remains on schedule. Bi-weekly meetings are being held to review submittal status, requests for information (RFI's), and critical path items. The preliminary schedule includes an eight-month design process, six-month fabrication process, and four months of site work for each unit. Completion of the contract is anticipated by the end of 2028.

### JPP Siphon Breaker Communication Upgrades (FY25)

Status: Project underway, see SCADA Department O&M Report

### JPP Trash Rake Controls Modernization (FY25)

Status: Project underway, see SCADA Department O&M Report

### JPP Machine Shop Crane Rehabilitation (FY25)

Status: No activity this month.

### JPP U5 Rehabilitate Coatings on Pump Casings & Bifurcation/ Leak Investigation

Status: Staff worked tirelessly this month to disassemble the Unit. The impeller was removed, cleaned up, new wear rings installed and will be shipped to a machine shop early next month for balancing. Staff, in collaboration with Reclamation and our mechanical engineering consultant have been working through the various tasks to be ready when the coatings contractor mobilizes to the site on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The coatings removal and replacement are scheduled to occur from mid-April to mid-May. In an effort to maintain the tight schedule, the coatings contractor will be implementing two shifts during the coating removal process, with a change order pending.

### JPP Plant Flow Metering System Rehabilitation (FY25)

Status: No activity this month.

### JPP Sand Filter System Rehabilitation (FY25)

Status: Project is on hold as staff focuses on the O'Neill Sand Filter Project.

## **EXTRAORDINARY O&M and CAPITAL PROJECTS**

### **O'NEILL PUMPING/GENERATING PLANT (OPP)**

#### **Main Transformers Rehabilitation**

Status: No activity this month. The Water Authority remains in contract with CEI to complete the Main Transformer Rehabilitation. To date, the Spare has been rehabilitated and will be used to swap into service to rehabilitate one transformer at a time. Various contracting and workmanship issues were encountered in October, and the spare was unable to be put into service. Since then, staff have been engaging closely with TSC, CVO, and CEI on ensuring the next swap is a success. CEI has submitted a "lessons learned" document with a work plan to ensure only quality work is performed and staff is reviewing it. The next outage is planned for mid-September and expected to last 9 days.

#### **OPP Upgrades – Pump Bowl Fabrication & Governor Rehabilitation**

Status: No activity this month. Staff continue to work with Pentair on Phase II of the contract. The 100% design of the bowls and the governor have been received, and staff have reviewed and approved them in conjunction with USBR. Phase 1 is complete, and Phase 2 notice to proceed was issued to Pentair after the October board approval. Staff witnessed the factory acceptance testing of the hydraulic manifold for the governor system from November 11 - 14. The first bowl is scheduled to be delivered October 2026. Repayment negotiations occurred early December and executed by the Board and Reclamation mid-January 2026. An advance payment request was submitted to Reclamation to support the progress payments required for this project.

#### **OPP Upgrades – Unit Rewind**

Status: No activity this month. Start of this project is contingent upon signing a repayment agreement for the IIJA funds. Staff submitted another IIJA application in July 2025.

#### **OPP Upgrades – Unit Rehabilitation**

Status: No activity this month. Staff are working with Pentair to develop a quote for the pump components and the work to be performed. The start of this project will be timed appropriately with the Unit Rewinds, Pump Bowl Fabrication, and Governor Rehabilitation projects as well as the availability of IIJA funds.

#### **OPP Sand Filter System Rehabilitation Design (FY24)**

Status: No activity this month. Staff is evaluating system performance requirements.

#### **OPP Warehouse Building (Design & Construction)**

Status: Reclamation requested and Water Authority staff provided the Scope of Work for the project. Staff continued planning the best method of procuring the design and construction of the building and worked on the plans and specifications.

**DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL/CALIFORNIA AQUEDUCT INTERTIE PUMPING PLANT (DCI)**

DCI Motor Protection Relay Replacement (FY25)

Status: The new protective relays (SEL-710-5's) were procured in January 2025. Staff have uploaded and tested the relays with settings designed by Reclamation TSC. The updated relays were seen at the Eaton plant during the factory acceptance testing (FAT) for the motor controller sections which was performed in September. Units 1 & 2 replacement motor control panels included the new relays and have been installed and passed electrical tests. This month staff began planning for the installation of the new relays for Units 3, 4, 5 & 6 and worked with Reclamation on the support needed by them.

DCI HVAC System Rehabilitation/ Replacement (FY23)

Status: No activity this month.

DCI U1 & U2 Restoration and Plant Electrical Upgrades

Status: Two separate arc flash incidents occurred in summer 2024 resulting in the loss of the motor control panels for Units 1 and 2. Installation of new motor control panels was completed in December 2025 through an agreement involving Rexel, Contra Costa Electric and Eaton. The commissioning was performed by staff with CVO witnessing. Both units have been returned to service; however, Reclamation has requested additional testing to be completed before fully accepting the work. Staff continue to work closely with Reclamation on the details.

# WATER OPERATIONS REPORTING





**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
OPERATIONS SUMMARY**

*NOTE: ALL FIGURES ARE IN ACRE FEET*

	<b>February-2026</b>	<b>February-2025</b>
JONES PUMPING PLANT - PUMPED	169,494	229,028
DCI PLANT - PUMPED	14,252	23,355
DCI PLANT - RETURNED	0	0
O'NEILL P/G PLANT - PUMPED	122,379	153,484
O'NEILL P/G PLANT - GENERATED	0	0
DMC DELIVERIES	13,260	11,898
RIVER/WELL/RECYCLE WATER INTO DMC	6,991	3,648
MENDOTA POOL DELIVERIES	33,592	47,547
SHASTA RESERVOIR STORAGE	3,822,800	3,561,400
SAN LUIS RESERVOIR STORAGE	1,734,572	1,665,244
* FEDERAL SHARE	685,632	705,172

	<b>February-2026</b>	<b>February-2025</b>
SAN LUIS UNIT DELIVERIES	5,392	5,505
SAN LUIS UNIT WELL WATER	0	0
SAN FELIPE UNIT DELIVERIES	6,902	7,839

Jones Pumping Plant monthly average = 3,052 cfs

	<b>Approximate Unit Maximum Capacity</b>					
	<i>Unit 1</i>	<i>Unit 2</i>	<i>Unit 3</i>	<i>Unit 4</i>	<i>Unit 5</i>	<i>Unit 6</i>
JPP	840	920	970	820	905	945
OPP	640	640	640	640	640	640
DCI	116.7	116.7	116.7	116.7	116.7	116.7

\* JPP Capacity is influenced by tidal fluctuations.



**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Monthly Deliveries  
February 2026**

Date: 3/13/26

<u>District/Other</u>	Total Available Water into System (INCOMING) (Acre Feet)	AG/Refuge Deliveries (Acre Feet)	M & I Deliveries (Acre Feet)	Total Deliveries (OUTGOING) (Acre Feet)
<b>Total Pumped @ Jones Pumping Plant</b>	<b>169,494</b>			
<b>Total Pumped @ DCI</b>	<b>(14,252)</b>			
<b>Total Reversed @ DCI</b>	<b>0</b>			
City of Tracy		0	0	0
Byron Bethany I.D.		99	1	100
West Side I.D.		0	0	0
Banta Carbona I.D.		0	0	0
West Stanislaus I.D.		0	0	0
Patterson I.D.		0	0	0
Del Puerto W.D.		1,387	2	1,389
Central California I.D. - above check #13		242	0	242
Santa Nella County W.D.		0	0	0
Volta Wildlife Mgmt. Area (Fish & Game)		850	0	850
Fish & Wildlife (Volta) Santa Fe - Kesterson		0	0	0
Grasslands W.D. (Volta)		0	0	0
<b>Total Pumped @ O'Neill PP</b>	<b>(122,379)</b>			
<b>Total Generated @ O'Neill PP</b>	<b>0</b>			
Central California I.D. - below check #13		4,660	0	4,660
Grasslands W.D. (76.05-L)		2,291	0	2,291
Fish & Game Los Banos Refuge (76.05-L)		644	0	644
Fish & Wildlife Kesterson (76.05-L)		320	0	320
Freitas Unit (76.05-L)		801	0	801
Salt Slough Unit (76.05-L)		587	0	587
China Island (76.05-L)		239	0	239
San Luis W.D. - below check #13		800	0	800
Panoche W.D.		140	2	142
Eagle Field W.D.		156	0	156
Oro Loma W.D.		0	0	0
Mercy Springs W.D.		0	0	0
Firebaugh Canal W.D. (D.M.C.)		39	0	39
River and Groundwater well pump-in	4,923			
North Valley Regional Recycled Water Program	2,068			
Change in Canal Storage	(31)			
Wasteway Flushing and Spill	0			
Total Available in Delta-Mendota Canal	39,823			
<b>TOTAL DELIVERY FROM DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL</b>	<b>(13,260)</b>	<b>13,255</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13,260</b>
Theoretical DMC Delivery to Mendota Pool	26,563			
Total DMC Metered Delivery to MP	21,942			
Estimated (Loss) or Gain in DMC	(4,621)			
Estimated % Loss or Gain in DMC	-2.62%			



**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Monthly Deliveries  
February 2026**

<u>District/Other</u>	Total Available Water into System (INCOMING) (Acre Feet)	AG/Refuge Deliveries (Acre Feet)	M & I Deliveries (Acre Feet)	Total Deliveries (OUTGOING) (Acre Feet)
DMC Inflow to MP	21,942			
Mendota Pool Groundwater Well Pump-In	429			
(+)SJRRP Releases into Mendota Pool	10,882			
(+)Available Flood Releases from Friant into Mendota Pool	0			
(+)Other San Joaquin River Water	0			
(+)Kings River Flood Releases into the Mendota Pool	0			
<u>Mendota Pool Delivery Information</u>				
<u>Exchange Contractors:</u>				
Central California Irrigation District (CCID)		5,885	0	5,885
Columbia Canal Company (CCC)		558	0	558
Firebaugh Canal Water District (FCWD)		849	0	849
San Luis Canal Company (SLCC)		0	0	0
<u>Refuge:</u>				
Conveyance Losses		846	0	846
Calif Dept of F/G-LB Unit (CCID)		214	0	214
Calif Dept of F/G-LB Unit (SLCC)		429	0	429
Calif Dept of F/G-Salt Slough Unit (CCID)		196	0	196
Calif Dept of F/G-China Island Unit (CCID)		80	0	80
US Fish & Wildlife-San Luis Refuge (SLCC)		5,509	0	5,509
US Fish & Wildlife-Freitas (CCID)		267	0	267
US Fish & Wildlife-Kesterson (CCID)		107	0	107
Grasslands WD (CCID)		682	0	682
Grasslands WD (SLCC)		846	0	846
Grasslands (Private)		81	0	81
San Luis WD Conveyance (CCID)		30	0	30
Del Puerto WD Conveyance (CCID)		0	0	0
<u>San Joaquin River Restoration:</u>				
SJRRP		10,037	0	10,037
<i>Other: (see MP Operations Report)</i>		6,976	0	6,976
<i>Total Available Water in Mendota Pool</i>	33,253			
<b>TOTAL DELIVERY FROM MENDOTA POOL</b>	<b>(33,592)</b>	<b>33,592</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,592</b>
*Estimated (Loss) or Gain in Mendota Pool	339			
*Estimated % Loss or Gain in Mendota Pool	1.02%			
Total System Delivery	(46,852)			
<b>*Total Estimated System (Loss) or Gain</b>	<b>(4,282)</b>			
<b>*Total Estimated % System Loss or Gain</b>	<b>-2.28%</b>			

**Special Notes:**



Jones Pumping Plant  
February - 2026

Date	# OF UNITS	TIME ON/OFF	AVG DAILY CFS
1	5-1	12:00	2154
2	1	Continuously	811
3	1	Continuously	809
4	2	00:01	1623
5	2	Continuously	1618
6	2	Continuously	1623
7	2	Continuously	1631
8	2	Continuously	1896
9	2	Continuously	1937
10	2	Continuously	1940
11	2	Continuously	1900
12	2	Continuously	1943
13	2	Continuously	1946
14	2-5	00:01	4206
15	5	Continuously	4247
16	5	Continuously	4261
17	5	Continuously	4259
18	5	Continuously	4263
19	5	Continuously	4256
20	5	Continuously	4240
21	5	Continuously	4226
22	5	Continuously	4225
23	5	Continuously	4222
24	5	Continuously	4234
25	5	Continuously	4254
26	5	Continuously	4242
27	5	Continuously	4240
28	5	Continuously	4249
29			
30			
31			
<b>AVG CFS for the month</b>			<b>3052</b>



**NON-PROJECT WATER CREDITS REPORT**  
 (ALL FIGURES IN ACRE FEET)  
 February 2026 WA Credits

Date: 3/11/26

<b>CREDITS UNDER WARREN ACT CONTRACTS</b>									
Turnout	Start Meter Reading	End Meter Reading	Factor	Adjust	District	Total	Less 5%	Month	Year
3.32-R1	0	0	1	0	BBID	0	0	0	0
3.32-R2	0	0	1	0	BBID	0	0	0	0
3.32-R3	19,254	19,254	1	0	BBID	0	0	0	3,478
13.31-L	4,804	4,804	1	0	BBID	0	0	0	0
15.11-R	3,609	3,609	1	0	BBID	0	0	0	36
20.42-L	59,582,043	60,474,546	1	0	BCID	0	0	0	0
20.42-L	59,582,043	60,474,546	1	0	USBR/FWA	2,739	0	2,739	19,103
21.12-L	990	990	1.01	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
21.86-L	771	774	1	(3)	DPWD	0	0	0	0
24.38-L	3,081	3,081	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
29.95-R	1,342	1,342	0.87	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
30.43-L	7,464	7,464	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
30.43-R	2,123	2,123	0.92	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
30.95-L	2,160	2,160	1.03	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
31.31-L1	89,366	89,366	1	0	WSTAN	0	0	0	1,449
31.31-L2	89,366	89,366	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
31.31-L3	89,366	89,366	1	0	PID	0	0	0	0
31.60-L	8,183	8,183	0.93	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
32.35-L	1,807	1,807	0.86	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
33.71-L	761	761	0.94	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
36.80-L	1,856	1,856	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
37.10-L	3,875	3,875	0.94	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
37.32-L	2,653	2,653	0.91	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
42.50-R	0	0	0.96	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
42.53-L	8,228,784	8,323,919	1	0	PID	0	0	0	0
42.53-L	8,228,784	8,323,919	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
42.53-L	8,228,784	8,323,919	1	0	USBR/FWA	2,184	0	2,184	10,246
43.22-L	55	55	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
48.97-L	881	881	1	0	SLWD	0	0	0	373
50.46-L	6,026	6,026	1.07	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
51.00-R	297	297	0.89	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
51.66-L	3,435	3,435	0.98	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
52.40-L	4,966	4,966	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
58.28-L	3,371	3,371	1.02	0	SLWD	0	0	0	0
58.60-L	917	917	0.96	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
58.73-R	494	494	1	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
64.85-L	1,662	1,662	0.72	0	DPWD	0	0	0	0
<b>UPPER DMC SUB TOTAL</b>								<b>4,923</b>	<b>34,685</b>



**NON-PROJECT WATER CREDITS REPORT**

(ALL FIGURES IN ACRE FEET)

February 2026 WA Credits

<b>CREDITS UNDER WARREN ACT CONTRACTS</b>									
Turnout	Start Meter Reading	End Meter Reading	Factor	Adjust	District	Total	Less 5%	Month	Year
78.31-L	4,469	4,469	1.08	0	SLWD	0	0	0	0
79.12-R	6,051	6,051	0.91	0	SLWD	0	0	0	87
79.13-L	1,546	1,546	1	0	SLWD	0	0	0	156
79.13-R	5,033	5,033	1.08	0	SLWD	0	0	0	56
79.60-L	7,413	7,413	0.84	0	SLWD	0	0	0	140
80.03-L	840	840	0.94	0	SLWD	0	0	0	0
80.03-R	717	717	1.05	0	SLWD	0	0	0	0
98.60-R	14,194	14,194	1	0	PANOCH/MS	0	0	0	0
98.74-L	5,695	5,695	1.14	0	PANOCH/MS	0	0	0	0
99.24-L	10,493	10,493	0.92	0	PANOCH/MS	0	0	0	0
100.70-L	6,211	6,211	1	0	PANOCH/MS	0	0	0	0
102.04-R	4,090	4,097	1	(7)	WIDREN WD	0	0	0	0
<b>LOWER DMC SUB TOTAL</b>								<b>0</b>	<b>439</b>
<b>WARREN ACT CONTRACT CREDIT TOTAL</b>								<b>4,923</b>	<b>35,124</b>
<b>TOTAL GROSS PUMP-IN</b>								<b>CREDIT</b>	
<b>TOTAL (BYRON BETHANY IRRIGATION DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>	
<b>TOTAL (BANTA CARBONA IRRIGATION DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>812</b>	
<b>TOTAL (PANOCH/MS WATER DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (MERCY SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (WIDREN WATER DISTRICT)</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Other Warren Act Conveyance Credit Totals</b>									
<b>Del Puerto Water District:</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Banta Carbona Irrigation District:</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>West Stanislaus Irrigation District:</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,449</b>	
<b>Byron Bethany Irrigation District:</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,478</b>	
<b>Patterson Irrigation District:</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>San Joaquin River Restoration Pump Back BCID:</b>						<b>2,739</b>	<b>2,739</b>	<b>19,103</b>	
<b>San Joaquin River Restoration Pump Back PID:</b>						<b>2,184</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>10,246</b>	
<b>Central California Irrigation District L.B. Creek Diversion Structure</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Grassland Water District L.B. Creek Diversion Structure</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,319</b>	
<b>San Luis Water District L.B. Creek Diversion Structure</b>						<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	



**MENDOTA POOL OPERATIONS**  
**2026**  
 ALL FIGURES IN ACRE-FEET

Date: 3/4/26

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
FRESNO SLOUGH	0	0											0
TPUD	0	0											0
JAMES I.D.	249	4,084											4,333
WESTSIDE AGRICULTURE <sub>3</sub>	1,611	1,676											3,287
M.L. DUDLEY & INDART <sub>1</sub>	32	84											116
MID VALLEY (Kings River)	0	0											0
REC. DIST. 1606	0	0											0
STATE FISH & WILDLIFE	982	225											1,207
TRACTION	299	186											485
UNMETERED	30	30											60
Total	1,311	441											1,752
COELHO FAMILY TRUST <sub>2</sub>	280	256											536
TRANQUILITY I.D.	0	435											435
WESTLANDS LATERAL-6	0	0											0
WESTLANDS LATERAL-7	0	0											0
CARVALHO TRUST	0	0											0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,483</b>	<b>6,976</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,459</b>

NUMBERS SHOWN IN **BOLD** WERE REVISED AFTER DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT

1 aka COELHO-GARDNER-HANSEN 2 aka TERRA LINDA FARMS 3 aka MEYERS FARMING

**Article 215 Water**

n/a

**Kings River Water**

n/a

Duck Clubs (Percent Full)

BECK	120	PATOS	COLE	TRANQUILITY	1 ACRE
100%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%

January  
 DMC Inflow 11,817 AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

May  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

September  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

February  
 DMC Inflow 21,942 AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

June  
 DMC Inflow A.F  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

October  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

March  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

July  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

November  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

April  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF

August  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows AF 0

December  
 DMC Inflow AF  
 James Bypass Flows 0 AF



**TABLE 19: GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN CALIFORNIA AQUEDUCT  
SAN LUIS FIELD DIVISION MONTHLY DELIVERIES**

**FEBRUARY 2026**

REACH TOTALS	POOL	INFLOW INTO AQUEDUCT	CUSTOMERS	AMOUNT IN AF
R3A 6902			Parks & Rec. @ San Luis Reservoir	0
			Santa Clara Valley Water District	5076
			Casa de Fruta (Santa Clara Valley Water District)	0
			San Benito Water District	1826
R3 264	13		CDFW @ O'Neill Forebay	2
	13		Parks & Rec. @ O'Neill Forebay	0
	13		Cattle Program @ O'Neill Forebay	1
	13		Santa Nella County Water District	18
	13		San Luis Water District	243
R4 9814	14		City of Dos Palos	97
	14		Pacheco Water District	265
	14		San Luis Water District	1504
	14		Panoche Water District	45
	15		San Luis Water District	724
	15		Panoche Water District	2588
	15		Westlands Water District	4591
R5 27019	16		CDFW @ Lat. 4L (Pilibos)	0
	16		CDFW @ Lat. 4L	0
	16		CDFW @ Lat. 6L	0
	16		CDFW @ Lat. 7L	0
	16		Westlands Water District	6075
	17		Westlands Water District	6416
	18		DWR Truck @ 13R	0
	18		City of Coalinga	910
	18		Pleasant Valley Pumping Plant	6730
	18	60	Westlands Water District	6888
R6 12072	19		Alta Gas	1
	19		City of Huron (P&R-Area 11) @ 22R	0
	19		DWR Water Truck @ 22R/CDFW @ 22R	0
	19		Lemoore N.A.S. thru WWD 28L,29L,&30L	76
	19		Kings County thru WWD 30L	0
	19		Westlands Water District	11995
R7 11006	20		City of Huron @ 23R	52
	20		DWR Water Truck @ 23R	0
	20		Westlands Water District	6624
	21		City of Avenal	123
	21		Kings County thru WWD 37L,38L	0
	21		Westlands Water District	4207
67077	60		<---TOTALS--->	67077
<b>TOTALS BY CUSTOMERS</b>				
Inflow Into Aqueduct:				
0 AF TOTAL for PUMP-IN				
60 AF TOTAL for FLOOD				
			Santa Nella County Water District	18
			Pacheco Water District	265
			San Luis Water District	2471
			Panoche Water District	2633
			Westlands Water District	53526
			AltaGas	1
			City of Huron @ 23R	52
			City of Huron (P&R/Area 11 @ 22R)	0
			Lemoore N.A.S. thru WWD @ 28L,29L&30L	76
			Kings County thru WWD Laterals	0
			City of Avenal	123
			City of Dos Palos	97
			City of Coalinga	910
			CDFW @ O'Neill Forebay	2
			San Felipe -Pacheco Tunnel	6902
			CDFW @ 4L, 6L, 7L	0
			DWR Water Truck @ 23R	0
			Parks & Recreation	0
			Cattle Program @ O'Neill Forebay	1
<b>Customers Total:</b>				<b>67077</b>
Pool 12 - Reach 2B				
VA Turnout Use AF = 2				
DWR 3137(Rev.9/15)				67079



## Monthly Availability Report

CW "Bill" Jones Pumping Plant

February - 2026

Unit #	Max Hours	Scheduled Outages (1)	%	Unscheduled Outages (2)	%	Over-all Availability %	Starts	Comments
							Pump	
Unit-1	672	15.1	2.25%	0.0	0.00%	97.75%	2	C-26-JP-05 1/3/26 wire checks for excitation upgrade
Unit-2	672	16.7	2.49%	0.0	0.00%	97.51%	2	C-26-JP-07 Brush Inspection
Unit-3	672	10.8	1.61%	0.0	0.00%	98.39%	2	C-26-JP-06 Brush Inspection
Unit-4	672	0.0	0.00%	0.0	0.00%	100.00%	1	
Unit-5	672	672.0	100.00%	0.0	0.00%	0.00%	0	Rewind Warranty Inspection C-26-JP-02
Unit-6	672	3.3	0.49%	0.0	0.00%	99.51%	2	1/4/2026 710x Sel Replacement
Total	4032	717.9	18%	0.0	0.00%	82.00%	9	

Notes:

(1) Planned maintenance

(2) Emergency outages and maintenance performed with less than 24 hours advance notice



## Monthly Availability Report

O'Neill Pump/Generating Plant

February - 2026

Unit #	Max Hours	Scheduled Outages (1)	%	Unscheduled Outages (2)	%	Over-all Availability %	Starts		Comments
							Pump	Gen	
Unit-1	672	0.0	0.00%	5.3	0.79%	99.21%	2	0	
Unit-2	672	0.0	0.00%	0.0	0.00%	100.00%	1	0	
Unit-3	672	0.0	0.00%	0.0	0.00%	100.00%	2	0	
Unit-4	672	0.0	0.00%	0.0	0.00%	100.00%	1	0	
Unit-5	672	0.0	0.00%	0.0	0.00%	100.00%	2	0	
Unit-6	672	0.0	0.00%	0.0	0.00%	100.00%	2	0	
Total	4032	0.0	0%	5.3	0.13%	99.87%	10	0	

Notes:

(1) Planned maintenance

(2) Emergency outages and maintenance performed with less than 24 hours advance notice



## Monthly Availability Report

DCI Pumping Plant

February - 2026

Unit #	Max Hours	Scheduled Outages (1)	%	Unscheduled Outages (2)	%	Over-all Availability %	Starts	Comments
							Pump	
Unit-1	672	31.1	4.63%	0.0	0.00%	95.37%	1	Plant outage for pest control 1/3/26 through 1/4/26
Unit-2	672	0.0	0.00%	672.0	100.00%	0.00%	0	1/28/2026 F/O Discharge Valve
Unit-3	672	31.1	4.63%	0.0	0.00%	95.37%	1	Plant outage for pest control 1/3/26 through 1/4/26
Unit-4	672	31.1	4.63%	0.0	0.00%	95.37%	1	Plant outage for pest control 1/3/26 through 1/4/26
Unit-5	672	31.1	4.63%	0.0	0.00%	95.37%	1	Plant outage for pest control 1/3/26 through 1/4/26
Unit-6	672	0.0	0.00%	565.5	84.15%	15.85%	1	1/28/2029 F/O Run relay locked in
Total	4032	124.4	3%	1237.5	30.69%	66.31%	5	

Notes:

(1) Planned maintenance

(2) Emergency outages and maintenance performed with less than 24 hours advance notice



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
sldmwa.org

To: SLDMWA Board of Directors and Alternates  
From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
Cynthia Meyer, Special Programs Manager  
Date: April 9, 2026  
RE: Staff Report on Science Program – March 2026

## Summary

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority’s (“Water Authority”) current science commitments for Fiscal Year 27 (March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027) may be considered in two categories. First, the Water Authority re-budgeted \$339,000 from the FY26 budget to fund three activities and/or studies previously authorized to be funded. Second, the Water Authority has budgeted \$661,000 in the current budget for science studies. More detail regarding the various science commitments is provided below.

### Previous Commitments - \$339,000 in FY 27 Budget

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	FY 26 Budget
<b>Joint Funding Delta Coordination Group Structured Decision-making Facilitation</b>	Funds support and assistance with the structured decision making for recommendations for summer-fall habitat actions for delta smelt by the Delta Coordination Group to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources. Main contract with Dr. Jennie Hoffman with Adaptation/Insight, using Compass Resources.	\$15,000
<b>University of California, Merced Science Partnership</b>	Funds support initiating a partnership with the University of California, Merced, for capacity building in the Science Enterprise and to conduct research into issues of importance to member agencies. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Water Regulations Workbook</li> <li>2. Economic Modeling Project</li> </ol> <p>Funding issues on the federal government side have resulted in delays in the implementation of these projects, which began in earnest in October. Staff anticipates much of this work continuing into FY 27.</p>	\$229,000
<b>Hydroacoustic Telemetry Pilot Study</b>	The Hydroacoustic Telemetry Pilot Study intends to ground-truth and enhance the data collected from the rotary screw traps near Red Bluff. The project addresses a known data gap and priority of Reclamation.	\$90,000



<b>Golden Mussel Plan</b>	The Golden Mussel Vulnerability Assessment and Response Plan will be completed in April 2026. The plan is necessary to address the increasing impacts from the invasive Golden Mussels. Based on the plan recommendations, additional funds may be necessary to implement mitigation and control measures.	\$5,000
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**New Science - \$661,000 in FY 27 Budget**

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	FY 26 Budget
<b>Science Studies/Efforts</b>		<b>\$661,000</b>
<b>SLDMWA Technical, Science and Regulatory Support</b>	<p>Funds will be used for engagement in Science Program, technical or regulatory efforts that arise in FY 2026. Anticipated use includes technical support for the implementation of long-term operations of the CVP and SWP and supporting E.O. 14181, ESA/CESA listing decisions, and engagement in efforts associated with the Bay-Delta Plan Update and HRL Science Plan.</p> <p>Funding obligated to date includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitation and Technical Support for Development of Healthy Rivers and Landscapes</li> <li>2. Science and Water Operations Technical Support, including consultant support</li> <li>3. Recreational Ocean Harvest Monitoring Survey and Development of Machine Learning Video Analytical Tool</li> <li>4. SLDMWA facility Vulnerability Assessment and Recommended Response for Golden Mussel</li> <li>5. Development of Particle Tracking Model Tool and Associated As-Needed Analysis</li> </ol>	\$301,000
<b>LTO Implementation Special Studies Program</b>	<p>Funds support special studies to enhance the scientific basis for implementation of the Long-term Operations of the CVP.</p> <p>Funding obligated to date includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tidal Delta Salmonid Acoustic Tag Data Analysis</li> <li>2. Steelhead Hydroacoustic Telemetry Pilot</li> </ol>	\$115,000
<b>Golden Mussel Coordination and Facilitation Support</b>	<p>Funds support coordination and facilitation for addressing the Golden Mussel impacts in the Delta. The Water Agency Coordination group will compile information on prevention and mitigation methods through field testing and share out data at monthly meetings. Kearns &amp; West will provide the support through July 2026.</p>	\$45,000



<b>Dissolved Oxygen Aerator</b>	Joint funded project to maintain the Dissolved Oxygen Aerator at the Port of Stockton to meet Water Quality Standards.	\$6,250
<b>University of California, Merced Science Partnership</b>	Funds will be used to expand the partnership with the University of California, Merced, established last fiscal year, for capacity building in the Science Enterprise and to conduct research into issues of importance to member agencies.	\$200,000

## Science Program Activities

Staff participates in several science forums and coordination activities. The highlights include:

### Agreements for Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (“Agreements”) Science Committee (Bay-Delta Plan Update)

The Agreements Science Committee received initial drafts of three tributary specific science plans for review. These plans will be revised and provided for a broader review. Staff is assisting with the development of the Data Management Strategy associated with the science plan activities. In addition, the Science Committee is refining the timelines associated with early implementation projects and the value of contribution to the program. The Science Committee is refining the hypotheses and necessary monitoring strategies. In addition, a deep-dive science workshop will be scheduled for Summer 2026.

### Delta Coordination Group (DCG)

Due to the implementation of the LTO 2024 Record of Decision, the DCG has been disbanded as of January 2026.

The DCG provided an initial draft of the synthesis report to review the effects of previous summer-fall habitat actions to better inform future adaptive management decisions. The final report is anticipated for April 2026. Staff is providing technical support for analyses and interpretation of results.

### ESA Consultation for the Long-Term Operations (“LTO”) of the CVP and SWP

On December 4, 2025, Reclamation signed a Record of Decision implementing modified operations for the CVP and SWP. This action was in response to Presidential Executive Order 14181. The 2024 LTO documents are available on the Reclamation website: <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo/lto/index.html>

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) independent panel completed review of the Long-term Water Operations of the CVP and SWP and issued the final report on November 10, 2024. Staff is reviewing the report for priority actions and participate in informational meetings. The documents and recordings of the public meetings and presentations are available at <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/review-of-the-long-term-operations-of-the-central-valley-project>

Reclamation is currently developing the scope for the next round of NAS review with an intended focus on the Delta ecosystem and management strategies. Staff is assisting with the task statement and background information.



## Water Authority Science Coordination Workgroup

The Science Coordination Workgroup met on January 20, 2025. Staff provided an update on the Science Program accomplishments including the two projects in partnership with UC Merced, activities pertaining to Golden Mussels, objectives for the year, and potential projects. Regarding the Socio-Economic Water Supply Model being developed by UC Merced, staff will be sending data requests to member agencies. Staff participated in the Interagency Ecological Program Conference in March 2026.

Staff has been participating in the Golden Mussel Response Task Force meetings, coordinating with Valley Water, Westlands, and Contra Costa, and working with staff to begin a monitoring and response plan in the Delta-Mendota Canal and associated facilities. Golden Mussels are an invasive species first detected in October 2024. Similar to Quagga/Zebra Mussels, the Golden Mussels have potential to impact infrastructure with their expedient colonization. Staff placed monitoring plates in April 2025 along the Delta Mendota Canal and pumping plants, which are examined monthly. Golden Mussels have been detected at Jones Pumping Plant, as well as O’Neill forebay and Pumping/Generating Plant. Staff is providing information and scientific support to members, as needed. The site visit for the vulnerability assessment was completed in early February. While waiting for the final reports in April 2026, staff is already implementing the recommendations to protect the facilities. Staff anticipates the increase in spawning to begin in April with fouling to increase in June/July. Staff is organizing monthly Water Agency coordination meetings to discuss the effectiveness of various methods being applied to control and mitigate for Golden Mussel infestation. This will be a monthly meeting through July 2026 and aims to share information from the operations and science staff to develop effective treatments.



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors and Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
Chris Linneman, Regional Drainage Coordinator  
Orvil McKinnis, Westside Watershed Coalition Coordinator

Date: April 9, 2026

RE: Staff Report on Activity Agreements – March 2026

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## Background

This memorandum serves as the Staff Report for March 2026 regarding specified<sup>1</sup> Water Authority activities not separately addressed on the Board meeting agenda.

## Integrated Regional Water Management Activity (IRWM) Summary

The Roundtable of Regions met to determine potential paths forward for the IRWM Program in the future, given the limited amount of funding provided in Proposition 4 for IRWM Activities (\$100M), and has released a transition plan that may be of interest to member agencies<sup>2</sup>.

### Westside San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRMWP)

Self-Help Enterprises has prepared a draft Community Water Needs Assessment for disadvantaged communities (DACs) in the Westside San Joaquin IRWM Region, incorporating revisions from staff. The Assessment is being updated to identify and prioritize the most critical drinking water needs for DACs in the region, especially during drought years. The revised draft will be distributed to an IRWM Activity Agreement Member subcommittee for review and input prior to completion, which is anticipated by the end of the fiscal year.

At present, all tasks for the Proposition 1 IRWM grant are on schedule. An amendment request letter for Amendment 7 was submitted to DWR to accommodate construction delays for both CCID and Westlands. The requested amendment would extend the agreement end date to June 30, 2026 with no funds to be requested after September 30, 2026. DWR has granted the amendment request and the term of the grant

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<sup>1</sup> For the sake of completeness, this includes those Activity Agreements that have been approved by the Board of Directors, but not yet signed by all interested members and/or participants (i.e., the Los Vaqueros Expansion Project Activity Agreement, the Exchange Contractors 2019-2023 Transfer Program Activity Agreement, and the Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Activity Agreement).

<sup>2</sup> Request from Authority staff.



has been extended to June 30, 2026. Closeout documents have been sent to DWR for the CCID project, leaving only the Westlands project needing project completion.

Staff has executed a contract with The Ferguson Group for grant support to support implementation of IRWM projects in the region. Staff will be rolling out the introduction to the program for member agencies for calls for projects throughout the region to be aggregated into a master list to seek funding support and anticipates advancement of this effort beginning this month.

Staff intends to produce a master list of member agency projects, with the intention of using this list to identify funding opportunities, as well as programs that need additional funding support, to assist in guiding educational efforts related to infrastructure funding to advance member agency and Water Authority priority projects.

## Drainage Activity Summary

### Grassland Basin Drainage Management Steering Committee Activity

Despite the recent storm activity, the Grassland Bypass Channel gates have remained closed since February of 2024 despite substantial rain events in February and March of this year. Storm events at the end of December caused the Grassland Basin Authority to pump water into the Short-Term Storage Basins to prevent discharge through the Grassland Bypass Project, which continued until January 13. Selenium concentrations in Mud Slough and the San Joaquin River remain below the water quality objective.

### Grassland Basin Program Activities

- General administration: Review and approve consultant billing. Field review of drainage conditions and correspondence with SJRIP manager. Correspondence with Regional Board staff occurred as required. The FY26/27 budget was adopted at the December meeting.
- Compliance Monitoring: Monitoring in compliance with the 2019 revised WDRs and 2019 Use Agreement is a continuous and daily effort. Regular flow, water quality and toxicity monitoring are required at eight locations at a frequency that varies from monthly to daily.
- Grassland Drainage Area Coalition: Work continues to provide coverage for farmers within the Grassland Drainage Area for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
Contract/Procurement Activity Report  
From March 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026**

<b>Date Executed</b>	<b>Contract Title</b>	<b>Vendor or Service Provider</b>	<b>Contract Amount</b>	<b>Contract Solicitation Type</b>	<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Notes</b>
3/16/2026	F26-JPP-021 JPP Siphon House Cable Replacement	Hot Line Construction, Inc.	\$125,836.00	Informal Request for Bid	Construction	EO&M Fund 26 D4-10	Contract executed following informal bidding process.
3/2/2026	PO11436 CMMS Licenses and Support	Shepherd OU	\$61,800.00	Annual Purchase Order	MSE / Professional Services	O&M Fund 01	CMMS Licenses and Support Services - Shepherd Application

**CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATIONS:**

<b>Date Executed</b>	<b>Contract Title</b>	<b>Vendor or Service Provider</b>	<b>Change Order Amount</b>	<b>Original Contract Amount</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Justification</b>
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**NOTE: NO CONTRACT CHANGE ORDERS WERE ISSUED DURING THIS REPORT PERIOD**

This Procurement Activity Report is intended to satisfy the requirements in the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority's Consolidated Procurement Policy that the Board be notified of all contracts awarded under informal and formal bidding procedures and single-source procedures, as well as certain change orders, promptly following award.



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Baños, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates  
From: Federico Barajas, Executive Director  
Date: April 9, 2026  
RE: Selection and Appointment of FY27 San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board Officers

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The Water Authority's Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) provides for the selection of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. In contrast to the Treasurer, who serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors<sup>1</sup> (Board), "[t]he chair, vice chair, and secretary . . . hold office for a period of one year commencing the first meeting of each Fiscal Year [FY]." JPA, Art. 17. The Water Authority's FY 2027 begins March 1, 2026.

## Issue for Decision

Who the Board should appoint as Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for FY 2027.

## Recommendation

The Board take action to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair. Staff proposes that Federico Barajas continue to serve as Secretary.

## Background Information

### 1. Chair

The Chair is selected from the membership of the Board. The Chair serves as the presiding officer at all Board meetings, has a right to vote on all matters coming before the Board, and is a voting member of both the Water Resources Committee and Finance and Administration Committee. The Chair appoints members and alternate members of the Committees and Subcommittees, appoints from within each Committee and Subcommittee chairs, and has the right to call special meetings. Cannon Michael has served as Chair since March 2018.

### 2. Vice Chair

The Vice Chair is also selected from the membership of the Board. The Vice Chair serves as the presiding officer of Board meetings in the absence of the Chair. Like the Chair, the Vice Chair has a right to vote on all matters coming before the Board and is a voting member of both the Water Resources Committee and Finance and Administration Committee. William Bourdeau has served as Vice Chair since March 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> The Water Authority's Director of Finance, Raymond Tarka, has served as Treasurer since June 2022.

### 3. Secretary

The Secretary may be but is not required to be a Director. In practice, the Water Authority's Executive Director has filled the Secretary role, with assistance from the Water Authority's Executive Secretary. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Board and all other official records of the Authority. Executive Director Federico Barajas has served as Secretary since January 2019.



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

To: SLDMWA Water Resources Committee Members and Alternates / Board of Directors and Alternates  
From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
Date: April 6, 2026  
RE: Water Resources Committee to Consider Recommendations on Legislation / Board of Directors to Consider Same

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## Recommendation

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Recommend to the Water Resources Committee and Board of Directors to adopt the following positions on legislation:

### State Legislation

- Adopt a position of “Favor” on A.B. 1754 (Pacheco), State general obligation bonds: requirements.
- Adopt a position of “Watch and Amend” on A.B. 1772 (Papan), Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: golden mussels.
- Adopt a position of “Not Favor Unless Amended” on A.B. 2013 (Bennett), Fire risk areas: water suppliers: emergency preparedness plan.
- Adopt a position of “Watch and Amend” on A.B. 2026 (Aguiar-Curry), Groundwater Recharge.
- Adopt a position of “Support and Amend” on A.B. 2032 (Ransom), Fish and wildlife: restricted species permits.
- Adopt a position of “Oppose Unless Amended” on A.B. 2218 (Kalra), Water policy: California Native American tribes.
- Adopt a position of “Oppose” on A.B. 2630 (Bennett), Water diversion and use: adoption of regulations.
- Adopt a position of “Support” on A.B. 2728 (Soria), Open and Transparent Water Data Act.
- Adopt a position of “Support” on A.C.A. 11 (Macedo), California Water Resiliency Act.
- Adopt a position of “Watch and Amend” on S.B. 872 (McNerney), Climate change: funding priorities.



## State Legislation

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### A.B. 1754 (Pachecho), State general obligation bonds: requirements.

#### **RECOMMENDATION: Favor**

#### **POLICY SCOPE: Funding and Finance**

#### Summary

This bill requires a bond act for a state general obligation (G.O.) bond measure approved by voters on or after January 1, 2027 to include specified information about the objectives of the bond expenditures and related data. Specifically, this bill:

- (1) Provides for any state general obligation bond measure that is approved by voters on and after January 1, 2027, this bill would require a bond act to include specified information about the objectives of the bond expenditure and related data, for example:
  - a. Specific goals, purposes, and objectives that the bond expenditure is intended to achieve.
  - b. Detailed performance indicators for the public to have when measuring whether the bond expenditure meets the goals, purposes, and objectives established.
  - c. Data collection requirements to enable the public to determine whether the bond expenditure is meeting, failing to meet, or exceeding those specific goals, purposes, and objectives.
  - d. Specific data and baseline measurements to be collected and remitted annually while the bond is being expended.
- (2) Requires the head of the lead state agency administering the bond to post on its internet website a notification that contains, among other information, details about the programs and projects authorized to be funded by the bond.
- (3) Requires each state agency subject to these provisions to provide a written report to the Department of Finance (DOF), the Legislative Analyst, and the Assembly Committee on Budget, and the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review that contains certain information regarding the general obligation bond, in accordance with the above-described provisions and includes all of the following:
  - a. Whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond proceeds has been done in a timely and efficient manner.
  - b. Whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond proceeds has or has not achieved its intended purpose.
  - c. Whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond proceeds was done in compliance with all statutory and regulatory requirements.
- (4) Requires a bond act to include a provision requiring the cost of the report to be included in the cost of administering the bond act, and would require the cost of compliance with the above-described report requirements to be included in the cost of administering the bond act.
- (5) Makes non-substantive and conforming changes to certain cross-references.
- (6) Makes various legislative findings and declarations.



## Status

A.B. 1754 was introduced on February 9, 2026, passed the Committee on Government Oversight on March 19, 2026, and has been referred to the Appropriations Committee.

## Importance to the Authority

A report from the LAO in 2024 highlighted that California pays about \$6 billion each year from the General Fund to repay bonds. At a time of budget difficulty, it is essential that all our spending is justified. While the current mechanism does focus on preventing waste, fraud, and abuse with bond spending, they fail to track outcomes. Although the state has implemented some limited monitoring and evaluation of bond fund spending, these data systems are incomplete and, in many cases, not guided by clear strategies with measurable outcomes. As a result, we have a crisis of confidence that public money is being effectively spent on things that impact people's lives. Bond expenditures and related information should be provided to voters to promote greater transparency and trust in the voters who approve bond funding for the purpose of ensuring a vital infrastructure future for California. The public should be assured that bond funds will be used as the voters intended. Accountability regarding the expenditure of bond funds begins with establishing criteria for determining whether the intended outcomes are being achieved. AB 1754 creates that process, ensuring that voters have access to ongoing updates and reports regarding programs funded by bonds, ensuring that voter-approved funds are being used for what they were intended, and the state upholds its role as a responsible spender.

For these reasons, staff recommends a "Favor" position.

**A.B. 1772 (Papan), Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: golden mussels.**

## **RECOMMENDATION: Watch and Amend**

**POLICY SCOPE: Water Supply Reliability, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance, Funding and Finance**

## Existing Law

Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water in the state, invasive mussels. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. Existing law requires, if invasive mussels are detected, the operator of a water supply system to, in cooperation with the department, prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system, and eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel. Existing law requires, on or before December 31, 2026, the department to review all approved plans and require all plans that do not specifically address all invasive mussel species known to be present in bodies of water in the state as of January 1, 2026, to be updated or revised appropriately to include all invasive mussel species, on or before September 30, 2027. Existing law requires every invasive mussel species to be addressed in a plan no later than 180 days from the date that the species is listed in a certain regulation. Existing law defines "invasive mussel" for these purposes as any nonnative detrimental mussel, as provided.



Under existing law, except as otherwise provided, any violation of the Fish and Game Code, or of any rule, regulation, or order made or adopted under the code, is a crime.

## Summary

This bill would require the department to require water supply system operators to update their plans to address all invasive mussel species present in the operator's water system as of January 1, 2026, as provided. The bill would require a plan to address every invasive mussel species detected in a water supply system after January 1, 2026, no later than 180 days from the date the species is detected. The bill would require a plan to minimize or eliminate the spread of invasive mussels. The bill would revise the definition of "invasive mussel" to mean any nonnative biofouling mussel, as provided. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would require the department, in consultation with the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Food and Agriculture, to develop a voluntary framework to prevent the overland spread of invasive mussels through the conveyance of watercraft overland. The bill would require the framework to include specified elements, including, among other elements, minimum standards for watercraft inspection, decontamination, and quarantine and a banding program or other mechanisms by which to confirm the inspection, decontamination, or quarantine status of a watercraft.

## Status

A.B. 1772 was introduced on February 9, 2026, was amended into substantive spot bill form, and has been referred to the Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife.

## Importance to the Authority

Invasive mussels can impact water delivery systems by clogging small-diameter pipelines, screens, and filters, and alter aquatic ecosystems by filter-feeding on planktonic algae and changing habitat structure. For water agencies, an uncontrolled infestation could mean costly infrastructure damage, reduced water delivery capacity, and disrupted treatment operations.

The Delta already has a well-documented pelagic food web crisis. Phytoplankton are an important and limiting food source in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the decline of phytoplankton biomass is one potential factor in the decline of the protected delta smelt and other pelagic organisms. The mechanism driving that phytoplankton collapse is bivalve filter-feeding: invasive bivalves such as *Corbicula fluminea* and *Potamocorbula amurensis* have been shown to control phytoplankton biomass in several locations throughout the system.

Golden mussels make this dramatically worse. The golden mussel is a voracious plankton feeder that may further reduce the food supply for delta smelt and other plankton-feeding fishes in low salinity environments. Its effect on fishes may be similar to that of the overbite clam (*Potamocorbula amurensis*), which has been a major cause of pelagic fish declines in the Delta since the early 1980s. Golden mussels will likely colonize the fresher parts of the Delta and spread upstream as far as boats travel, thereby occupying a part of the watershed where nonnative overbite clams, limited by salinity, drop out. In other words, golden mussels are not merely adding to an existing stressor — they are filling one habitat gap that had partially buffered the food web collapse.

Creating a holistic framework around decontamination standards to prevent additional spread and funding to address water agency research and mitigation needs is one purported purpose of this legislation. The



legislation has an active Author facilitated working group that Authority staff are actively participating in and will be working with the author to coordinate efforts on water agency needs and response to the emerging issue.

For these reasons, staff recommends a “Watch and Amend” position.

**A.B. 2013 (Bennett), Fire risk areas: water suppliers: emergency preparedness plan.**

**RECOMMENDATION: Not Favor Unless Amended**

**POLICY SCOPE: Environmental and Regulatory Compliance, Funding and Finance**

### Existing Law

Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas.

Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the State Fire Marshal.

### Summary

This bill would require a water supplier that services more than 100 customers that are located in a moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone to establish an emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings, extreme weather events, and other major power outages or emergencies that pose a potential threat to providing adequate water service to the moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone.

Water suppliers would be encouraged to develop the emergency preparedness plan in coordination with the county board of supervisors, or a county agency or department if one is designated an authority to coordinate with the water supplier by the county board of supervisors. The bill requires the plan to be submitted to the county board of supervisors or a county agency or department designated by the county board of supervisors.

This bill would require a water supplier to review the emergency preparedness plan at least once every three years and update the plan as necessary.

This bill would require the emergency preparedness plan to include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

- (1) An assessment of the minimum water tank levels necessary to maintain water service for customers while providing an adequate water supply for firefighting activities during an extreme weather event or red flag warning. The assessment would be required to take into consideration water quality standards and actions necessary to maintain water quality.
- (2) An assessment that identifies the minimum number of and type of water pumps that are necessary to maintain water service for customers while providing an adequate water supply for firefighting activities. The assessment would be required to identify water pumps that are equipped with emergency backup energy sources and identify water pumps that require the installation of emergency backup energy sources.



- (3) An identification of alternative water sources that can be used during an extreme weather event or loss of power, if any.
- (4) A detailed accounting of the pipelines, water pumps, water tanks, backup power generation facilities, and related infrastructure needs that are necessary to maintain water service for customers and provide adequate water supply for firefighting activities during an extreme weather event and a designation for which of these pipelines, water pumps, water tanks, and backup power generation facilities are, or are required to be, fire hardened.

This bill would require a water supplier or water system that is required to prepare and submit an emergency response plan to the Public Utilities Commission to include the emergency preparedness plan in that submission.

## Status

A.B. 2013 was introduced on February 17, 2026, and referred to the Committees on Emergency Management and Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials on March 16, 2026. Importance to the Authority

This year, Assemblymember Bennett introduced AB 2013, which incorporates the planning requirements from AB 367 statewide, with certain changes.

## Importance to the Authority

The provisions in AB 2013 are not workable. The bill would require water suppliers, as specified and insufficiently defined in statute, to prepare an emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings, extreme weather events, and other major power outages or emergencies that pose a potential threat to providing adequate water service to the moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone. Concerns have been raised over specific elements the bill requires water suppliers to include within their emergency preparedness plans. These elements include an assessment of the minimum water tank levels and minimum number of and type of water pumps and a detailed accounting of the pipelines, water pumps, water tanks, backup power generation facilities, and related infrastructure necessary to provide an adequate water supply for firefighting activities.

AB 2013 misrepresents the role of public water agencies during wildfires. The bill is structured under the premise that water systems should be expected to provide “adequate water supply for firefighting activities.” Public water agencies’ systems are designed to provide the public with safe and reliable drinking water and to provide an immediately available water service to aid in extinguishing structural fires in accordance with requirements for fire flows. These water systems were not designed to combat wildfires, especially the climate-driven wildfires that California experiences today. AB 2013’s prescriptive requirements could be used as a tool in litigation against public water agencies after a fire. Furthermore, the bill fails to recognize and acknowledge the complexity and dynamic nature of water system operations. Emergency planning efforts will vary based on the needs of the system and area of the state.

Ultimately this bill takes the wrong approach and would increase liability for public water agencies. Alternatively, ACWA’s sponsored bill, SB 1153 (Caballero, 2026), clarifies the role of public water agencies in wildfire response, including the limitations of water systems, and bolsters planning efforts by requiring urban retail water suppliers serving high-risk areas to include wildfire response procedures within their emergency response plans.



Water Authority staff and consultants will participate in ACWA's Emergency Management Working Group, which engaged on AB 367, to draft amendments to AB 2013 to eliminate the liability concerns, while supporting planning efforts in alignment with SB 1153. In conversations last year in the Legislature, there is a strong desire for water agencies to take action and invest in wildfire preparedness.

For these reasons, staff recommends a "Not Favor Unless Amended" position.

## A.B. 2026 (Aguiar-Curry), Water diversion: groundwater recharge: permit.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Watch and Amend**

**POLICY SCOPE:** Water Supply Reliability, Water Quality and Resource Management, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance, Climate Adaptation and Resilience, Funding and Finance

### Background

#### *Existing Law*

#### Beneficial Use

The Reasonable and Beneficial Use Doctrine (Doctrine) mandates that water resources of the State be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable, and that the waste or unreasonable use of water be prevented, and that the conservation of such waters be exercised with a view of the interest of the people and for the public welfare. The Doctrine limits the right to or the use or flow of water in or from any natural stream or water course in California to the amount reasonably required and does not extend that right to the waste or unreasonable use or method of diversion of water.

#### Appropriative Water Right Exemption for Diversion of Floodflows

SB 122 (Chapter 51, Statutes of 2023) provides that for diversions commenced before January 1, 2029, the diversion of floodflows, as defined, for groundwater recharge does not require an appropriative water right if certain conditions are met, including that a local or regional agency that has adopted a flood control plan or considered flood risks as part of its most recently adopted general plan has given notice, as provided, of imminent risk of flooding and inundation of lands, roads, or structures.

Existing law also requires the person or entity making the diversion for groundwater recharge purposes to file with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and any applicable groundwater sustainability agency (GSA), a notice containing specified information in accordance with specified timelines.

For diversions from water tributaries to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta), the diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge does not require an appropriative water right if water rights holders are not making releases of stored water or reoperating facilities to provide flow for the purposes of meeting water quality control plan or endangered species requirements in the Delta at the time of the diversion.

#### Fees

Existing law requires each person or entity who holds a permit or license to appropriate water, and each lessor of water, to pay an annual fee according to a fee schedule established by the State Water Board.



### Environmental Impacts

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency to prepare, or cause to be prepared by contract, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on any proposed project that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment.

### Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements

Existing law prohibits an entity from substantially diverting or obstructing the natural flow of, or substantially changing or using any material from the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake, or depositing or disposing of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake, unless prescribed requirements are met, including providing written notification of the activity to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Existing law requires CDFW to determine whether the activity may substantially adversely affect an existing fish and wildlife resource and, if so, to provide a draft lake or streambed alteration agreement (LSAA) that meets various requirements to the person, agency, or utility. Existing law establishes various exemptions from these provisions, including for specified emergency work and, until January 1, 2029, the diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge, as provided.

### Applications for Conditional, Temporary Permits

Existing law authorizes a person with an urgent need, as defined, to divert and use water, to apply for, and authorizes the State Water Board to issue a conditional, temporary permit without complying with other required procedures or provisions if specified requirements are met. Specifically, prior to issuing a temporary permit, the State Water Board is required to find that (1) the person has an urgent need for the water proposed to be diverted and used, (2) the water can be diverted and used without injuring any other lawful water user, (3) the water can be diverted and used without unreasonably effecting fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses, and (4) the proposed diversion and use are in the public's interest. Existing law authorizes an application to be filed regardless of if a groundwater basin has adopted a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP), interim plan, or alternative.

### Division of Water Rights

Existing law requires the State Water Board to divide itself into at least two divisions, including the Division of Water Rights (Division), and to appoint a deputy director or division chief for each. Existing law requires the State Water Board to consider and act upon applications for permits to appropriate water and to do all things required by or related to said applications.

Existing law requires the Division to conduct a field investigation of all minor protested applications, as defined.

### Groundwater Basins

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to be managed under a GSP or coordinated GSPs, except as specified. SGMA authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) for that basin and imposes specified duties upon that agency or combination of agencies, as provided.



## State Water Project and Central Valley Project

Existing law requires DWR to operate and maintain the State Water Resources Development System (State Water Project (SWP)) in accordance with the California Water Resources Development Bond Act to supply water to persons and entities in the state. Existing law imposes on DWR full charge and control of the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and provides that the public interest, welfare, convenience, and necessity require the construction of the CVP for the conservation, development, storage, distribution, and utilization of water.

### *Summary*

This analysis only discusses sections with additions or amendments that directly impact Water Authority members and omits all other sections.

### Section 2

This bill would amend the conditions under which an appropriative water right would *not* be required for the diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge in the following ways:

Instead of a local or regional agency that has adopted a local plan of flood control or considered flood risk as part of its most recently adopted general plan, this bill would require a local or regional agency responsible for flood management to give notice via specified means that downstream flows are at imminent risk of flood and inundation of land, roads, or structures.

This bill would expand the definition of the term “floodflow” to include flows that are occurring downstream of a dam releasing water for flood purposes as required by a United States Army Corps of Engineers flood control rule or curve, a court judgment, or other binding rule.

This bill would amend the definition of the term “imminent” to a high degree of confidence that a condition will occur soon if flood management actions are not immediately implemented.

This bill would define the term “excess water conditions” as those determined by the Agreement Between the United States of America and the State of California for Coordinated Operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, as amended.

This bill would expand the conditions under which diversions cease to include when flood control releases are no longer legally required or would interfere with a priority right on the stream that the diversions occur from or downstream of that stream.

This bill would amend the conditions under which water could be diverted from tributaries to the Delta. This bill would, for a diversion from the San Joaquin River or its tributaries upstream of Vernalis, authorize the diversion of water when the Delta is in excess water conditions and without restrictions. This bill would, with respect to all other diversions, authorize the diversion of water when the Delta is in excess water conditions and (1) without restrictions or (2) with restrictions, but its operations are only controlled by Old and Middle River flow, as defined, or San Joaquin River inflow-to-export ratio. This bill would require a diverter to monitor conditions daily using a specified report. This bill would define the term “controlled by Old and Middle River Flow” as conditions when the CVP and SWP are implementing one or more regulatory requirements by managing flows in Old and Middle River, whatever the source or content of those requirements.

This bill would authorize a person or entity making the diversion of groundwater recharge to claim credit, instead of a water right, for the beneficial use of the diversion and recharge if the underground storage of the



water advances the sustainability goal of a basin and the GSA with authority over the area where the diverted water recharges the basin that authorized the credit. This bill would limit the amount of credit that could be claimed. Diversion for groundwater recharge would not create a vested water right to divert.

This bill would, if tribal consultation has been conducted, exempt the diversion of floodflow for groundwater recharge from requirements of the Public Resources Code (PRC) and Fish and Game Code (FGC).

### Section 3

This bill would define the following terms:

1. "Controlled by Old and Middle River Flow" as conditions when the CVP and SWP are implementing one or more regulatory requirements by managing flows in Old and Middle River, whatever the source or content of those requirements is;
2. "De minimis reduction" as a cumulative reduction of less than 10 acre-feet in a single water year;
3. "Delta" as defined in Section 12220;
4. "Delta is with restrictions" as conditions when CVP and SWP operations in the Delta are constrained by a nondiscretionary requirement, including a requirement for the protection of water quality and endangered species;
5. "Delta is without restrictions" as conditions when CVP and SWP operations in the Delta are not constrained by a nondiscretionary requirements, including a requirements for the protection of water quality and endangered species;
6. "Delta operations" as the operations by which the CVP and SWP divert water from the Delta;
7. "Excess water conditions" as conditions as determined pursuant to the Agreement Between the United States of America and the State of California for Coordinated Operation of the CVP and SWP, as amended; and
8. "Water year" as the period beginning October 1 of one calendar year and continuing to September 30 of the following calendar year.

For minor applications to divert water within or upstream of the Delta, this bill would allow the State Water Board's finding that water may be diverted and used without injuring a legal user of water from or any contractor to the CVP or SWP to be satisfied by the use of (1) a temporary urgency permit or a temporary permit for diversion to underground storage, (2) the inclusion of specified language regarding proposed permit terms, and (2) the adoption of the language in the applicable permit. For diversions from the San Joaquin River or its tributaries, this bill would authorize water to be diverted when the Delta is in excess water conditions and without restrictions. For all other diversions, this bill would authorize water to be diverted when the Delta is in excess water conditions and (1) without restrictions or (2) with restrictions but operations are controlled only by Old and Middle River flow, as defined, or San Joaquin River inflow-to-export ratio. This bill would require the permittee to monitor conditions using a specified report to determine the Delta's condition and whether diversions are authorized.

This bill would authorize water to be diverted to the applicable permit if, in addition to compliance with other unrelated permit terms, the permittee has an agreement with DWR and, as necessary, the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau), to ensure that their diversions upstream of the Delta do not injure DWR or the Bureau by adversely impacting the operations of the SWP or CVP. A de minimis, as defined, effect on the operations of the SWP or CVP would not be an injury to DWR or the Bureau.



#### Section 4

This bill would add to the list of conditions under which the Division would not be required to conduct a field investigation for a minor application, as defined, if specified conditions are met, including that the application (1) involves a diversion substantially similar to a diversion previously authorized by temporary permits for at least 5 years and involving no greater amount and no other points of diversion, than authorized in the last of the preceding temporary permits, and (2) includes specified information on the applicant's experience regarding past temporary permits.

#### Section 5

This bill would require the State Water Board to consider, in a specified manner, minor applications involving a diversion substantially similar to a diversion previously authorized by temporary permits for at least 5 years and involving no greater amount and no other points of diversion than authorized in the last of the preceding temporary permits. Specifically, the State Water Board would, among other things, be required to:

1. Give public notice of and provide an opportunity to file public comments on the application in accordance with specified timelines. This bill would authorize the State Water Board to extend the timeline by 30 days if it makes a written finding of good cause based on unique circumstances,
2. Issue a decision on the application in accordance with specified timelines. This bill would authorize the State Water Board to delegate its authority to issue a decision to the Division, subject to its reconsideration of the Division's decision. This bill would require the reconsideration proceeding to conclude within 90 days of the filing of a petition for reconsideration, unless the applicant consents to an extension,
3. Approve the application if it determines that a preponderance of evidence shows that the proposed diversion would not:
  - a. Injure any legal water user through significant changes in water quantity, water quality, timing of diversion or use, consumptive use of the water, or reduction in return flows, and
  - b. Unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses,
4. If it determines that the preponderance of the evidence does *not* support the required findings based on the applicant's proposed terms, approve, to the maximum extent possible, the application based on terms that it determines *will* cause the applicant's diversion to satisfy the provisions in paragraph (3). This bill would prohibit the State Water Board from conditioning a permit on terms involving another permit, license, or water right held by the applicant or to avoid or mitigate impacts not caused by the diversion proposed by the application,
5. Not require separate applications for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of water and not require the permit to describe the physical works used to convey water to underground storage, the spreading grounds, and the underground reservoirs or the method and point of measurement of water recharged to, and withdrawn from, underground storage,
6. Consider that diversions related to an application involving diversions upstream of the Delta would not cause injury to the legal users of water by the CVP, SWP, or those projects' contractors if the permit incorporates applicable specified terms,
7. Consider that its issuance of a permit would not be exempt from PRC and FGC requirements if (1) tribal consultation has been conducted and (2) the permitted diversions will occur through existing diversion infrastructure or temporary facilities that meet specified requirements,
8. Consider a minor application notwithstanding any declaration that the relevant stream system is fully appropriated in accordance with specified requirements, and



9. Set fees in accordance with specified requirements.

#### Section 6

This bill would include in the definition of the term “minor application” an application by a GSA or local agency, or a private entity pursuant to a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or other agreement with a GSA, for a diversion that:

1. Is substantially similar to a diversion previously authorized by temporary permits for at least 5 years and involving no greater amount and no other points of diversion, than authorized in the last of the preceding temporary permits, or
2. Was previously authorized by a temporary permit.

#### Section 7

This bill would add Article 1 to Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Water Code, which would apply to applications for temporary urgency permits and temporary permits for diversions to underground storage, and its terms would determine the availability of water for diversion for applications for those permits.

This bill would define the following terms, among others:

1. “90/20 method” as the method for calculating water availability when flows exceed the 90th percentile of historic daily flow between December 1 and March 31, and the total amount of water diverted is capped at 20 percent of the daily flow after downstream senior diverter demand, established instream flow requirements, and consideration of water quality objectives are satisfied,
2. “Basin” as defined in Water Code Section 10721,
3. “Delta” as the Delta,
4. “Diversion criteria” as specific thresholds that determine when a permittee may divert, based on flows. These are in addition to any other condition placed on a permit,
5. Flood/recharge diversion criteria” as the method for calculating water availability for the Sacramento River and its tributaries upstream of the Delta, pursuant to which water is available for diversion for recharge and beneficial uses during the period of December 1 to March 31, inclusive, within a water year when, on the date of measurement, cumulative unimpaired runoff as of that date exceeds the 80th percentile of historical cumulative water year runoff at the point of diversion, or the nearest measuring point, and lasting until that cumulative water year runoff is lower than the 50th percentile of historical cumulative runoff at the point of diversion, or the nearest point of measurement, as measured against historical cumulative water year runoff measured on that date,
6. “Location-specific diversion criteria” as criteria for determining the water available for diversion pursuant to methods other than the 90/20 method or the flood/recharge diversion criteria that contain the following components:
  - a. Limits diversion to the December 1 to March 31, inclusive, period and from higher streamflows,
  - b. Limits diversions to a portion of daily or seasonal streamflow,
  - c. Protects existing legal users of water, including the CVP and SWP,
  - d. Protects public trust resources,
  - e. Allows for implementation across the specific region, and
  - f. Provides for the ability to efficiently forecast diversions, operate to diversion criteria, and promote maximum diversion opportunities pursuant to appropriate conditions.
7. “Recharge beneficial uses” as beneficial uses supported by groundwater recharge projects, and



8. “Temporary permit” as a temporary urgency permit or a temporary permit for diversion to underground storage.

This bill would authorize the State Water Board to consider and issue a permit for any applicable application if water availability for the application and permit is determined in accordance with this section and notwithstanding any declaration that the relevant stream system is fully appropriated. This bill would require the State Water Board to apply the following criteria when determining the availability of water for an application and permit:

1. For diversions from the Sacramento River or its tributaries upstream of the Delta, the State Water Board would be required to apply the flood/recharge diversion criteria. Those criteria would only determine the availability of water during the period of December 1 to March 31, and the ultimate permit would be prohibited from authorizing the diversion of more than 20 percent of daily streamflow at any point of diversion.
2. For other areas of the state, the State Water Board would be required to apply location-specific diversion criteria to the maximum extent possible. If that is not possible, the State Water Board would be required to apply the 90/20 method.

This bill would require the State Water Board to adopt emergency regulations detailing the 90/20 method and would subject the emergency regulations, and any amendment to them, to review by the Office of Administrative Law. Adopted emergency regulations would remain in effect until revised by the State Water Board.

This bill would exempt specified situations from PRC requirements, including:

1. The adoption of emergency regulations, if tribal consultation has been conducted as required, and
2. The issuance of a temporary permit that meets specified criteria.

## Section 9

In addition to the findings currently required to be made by the State Water Board, this bill would also require the State Water Board to find that a conditional, temporary permit’s diversion and use will support the application of water to one or more beneficial uses, which may include recharge beneficial uses.

This bill would expand the definition of the term “urgent need” to include, in a basin that requires a GSP, the application of a local agency, GSA, or private entity operating pursuant to an MOU or other agreement with a GSA to divert and use water determined to be available to augment the basin’s recharge to support implementation of the basin’s sustainability goal.

This bill would authorize a temporary permit to authorize that diversions be initiated after the date of the permit’s issuance, if the diversions are authorized during the 180-day period after diversions commence. This bill would require an applicant to request approval of a delayed initiation period in their initial application filing. This bill would require a permittee, if delayed initiation is authorized, to inform the State Water Board within 10 days of commencement of diversion. This bill would require the State Water Board to list notifications received on its website.

This bill would exempt the State Water Board’s issuance of a temporary permit to address an urgent need from requirements of the PRC, if tribal consultation has been conducted and if the permitted diversions occur through either of the following situations:



1. Existing diversion infrastructure, or
2. Temporary facilities that meet specified conditions.

This bill would require the State Water Board to set fees for applications for temporary urgency permits and would limit fees to the amount of work reasonably estimated to be required of the State Water Board to reach a decision on an application. This bill would prohibit the State Water Board from requiring separate applications or fees for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of diverted water.

#### Section 10

This bill would authorize applications to be accepted for processing if the proposed diversion is on an applicable stream or stream segment and the applicant proposes operating in accordance with applicable diversion criteria.

Under this bill, a temporary permit could authorize diversion to be initiated more than 180 days after its date of issuance but no more than 5 years later. This bill would require an applicant to request approval of a delayed initiation period in their initial application filing. This bill would require a permittee, if delayed initiation of diversion is authorized, to inform the State Water Board within 10 days of commencement of diversion. This bill would require the State Water Board to list notifications received on its website.

This bill would authorize the Chief Deputy Director of Water Rights to limit diversion under temporary permits in favor of competing temporary permits based on, but not limited to, consideration of public interest. This bill would authorize temporary permits to be changed upon request.

#### Section 13

This bill would add a new way for the State Water Board to satisfy the findings required to be made before issuing a permit. Specifically, this bill would permit the finding that water may be diverted and used without injury to be satisfied by demonstrating that water is available for appropriation in accordance with specified requirements.

This bill would no longer subject storage and extraction from storage in a basin pursuant to a proposed permit to accounting methods and reporting requirements established by the State Water Board.

This bill would exempt the State Water Board's issuance of a temporary permit to address an urgent need from requirements of the PRC and FGC, if the volume of water is determined and tribal consultation has been conducted as required, and the permitted diversions occur through either of the following situations:

1. Existing diversion infrastructure, or
2. Temporary facilities that meet specified conditions.

This bill would require the State Water Board to set fees for applications for temporary urgency permits and would limit fees to the amount of work reasonably estimated to be required of the State Water Board to reach a decision on an application. This bill would prohibit the State Water Board from requiring separate applications or fees for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of diverted water.

#### Section 14

This bill would require the State Water Board to set fees for applications for temporary urgency permits and would limit fees to the amount of work reasonably estimated to be required of the State Water Board to reach a decision on an application. This bill would prohibit the State Water Board from requiring separate applications or fees for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of diverted water.



This bill would change what information an application for a temporary permit is required to include. Specifically, an application could include a (1) water availability analysis that quantifies the amount of unappropriated water available, (2) simplified water available analysis, or (3) demonstration that Section 1422 applies.

#### *Status*

#### **Amendment History**

*02-17-26*

This bill was introduced as a spot bill with legislative intent language.

*03-19-26*

This bill was amended to reflect current provisions.

#### **Importance to the Authority**

AB 2026 offers an ambitious approach to reimagining the State's largely dysfunctional regulatory pathways for diverting water during high-flow events for groundwater recharge. ACWA and the Legislature have deliberated this topic multiple times in the last decade, engendering differing views on how to balance maximizing opportunities for recharge with protections for downstream users.

Given the history of this topic, the complexity of AB 2026, and the short time available to consider the bill, staff is recommending a "Watch and Amend" position.

#### **Potential Amendments**

AB 2026 must include a real-time Delta conditions trigger that suspends new diversion authorizations when CVP export operations are already constrained by OMR limits, the IE Ratio, or BiOp-triggered pumping restrictions. The bill already establishes that diversions from the San Joaquin River or its tributaries upstream of Vernalis may only occur when the Delta is in excess water conditions — but the definition of "excess" must be calibrated against CVP export capacity, not merely against nominal Delta outflow thresholds. A Delta that is technically in excess for outflow purposes but simultaneously subject to OMR restrictions that curtail exports is not, from the Authority's operational standpoint, in excess water conditions.

#### **A.B. 2032 (Ransom), Fish and wildlife: restricted species permits.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION: Support and Amend**

**POLICY SCOPE:** Water Supply Reliability, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance, Funding and Finance

#### **Background**

##### *Existing Law*

##### **Fish and Game Code**

Existing law, until January 1, 2030, prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels.



Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system, and if invasive mussels are detected, prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system, and eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel.

Existing law prohibits the importation, transportation, possession, or live release of specified wild animals, except under a revocable, nontransferable permit, known as a restricted species permit, issued by CDFW in cooperation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, and only if certain requirements are met.

Existing law authorizes CDFW to issue permits, commonly known as scientific collecting permits, to take or possess any form of plant or animal life for scientific, educational, or propagation purposes.

#### Food and Agricultural Code

Existing law requires every manufacturer of, importer of, or dealer in any pesticide, except as specified, to obtain a certificate of registration from the Department of Pesticide Regulation before the pesticide is offered for sale. Existing law requires the Director of Pesticide Regulation to endeavor to eliminate from use in the state any pesticide that endangers the agricultural or nonagricultural environment, is not beneficial for the purposes for which it is sold, or is misrepresented, and in carrying out this responsibility, to develop an orderly program for the continuous evaluation of all pesticides actually registered.

#### Water Code

Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the nine California regional water quality control boards regulate water quality and prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne Act) and the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program.

#### Summary

##### Fish and Game Code Provisions

###### *Operations & Maintenance Exemption*

This bill would exempt a public or private agency that operates a water supply system from any permit requirement pursuant to the chapter for maintenance and operational activities to control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system, including removing golden mussels from pipes, screens, filters, and other infrastructure.

###### *Best Management Practices*

This bill would require CDFW's Invasive Species Program, through the Golden Mussel Task Force convened by CDFW, to develop and adopt, on or before April 1, 2027, best management practices for public and private agencies that operate water supply systems to control the spread of golden mussels until control plans can be developed and approved, as specified. The bill would require the best management practices to include common maintenance and operational activities for water infrastructure, water supply systems, and water bodies.

This bill would require CDFW to, upon request, provide guidance to public and private agencies that operate water supply systems regarding the best management practices and update the best management practices as necessary. The bill would encourage a public or private agency that operates a water supply system



undertaking maintenance and operational activities to control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system to comply with the best management practices.

#### *Scientific Research Guidance*

This bill would require CDFW's Invasive Species Program, through the Golden Mussel Task Force, to develop and adopt, by April 1, 2027, guidance for scientific research conducted by or for public and private agencies that operate water supply systems to control the spread of golden mussels, including biology, ecology, and feasibility studies for golden mussel prevention, mitigation, control, and eradication methods.

This bill would require the guidance to include, but not be limited to, a process for a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to submit to CDFW a streamlined project proposal for scientific research to control the spread of golden mussels, to which CDFW must respond with suggested best management practices for the possession and transport of golden mussels to minimize any negative impacts of the scientific research.

This bill would encourage a public or private agency that operates a water supply system conducting scientific research, or having scientific research conducted on its behalf, to control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system to comply with the guidance provided to it in response to a project proposal.

This bill would exempt scientific research to control the spread of golden mussels conducted by or for public and private agencies that operate water supply systems, including, but not limited to, as part of a project proposal, from scientific collecting permits under Section 1002 if the public or private agency participates in the Golden Mussel Task Force, as that participation may be determined by CDFW.

#### *CDFW Maps*

This bill would require CDFW to update the spatial distribution maps of golden mussel-infested water bodies posted on its internet website no less than quarterly based on monitoring and reported detections. The bill would require the maps to distinguish between reported and confirmed detections of golden mussels and include the date of the most recent map update. The bill would provide that the purpose of the maps would be to inform water agency decisions for water supply system projects, maintenance, and operational activities.

#### *Food and Agricultural Code Provisions*

This bill would require the Department of Pesticide Regulation to expedite the initial evaluation, reevaluation, or continuous evaluation of any pesticide under Section 12824 if the pesticide is a chemical treatment effective for the prevention, mitigation, control, or eradication of golden mussels in a water supply system operated by a public or private agency.

This bill would provide that expediting includes, but is not limited to, leveraging work and analysis completed on prior evaluations of pesticides effective for the prevention, mitigation, control, or eradication of golden mussels to expedite similar subsequent evaluations.

#### *Water Code Provisions*

This bill would require the State Water Board and regional boards to expedite the processing of any NPDES permit or permit modification to the extent allowable under state and federal law if the permit or permit modification is submitted by a public or private agency that operates a water supply system in order to control the spread of golden mussels.



This bill would provide that expediting includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- a. Assisting applicants with permit preparation and submittal.
- b. Allowing applicants to coordinate and streamline submission of permits.
- c. Leveraging work and analysis completed on prior permits to expedite the review of similar subsequent permits.
- d. Using any available emergency or urgency procedures with shortened timelines to process, review, and approve permits.

## Status

### Amendment History

2-17-2026

As introduced, the bill was a spot bill related to the import and transportation of species.

3-19-2026

On March 19, the bill was amended to its current form.

## Importance to the Authority

Invasive mussels can impact water delivery systems by clogging small-diameter pipelines, screens, and filters, and alter aquatic ecosystems by filter-feeding on planktonic algae and changing habitat structure. For water agencies, an uncontrolled infestation could mean costly infrastructure damage, reduced water delivery capacity, and disrupted treatment operations.

The Delta already has a well-documented pelagic food web crisis. Phytoplankton are an important and limiting food source in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the decline of phytoplankton biomass is one potential factor in the decline of the protected delta smelt and other pelagic organisms. The mechanism driving that phytoplankton collapse is bivalve filter-feeding: invasive bivalves such as *Corbicula fluminea* and *Potamocorbula amurensis* have been shown to control phytoplankton biomass in several locations throughout the system.

Golden mussels make this dramatically worse. The golden mussel is a voracious plankton feeder that may further reduce the food supply for delta smelt and other plankton-feeding fishes in low salinity environments. Its effect on fishes may be similar to that of the overbite clam (*Potamocorbula amurensis*), which has been a major cause of pelagic fish declines in the Delta since the early 1980s. Golden mussels will likely colonize the fresher parts of the Delta and spread upstream as far as boats travel, thereby occupying a part of the watershed where nonnative overbite clams, limited by salinity, drop out. In other words, golden mussels are not merely adding to an existing stressor — they are filling one habitat gap that had partially buffered the food web collapse.

Creating streamlined permitting processes for golden mussel mitigation treatment and scientific research would more appropriately recognize the scope and scale of the issue facing the Bay-Delta watershed ecosystem and communities reliant on facilities that convey water from that watershed. This bill seeks to identify the most significant gaps and create a framework for rapid response and permit streamlining that is sufficient with the urgency of the moment.

For these reasons, staff recommends a “Support and Amend” position.



## A.B. 2218 (Kalra), Water policy: California Native American tribes.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Oppose Unless Amended**

**POLICY SCOPE:** Water Supply Reliability, Water Quality and Resource Management, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance, Funding and Finance

### Existing Law

Water Code Section 106 declares that it is the established policy of the State that the use of water for domestic purposes is the highest use of water and that the next highest use is for irrigation.

Water Code Section 106.3, California's Human Right to Water (HRWL), declares it the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. Existing law requires all relevant state agencies, including the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Department of Water Resources (DWR), to consider this state policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, and grant criteria.

### Summary

This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the State to acknowledge and correct the inequities caused by state-sanctioned actions of termination, removal, and assimilation inflicted upon all California Native American tribes through compensation, legal recognition of rights, or replacement of benefits lost.

This bill would require all relevant state agencies, including the State Water Board and DWR, to consider and incorporate this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing rights, policies, regulations, permits, or grant criteria to address identified inequities.

### Status

A.B. 2218 was introduced on February 19, 2026, as a spot bill and is currently pending before the Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials and Water, Parks and Wildlife.

### Staff Comments

AB 2218 is one of several bills introduced this legislative session addressing tribal policy. The bill's language closely mirrors that of other existing state policies, namely California's HRWL, in creating administrative directives to state agencies to *consider* a statewide policy when establishing specific policies and regulations.

The author's office has indicated that the impetus of this proposed legislation is a preliminary injunction filed in *Kings County Farm bureau et al., v. State Water Resources Control Bd.*, a case where the dispute focuses on whether the State can override local groundwater management. The court found that implementation of the State Water Board's Racial Equity Resolution (Resolution)<sup>1</sup> was an example of overreach. According to the author's office, "[the Resolution], among many other things, condemns racial injustice and acknowledges the barriers Tribes encounter when attempting to access ancestral waters. While the

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2021/rs2021\\_0050.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2021/rs2021_0050.pdf)



injunction was later overturned, this situation demonstrates the need for statutory backing of the state’s efforts to correct water-related inequities.” The Author’s office is open to feedback.

#### *The Evolution of Statewide Tribal Policies in Recent Years*

The State has increasingly memorialized the importance of recognizing and collaborating with California Native American Tribes through executive orders, resolutions, reports, formal engagement policies and consultation policies.

The State Water Board’s Resolution, which was adopted in November 2021, affirms the State Water Board’s commitment to racial equity and directs staff to undertake a variety of actions to achieve racial equity throughout State Water Board programs and activities. Primary among those actions is the implementation of a Racial Equity Action Plan. Within the Resolution, the State Water Board acknowledges that “The colonization, displacement, and genocide of Native American people in the United States have contributed to the loss of water resource and watershed management practices that supported Native American people’s traditional food sources and ways of life.”

Similarly, DWR and the California Natural Resources Agency both have tribal engagement/consultation policies that encourage early engagement and collaboration with California Tribes.

#### *Seeking A Path Forward*

Tribal policy is a highly sensitive issue due to a combination of historic exclusion, legal complexities surrounding superior senior, or Winters rights, competition for scarce resources, environmental impacts, and regulatory conflicts. Given this sensitivity, it is imperative that ACWA navigate the policy landscape strategically and also take into consideration the Legislature’s earnest interest in furthering policy in this space.

There is consensus among ACWA and its partner associations that the bill is broadly written and could have significant far-reaching impacts, including by creating legal uncertainty for state agencies and project proponents. Each association is still in the process of determining how the bill will impact their members specifically and where they will land in terms of a position.

The State has progressively moved toward enhancing collaboration with California Native American Tribes, including formally acknowledging the historical wrongdoings so it is not surprising that the State Legislature would want to create an established policy for the state.

ACWA recommends working with its members on language that addresses the potentially broad unintended consequences for permitting and regulatory processes. A good start would be to look at the language in California’s HRWL, which includes the following and is absent from AB 2218: “The implementation of this section shall not infringe on the rights or responsibilities of any public water system.”

ACWA staff recommend forming a working group to explore the impacts of this bill, and other Tribal related bills introduced this year, on public water agencies, identify potential amendments that address those concerns, and find an avenue that will allow the state to address cultural and social inequities while also considering the regulatory impacts of these policies.

### **Importance to the Authority**

This bill includes broad, vague language that could create significant legal uncertainty for state agencies and project proponents. This bill would apply to “all” relevant state agencies, including the State Water Board



and DWR, and could subject virtually every permitting or regulatory action to new claims that inequities must be acknowledged and corrected.

Of particular concern is the bill's requirement that state agencies address inequities through compensation, legal recognition of rights, or replacement of benefits lost. While the goal of this language is certainly laudable, the language is undefined and potentially expansive. Furthermore, it is unclear *how* exactly an agency would be expected to implement this policy. Without clear standards, guardrails, or limits, this bill could expose state agencies and permit applicants to an increase in litigation, project delay, and financial challenges.

Staff recommends joining an ACWA led working group to explore the bill's impact on public water agencies and to identify potential amendments to address those concerns and recommends an Oppose Unless Amended position, to align position with that coalition effort.

## A.B. 2630 (Bennett), Water diversion and use: adoption of regulations.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Oppose**

### **POLICY SCOPE: Water Supply Reliability, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Funding and Finance**

#### Existing Law

Existing law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to adopt regulations requiring measurement and reporting of water diversion and use by persons, including, among others, those authorized to appropriate water under a permit, a license, a registration for small domestic, small irrigation, or livestock stockpond use, or a certificate for livestock stockpond use (water measurement and reporting regulations).

For the initial regulations, existing law requires that they be adopted as emergency regulations and provides that the emergency regulations remain in effect until revised by the state board. Existing law also exempts the initial regulations from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

#### Summary

This bill would require any water measurement and reporting regulations to be adopted as emergency regulations that would remain in effect until revised by the board. This bill would also permanently exempt these regulations from CEQA.

#### Status

This legislation was introduced on February 20, 2026, has been amended and re-referred to the Committee on Natural Resources on March 24.

#### Importance to the Authority

AB 2630 would require any water measurement and reporting regulations to be adopted as emergency regulations that would remain in effect until revised by the State Water Board. While there is existing precedent for this process for other kinds of policies at the State Water Board and DWR, that does not make this good public policy. The regulatory process allows for appropriate public comment and review periods as



well as oversight by the Office of Administrative Law that would otherwise not occur in an emergency regulation rulemaking that remains in effect.

Water agencies are in the process of adapting to the current requirements of the water management and reporting regulations. Emergency regulations would likely have a tight timeline for implementation, if the updated regulations required something like installing a new measurement station that would be infeasible to do in a timely manner. This is especially concerning since the State Water Board had to withdraw their regulations, in part, to adjust implementation timelines. Water agencies rely on consistency in requirements to plan for out years and make investments in technology and equipment. Without longer timelines for consideration and opportunity to seek delayed implementation of new requirements, water agencies may be forced to retire functional assets or purchase and use new equipment on an infeasible timeline.

## A.B. 2728 (Soria), Open and Transparent Water Data Act.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Support and Amend**

### **POLICY SCOPE: Water Supply Reliability, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance, Funding and Finance, Stakeholder Engagement and Communication**

#### Summary

AB 2728 (Soria) is a compact, technically modest amendment to the Open and Transparent Water Data Act that carries outsized long-term strategic value for the Authority. Its two operative provisions — adding management action efficacy as an explicit purpose of water data integration, and requiring unified hatchery production, release, and escapement data on the statewide platform by August 2027 — directly address the informational gaps that produce precautionary CVP export restrictions under the ESA BiOps.

Better, faster hatchery origin data at the population level reduces the frequency of OMR curtailments triggered by uncertainty about whether salvaged fish are of hatchery or natural origin.

#### Status

The legislation was introduced on February 20, 2026, amended into its current form on March 19, 2026, and has been re-referred to the Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife.

#### Importance to the Authority

The bill establishes a data infrastructure that is explicitly designed to evaluate management action efficacy.

Hatchery-origin fish are currently determined by the absence of an adipose fin or the presence of a coded wire tag — a physical identification method that requires fish to be caught at salvage facilities before hatchery or natural origin can be confirmed, meaning that real-time OMR management decisions are often made using preliminary loss estimates that are later revised as genetic data becomes available. When those preliminary estimates trigger export curtailments that are subsequently shown to have been based on misidentified hatchery fish, the Authority bears an operational cost — reduced deliveries — with no corresponding biological benefit.

AB 2728's integrated hatchery data platform provides the infrastructure to reduce this problem over time by enabling faster, more reliable hatchery origin determinations at the population level. Critically, the "efficacy" language in the bill also creates a statutory mandate for the platform to document cases where management



actions are triggered by data that is later revised — building an empirical record that the Authority can use to advocate in BiOp proceedings for more refined trigger thresholds that distinguish more precisely between hatchery and natural-origin loss before export curtailments are imposed.

The Authority should also note that the bill's federal data integration requirements — specifically the requirement to include USFWS and NOAA Fisheries hatchery production and escapement data — creates a vehicle for resolving longstanding data-sharing friction between state and federal agencies. Disagreements between state and federal hatchery production and monitoring data have historically created ambiguity in joint operations meetings that the Authority's staff must navigate; a unified platform reduces that ambiguity and improves the factual basis for real-time operational decisions.

For these reasons, staff recommends a “Support and Amend” position.

## A.C.A. 11 (Macedo), California Water Resiliency Act.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Support**

### **POLICY SCOPE: Funding and Finance**

#### Summary

ACA 11, the California Water Resiliency Act, is a proposed constitutional amendment that would add Section 8 to Article X of the California Constitution, requiring the State Treasurer to annually transfer an amount equal to 1% of all state General Fund revenues to a newly created Water Conveyance and Capacity Infrastructure Fund. Moneys in the fund would be continuously appropriated to the California Water Commission for its actual costs of implementing the provisions and for administering grants for the entitlement, repair, design, and construction of water infrastructure projects that will maintain or expand the availability of clean, safe drinking water for homes and businesses, and water for agricultural uses, consistent with area of origin water rights.

#### Status

As a constitutional amendment, ACA 11 must pass both chambers of the Legislature with a two-thirds vote before being placed on the statewide ballot for voter ratification. The bill was introduced March 24, 2025, is a partisan bill carried by Republicans, and may be heard in committee as early as April 24, 2025.

#### Importance to the Authority

ACA 11 is among the most consequential water supply reliability proposals the Authority has encountered in a generation, because it would constitutionalize a dedicated, recurring, non-discretionary funding stream for water infrastructure at a scale no prior bond measure has matched on a sustained basis. At current General Fund revenue levels of approximately \$225–\$230 billion annually, a 1% continuous transfer would generate roughly \$2.2–\$2.3 billion per year — every year — for water conveyance and capacity infrastructure.

The Authority's water supply reliability challenge is precisely the kind of problem ACA 11 is designed to address. The Delta-Mendota Canal will receive \$235 million under the One Big Beautiful Bill for rehabilitation of the canal, including raising canal embankments, repairing check structures, and advancing potential construction of a new concrete-lined canal segment, while the San Luis Canal will receive \$50 million to address subsidence issues affecting water delivery reliability. These are critical investments, but they are one-time and federally driven. ACA 11's constitutional fund would create a permanent state counterpart —



enabling the Authority to plan multi-decade infrastructure programs on the basis of reliable annual state appropriations rather than cyclical bond measures or federal budget processes. ACA 11 may be the most important long-term financing measure the Authority is likely to see in the current decade.

For these reasons, staff recommends a “Support” position.

## S.B. 872 (McNerney), Climate change: funding priorities.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Watch and Amend**

### **POLICY SCOPE: Water Supply Reliability, Water Quality and Resource Management, Climate Adaptation and Resilience, Funding and Finance**

#### Background

##### *Existing Law*

Existing law, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 (Delta Reform Act), provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to provide for the sustainable management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem, to provide for a more reliable water supply for the state, to protect and enhance the quality of water supply from the Delta, as defined, and to establish a governance structure that will direct efforts across state agencies to develop a legally enforceable Delta Plan.

Existing law establishes in the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Existing law establishes in the agency the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to act as a primary state agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta and to support efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents.

##### *Summary*

This bill would establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund (Fund) in the State Treasury. The Fund may receive state moneys, including, but not limited to: General Fund, special funds, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), or bond funding. The Fund may accept moneys from nonstate resources, including federal and private money.

This Fund would be available upon appropriation for the following purposes, subject to availability of funding, up to the following amounts until the 2046-47 fiscal year:

1. Up to \$150,000 to DWR for capital improvements to restore the original design water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems that have been impacted by subsidence; and,
2. Up to \$150,000 to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) to improve existing levees.

The bill would provide guidelines for prioritization and implementation of the expenditure of these funds for both purposes, as specified. If there are insufficient funds the Secretary of CNRA would determine a proportional reduction in allocations. The bill would prohibit these funds from being expended for any additional Delta Conveyance facilities, as specified.



## Status

### *Amendment History*

01-06-2026

As introduced, the bill stated that it would make nonsubstantive changes to the provisions regarding construction or enlargement of any new dam or reservoir without written approval of plans and specifications from DWR.

02-18-2026

As amended on February 18, the bill would have appropriated \$300 million from the GGRF annually, until 2047, for purposes of water conveyance to the DWR and levee improvements to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy.

03-19-2026

As amended on March 19, the bill would establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury to appropriate \$300 million annually, until 2047, for purposes of water conveyance improvements to DWR and levee improvements to the Delta Conservancy.

## Importance to the Authority

SB 872 is the most significant state water infrastructure finance bill to advance in Sacramento in years, and it is directly pointed at the two physical vulnerabilities that most acutely threaten the Authority's ability to deliver water: Delta levee failure and conveyance capacity lost from subsidence. From the Authority's perspective, SB 872 requires targeted advocacy on three fronts: ensuring CVP-dependent federal infrastructure is eligible for funding, securing equitable program governance, and protecting the Authority from any interpretation of the bill's Delta Tunnel prohibition that could constrain legitimate CVP operational improvements.

For these reasons, staff recommends a "Watch and Amend" position.

## Recommended Amendments

The bill as introduced directs funding exclusively to SWP infrastructure. The SWP doesn't exist in a vacuum — it works in coordination with the CVP, each providing operational benefits to the other in a variety of locations and at varying times of the year. SB 872 should be expanded to include the opportunity for funding to be allocated for infrastructure facilities owned by the federal government that improve the state's overall system reliability. The Authority must advocate for explicit CVP eligibility in the subsidence repair funding stream, or at minimum a joint state-federal coordination mechanism that ensures DWR's \$150 million annual investment optimizes system-wide conveyance capacity rather than SWP capacity in isolation.

## Guidelines for Taking Positions on Legislation

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A number of controversial bills are introduced in the Congress and in the California Legislature. It is important to understand how the Authority takes positions on legislation.

## Policy

By Agenda Item 7, dated December 12, 2025, the Board adopted the Policy Framework and Fiscal Year 2027 Policy Action Plan.



## Water Authority's Positions on Legislation

The Water Authority takes positions on legislation that, if enacted, would impact Water Authority members, consistent with Water Authority Board adopted Goals and Objectives in the Strategic Plan, as implemented through the Policy Framework and Annual Policy Action Plan.

The Water Authority may take the following positions on legislation: Oppose, Support, Oppose Unless Amended, Support if Amended, Support and Amend, Not Favor, Favor, Not Favor Unless Amended, Favor if Amended, Favor and Amend, and Watch (neutral).

The Water Authority's staff and consultants testify and advocate with legislators and staff through direct meetings and coordination of member agency contacts on all positions except Watch, Favor and Not Favor. For Favor and Not Favor positions, written communication of the Water Authority's position is provided to the legislator, the Water Authority's delegation, and relevant Committees.

Nothing in this section should be read to preclude the Executive Director or his or her delegee from taking an informal support or informal oppose position on behalf of the Water Authority that is consistent with the Policy Framework and Annual Policy Action Plan, or to preclude the Executive Director from communicating a position on emergency legislation after obtaining the concurrence of the Chair, or the Chair's designee, provided that the Executive Director informs the Board regarding such positions on emergency legislation no later than the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

## Amendment Development Process

If the Water Authority takes a position contingent on amendments, the Water Authority will typically discuss the concepts for the amendments at the meeting. Then Water Authority staff, in consultation with Committee and/or Board Members as needed, will develop the amendments after the meeting.

## Information Sharing

To provide adequate information to the entire Water Authority membership, the Water Authority provides legislative updates, posts positions and other information on our website, and sends out advisories and alerts on key legislation.

The Water Authority's legislative department is available to provide specific information on bills on request and Board Members are encouraged to communicate Water Authority positions on priority legislation in meetings with legislative staff, consistent with Water Authority policy. The Water Authority's Water Policy Director appreciates being informed by Water Authority members of positions taken by Water Authority members on legislation.



# BILL TEXT

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1754**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Pacheco**  
(Coauthor: Senator Allen)

February 9, 2026

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An act to amend Sections 19967 and 19999 of the Education Code, and to amend Sections 16724 and 16786, and to add Section 16724.2 to, the Government Code, relating to public finance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1754, as introduced, Pacheco. State general obligation bonds: requirements.

Existing law, the State General Obligation Bond Law, generally sets forth the procedures for the issuance and sale of bonds governed by its provisions and for the disbursement of the proceeds of the sale of those bonds. Existing law specifies various provisions required for inclusion in a bond act. Existing law requires any state bond measure approved on or after January 1, 2004, to be subject to an annual reporting process, with the head of the lead state agency administering the bond proceeds reporting certain information about the projects being funded to the Legislature and the Department of Finance. Existing law permits this information to be provided on the agency's internet website or the state's open data portal under certain circumstances. Existing law authorizes the costs of the report to be included in the cost of administering the bond act unless prohibited by the bond act.

For any state general obligation bond measure that is approved by voters on and after January 1, 2027, this bill would require a bond act to include specified information about the objectives of the bond expenditure and related data. The bill would also require the head of

the lead state agency administering the bond to post on its internet website a notification that contains, among other information, details about the programs and projects authorized to be funded by the bond. The bill would require each state agency subject to these provisions to provide a written report to the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst, and specified legislative committees that contains certain information regarding the general obligation bond, in accordance with the above-described provision permitting this information to be provided on the agency’s internet website or the state’s online data portal. The bill would require the report to include, among other information, whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond proceeds has been done in a timely manner. The bill would require a bond act to include a provision requiring the cost of the report to be included in the cost of administering the bond act, and would require the cost of compliance with the above-described report requirements be included in the cost of administering the bond act. The bill would also make non-substantive and conforming changes to certain cross-references.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
 State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the
- 2 Bond Outcomes and Reporting Act.
- 3 SEC. 2. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 4 following:
- 5 (1) Upon approval by California voters, general obligation bonds
- 6 are used to make important investments in the state’s infrastructure
- 7 and to meet specific funding needs.
- 8 (2) As the fourth largest economy in the world, and with nearly
- 9 40,000,000 in population, California needs to make ongoing
- 10 investments in its infrastructure.
- 11 (3) Bond expenditures and related information should be
- 12 provided to voters to promote greater transparency and trust of the
- 13 voters who approve bond funding for the purpose of ensuring a
- 14 vital infrastructure future for California.
- 15 (4) The public should be assured that bond funds will be used
- 16 as the voters intended.
- 17 (5) Bond funds should be spent efficiently, effectively, and in
- 18 the best interests of Californians.

1 (6) Accountability regarding the expenditure of bond funds  
2 begins with establishing criteria for determining whether the  
3 intended outcomes are being achieved.

4 (7) Ongoing updates and auditing completed projects can help  
5 determine that the bond expenditures were consistent with the  
6 established criteria and all applicable laws.

7 (8) Accountability consists of ensuring bond expenditures  
8 contribute to long-lasting, meaningful improvements to critical  
9 infrastructure in this state, as well as providing the public with  
10 readily accessible information about how the bonds they approved  
11 and are paying for are being spent annually.

12 (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to accomplish  
13 all of the following:

14 (1) Ensure general obligation bond dollars are expended after  
15 specified objectives are established for the expenditure of those  
16 bond dollars.

17 (2) Ensure that the internet website information required by this  
18 act provides the public with ready access to information on how  
19 bond proceeds are being utilized and are meeting their intended  
20 goals and objectives.

21 (3) Establish criteria for the expenditure of bond funds to ensure  
22 that the state achieves the intended outcomes of those bond  
23 expenditures.

24 (4) When expending bond funds, not only should the public  
25 body comply with the authorizing bond act, the State General  
26 Obligation Bond Law, and other applicable state and federal laws,  
27 those expenditures should meet clear accountability criteria to  
28 ensure that bond proceeds are spent efficiently, effectively, and in  
29 the best interests of California.

30 (5) Reimburse additional costs to an agency from bond funding.

31 SEC. 3. Section 19967 of the Education Code is amended to  
32 read:

33 19967. (a) A facility, or the part thereof, acquired, constructed,  
34 remodeled, or rehabilitated with grants received pursuant to this  
35 chapter shall be dedicated to public library direct service use for  
36 a period of not less than 20 years following completion of the  
37 project, or the useful life of the building, whichever is longer.

38 (b) If the facility, or part thereof, acquired, constructed,  
39 remodeled, or rehabilitated with grants received pursuant to this  
40 chapter ceases to be used for public library direct service prior to

1 the expiration of the period specified in subdivision (a), the board  
 2 shall be entitled to recover from the grant recipient or the  
 3 recipient’s successor in the maintenance of the facility, an amount  
 4 which bears the same ratio to the value of the facility, or the  
 5 appropriate part thereof, at the time it ceased to be used from public  
 6 library direct service as the amount of the grant bore to the cost of  
 7 the facility or appropriate part thereof. For purposes of this  
 8 subdivision, the value of the facility, or the appropriate part thereof,  
 9 shall be determined by the mutual agreement of the parties, or  
 10 through an action brought for that purpose in the superior court.

11 (c) The board may release the grant recipient or the recipient’s  
 12 successor in the maintenance of the facility from its obligation  
 13 under subdivision (a), and waive the requirements of subdivision  
 14 (b), if the board determines that so doing would not diminish the  
 15 quality of public library service in the community served by the  
 16 facility.

17 (d) Notwithstanding ~~subdivision (f) paragraph (6) of subdivision~~  
 18 (a) of Section 16724 of the Government Code, moneys recovered  
 19 pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be deposited in the fund, and shall  
 20 be available for the purpose of awarding grants for other projects.

21 SEC. 4. Section 19999 of the Education Code is amended to  
 22 read:

23 19999. (a) A facility, or the part thereof, acquired, constructed,  
 24 or remodeled, or rehabilitated with grants received pursuant to this  
 25 chapter shall be dedicated to public library direct service use for  
 26 a period of not less than 20 years following completion of the  
 27 project.

28 (b) The interest of the state in land or a facility, or both, pursuant  
 29 to the funding of a project under this chapter, as described in  
 30 subdivision (a), may be transferred by the State Librarian from the  
 31 land or facility, or both, for which that funding was granted to a  
 32 replacement site and facility acquired or constructed for the purpose  
 33 of providing public library direct service.

34 (c) If the facility, or any part thereof, acquired, constructed,  
 35 remodeled, or habilitated with grants received pursuant to this  
 36 chapter ceases to be used for public library direct service prior to  
 37 the expiration of the period specified in subdivision (a), the board  
 38 is entitled to recover, from the grant recipient or the recipient’s  
 39 successor in the maintenance of the facility, an amount that bears  
 40 the same ratio to the value of the facility, or the appropriate part

1 thereof, at the time it ceased to be used for public library direct  
2 service as the amount of the grant bore to the cost of the facility  
3 or the appropriate part thereof. For purposes of this subdivision,  
4 the value of the facility, or the appropriate part thereof, is  
5 determined by the mutual agreement of the board and the grant  
6 recipient or successor, or through an action brought for that purpose  
7 in the superior court.

8 (d) Notwithstanding ~~subdivision (f)~~ *paragraph (6) of subdivision*  
9 *(a)* of Section 16724 of the Government Code, any money  
10 recovered pursuant to subdivision (c) shall be deposited in the  
11 fund, and shall be available for the purpose of awarding grants for  
12 other projects.

13 SEC. 5. Section 16724 of the Government Code is amended  
14 to read:

15 16724. ~~The~~ *(a) For any state bond measure approved by the*  
16 *voters before January 1, 2027, the bond act shall contain all of the*  
17 *following provisions:*

18 ~~(a)~~

19 (1) A statement of the total amount of bonds authorized to be  
20 issued and the purpose for which the proceeds from the sale of the  
21 bonds may be used.

22 ~~(b)~~

23 (2) The creation of a committee and fund, and the naming of  
24 the board as these items are defined in Section 16722.

25 ~~(c)~~

26 (3) A statement that the bonds are valid obligations of the state  
27 and a pledge of the full faith and credit of the state for the punctual  
28 payment of both principal and interest thereof.

29 ~~(d)~~

30 (4) An appropriation from the General Fund in the State  
31 Treasury of the sum annually as shall be necessary to pay the  
32 principal and interest on the bonds as they become due and payable.

33 ~~(e)~~

34 (5) A requirement that there be collected annually in the same  
35 manner and at the same time as other state revenue is collected the  
36 sum, in addition to the ordinary revenues of the state, as is required  
37 to pay the principal and interest on the bonds; and a provision  
38 making it the duty of all officers charged by law with any duty in  
39 regard to the collections of the revenue to do and perform each  
40 and every act which is necessary to collect that additional sum.

1     ~~(f)~~

2     (6) If the bond act provides that the fund shall have any receipts  
3 other than the proceeds of the sale of bonds, the proceeds of interim  
4 financing, or the investment earnings on the proceeds of bond sales  
5 or interim financing, then the bond act shall also specify whether  
6 those receipts shall be transferred to the General Fund as a  
7 reimbursement for debt service payments or be used for the same  
8 purpose for which the proceeds of the sale of the bonds may be  
9 used.

10    ~~(g)~~

11    (7) A provision incorporating the provisions of this chapter, and  
12 a declaration that the provisions hereof are included in the act as  
13 though set out in full therein.

14    ~~(h)~~

15    (8) A statement that the bonds may be refunded in accordance  
16 with Article 6 (commencing with Section 16780), and that approval  
17 of the authorization of the bonds by the electors includes approval  
18 of any bonds issued to refund the bonds originally issued.

19    ~~(i)~~

20    (9) A statement that notwithstanding any other provision of the  
21 bond act, or of the State General Obligation Bond Law (Chapter  
22 4 (commencing with Section 16720) of Part 3 of Division 4 of  
23 Title 2 of the Government Code), if the Treasurer sells bonds  
24 pursuant to this bond act that include a bond counsel opinion to  
25 the effect that the interest on the bonds is excluded from gross  
26 income for federal tax purposes under designated conditions, the  
27 Treasurer may maintain separate accounts for the bond proceeds  
28 invested and the investment earnings on those proceeds, and may  
29 use or direct the use of those proceeds or earnings to pay any  
30 rebate, penalty, or other payment required under federal law, or  
31 take any other action with respect to the investment and use of  
32 those bond proceeds, as may be required or desirable under federal  
33 law in order to maintain the tax-exempt status of those bonds and  
34 to obtain any other advantage under federal law on behalf of the  
35 funds of this state.

36    ~~(j)~~

37    (10) A statement that the board may request the Pooled Money  
38 Investment Board to make a loan from the Pooled Money  
39 Investment Account, in accordance with Section 16312, for the  
40 purposes of carrying out the bond act. The amount of the request

1 shall not exceed the amount of the unsold bonds that the committee  
2 has by resolution authorized to be sold for the purpose of carrying  
3 out the bond act. The board shall execute any documents required  
4 by the Pooled Money Investment Board to obtain and repay the  
5 loan. Any amounts loaned shall be deposited in the fund to be  
6 allocated by the board in accordance with the bond act.

7 *(b) For any state bond measure approved by the voters on or*  
8 *after January 1, 2027, the bond act shall contain the provisions*  
9 *specified in subdivision (a), in addition to a provision requiring*  
10 *the costs of the report, as specified in Section 16724.2, to be*  
11 *included in the cost of administering the bond act.*

12 SEC. 6. Section 16724.2 is added to the Government Code, to  
13 read:

14 16724.2. (a) For any state bond measure approved by the voters  
15 on and after January 1, 2027, the bond act shall include all of the  
16 following:

17 (1) Specific goals, purposes, and objectives that the bond  
18 expenditure is intended to achieve.

19 (2) Detailed performance indicators for the public to have when  
20 measuring whether the bond expenditure meets the goals, purposes,  
21 and objectives established.

22 (3) Data collection requirements to enable the public to  
23 determine whether the bond expenditure is meeting, failing to  
24 meet, or exceeding those specific goals, purposes, and objectives.

25 (4) Specific data and baseline measurements to be collected and  
26 remitted annually while the bond is being expended.

27 (b) The criteria established shall evaluate the intended outcomes  
28 of the bond both at the issuance of the bond and once the funded  
29 projects are completed.

30 (c) The head of the lead state agency administering the bond  
31 shall post on its internet website a notification that contains the  
32 items set forth in subdivision (a). This notification shall include,  
33 but not be limited to, the following information:

34 (1) An overview of the various programs and projects authorized  
35 to be funded by the bond.

36 (2) A summary of the status of bond use by major program  
37 category.

38 (3) An explanation of the accountability criteria that will govern  
39 the use of the bond funds.

1 (4) Detailed information about bond use by program or  
2 individual infrastructure project.

3 (5) Objectives of the program or project to be funded by the  
4 bond.

5 (d) Any relevant state agency shall cooperate in the  
6 implementation of this section.

7 (e) (1) Each lead state agency that is subject to this section shall  
8 provide a written report to the Department of Finance, the  
9 Legislative Analyst, the Assembly Committee on Budget, and the  
10 Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review that, at a  
11 minimum, sets forth the following information regarding the  
12 general obligation bond:

13 (A) Whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond  
14 proceeds has been done in a timely and efficient manner.

15 (B) Whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond  
16 proceeds has or has not achieved its intended purpose.

17 (C) Whether the project, grant, or other expenditure of bond  
18 proceeds was done in compliance with all statutory and regulatory  
19 requirements.

20 (2) The written report required pursuant to paragraph (1) shall  
21 also be posted conspicuously on the state agency’s internet website,  
22 in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 16724.4.

23 (3) The report required pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be  
24 submitted in compliance with Section 9795.

25 (f) The cost of the report, as specified in subdivision (e), shall  
26 be included in the cost of administering the bond act as provided  
27 in subdivision (b) of Section 16724.

28 SEC. 7. Section 16786 of the Government Code is amended  
29 to read:

30 16786. This article applies only to the refunding of bonds  
31 authorized at a statewide election held after the effective date of  
32 this article pursuant to a bond act expressly mentioning the right  
33 of the state to refund the bonds so authorized. In any such bond  
34 act, the provisions included therein pursuant to ~~subdivisions (e),~~  
35 ~~(d), (e), and (f) paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) of subdivision (a)~~  
36 of Section 16724 apply to refunding bonds to the same extent and  
37 in the same manner as those provisions applied to the bonds being  
38 refunded.

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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 23, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1772**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Papan**  
**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Ransom)**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ávila Farías, Bains, Boerner,**  
**Caloza, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hart, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez,**  
**Rogers, and Blanca Rubio)**

February 9, 2026

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*An act to amend Sections 2301 and 2303 of, and to add Section 2304 to, the Fish and Game Code, relating to fish and wildlife.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1772, as amended, Papan. Fish and wildlife: ~~aquatic~~ invasive species: ~~golden~~ mussels.

*Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water in the state, invasive mussels. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. Existing law requires, if invasive mussels are detected, the operator of a water supply system to, in cooperation with the department, prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system, and eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel. Existing law requires, on or before December 31, 2026, the department to review all approved plans and require all plans that do*

*not specifically address all invasive mussel species known to be present in bodies of water in the state as of January 1, 2026, to be updated or revised appropriately to include all invasive mussel species, on or before September 30, 2027. Existing law requires every invasive mussel species to be addressed in a plan no later than 180 days from the date that the species is listed in a certain regulation. Existing law defines “invasive mussel” for these purposes as any nonnative detrimental mussel, as provided.*

*Under existing law, except as otherwise provided, any violation of the Fish and Game Code, or of any rule, regulation, or order made or adopted under the code, is a crime.*

*This bill would require the department to require water supply system operators to update their plans to address all invasive mussel species present in the operator’s water system as of January 1, 2026, as provided. The bill would require a plan to address every invasive mussel species detected in a water supply system after January 1, 2026, no later than 180 days from the date the species is detected. The bill would require a plan to minimize or eliminate the spread of invasive mussels. The bill would revise the definition of “invasive mussel” to mean any nonnative biofouling mussel, as provided. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.*

*This bill would require the department, in consultation with the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Food and Agriculture, to develop a voluntary framework to prevent the overland spread of invasive mussels through the conveyance of watercraft overland. The bill would require the framework to include specified elements, including, among other elements, minimum standards for watercraft inspection, decontamination, and quarantine and a banding program or other mechanisms by which to confirm the inspection, decontamination, or quarantine status of a watercraft.*

*The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.*

*This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.*

*Existing law generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels and authorizes the Director of Fish and Wildlife or the director’s*

~~designee to engage in various enforcement activities with regard to invasive mussels, as provided. Existing law requires specified entities that own or manage a reservoir, as defined, where certain activities are permitted to monitor and prevent the introduction of invasive mussel species, as specified, and requires any entity that discovers invasive mussels in the state to report the discovery immediately to the department.~~

~~This bill would provide that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to, among other things, address and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, including, but not limited to, the golden mussel, in California’s waterbodies and water infrastructure systems. The bill would also make various findings and declarations relating to aquatic invasive species.~~

~~Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no-yes.~~

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) Aquatic invasive species, including the golden mussel,
- 4 threaten the ecological health, recreational value, and operational
- 5 integrity of California’s lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and water
- 6 conveyance facilities.
- 7 (2) Efforts to control or prevent the spread of the golden mussel
- 8 and other aquatic invasive species result in extensive operational
- 9 and economic impacts to water delivery and hydropower, and have
- 10 increasingly limited public access to recreational opportunities
- 11 such as boating, fishing, and other water-dependent activities.
- 12 (3) The increasing costs of mandatory decontamination,
- 13 quarantine requirements, and aquatic invasive species fees are
- 14 disproportionately paid for by the recreational boating community,
- 15 which cannot bear alone the financial responsibility of managing
- 16 this statewide threat.
- 17 (4) The Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, established
- 18 in Section 85 of the Harbors and Navigation Code, is structurally
- 19 imbalanced and remains in deficit, thereby requiring the
- 20 identification and adoption of alternative and sustainable funding
- 21 sources to support statewide aquatic invasive species prevention
- 22 and mitigation programs.

1 (5) Establishing uniform statewide standards for vessel  
2 decontamination, including standards applicable to both motorized  
3 and nonmotorized paddlecraft, along with a system of information  
4 sharing and reciprocity among waterbodies, will improve  
5 efficiency, protect natural resources, and support California's  
6 economic and recreational interests.

7 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature ~~to enact subsequent~~  
8 ~~legislation that would~~ *in enacting this bill* to accomplish ~~all both~~  
9 of the following:

10 ~~(1) Address and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species,~~  
11 ~~including, but not limited to, the golden mussel, which currently~~  
12 ~~represents an urgent and significant threat to the state's water~~  
13 ~~resources, in California's waterbodies and water infrastructure~~  
14 ~~systems.~~

15 ~~(2) Establish a statewide standard for the decontamination of~~  
16 ~~all waterborne vessels and equipment, including motorized vessels,~~  
17 ~~paddlecraft, and other potential vectors capable of transmitting~~  
18 ~~aquatic invasive species, including the golden mussel.~~

19 ~~(3)~~

20 *(1)* Create a statewide database to voluntarily track the  
21 movement of vessels, equipment, and other vectors among  
22 California waterbodies, providing waterbody managers with  
23 accurate information on the prior contamination status of these  
24 vessels.

25 ~~(4)~~

26 *(2)* Develop a system of reciprocity that recognizes and honors  
27 certifications of decontamination for vessels and equipment moving  
28 between noninfested waterbodies, thereby facilitating safe  
29 recreational access.

30 ~~(5) Identify and implement, to the extent feasible, alternative~~  
31 ~~and equitable funding sources beyond fees imposed on the~~  
32 ~~recreational boating community, such as assessments on~~  
33 ~~commercial activities, including on international cargo shipping~~  
34 ~~operations that may impact the introduction of aquatic invasive~~  
35 ~~species to California waters.~~

36 *(c)* It is the intent of the Legislature to subsequently amend this  
37 bill to identify and implement, to the extent feasible, alternative  
38 and equitable funding sources beyond fees imposed on the  
39 recreational boating community, such as assessments on  
40 commercial activities, including on international cargo shipping

1 *operations that may impact the introduction of aquatic invasive*  
2 *species to California waters.*

3 *SEC. 2. Section 2301 of the Fish and Game Code is amended*  
4 *to read:*

5 2301. (a) (1) Except as authorized by the department, a person  
6 shall not possess, import, ship, or transport in the state, or place,  
7 plant, or cause to be placed or planted in any water within the state,  
8 invasive mussels.

9 (2) The director or the director's designee may do all of the  
10 following:

11 (A) Conduct inspections of conveyances, which include vehicles,  
12 boats and other watercraft, containers, and trailers, that may carry  
13 or contain adult or larval invasive mussels. Included as part of this  
14 authority to conduct inspections is the authority to temporarily  
15 stop conveyances that may carry or contain adult or larval invasive  
16 mussels on any roadway or waterway in order to conduct  
17 inspections.

18 (B) Order that areas in a conveyance that contain water be  
19 drained, dried, or decontaminated pursuant to procedures approved  
20 by the department.

21 (C) Impound or quarantine conveyances in locations designated  
22 by the department for the period of time necessary to ensure that  
23 invasive mussels can no longer live on or in the conveyance.

24 (D) (i) Conduct inspections of waters of the state and facilities  
25 located within waters of the state that may contain invasive  
26 mussels. If invasive mussels are detected or may be present, the  
27 director or the director's designee may order the affected waters  
28 or facilities closed to conveyances or otherwise restrict access to  
29 the affected waters or facilities, and shall order that conveyances  
30 removed from, or introduced to, the affected waters or facilities  
31 be inspected, quarantined, or disinfected in a manner and for a  
32 duration necessary to detect and prevent the spread of invasive  
33 mussels within the state.

34 (ii) For the purpose of implementing clause (i), the director or  
35 the director's designee shall order the closure or quarantine of, or  
36 restrict access to, these waters, areas, or facilities in a manner and  
37 duration necessary to detect and prevent the spread of invasive  
38 mussels within the state. A closure, quarantine, or restriction shall  
39 not be authorized by the director or the director's designee without  
40 the concurrence of the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency.

1 If a closure lasts longer than seven days, the department shall  
2 update the operator of the affected facility every 10 days on efforts  
3 to address the invasive mussel infestation. The department shall  
4 provide these updates in writing and also post these updates on  
5 the department's internet website in an easily accessible manner.

6 (iii) The department shall develop procedures to ensure proper  
7 notification of affected local and federal agencies, and, as  
8 appropriate, the Department of Water Resources, the Department  
9 of Parks and Recreation, and the State Lands Commission in the  
10 event of a decision to close, quarantine, or restrict a facility  
11 pursuant to this paragraph. These procedures shall include the  
12 reasons for the closure, quarantine, or restriction, and methods for  
13 providing updated information to those affected. These procedures  
14 shall also include protocols for the posting of the notifications on  
15 the department's internet website required by clause (ii).

16 (iv) When deciding the scope, duration, level, and type of  
17 restrictions, and specific location of a closure or quarantine, the  
18 director shall consult with the agency, entity, owner, or operator  
19 with jurisdiction, control, or management responsibility over the  
20 marina, boat launch facility, or other facility, in order to focus the  
21 closure or quarantine to specific areas and facilities so as to avoid  
22 or minimize disruption of economic or recreational activity in the  
23 vicinity.

24 (b) (1) Upon a determination by the director that it would further  
25 the purposes of this section, other parties or state agencies,  
26 including, but not limited to, the Department of Parks and  
27 Recreation, the Department of Water Resources, the Department  
28 of Food and Agriculture, and the State Lands Commission, may  
29 exercise the authority, or portions of that authority, granted to the  
30 department in subdivision (a).

31 (2) A determination made pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be in  
32 writing and shall remain in effect until withdrawn, in writing, by  
33 the director.

34 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), Division 13  
35 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code  
36 does not apply to the implementation of this section.

37 (2) An action undertaken pursuant to subparagraph (B) of  
38 paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) involving the use of chemicals  
39 other than salt or hot water to decontaminate a conveyance or a

1 facility is subject to Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000)  
2 of the Public Resources Code.

3 (d) (1) A public or private agency that operates a water supply  
4 system shall cooperate with the department to implement measures  
5 to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate  
6 any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. If invasive  
7 mussels are detected, the operator of the water supply system, in  
8 cooperation with the department, shall prepare and implement a  
9 plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system,  
10 ~~and system to minimize or eliminate or minimize any potential~~  
11 ~~downstream transport the spread~~ of an invasive mussel. The  
12 approved plan shall contain the following minimum elements:

13 (A) Methods for delineation of infestation, including both adult  
14 mussels and veligers.

15 (B) Methods for control or eradication of adult mussels and  
16 decontamination of water containing larval mussels.

17 (C) A systematic monitoring program to determine any changes  
18 in conditions.

19 (D) The requirement that the operator of the water supply system  
20 permit inspections by the department as well as cooperate with the  
21 department to update or revise control or eradication measures in  
22 the approved plan to address scientific advances in the methods  
23 of controlling or eradicating mussels and veligers.

24 (2) If the operator of water delivery and storage facilities for  
25 public water supply purposes has prepared, initiated, and is in  
26 compliance with all the elements of an approved plan to control  
27 or eradicate invasive mussels in accordance with paragraph (1),  
28 the requirements of subdivision (a) do not apply to the operation  
29 of those water delivery and storage facilities, and the operator is  
30 not subject to any civil or criminal liability for the introduction of  
31 invasive mussel species as a result of those operations. The  
32 department may require the operator of a facility to update its plan,  
33 and if the plan is not updated or revised as described in this  
34 subdivision, subdivision (a) shall apply to the operation of the  
35 water delivery and storage facilities covered by the plan until the  
36 operator updates or revises the plan and initiates and complies with  
37 all of the elements of the updated or revised plan.

38 (3) On or before December 31, 2026, the department shall  
39 review all approved plans pursuant to this subdivision and require  
40 ~~all plans that do not specifically address all invasive mussel species~~

1 ~~known to be present in bodies of water in the state subdivision.~~  
2 ~~The department shall require water supply system operators to~~  
3 ~~update the plans to address all invasive mussel species present in~~  
4 ~~their system as of January 1, 2026, to be updated or revised~~  
5 ~~appropriately to include all invasive mussel species, on or before~~  
6 ~~on or before September 30, 2027.~~

7 (4) Every invasive mussel species *detected in a water supply*  
8 *system after January 1, 2026*, shall be addressed in a plan pursuant  
9 to this subdivision no later than 180 days from the date ~~that the~~  
10 ~~species is listed in a regulation as described in Section 2303.~~  
11 *detected*. The department shall approve plans or provide written  
12 comments and suggestions on plan deficiencies within 180 days  
13 from the date of plan submission.

14 (e) Any entity that discovers invasive mussels within this state  
15 shall immediately report the discovery to the department.

16 (f) (1) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any  
17 person who violates this section, violates any verbal or written  
18 order or regulation adopted pursuant to this section, or who resists,  
19 delays, obstructs, or interferes with the implementation of this  
20 section, is subject to a penalty, in an amount not to exceed one  
21 thousand dollars (\$1,000), that is imposed administratively by the  
22 department.

23 (2) A penalty shall not be imposed pursuant to paragraph (1)  
24 unless the department has adopted regulations specifying the  
25 amount of the penalty and the procedure for imposing and  
26 appealing the penalty.

27 (g) The department may adopt regulations to carry out this  
28 section.

29 (h) Pursuant to Section 818.4 of the Government Code, the  
30 department and any other state agency exercising authority under  
31 this section shall not be liable with regard to any determination or  
32 authorization made pursuant to this section.

33 (i) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030,  
34 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that  
35 is enacted before January 1, 2030, deletes or extends that date.

36 *SEC. 3. Section 2303 of the Fish and Game Code is amended*  
37 *to read:*

38 2303. For purposes of this chapter, “invasive mussel” means  
39 any nonnative ~~detrimental~~ *biofouling* mussel species that is capable

1 of spreading in freshwater and is listed in a regulation adopted by  
2 the commission pursuant to Section 2118.

3 *SEC. 4. Section 2304 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to*  
4 *read:*

5 *2304. The department, in consultation with the Department of*  
6 *Parks and Recreation and the Department of Food and Agriculture,*  
7 *shall develop a voluntary framework to prevent the overland spread*  
8 *of invasive mussels through the conveyance of watercraft overland.*  
9 *The framework shall include all of the following:*

10 *(a) Minimum standards for watercraft inspection,*  
11 *decontamination, and quarantine based on best available science*  
12 *and aligned with national standards as feasible.*

13 *(b) A banding program or other mechanisms by which to confirm*  
14 *the inspection, decontamination, or quarantine status of a*  
15 *watercraft.*

16 *(c) Training and quality assurance metrics to encourage*  
17 *consistent inspection, decontamination, and tracking of vessels*  
18 *across waterbodies.*

19 *(d) A publicly available list of participating inspection and*  
20 *decontamination services statewide.*

21 *(e) Education and outreach opportunities and materials to*  
22 *reduce the spread of invasive mussels and encourage compliance*  
23 *with and participation in the framework.*

24 *SEC. 5. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to*  
25 *Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because*  
26 *the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school*  
27 *district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or*  
28 *infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty*  
29 *for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of*  
30 *the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within*  
31 *the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California*  
32 *Constitution.*

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**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2013**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bennett**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan,**  
**Connolly, Harabedian, and Hart)**  
(Coauthor: Senator Stern)

February 17, 2026

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An act to add Part 2.25 (commencing with Section 10555) to Division 6 of the Water Code, relating to water resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2013, as introduced, Bennett. Fire risk areas: water suppliers: emergency preparedness plan.

Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas. Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the State Fire Marshal, as provided.

This bill would require a water supplier that services more than 100 customers that are located in a moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone, as specified, to establish an emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings, extreme weather events, and other major power outages or emergencies that pose a potential threat to providing adequate water service. The bill would require the plan to contain several things, including, among others, an assessment that identifies the minimum number of and type of water pumps that are

necessary to maintain water service for customers while providing an adequate water supply for fire fighting activities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Part 2.25 (commencing with Section 10555) is  
2 added to Division 6 of the Water Code, to read:

3  
4 PART 2.25. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING  
5

6 10555. (a) For purposes of this part, “plan” means an  
7 emergency preparedness plan developed pursuant to subdivision  
8 (b).

9 (b) A water supplier that services more than 100 customers that  
10 are located in a moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity  
11 zone as designated by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section  
12 51178 of the Government Code, or a local agency pursuant to  
13 Section 51179 of the Government Code, shall establish an  
14 emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings,  
15 extreme weather events, and other major power outages or  
16 emergencies that pose a potential threat to providing adequate  
17 water service to the moderate, high, or very high fire hazard  
18 severity zone.

19 (c) A water supplier is encouraged to develop a plan in  
20 coordination with the county board of supervisors, or a county  
21 agency or department if one is designated an authority to coordinate  
22 with the water supplier by the county board of supervisors.

23 (d) A plan shall be submitted to the county board of supervisors  
24 or a county agency or department designated by the county board  
25 of supervisors pursuant to subdivision (c).

26 (e) (1) A water supplier shall review the plan at least once every  
27 three years and shall update the plan as necessary.

28 (2) Updates to the plan shall be submitted to the county board  
29 of supervisors or a county agency or department designated by the  
30 county board of supervisors pursuant to subdivision (c).

31 10556. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, all of the  
32 following:

1 (a) (1) An assessment of the minimum water tank levels  
2 necessary to maintain water service for customers while providing  
3 an adequate water supply for fire fighting activities during an  
4 extreme weather event or red flag warning.

5 (2) The assessment shall take into consideration water quality  
6 standards and actions necessary to maintain water quality.

7 (b) (1) An assessment that identifies the minimum number of  
8 and type of water pumps that are necessary to maintain water  
9 service for customers while providing an adequate water supply  
10 for fire fighting activities.

11 (2) The assessment shall identify water pumps that are equipped  
12 with emergency backup energy sources and identify water pumps  
13 that require the installation of emergency backup energy sources.

14 (c) An identification of alternative water sources that can be  
15 used during an extreme weather event or loss of power, if any.

16 (d) A detailed accounting of the pipelines, water pumps, water  
17 tanks, backup power generation facilities, and related infrastructure  
18 needs that are necessary to maintain water service for customers  
19 and provide adequate water supply for fire fighting activities during  
20 an extreme weather event and a designation for which of these  
21 pipelines, water pumps, water tanks, and backup power generation  
22 facilities are, or are required to be, fire hardened.

23 10557. A water supplier or water system that is required to  
24 prepare and submit an emergency response plan to the Public  
25 Utilities Commission shall include the emergency preparedness  
26 plan required by this part in that submission.

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2026**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry**

February 17, 2026

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An act to amend Sections 1242.1, 1345, 1347, 1348, 1425, 1433, 1433.1, and 1433.2 of, to amend the heading of Article 2 (commencing with Section 1433) of Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of, to amend and renumber the heading of Article 1 (commencing with Section 1425) of Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of, to add Sections 1267 and 1431.1 to, and to add Article 1 (commencing with Section 1420) to Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of, the Water Code, relating to groundwater.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2026, as amended, Aguiar-Curry. ~~Groundwater recharge. Water diversion: groundwater recharge: permit.~~

(1) Existing law declares that all water within the state is the property of the people of the state, but the right to the use of the water may be acquired by appropriation in the manner provided by law. Existing law requires the appropriation to be for some useful or beneficial purpose. Existing law provides, however, that the diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge does not require an appropriative water right if certain conditions are met, including that a local or regional agency that has adopted a local plan of flood control or has considered flood risks as part of its most recently adopted general plan has given notice, as provided, of imminent risk of flooding and inundation of lands, roads, or structures. Existing law defines "floodflow" for these purposes to include circumstances in which flows would inundate ordinarily dry

*areas in the bed of a terminal lake to a depth that floods dairies and other ongoing agricultural activities, or areas with substantial residential, commercial, or industrial development. Existing law applies those requirements to diversions commenced before January 1, 2029.*

*The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment.*

*Existing law prohibits an entity from substantially diverting or obstructing the natural flow of, or substantially changing or using any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake, or from depositing or disposing of certain material where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake, without first notifying the Department of Fish and Wildlife of that activity, and entering into a lake or streambed alteration agreement if required by the department to protect fish and wildlife resources, except as specified.*

*This bill would revise and recast those conditions required for the appropriate water right exemption for a diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge, would apply the requirements to a diversion commenced at anytime, and would further exempt those diversions from the requirements of CEQA and requirements relating to lake or streambed alteration agreements if tribal consultation has been conducted, as provided. The bill would expand the definition of “floodflow” to include flows downstream of a dam that is releasing water for flood control purposes, as provided, and would delete the requirement that eligible diversions have commenced prior to January 1, 2029.*

*(2) Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources to operate the State Water Resources Development System, known as the State Water Project, to supply water to persons and entities in the state. Existing law designates as the Central Valley Project a system of works for the conservation, development, storage, distribution, and utilization*

*of water, with incidental generation, transmission, and distribution of electric power.*

*This bill would provide that the inclusion of certain proposed terms in an application to divert water within or upstream of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to underground storage pursuant to certain permits, and its adoption in the applicable permit, would satisfy the State Water Resources Control Board's finding that water may be diverted and used without injury to the legal users of water from the Central Valley Project or the State Water Project, including the United States Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Water Resources, or any contractors to the project.*

*(3) Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to consider and act upon all applications for permits to appropriate water, and requires the Division of Water Rights to conduct a field investigation of all minor protested applications, except under a specified circumstance. Existing law defines a "minor application" to include an application by a groundwater sustainability agency or local agency for a diversion previously authorized by a conditional temporary permit for diversion of surface water to underground storage, as specified, without complying with other procedures or provisions previously authorized by a temporary permit.*

*Existing law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans, except as specified. Existing law requires a groundwater sustainability plan to be developed and implemented to meet the sustainability goal, established as prescribed.*

*This bill would expand that definition of minor application to include an application by a private entity under a memorandum of understanding or other agreement with a groundwater sustainability agency for specific diversions. The bill would create an additional exception from the requirement to conduct a field investigation if the application involves a diversion substantially similar to a diversion previously authorized by temporary permits for at least 5 years, involves no greater amount of diversion and no other points of diversion than authorized in the last preceding temporary permits, and includes specified information based on the applicant's experience under prior temporary permits, including specified documentation and proposed terms. The bill would also require the board to give public notice of*

*the minor application within 30 days of the application's filing, to allow 45 days from the date of the notice for the filing of comments, as provided, and to issue a decision within 180 days of the deadline for submitting comments on the application, as provided. The bill would require the board to approve the application if it determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the proposed diversion would not injure a legal user of water, as specified, and would not unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses. The bill would require that the permit issued by the board pursuant to these provisions be exempt from CEQA and requirements relating to lake or streambed alteration agreements if specified conditions are met.*

*Existing law authorizes any person who has an urgent need to divert and use water to apply for, and authorizes the board to issue, a conditional, temporary permit, as prescribed. Existing law defines "urgent need" for these purposes.*

*This bill would expand the definition of "urgent need" to include, in a basin for which the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires a groundwater sustainability plan, the application of a local agency, groundwater sustainability agency, or private entity operating under a memorandum of understanding or other agreement with a groundwater sustainability agency, to divert and use water determined to be available using specified criteria, as provided, to augment the basin's recharge in order to support implementation of the sustainability goal in that basin. The bill would exempt the board's issuance of a temporary permit from CEQA and requirements relating to lake or streambed alteration agreements if specified conditions are met.*

*(4) Existing law requires the state water board to appoint a deputy director for the Division of Water Rights.*

*This bill would authorize a certain temporary permit to authorize the diversion to be initiated more than 180 days after date of issuance, except that authorization to divert shall automatically expire 5 years after diversions commence, as provided. The bill would authorize the Chief Deputy Director of Water Rights to limit diversion under those temporary permits in favor of competing temporary permits based on, but not limited to, consideration of public interest, as provided.*

*(5) Existing law requires each person or entity who holds a permit or license to appropriate water, and each lessor of water, as provided, to pay an annual fee according to a fee schedule established by the board, as specified.*

*This bill would require the board, in setting fees for minor applications and for temporary urgency permits, to set those fees to reflect not more than a reasonable amount for the estimated amount of work that the application may require for the board to reach a decision on the application. The bill would prohibit the board from requiring a separate application or fee for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of diverted water.*

~~Existing law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater plans, except as specified.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation to further increase groundwater storage and remove impediments to recharge in a way that will maximize groundwater recharge while protecting water rights and communities, state and federal water projects, and environmental needs, as provided.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1     *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
- 2     *following:*
- 3     *(a) Climate change is increasing water scarcity in California.*
- 4     *(b) The state must prepare for more frequent and severe*
- 5     *droughts.*
- 6     *(c) The state must invest in infrastructure and have processes*
- 7     *in place to manage floods.*
- 8     *(d) California's underground aquifers contain a vast amount*
- 9     *of natural water storage capacity.*
- 10    *(e) Underground water storage is a faster, more cost-effective,*
- 11    *and environmentally sustainable water storage alternative to new*
- 12    *surface water reservoirs.*
- 13    *(f) Diversions to groundwater recharge can also help with flood*
- 14    *control.*
- 15    *(g) Since at least 2014, with the passage of the Sustainable*
- 16    *Groundwater Management Act, it has been the intent of the*
- 17    *Legislature to increase groundwater storage and remove*
- 18    *impediments to groundwater recharge.*

1 (h) After 2014, the Legislature passed three measures to help  
2 facilitate groundwater recharge. The measures authorize the State  
3 Water Resources Control Board to issue temporary permits to  
4 divert surface water for the purpose of underground storage,  
5 authorize the diversion of flood flows for groundwater recharge  
6 without an appropriative water right if certain conditions are met,  
7 and require the California Water Plan to prioritize actions to  
8 increase groundwater recharge throughout California.

9 (i) Despite the legislative actions described in subdivision (h),  
10 and despite wet hydrology throughout California in the intervening  
11 years, groundwater recharge is not occurring on the pace and  
12 scale required to meaningfully improve water supply reliability  
13 and provide reliable mechanisms for flood control.

14 (j) Additional changes in law are required to improve the  
15 process for permitted groundwater recharge and to expand the  
16 ability for unpermitted diversion of flood flows, while protecting  
17 existing water rights and the environmental needs of California's  
18 fish and wildlife.

19 SEC. 2. Section 1242.1 of the Water Code is amended to read:

20 1242.1. The diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge  
21 shall not require an appropriative water right if all of the following  
22 conditions are met:

23 (a) (1) A local or regional agency ~~that has adopted a local plan~~  
24 ~~of flood control pursuant to Section 8201 or has considered flood~~  
25 ~~risk as part of its most recently adopted general plan responsible~~  
26 *for flood management* has given notice via its internet website,  
27 electronic distribution list, emergency notification service, or  
28 another means of public notice, that flows downstream of the point  
29 of diversion are at imminent risk of flooding and inundation of  
30 land, roads, or structures.

31 (2) As used in this section, "floodflow" means any of the  
32 following:

33 (A) Where a waterbody is subject to a defined flood stage, flows  
34 in excess of flood stage where actions are necessary to avoid threats  
35 to human health and safety.

36 (B) (i) Except as provided in clause (ii), where a waterbody is  
37 not subject to a defined flood stage, surface water escaped from  
38 or is likely to imminently escape from a channel or waterbody  
39 causing or threatening to cause inundation of residential or  
40 commercial structures, or roads needed for emergency response.

1 Likely imminent escape from a channel or waterbody shall be  
2 demonstrated by measured flows in excess of the maximum design  
3 capacity of a flood control project, where such a project is present  
4 and the maximum design capacity is readily available information.

5 (ii) This subparagraph does not apply to flows that inundate  
6 wetlands, working lands, or floodplains, events that constitute a  
7 “design flood,” groundwater seepage, or waters confined to a  
8 “designated floodway.”

9 (C) Where flows would inundate ordinarily dry areas in the bed  
10 of a terminal lake to a depth that floods dairies and other ongoing  
11 agricultural activities, or areas with substantial residential,  
12 commercial, or industrial development.

13 (D) *Flows occurring downstream of a dam that is releasing*  
14 *water for flood control purposes as required by a United States*  
15 *Army Corps of Engineers flood control rule or curve, a court*  
16 *judgment, or other binding rule.*

17 (3) As used in this subdivision, “imminent” means a high degree  
18 of confidence that a condition will ~~begin in the immediate future.~~  
19 *occur soon if flood management actions are not immediately*  
20 *implemented.*

21 (4) *As used in this section, “excess water conditions” are*  
22 *determined pursuant to the Agreement Between the United States*  
23 *of America and the State of California for Coordinated Operation*  
24 *of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, as*  
25 *amended.*

26 (b) ~~The~~(1) *Except as provided in paragraph (2), the diversions*  
27 *cease when the flood conditions described in the public notice*  
28 *provided pursuant to subdivision (a) have abated to the point there*  
29 *is no longer a risk of flooding and inundation of land, roads, or*  
30 *structures downstream of the point of diversion.*

31 (2) *When a local agency or groundwater sustainability agency*  
32 *is diverting floodflow, the diversions cease when the flood control*  
33 *releases are no longer legally required or would interfere with*  
34 *any priority water right on the stream that the diversions occur*  
35 *from or downstream of that stream.*

36 (c) Any water diverted is not diverted to, and will not be applied  
37 to, any of the following:

38 (1) Any barns, ponds, or lands where manure or waste from an  
39 animal facility that generates waste from the feeding and housing

1 of animals for more than 45 days per year in a confined area that  
2 is not vegetated are applied.

3 (2) Any agricultural field that has been identified as an outlier  
4 with respect to nitrogen application by any of the following:

5 (A) The board.

6 (B) The appropriate regional board.

7 (C) An agricultural coalition charged with implementation of  
8 the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.

9 (3) Any area that could cause damage to critical levees,  
10 infrastructure, wastewater and drinking water systems, drinking  
11 water wells or drinking water supplies, or exacerbate the threat of  
12 flood and other health and safety concerns.

13 (4) Any area that has not been in active irrigated agricultural  
14 cultivation within the past three years, including grazing lands,  
15 annual grasslands, and natural habitats. This limitation does not  
16 apply to facilities already constructed for the purpose of  
17 groundwater recharge or managed wetlands.

18 (d) (1) With respect to diversions from water tributaries to the  
19 Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta), water rights holders are  
20 not making releases of stored water or reoperating facilities to  
21 provide flow for the purposes of meeting water quality control  
22 plan or endangered species requirements in the Delta at the time  
23 of the diversion.

24 (2) *For a diversion from the San Joaquin River or its tributaries*  
25 *upstream of Vernalis, water may be diverted only when the Delta*  
26 *is in excess water conditions and the Delta is without restrictions.*

27 (3) *With respect to all other diversions from the Delta or its*  
28 *tributaries, water may be diverted only when the Delta is in excess*  
29 *water conditions and either of the following applies:*

30 (A) *The Delta is without restrictions.*

31 (B) *The Delta is with restrictions, but Delta operations are only*  
32 *controlled by Old and Middle River flow or San Joaquin River*  
33 *inflow-to-export ratio.*

34 (4) *For diversions pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), the*  
35 *diverter shall monitor conditions daily using the Delta Operations*  
36 *Summary report published on the internet website of the*  
37 *department daily, or a successor to that internet website adopted*  
38 *by the department, to determine the Delta's condition and whether*  
39 *diversions are authorized pursuant to the permit.*

1 (5) *For purposes of paragraph (3), the term “controlled by Old*  
2 *and Middle River flow” means conditions when the Central Valley*  
3 *Project and the State Water Project are implementing one or more*  
4 *regulatory requirements by managing flows in Old and Middle*  
5 *River, whatever the source or content of those requirements is.*

6 (e) The diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge uses  
7 the following as part of the diversion:

8 (1) Either existing diversion infrastructure or temporary pumps.

9 (2) Existing groundwater recharge locations, where available.

10 (3) No new permanent infrastructure or permanent construction.

11 (4) For diversions directly from rivers or streams, protective  
12 screens on temporary pump intakes to minimize the impacts of  
13 diversion to fish and other aquatic life. Such screens shall be  
14 constructed of any rigid material, perforated, woven, or slotted,  
15 that provides water passage while physically excluding fish. The  
16 screen face shall be parallel to the flow and adjacent to the water’s  
17 edge. The upstream and downstream transitions to the screen  
18 structure shall be designed and constructed to minimize eddies  
19 upstream of, in front of, and downstream of the screen, while  
20 minimizing entrainment to the degree feasible. Prior to  
21 implementing this paragraph, the Department of Fish and Wildlife  
22 shall conduct at least one public workshop to review recommended  
23 design parameters and ranges of scenarios for deployment and use  
24 of protective screens. These recommendations and any other  
25 guidelines provided by the Department of Fish and Wildlife on  
26 the implementation of this paragraph shall not be subject to the  
27 Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with  
28 Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government  
29 Code).

30 (f) The person or entity making the diversion for groundwater  
31 recharge ~~does not claim any water right based on that may claim~~  
32 *credit for the beneficial use of the diversion and recharge. recharge*  
33 *if the underground storage of the water advances the sustainability*  
34 *goal of a groundwater basin pursuant to Part 2.74 (commencing*  
35 *with Section 10720) of Division 6 and the groundwater*  
36 *sustainability agency with authority over the area where the*  
37 *diverted water recharges the applicable basin authorized the credit.*  
38 *The credit claimed shall be limited to the amounts of water*  
39 *reported in the filings required by subdivision (g). Diversion for*  
40 *groundwater recharge pursuant to this section shall not create a*

1 *vested water right to divert, even of a temporary nature. This*  
2 *limitation is on the authorization to divert and not a limitation on*  
3 *the authorization for beneficial use of the water diverted to*  
4 *underground storage.*

5 (g) (1) The person or entity making the diversion for  
6 groundwater recharge files all of the following with the board and  
7 with any applicable groundwater sustainability agency, as defined  
8 in Section 10721, for the basin:

9 (A) A notice that provides the information specified in  
10 Subparagraphs (A) through (C), inclusive, of paragraph (2), 48  
11 hours before whenever feasible, and in no event later than 48 hours  
12 after initially commencing diversion of floodflows for groundwater  
13 recharge.

14 (B) A preliminary report no later than 14 days after initially  
15 commencing diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge.

16 (C) A final report no later than 15 days after diversions cease.

17 (2) The preliminary and final reports shall do all of the  
18 following:

19 (A) Identify the person or entity making the diversion for  
20 groundwater recharge.

21 (B) Provide the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates  
22 for the point of diversion, a map identifying the approximate area  
23 inundated by the floodflows, and the corresponding assessor parcel  
24 numbers.

25 (C) Identify the time when diversions of floodflows to  
26 groundwater recharge commenced, and, for final reports, when  
27 diversions ceased.

28 (D) Provide an estimate, as of the report's date, of the amount  
29 of floodflows diverted for groundwater recharge.

30 ~~(h) This section shall only apply to diversions commenced~~  
31 ~~before January 1, 2029.~~

32 *(h) The diversion of floodflow for groundwater recharge*  
33 *pursuant to this section shall be exempt from the requirements of*  
34 *Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public*  
35 *Resources Code and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1600)*  
36 *of Division 2 of the Fish and Game Code, if tribal consultation*  
37 *has been conducted pursuant to Sections 21074, 21080.3.1,*  
38 *21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21084.2, and 21084.3 of the Public Resources*  
39 *Code.*

1     *SEC. 3. Section 1267 is added to the Water Code, immediately*  
2 *following Section 1266, to read:*

3     *1267. (a) (1) For applications to divert water within or*  
4 *upstream of the Delta to underground storage pursuant to a minor*  
5 *application, as defined in Section 1348, a temporary urgency*  
6 *permit pursuant to Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 1425) of*  
7 *Chapter 6.5 of this part, or a temporary permit for diversion to*  
8 *underground storage pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with*  
9 *Section 1433) of Chapter 6.5, the inclusion of the language from*  
10 *paragraphs (2) and (3) in the application as proposed permit*  
11 *terms, and its adoption in the applicable permit, shall satisfy the*  
12 *state board's finding that water may be diverted and used without*  
13 *injury to the legal users of water from the Central Valley Project*  
14 *or the State Water Project, including the United States Bureau of*  
15 *Reclamation, the department, or any contractors to the projects.*

16     *(2) For a diversion from the San Joaquin River or its tributaries*  
17 *upstream of Vernalis, water may be diverted only when the Delta*  
18 *is in excess water conditions and the Delta is without restrictions.*

19     *(3) With respect to all other diversions from the Delta or its*  
20 *tributaries, water may be diverted only when the Delta is in excess*  
21 *water conditions and either of the following applies:*

22     *(A) The Delta is without restrictions.*

23     *(B) The Delta is with restrictions, but Delta operations are*  
24 *controlled only by Old and Middle River flow or San Joaquin River*  
25 *inflow-to-export ratio.*

26     *(4) The permittee shall monitor conditions daily using the Delta*  
27 *Operations Summary report published on the internet website of*  
28 *the department daily, or a successor to that internet website*  
29 *adopted by the department, to determine the Delta's condition and*  
30 *whether diversions are authorized pursuant to the permit.*

31     *(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) and any water availability*  
32 *analysis on which the applicable permit is based, water may be*  
33 *diverted pursuant to the applicable permit if, in addition to*  
34 *compliance with other permit terms not related to Delta conditions,*  
35 *the permittee has an agreement with the department and, as*  
36 *necessary, the United States Bureau of Reclamation to ensure that*  
37 *the permittee's diversions upstream of the Delta do not injure the*  
38 *department or the United States Bureau of Reclamation as a legal*  
39 *user of water by adversely impacting the operations of the State*  
40 *Water Project or the Central Valley Project.*

1 (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a de minimis effect on the  
 2 operations of the State Water Project or the Central Valley Project  
 3 shall not be an injury to the department or the Bureau of  
 4 Reclamation as a legal user of water.

5 (d) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

6 (1) “Controlled by Old and Middle River flow” means  
 7 conditions when the Central Valley Project and the State Water  
 8 Project are implementing one or more regulatory requirements  
 9 by managing flows in Old and Middle River, whatever the source  
 10 or content of those requirements is.

11 (2) “De minimis reduction” means a cumulative reduction of  
 12 less than 10 acre-feet in a single water year.

13 (3) “Delta” means the area defined in Section 12220.

14 (4) “Delta is with restrictions” means conditions when the  
 15 Central Valley Project and State Water Project operations in the  
 16 Delta are constrained by any nondiscretionary requirement,  
 17 including any requirement for the protection of water quality and  
 18 endangered species.

19 (5) “Delta is without restrictions” means conditions when  
 20 Central Valley Project and State Water Project operations in the  
 21 Delta are not constrained by any nondiscretionary requirements,  
 22 including any requirements for the protection of water quality and  
 23 endangered species.

24 (6) “Delta operations” means the operations by which the  
 25 Central Valley Project and the State Water Project divert water  
 26 from the Delta.

27 (7) “Excess water conditions” means conditions as determined  
 28 pursuant to the Agreement Between the United States of America  
 29 and the State of California for Coordinated Operation of the  
 30 Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, as amended.

31 (8) “Water year” means the period beginning on October 1 of  
 32 one calendar year and continuing to September 30 of the following  
 33 calendar year.

34 SEC. 4. Section 1345 of the Water Code is amended to read:

35 1345. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the Division  
 36 of Water Rights shall conduct a field investigation of all minor  
 37 protested applications. The board shall notify the parties of the  
 38 field investigation not less than 20 days prior to conducting the  
 39 field investigation, to enable the parties to attend and present  
 40 information to the board.

1 (b) The Division of Water Rights is not required to conduct a  
2 field investigation for an application defined as a minor application  
3 ~~under~~ pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 1348 if ~~the~~ either of  
4 the following conditions is met:

5 (1) The Division of Water Rights determines, in its discretion,  
6 that a field investigation will not substantially expedite  
7 consideration of the application and a hearing should be conducted  
8 ~~under~~ pursuant to Section 183. If the Division of Water Rights  
9 makes that determination, Sections 1346 and 1347 do not apply  
10 to the application.

11 (2) The application involves a diversion pursuant to paragraph  
12 (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 1348 and includes information on  
13 the applicant's experience pursuant to past temporary permits,  
14 including all of the following:

15 (A) Consistent with the Sustainable Groundwater Management  
16 Act (Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6),  
17 documentation of the consistency of the proposed diversion and  
18 recharge with the groundwater sustainability plan that applies to  
19 the area where the water was recharged.

20 (B) Documentation showing the applicant took both of the  
21 following actions:

22 (i) The applicant consulted with the Department of Fish and  
23 Wildlife concerning the diversion's effects, if any, on fish, wildlife,  
24 and other instream beneficial uses.

25 (ii) The applicant provided the Department of Fish and Wildlife  
26 a copy of the application.

27 (C) Proposed terms that accomplished both of the following:

28 (i) Addressed potential effects on fish, wildlife, or other instream  
29 beneficial uses identified through the applicant's consultation with  
30 the Department of Fish and Wildlife pursuant to subparagraph  
31 (B).

32 (ii) Incorporated the applicable terms of subdivision (b) of  
33 Section 1267 if the proposed diversion would occur upstream of  
34 the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

35 SEC. 5. Section 1347 of the Water Code is amended to read:

36 1347. ~~Based~~(a) Subject to subdivision (b) and based upon the  
37 field investigation and any other information obtained ~~under~~  
38 pursuant to this article, the Division of Water Rights shall issue a  
39 decision unless the board in its discretion determines that additional  
40 proceedings should be conducted ~~under~~ pursuant to Section 183.

1 A decision of the Division of Water Rights is subject to review as  
2 provided in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 1120) of Part 1.

3 *(b) For a minor application pursuant to subdivision (b) of*  
4 *Section 1348, the board shall consider that application as follows:*

5 *(1) Notwithstanding any other law, the board shall give public*  
6 *notice of the application within 30 days of the filing of the*  
7 *application and allow 45 days from the date of the notice for the*  
8 *filing of comments on the application. The board may extend that*  
9 *time by up to 30 days if the board makes a written finding of good*  
10 *cause based on unique circumstances associated with the individual*  
11 *application.*

12 *(2) Notwithstanding any other law, the board shall issue a*  
13 *decision on the application within 180 days of the deadline for*  
14 *submitting comments on the application. The board may delegate*  
15 *its authority to issue a decision on the application to the Division*  
16 *of Water Rights, subject to the board's reconsideration of the*  
17 *division's decision pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section*  
18 *1122) of Chapter 4 of Part 1. Notwithstanding any other law, the*  
19 *board's reconsideration proceeding shall conclude within 90 days*  
20 *of the filing of a petition for reconsideration and that period shall*  
21 *not be extended without the applicant's consent.*

22 *(3) The board shall approve the application if the board*  
23 *determines that a preponderance of the evidence shows both of*  
24 *the following:*

25 *(A) The proposed diversion would not injure any legal user of*  
26 *water through significant changes in water quantity, water quality,*  
27 *timing of diversion or use, consumptive use of the water, or*  
28 *reduction in return flows.*

29 *(B) The proposed diversion would not unreasonably affect fish,*  
30 *wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses.*

31 *(4) If the board determines that the preponderance of the*  
32 *evidence does not support the findings required by paragraph (3)*  
33 *based on the applicant's proposed terms, the board shall, to the*  
34 *maximum extent possible based on the record, approve the*  
35 *application based on terms that the board determines will cause*  
36 *the applicant's diversion to satisfy the provisions of paragraph*  
37 *(3). The board shall not condition any permit on any terms*  
38 *involving another permit, license, or water right held by the*  
39 *applicant or to avoid or mitigate impacts that are not caused by*  
40 *the diversion proposed by the application.*

1 (5) The board shall not require separate applications for  
2 consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of water that would be  
3 diverted pursuant to the application. Notwithstanding Section 733  
4 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, the board shall  
5 not require that the permit describe the physical works used to  
6 convey water to underground storage, the spreading grounds, and  
7 the underground reservoirs or the method and point of  
8 measurement of water recharged to, and withdrawn from,  
9 underground storage.

10 (6) For an application involving diversions upstream of the  
11 Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, those diversions will not cause  
12 injury to the legal uses of water by the Central Valley Project, the  
13 State Water Project, or any of those projects' contractors if the  
14 permit incorporate the applicable terms stated in subdivisions (b),  
15 (c), and (d) of Section 1267.

16 (7) The board's issuance of a permit pursuant to this subdivision  
17 shall be exempt from the requirements of Division 13 (commencing  
18 with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and Chapter 6  
19 (commencing with Section 1600) of Division 2 of the Fish and  
20 Game Code, if tribal consultation has been conducted pursuant  
21 to Sections 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21084.2, and  
22 21084.3 of the Public Resources Code and the permitted diversions  
23 will occur through either of the following:

24 (A) Existing diversion infrastructure.

25 (B) Temporary facilities that meet both of the following  
26 conditions:

27 (i) Do not require construction.

28 (ii) If they divert directly from a river or stream, the facilities  
29 have protective screens on their intakes to minimize the impacts  
30 of diversion to fish and other aquatic life, with those screens being  
31 constructed of any rigid materials, perforated, woven, or slotted,  
32 that provides water passage while physically excluding fish.

33 (8) The board may consider an application pursuant to  
34 subdivision (b) of Section 1348 and issue a permit based on that  
35 application pursuant to this section notwithstanding any  
36 declaration that the relevant stream system is fully appropriated  
37 pursuant to Article 1.3 (commencing with Section 1205) of Chapter  
38 1.

39 (9) In setting fees for minor applications pursuant to this section  
40 for purposes of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 1525), the

1 board shall set those fees to reflect not more than a reasonable  
 2 amount for the estimated amount of work that the application may  
 3 require for the board to reach a decision on the application. The  
 4 board shall not require separate applications or fees for  
 5 consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of diverted water.

6 SEC. 6. Section 1348 of the Water Code is amended to read:

7 1348. For purposes of this article, a minor application shall  
 8 mean either of the following:

9 (a) Any application which does not involve direct diversions in  
 10 excess of three cubic-feet per second or storage in excess of 200  
 11 acre-feet per year.

12 (b) An application by a groundwater sustainability agency or  
 13 local agency, as defined in Section 10721, ~~for a~~ or a private entity  
 14 pursuant to a memorandum of understanding or other agreement  
 15 with a groundwater sustainability agency, for either of the  
 16 following diversions:

17 (1) A diversion substantially similar to a diversion previously  
 18 authorized by temporary permits for at least five years pursuant  
 19 to Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 1425) of Chapter 6.5 and  
 20 involving no greater amount of diversion, and no other points of  
 21 diversion, than authorized in the last of the preceding temporary  
 22 permits.

23 (2) A diversion previously authorized by a temporary permit  
 24 ~~under~~ pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 1433) of  
 25 Chapter 6.5.

26 SEC. 7. Article 1 (commencing with Section 1420) is added to  
 27 Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Water Code, to read:

28  
 29 *Article 1. General Provisions*  
 30

31 1420. This article applies to applications for temporary urgency  
 32 permits pursuant to Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 1425)  
 33 and for temporary permits for diversion to underground storage  
 34 pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 1433).  
 35 Notwithstanding any other law, for applications for permits that  
 36 this article applies to, this article's terms determine the availability  
 37 of water for diversion.

38 1421. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following  
 39 definitions govern the construction of this chapter:

- 1 (a) “90/20 method” means the method for calculating water  
2 availability when flows exceed the 90th percentile of historic daily  
3 flow between December 1 and March 31, and the total amount of  
4 water diverted is capped at 20 percent of the daily flow after  
5 downstream senior diverter demand, established instream flow  
6 requirements, and consideration of water quality objectives are  
7 satisfied.
- 8 (b) “Basin” has the same meaning as defined in Section 10721.
- 9 (c) “Delta” means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
- 10 (d) “Diversion criteria” means specific thresholds that  
11 determine when a permittee may divert, based on flows. Diversion  
12 criteria are in addition to any other conditions placed on a permit.
- 13 (e) “Flood/recharge diversion criteria” means the method for  
14 calculating water availability for the Sacramento River and its  
15 tributaries upstream of the Delta, pursuant to which water is  
16 available for diversion for recharge and beneficial uses during  
17 the period of December 1 to March 31, inclusive, within a water  
18 year when, on the date of measurement, cumulative unimpaired  
19 runoff as of that date exceeds the 80th percentile of historical  
20 cumulative water year runoff at the point of diversion, or the  
21 nearest measuring point, and lasting until that cumulative water  
22 year runoff is lower than the 50th percentile of historical  
23 cumulative runoff at the point of diversion, or the nearest point of  
24 measurement, as measured against historical cumulative water  
25 year runoff measured on that date.
- 26 (f) “Groundwater sustainability agency” has the same meaning  
27 as defined in Section 10721.
- 28 (g) “Groundwater sustainability plan” has the same meaning  
29 as defined in Section 10721.
- 30 (h) “Local agency” has the same meaning as defined in Section  
31 10721.
- 32 (i) “Location-specific diversion criteria” means criteria for  
33 determining the water available for diversion pursuant to methods  
34 other than the 90/20 method or the flood/recharge diversion  
35 criteria that contain all of the following components:
- 36 (1) Limits diversion to the December 1 to March 31, inclusive,  
37 period and from higher streamflows.
- 38 (2) Limits diversions to a portion of daily or seasonal  
39 streamflow.

1 (3) *Protects existing legal users of water, including the Central*  
2 *Valley Project and the State Water Project.*

3 (4) *Protects public trust resources.*

4 (5) *Allows for implementation across the specific region.*

5 (6) *Provides for the ability to efficiently forecast diversions,*  
6 *operate to diversion criteria, and promote maximum diversion*  
7 *opportunities pursuant to appropriate conditions.*

8 (j) *“Recharge beneficial uses” means beneficial uses supported*  
9 *by groundwater recharge projects. Those uses may include, but*  
10 *are not limited to, maintenance of supply in shallow domestic*  
11 *wells, reductions in pumping costs, and prevention or reduction*  
12 *in the rate of future land subsidence based on the severity and*  
13 *likelihood of threatened subsidence.*

14 (k) *“Sustainability goal” has the same meaning as defined in*  
15 *Section 10721.*

16 (l) *“Temporary permit” means a temporary urgency permit*  
17 *issued pursuant to Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 1425) or*  
18 *a temporary permit for diversion to underground storage issued*  
19 *pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 1433).*

20 1422. (a) *In determining the availability of water for*  
21 *applications and permits that this article applies to, the board*  
22 *shall apply the following criteria:*

23 (1) *For applications for permits for one or more diversions from*  
24 *the Sacramento River or a tributary to the Sacramento River*  
25 *upstream of the Delta, the board shall apply the flood/recharge*  
26 *diversion criteria. Those criteria shall only determine the*  
27 *availability of water during the December 1 to March 31, inclusive,*  
28 *period, inclusive, and the ultimate permit shall not authorize the*  
29 *diversion of more than 20 percent of daily streamflow at any point*  
30 *of diversion.*

31 (2) *For other areas of the state, the board shall apply*  
32 *location-specific diversion criteria to the maximum extent possible,*  
33 *and shall apply the 90/20 method where it is not possible to use*  
34 *location-specific diversion criteria.*

35 (b) (1) *The board shall adopt emergency regulations detailing*  
36 *the 90/20 method.*

37 (2) *The board’s adoption of emergency regulations pursuant*  
38 *to paragraph (1), and any amendment to those regulations, shall*  
39 *be considered by the Office of Administrative Law, as necessary,*  
40 *for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety,*

1 and general welfare. Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing  
2 with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Government  
3 Code, any emergency regulations adopted pursuant to this  
4 subdivision shall remain in effect until revised by the board.

5 (c) The board may consider any application that this article  
6 applies to, and issue a permit based on that application, if water  
7 availability for that application and permit is determined pursuant  
8 to this section and notwithstanding any declaration that the  
9 relevant stream system is fully appropriated pursuant to Article  
10 1.3 (commencing with Section 1205) of Chapter 1.

11 1423. The requirements of Division 13 (commencing with  
12 Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and Chapter 6  
13 (commencing with Section 1600) of Division 2 of the Fish and  
14 Game Code do not apply to either of the following:

15 (a) Adoption of emergency regulations pursuant to this article,  
16 if tribal consultation has been conducted pursuant to Sections  
17 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21084.2, and 21084.3 of  
18 the Public Resources Code.

19 (b) Issuance of a temporary permit subject to this article that  
20 meets all of the following criteria:

21 (1) The applicant is a groundwater sustainability agency or a  
22 local agency.

23 (2) The water that the temporary permit authorizes diversion  
24 of is limited to the water identified pursuant to the flood/recharge  
25 diversion criteria, the 90/20 method, or location-specific diversion  
26 criteria, as applicable to that temporary permit.

27 (3) Diversions are to underground storage supporting one more  
28 recharge beneficial uses.

29 (4) If for a 180-day temporary permit issued pursuant to Section  
30 1425, the diverter's facilities comply with subdivision (e) of Section  
31 1425.

32 (5) If for a five-year temporary permit issued pursuant to Section  
33 1433.1, the diverter's facilities comply with subdivision (d) of  
34 Section 1433.1.

35 (6) Tribal consultation has been conducted pursuant to Sections  
36 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21084.2, and 21084.3 of  
37 the Public Resources Code.

38 SEC. 8. The heading of Article 1 (commencing with Section  
39 1425) of Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Water Code is  
40 amended and renumbered to read:

1 Article ~~1.5~~. 180-Day Temporary Urgency Permits

2  
3 *SEC. 9. Section 1425 of the Water Code is amended to read:*

4 1425. (a) Any person, whether or not an applicant, permittee,  
5 or licensee ~~under~~ *pursuant to* provisions of this division other than  
6 this article, who has an urgent need to divert and use water may  
7 apply for, and the board may issue, a conditional, temporary permit  
8 without complying with other procedures or provisions of this  
9 division, but subject to all requirements of this article.

10 (b) Prior to issuing a permit pursuant to this article, the board  
11 shall make all of the following findings:

12 (1) The applicant has an urgent need for the water proposed to  
13 be diverted and used.

14 (2) The water may be diverted and used without injury to any  
15 lawful user of water.

16 (3) The water may be diverted and used without unreasonable  
17 effect upon fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses.

18 (4) The proposed diversion and use are in the public interest,  
19 including findings to support permit conditions imposed to ensure  
20 that the water is diverted and used in the public interest, without  
21 injury to any lawful user of water, ~~and~~ without unreasonable effect  
22 upon fish, wildlife, and other instream beneficial ~~uses~~. *uses, and*  
23 *will support the application of water to one or more beneficial*  
24 *uses, which may include recharge beneficial uses.*

25 (c) “Urgent need,” for the purposes of this article, means ~~the~~  
26 *either of the following:*

27 (1) *The existence of circumstances from which the board may*  
28 *in its judgment conclude that the proposed temporary diversion*  
29 *and use is necessary to further the constitutional policy that the*  
30 *water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest*  
31 *extent of which they are capable and that waste of water be*  
32 *prevented; except that the board shall not find an applicant’s need*  
33 *to be urgent if the board in its judgment concludes, if applicable,*  
34 *that the applicant has not exercised due diligence either ~~(1)~~ in*  
35 *making application for a permit pursuant to provisions of this*  
36 *division other than this article, or ~~(2)~~ in pursuing that application*  
37 *to permit.*

38 (2) *In a basin that requires a groundwater sustainability plan*  
39 *pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Part*  
40 *2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6), the*

1 application of a local agency, groundwater sustainability agency,  
2 or private entity operating pursuant to a memorandum of  
3 understanding or other agreement with a groundwater  
4 sustainability agency to divert and use water determined to be  
5 available pursuant to Section 1422 to augment the basin's recharge  
6 in order to support implementation of the sustainability goal in  
7 that basin.

8 (d) The board may delegate to any officer or employee of the  
9 board all or any of its functions ~~under~~ pursuant to this article, as  
10 provided in Section 7.

11 (e) A temporary permit issued pursuant to this section may  
12 authorize the diversions to be initiated after the date of the permit's  
13 issuance, if the diversions pursuant to that permit are only  
14 authorized during the 180-day period after diversions commence.  
15 The applicant shall request approval of a delayed initiation period  
16 as part of the applicant's initial filing of the application. When  
17 delayed initiation of diversion is authorized pursuant to this  
18 section, the permittee shall inform the board of commencing of  
19 diversion within 10 days of initiation of diversion pursuant to the  
20 temporary permit. The board shall maintain a list of notifications  
21 received on its internet website.

22 (f) The board's issuance of a temporary permit to address an  
23 urgent need shall be exempt from the requirements of Division 13  
24 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code  
25 and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1600) of Division 2 of  
26 the Fish and Game Code, if tribal consultation has been conducted  
27 pursuant to Sections 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3,  
28 21084.2, and 21084.3 of the Public Resources Code, and if the  
29 permitted diversions occur through either of the following:

- 30 (1) Existing diversion infrastructure.
- 31 (2) Temporary facilities that meet both of the following  
32 conditions:
  - 33 (A) Do not require construction.
  - 34 (B) If the facilities divert directly from a river or stream, the  
35 facilities have protective screens on their intakes to minimize the  
36 impacts of diversions to fish and other aquatic life, with those  
37 screens being constructed of any rigid material, perforated, woven,  
38 or slotted, and provides water passage while physically excluding  
39 fish.

1 (g) *In setting fees for applications for temporary urgency permits*  
 2 *pursuant to this article for purposes of Chapter 8 (commencing*  
 3 *with Section 1525), the board shall set those fees to reflect not*  
 4 *more than a reasonable amount for the estimated amount of work*  
 5 *that the application may require for the board to reach a decision*  
 6 *on the application. The board shall not require separate*  
 7 *applications or fees for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of*  
 8 *diverted water.*

9 *SEC. 10. Section 1431.1 is added to the Water Code,*  
 10 *immediately following Section 1431, to read:*

11 *1431.1. (a) Applications pursuant to this article may be*  
 12 *accepted for processing in accordance with Article 2 (commencing*  
 13 *with Section 1433) where the diversion is proposed on a stream*  
 14 *or stream segment that Section 1422 applies to, and the applicant*  
 15 *proposed to operate pursuant to the applicable diversion criteria.*

16 *(b) A temporary permit issued pursuant to subdivision (a) may*  
 17 *authorize the diversion to be initiated more than 180 days after*  
 18 *date of issuance, except that authorization to divert shall*  
 19 *automatically expire five years after diversions pursuant to the*  
 20 *permit commence. The applicant shall request approval of a*  
 21 *delayed initiation period as part of the applicant’s initial filing of*  
 22 *the application. Where delayed initiation of diversion is authorized*  
 23 *pursuant to this section, the permittee shall inform the board of*  
 24 *commencement of diversion within 10 days of initiation of diversion*  
 25 *pursuant to the temporary permit. The board shall maintain a list*  
 26 *of notifications received on its internet website.*

27 *(c) The Chief Deputy Director of Water Rights may limit*  
 28 *diversion under temporary permits issued pursuant to this section*  
 29 *in favor of competing temporary permits based on, but not limited*  
 30 *to, consideration of public interest.*

31 *(d) Temporary permits issued pursuant to this section may be*  
 32 *changed, upon request, including as to the locations of recharge*  
 33 *or purposes of use consistent with this article.*

34 *SEC. 11. The heading of Article 2 (commencing with Section*  
 35 *1433) of Chapter 6.5 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Water Code is*  
 36 *amended to read:*

37  
 38 *Article 2. Five-Year Temporary Permits for Diversion to*  
 39 *Underground Storage*  
 40

1 *SEC. 12. Section 1433 of the Water Code is amended to read:*

2 1433. ~~(a) Unless the context otherwise requires, the following~~  
3 ~~definitions govern the construction of this article:~~

4 ~~(1) “Basin” has the same meaning as defined in Section 10721.~~

5 ~~(2) “Groundwater sustainability agency” has the same meaning~~  
6 ~~as defined in Section 10721.~~

7 ~~(3) “Local agency” has the same meaning as defined in Section~~  
8 ~~10721.~~

9 ~~(b)~~

10 1433. This article shall not apply to diversions within the  
11 groundwater basins identified in paragraph (24) of subdivision (a)  
12 of, or subdivision (c) of, Section 10720.8.

13 *SEC. 13. Section 1433.1 of the Water Code is amended to read:*

14 1433.1. (a) A groundwater sustainability agency or a local  
15 agency, whether or not an applicant, permittee, or licensee ~~under~~  
16 *pursuant to* provisions of this division other than this article, may  
17 apply for, and the board may issue, a conditional temporary permit  
18 for diversion of surface water to underground storage for beneficial  
19 use that advances the sustainability goal of a groundwater basin  
20 ~~under Part~~ *the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Part*  
21 *2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6, 6)*, without  
22 complying with other procedures or provisions of this division,  
23 subject to all requirements of this article. An application may be  
24 filed ~~under~~ *pursuant to* this article whether or not there is an  
25 adopted groundwater sustainability plan, an interim plan, or an  
26 alternative ~~under~~ *pursuant to* Section 10733.6 for the basin.

27 (b) Before issuing a permit pursuant to this article, the board  
28 shall make all of the following findings based upon a  
29 preponderance of the evidence:

30 (1) The proposed diversion is to underground storage for  
31 beneficial use consistent with subdivision (a).

32 (2) The water may be diverted and used without injury to any  
33 lawful user of water, including the user’s ability to meet water  
34 quality objectives. This finding may be satisfied by demonstrating  
35 both of the following:

36 (A) The proposed diversion to underground storage will occur  
37 only when both of the following conditions are satisfied:

38 (i) Flow in the source waterbody exceeds the claims of all known  
39 legal users who divert water downstream of the proposed point of  
40 diversion.

1 (ii) Unregulated flow in the source waterbody will be sufficient  
 2 below the proposed point of diversion to meet instream flow  
 3 requirements and water quality objectives.  
 4 (B) *Notwithstanding paragraph (A), water is available for*  
 5 *appropriation as determined pursuant to Section 1422.*  
 6 ~~(B)~~  
 7 (C) To prevent injury to existing legal users of water, storage  
 8 and extraction from storage in the basin ~~under pursuant to~~ the  
 9 proposed permit will be subject to accounting methods and  
 10 reporting requirements established by any of the following:  
 11 (i) A groundwater sustainability plan.  
 12 (ii) An interim plan.  
 13 (iii) An alternative approved pursuant to Section 10733.6.  
 14 ~~(iv) The board, in applying conditions to the permit.~~  
 15 (3) The water may be diverted and used without unreasonable  
 16 effect upon fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial ~~uses.~~ *uses*  
 17 *pursuant to this section or Section 1422.* If the permit does not  
 18 include a condition proposed by the Department of Fish and  
 19 Wildlife ~~under pursuant to~~ paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of  
 20 Section 1433.2, the board shall include in the findings an  
 21 explanation of why the condition is not ~~included.~~ *included,*  
 22 *provided that if applicable, Section 1422 shall determine the water*  
 23 *available for appropriation.*  
 24 (4) The proposed diversion and use are in the public interest,  
 25 including findings to support permit conditions imposed to ensure  
 26 that the water is diverted and used in the public interest.  
 27 (5) If there is an adopted groundwater sustainability plan, an  
 28 interim plan, or an alternative ~~under pursuant to~~ Section 10733.6  
 29 for the basin, the proposed diversion to underground storage is  
 30 consistent with that plan or alternative.  
 31 (c) The board may delegate to any officer or employee of the  
 32 board all or any of its functions ~~under pursuant to~~ this article, as  
 33 provided in Section 7.  
 34 (d) *The board's issuance of a permit pursuant to this article is*  
 35 *exempt from the requirements of Division 13 (Commencing with*  
 36 *Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and Chapter 6*  
 37 *(Commencing with Section 1600) of Division 2 of the Fish and*  
 38 *Game Code, if the volume of available water is determined*  
 39 *pursuant to Section 1422, tribal consultation has been conducted*  
 40 *pursuant to Sections 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3,*

1 21084.2, and 21084.3 of the Public Resources Code, and the  
2 permitted diversions will occur through either of the following:

3 (1) Existing diversion infrastructure.  
4 (2) Temporary facilities that meet both of the following  
5 conditions:

6 (A) Do not require construction.

7 (B) If the facilities divert directly from a river or stream, the  
8 facilities have protective screens on their intakes to minimize the  
9 impacts of diversions to fish and other aquatic life, with those  
10 screens being constructed of any rigid material, perforated, woven,  
11 or slotted, and provides water passage while physically excluding  
12 fish.

13 (e) In setting fees for applications for temporary urgency permits  
14 pursuant to this article for purposes of Chapter 8 (commencing  
15 with Section 1525), the board shall set those fees to reflect not  
16 more than a reasonable amount for the estimated amount of work  
17 that the application may require for the board to reach a decision  
18 on the application. The board shall not require separate  
19 applications or fees for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of  
20 diverted water.

21 SEC. 14. Section 1433.2 of the Water Code is amended to read:

22 1433.2. (a) The application for a temporary permit shall be  
23 completed in accordance with Section 1260 and shall be  
24 accompanied by any maps, drawings, and other data that may be  
25 required by the board.

26 (b) (1) An applicant shall pay an application fee and, if a permit  
27 is issued, a permit fee, both in amounts calculated in accordance  
28 with the provisions of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 1525).

29 (2) Consistent with Section 3 of Article XIII A of the California  
30 Constitution and the board's authority to set fees to promote the  
31 conservation and utilization of water resources in the public  
32 interest, the board may adopt reduced fees ~~under~~ pursuant to  
33 Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 1525) for applications,  
34 petitions, and permits ~~under~~ pursuant to this article. In setting fees  
35 for applications for temporary urgency permits pursuant to this  
36 article for purposes of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 1525),  
37 the board shall set those fees to reflect not more than a reasonable  
38 amount for the estimated amount of work that the application may  
39 require for the board to reach a decision on the application. The

1 *board shall not require separate applications or fees for*  
2 *consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of diverted water.*

3 (c) In addition to subdivisions (a) and (b), an application shall  
4 include all of the following:

5 (1) Evidence that the applicant has completed any environmental  
6 review required by, or the project is exempt from, the California  
7 Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section  
8 21000) of the Public Resources Code). To the extent funding is  
9 available, the board shall review and comment on any notice of  
10 preparation or draft environmental document for a project subject  
11 to approval ~~under~~ pursuant to this article, and include in the board's  
12 comments identification of any instream beneficial uses of waters  
13 of the state that may be affected by the project. This paragraph is  
14 not a limitation on the authority of the board ~~under~~ pursuant to  
15 any other law.

16 (2) A notification from the Department of Fish and Wildlife  
17 that the applicant has consulted with the Department of Fish and  
18 Wildlife at least 30 days before submission of the application. If  
19 the Department of Fish and Wildlife determines that it needs  
20 additional time for review, it may provide for a longer consultation  
21 period, not to exceed 60 days. The notification shall include a copy  
22 of any conditions proposed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

23 (3) ~~(A) Except~~ *One of the following:*

24 (A) ~~Except as provided in subparagraph (B), subparagraphs (B)~~  
25 ~~and (C),~~ a water availability analysis that quantifies, ~~under~~ pursuant  
26 to a range of foreseeable hydrologic conditions, the amount of  
27 unappropriated water available considering all known legal users  
28 who divert water hydrologically connected to the proposed point  
29 of diversion, effects on beneficial uses, including instream  
30 beneficial uses, and the ability to meet water quality objectives.

31 (B) A simplified water availability analysis, if the applicant  
32 proposes to divert water only when flow in the source waterbody  
33 exceeds an established or calculated flood stage, or if the applicant  
34 requests board consideration of a simplified water availability  
35 analysis prior to submittal of the application, and the deputy  
36 director finds that a simplified water availability analysis is  
37 sufficient for the board to make the findings required by  
38 subdivision (b) of Section 1433.1.

39 (C) *A demonstration that Section 1422 applies to the application.*

1 (4) A proposed accounting method for ~~storage and extraction~~  
2 *application* of water diverted ~~under pursuant to~~ the permit to  
3 *beneficial use, including recharge beneficial uses*, that is either of  
4 the following:

5 (A) Certified to be consistent with the groundwater sustainability  
6 plan or alternative approved pursuant to Section 10733.6 by the  
7 groundwater sustainability agency for the basin where the water  
8 is proposed to be stored or the local agency responsible for  
9 implementing the approved alternative.

10 (B) If there is no applicable groundwater sustainability plan or  
11 alternative approved pursuant to Section 10733.6, adequate to  
12 demonstrate beneficial use of water ~~under pursuant to~~ the proposed  
13 permit and not inconsistent with the department's standards in  
14 Section 356.2 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

15 ~~SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares as follows:~~

16 ~~(1) The Governor, over the past decade, has issued several~~  
17 ~~executive orders to maximize every opportunity to recharge our~~  
18 ~~groundwater supplies, thereby boosting our water supplies for~~  
19 ~~communities and farms throughout the state and preparing for our~~  
20 ~~hotter, drier future.~~

21 ~~(2) The recommendations of the Governor and state agencies~~  
22 ~~implementing these programs and working with local groundwater~~  
23 ~~sustainability agencies and water suppliers will guide legislation~~  
24 ~~to advance groundwater recharge and better prepare our~~  
25 ~~communities and farms for our hotter, drier future.~~

26 ~~(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation~~  
27 ~~to further increase groundwater storage and remove impediments~~  
28 ~~to recharge in a way that will maximize groundwater recharge~~  
29 ~~while protecting water rights and communities, state and federal~~  
30 ~~water projects, and environmental needs, including changes to the~~  
31 ~~temporary urgency permitting for groundwater recharge, refining~~  
32 ~~the process for unpermitted diversion of flood flows, and improving~~  
33 ~~the process for permitted groundwater recharge.~~

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2032**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Ransom**

February 17, 2026

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An act to ~~amend Section 2151 of~~ *add Sections 2150.6 and 2301.5 to the Fish and Game Code, to add Section 12824.1 to the Food and Agricultural Code, and to add Section 13371 to the Water Code*, relating to fish and wildlife.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2032, as amended, Ransom. Fish and wildlife: ~~restricted species permits:~~ *golden mussels.*

*(1) Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels, as defined. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system, and, if invasive mussels are detected, to prepare and implement a plan, as specified, to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system.*

Existing law prohibits the importation, transportation, possession, or live release of specified wild animals, except under a revocable, nontransferable permit, known as a restricted species permit, issued by the ~~Department of Fish and Wildlife, department,~~ in cooperation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, and only if certain requirements are met. ~~Existing law requires a written application for a~~

~~permit from a person desiring to import or transport a restricted species to contain specified information.~~

*Existing law authorizes the department to issue permits, commonly known as scientific collecting permits, to take or possess any form of plant or animal life for scientific, educational, or propagation purposes.*

~~This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to that written application provision.~~ *exempt from the requirement to obtain a restricted species permit a public or private agency that operates a water supply system for maintenance and operational activities to control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system, as specified.*

*This bill would require the department's Invasive Species Program, through the Golden Mussel Task Force convened by the department, to develop and adopt, by April 1, 2027, best management practices for public and private agencies that operate water supply systems to control the spread of golden mussels, as specified, and would encourage those public and private agencies to comply with those best management practices. The bill would also require the department's Invasive Species Program, through the Golden Mussel Task Force, to adopt, by April 1, 2027, guidance for scientific research conducted by or for public and private agencies that operate water supply systems to control the spread of golden mussels, as specified, and would encourage those private and agencies to comply with that guidance.*

*This bill would exempt scientific research to control the spread of golden mussels conducted by or for public and private agencies that operate water supply systems from scientific collecting permits issued by the department if the public or private agency participates in the Golden Mussel Task Force, as that participation may be determined by the department.*

*This bill would require the department to update the spatial distribution maps of golden mussel-infested water bodies posted on its internet website no less than quarterly based on monitoring and reported detections, as prescribed.*

*(2) Existing law requires every manufacturer of, importer of, or dealer in any pesticide, except as specified, to obtain a certificate of registration from the Department of Pesticide Regulation before the pesticide is offered for sale. Existing law requires the Director of Pesticide Regulation to endeavor to eliminate from use in the state specified pesticides, and in carrying out this responsibility, to develop an orderly program for the continuous evaluation of all pesticides actually registered, as specified.*

*This bill would require the department to expedite, as prescribed, the evaluation of pesticides that are a chemical treatment effective for the prevention, mitigation, control, or eradication of golden mussels in a water supply system operated by a public or private agency.*

*(3) Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards regulate water quality and prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the national pollutant discharge elimination system permit program.*

*This bill would require the state board and regional boards to expedite, as prescribed, the processing of any national pollutant discharge elimination system permit or permit modification to the extent allowable under state and federal law if the permit or permit modification is submitted by a public or private agency that operates a water supply system in order to control the spread of golden mussels.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. (a) *The Legislature finds and declares all of the*  
2 *following:*

3     (1) *Invasive golden mussels are a serious threat to water*  
4 *infrastructure, water systems, water bodies, and ecosystem health.*

5     (2) *Golden mussels have been detected in much of the state,*  
6 *creating an emerging crisis that necessitates an emergency*  
7 *response.*

8     (3) *Golden mussels are more resilient than other invasive mussel*  
9 *species and tolerate a wider range of water quality. Traditional*  
10 *control methods, such as chemical treatment, have proven less*  
11 *effective due to the increased tolerance. While chemical treatments*  
12 *are being developed, the concentrations will need to be tested.*

13     (4) *Several treatment methodologies, including filters, ultraviolet*  
14 *light, and chemical coatings, are available and may be effective*  
15 *to control the settlement of golden mussels.*

16     (5) *In order to maintain the function of water supply systems*  
17 *and facilities, golden mussels must be removed from pipes, screens,*  
18 *filters, and other infrastructure. Water agencies are experiencing*  
19 *a significant increase in these maintenance activities.*

1 (6) Permitting processes relating to controlling the spread of  
2 golden mussels are extensive and time consuming, with permit  
3 approvals subject to lengthy backlogs.

4 (7) The extensive number of permits that will be required to  
5 control and mitigate the effects of golden mussels in the state must  
6 be strategically leveraged to reduce the amount of time necessary  
7 to prepare, submit, process, and approve subsequent permits.

8 (8) To combat the spread of golden mussels, it is necessary to  
9 engage in scientific research efforts to obtain information on  
10 golden mussel biology and ecology and feasibility studies for  
11 prevention, mitigation, control, and eradication methods. Much  
12 of this research qualifies for existing exemptions to the California  
13 Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section  
14 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

15 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this act to do  
16 both of the following:

17 (1) Support public and private agencies that operate water  
18 supply systems in the prevention, mitigation, control, and  
19 eradication of golden mussels.

20 (2) Streamline and expedite permitting to support the necessary  
21 rapid response to prevent serious impacts of golden mussels on  
22 water infrastructure, water supply systems, and water bodies.

23 SEC. 2. Section 2150.6 is added to the Fish and Game Code,  
24 to read:

25 2150.6. A public or private agency that operates a water supply  
26 system shall be exempt from any permit requirement pursuant to  
27 this chapter for maintenance and operational activities to control  
28 the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system, including  
29 removing golden mussels from pipes, screens, filters, and other  
30 infrastructure.

31 SEC. 3. Section 2301.5 is added to the Fish and Game Code,  
32 to read:

33 2301.5. (a) (1) The department’s Invasive Species Program,  
34 through the Golden Mussel Task Force convened by the  
35 department, shall develop and adopt, on or before April 1, 2027,  
36 best management practices for public and private agencies that  
37 operate water supply systems to control the spread of golden  
38 mussels until control plans can be developed and approved  
39 pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 2301. The best management  
40 practices shall include common maintenance and operational

1 activities for water infrastructure, water supply systems, and water  
2 bodies. The department shall, upon request, provide guidance to  
3 public and private agencies that operate water supply systems  
4 regarding the best management practices and shall update the  
5 best management practices as necessary.

6 (2) A public or private agency that operates a water supply  
7 system undertaking maintenance and operational activities to  
8 control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system  
9 is encouraged to comply with the best management practices  
10 adopted pursuant to paragraph (1).

11 (b) (1) The department's Invasive Species Program, through  
12 the Golden Mussel Task Force, shall develop and adopt, by April  
13 1, 2027, guidance for scientific research conducted by or for public  
14 and private agencies that operate water supply systems to control  
15 the spread of golden mussels, including biology, ecology, and  
16 feasibility studies for golden mussel prevention, mitigation, control,  
17 and eradication methods.

18 (2) The guidance shall include, but is not limited to, a process  
19 for a public or private agency that operates a water supply system  
20 to submit to the department a streamlined project proposal for  
21 scientific research to control the spread of golden mussels, to  
22 which the department shall respond with suggested best  
23 management practices for the possession and transport of golden  
24 mussels to minimize any negative impacts of the scientific research.

25 (3) A public or private agency that operates a water supply  
26 system conducting scientific research, or having scientific research  
27 conducted on its behalf, to control the spread of golden mussels  
28 in the water supply system is encouraged to comply with the  
29 guidance adopted pursuant to paragraph (1) or provided to it in  
30 response to a project proposal pursuant to paragraph (2).

31 (4) Scientific research to control the spread of golden mussels  
32 conducted by or for public and private agencies that operate water  
33 supply systems, including, but not limited to, as part of a project  
34 proposal submitted pursuant to paragraph (2), is exempt from  
35 scientific collecting permits under Section 1002 if the public or  
36 private agency participates in the Golden Mussel Task Force, as  
37 that participation may be determined by the department.

38 (c) The department shall update the spatial distribution maps  
39 of golden mussel-infested water bodies posted on its internet  
40 website no less than quarterly based on monitoring and reported

1 *detections. The maps shall distinguish between reported and*  
 2 *confirmed detections of golden mussels and include the date of the*  
 3 *most recent map update to provide the most accurate and*  
 4 *up-to-date information. The purpose of the maps shall be to inform*  
 5 *water agency decisions for water supply system projects,*  
 6 *maintenance, and operational activities.*

7 *SEC. 4. Section 12824.1 is added to the Food and Agricultural*  
 8 *Code, to read:*

9 *12824.1. (a) The department shall expedite the initial*  
 10 *evaluation, reevaluation, or continuous evaluation of any pesticide*  
 11 *under Section 12824 if the pesticide is a chemical treatment*  
 12 *effective for the prevention, mitigation, control, or eradication of*  
 13 *golden mussels in a water supply system operated by a public or*  
 14 *private agency.*

15 *(b) For purposes of subdivision (a), expediting includes, but is*  
 16 *not limited to, leveraging work and analysis completed on prior*  
 17 *evaluations of pesticides effective for the prevention, mitigation,*  
 18 *control, or eradication of golden mussels to expedite similar*  
 19 *subsequent evaluations.*

20 *SEC. 5. Section 13371 is added to the Water Code, to read:*

21 *13371. The state board and regional boards shall expedite the*  
 22 *processing of any national pollutant discharge elimination system*  
 23 *permit or permit modification to the extent allowable under state*  
 24 *and federal law if the permit or permit modification is submitted*  
 25 *by a public or private agency that operates a water supply system*  
 26 *in order to control the spread of golden mussels. For these*  
 27 *purposes, expediting includes, but is not limited to, all of the*  
 28 *following:*

29 *(a) Assisting applicants with permit preparation and submittal.*

30 *(b) Allowing applicants to coordinate and streamline submission*  
 31 *of permits.*

32 *(c) Leveraging work and analysis completed on prior permits*  
 33 *to expedite the review of similar subsequent permits.*

34 *(d) Using any available emergency or urgency procedures with*  
 35 *shortened timelines to process, review, and approve permits.*

36 ~~SECTION 1. Section 2151 of the Fish and Game Code is~~  
 37 ~~amended to read:~~

38 ~~2151. A permit shall be issued only upon written application~~  
 39 ~~from the person desiring to import or transport the species,~~  
 40 ~~enumerating all of the following:~~

- 1 ~~(a) The approximate number and true scientific name of each~~
- 2 ~~species of wild animal for which a permit is requested.~~
- 3 ~~(b) The carrier and probable point of first arrival in this state of~~
- 4 ~~each shipment of the species.~~
- 5 ~~(c) The purpose for which they are to be imported or transported.~~
- 6 ~~(d) The name and address of the consignee.~~
- 7 ~~(e) The name and address of the consignor.~~

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2218**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Kalra  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Rogers)**

February 19, 2026

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An act to add Section 106.2 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2218, as introduced, Kalra. Water policy: California Native American tribes.

Existing law establishes various state water policies, including the policy that the use of water for domestic purposes is the highest use of water and the human right to water.

This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the state to acknowledge and correct the inequities caused by state-sanctioned acts of termination, removal, and assimilation inflicted upon all California Native American tribes through compensation, legal recognition of rights, or replacement of benefits lost. The bill would require all relevant state agencies, including the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board, to consider and incorporate this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing rights, policies, regulations, permits, or grant criteria to address identified inequities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 106.2 is added to the Water Code, to  
2 read:

1     106.2. (a) It is hereby declared to be the established policy of  
2 the state to acknowledge and correct the inequities caused by  
3 state-sanctioned acts of termination, removal, and assimilation  
4 inflicted upon all California Native American tribes through  
5 compensation, legal recognition of rights, or replacement of  
6 benefits lost.  
7     (b) All relevant state agencies, including the department and  
8 the state board, shall consider and incorporate this policy when  
9 revising, adopting, or establishing rights, policies, regulations,  
10 permits, or grant criteria to address identified inequities.

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2630**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bennett**

February 20, 2026

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An act to amend Section 1841 of the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2630, as introduced, Bennett. Water diversion and use: adoption of regulations.

Existing law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt regulations requiring measurement and reporting of water diversion and use by persons, including, among others, those authorized to appropriate water under a permit, a license, a registration for small domestic, small irrigation, or livestock stockpond use, or a certificate for livestock stockpond use. For the initial regulations, existing law requires that they be adopted as emergency regulations and provides that the emergency regulations remain in effect until revised by the state board. Existing law also exempts the initial regulations from the California Environmental Quality Act.

This bill would require that all further regulations adopted by the state board pursuant to these provisions be adopted as emergency regulations and remain in effect until revised by the state board, and would exempt them from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 1841 of the Water Code is amended to  
2 read:

3 1841. (a) The board may adopt regulations requiring  
4 measurement and reporting of water diversion and use by either  
5 of the following:

6 (1) Persons authorized to appropriate water under a permit,  
7 license, registration for small domestic, small irrigation, or  
8 livestock stockpond use, or certification for livestock stockpond  
9 use.

10 (2) Persons required to comply with measurement and reporting  
11 regulations pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of  
12 subdivision (e) of Section 5103.

13 (b) The ~~initial~~ regulations that the board adopts pursuant to this  
14 section shall be adopted as emergency regulations in accordance  
15 with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of  
16 Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The adoption of  
17 the ~~initial~~ regulations is an emergency and shall be considered by  
18 the Office of Administrative Law as necessary for the immediate  
19 preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare.  
20 Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340)  
21 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, any  
22 emergency regulations adopted under this section shall remain in  
23 effect until revised by the board.

24 (c) The adoption of the ~~initial~~ regulations pursuant to this article  
25 is exempt from Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of  
26 the Public Resources Code.

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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2728**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Soria**

February 20, 2026

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*An act to amend Sections 12405, 12410, and 12415 of the Water Code, relating to water.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2728, as amended, Soria. ~~Water delivery infrastructure. Open and Transparent Water Data Act.~~

*Existing law, the Open and Transparent Water Data Act, requires the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to coordinate and integrate existing water and ecological data from local, state, and federal agencies for specified purposes, including, among others, improving the management of the state's water resources.*

*This bill would specify for purposes of that provision that improving the management of the state's water resources includes improving the efficacy of management actions.*

*The act requires the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, in accordance with a specified schedule, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated water data platform that, among other things, integrates existing water and ecological data information from multiple databases.*

*This bill would require, by August 1, 2027, the Department of Water Resources to make available on the platform specified information from*

*state and federal agencies, including information on hatchery production, release, and escapement.*

~~Existing law declares that California’s water infrastructure continues to age and deteriorate and safeguarding California’s supply of clean and safe water for homes, businesses, and farms is an essential responsibility of government, and critical to protecting the quality of life for all Californians.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation related to water delivery infrastructure~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     *SECTION 1. Section 12405 of the Water Code is amended to*  
2     *read:*

3     12405. The department, the state board, and the Department  
4     of Fish and Wildlife shall coordinate and integrate existing water  
5     and ecological data from local, state, and federal agencies. The  
6     purposes for integrating water and ecological data include, but are  
7     not limited to, providing adequate information to implement the  
8     Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Part 2.74 (commencing  
9     with Section 10720)), improving the management of the state’s  
10    water resources, *including the efficacy of management actions,*  
11    and bringing greater transparency to water transfers and the market.

12    *SEC. 2. Section 12410 of the Water Code is amended to read:*

13    12410. (a) The department, in consultation with the California  
14    Water Quality Monitoring Council, the state board, and the  
15    Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall create, operate, and maintain  
16    a statewide integrated water data platform in accordance with  
17    Section 12415 and the following schedule:

18    (1) By January 1, 2018, the department shall do both of the  
19    following:

20    (A) Make public the protocols developed pursuant to Section  
21    12406.

22    (B) Publish a strategic plan for data management to guide the  
23    implementation of this part.

24    (2) By April 1, 2018, the department shall release any request  
25    for proposals necessary for the development of a statewide  
26    integrated water data platform.

1 (3) (A) By September 1, 2019, the department shall make  
2 available existing water and ecological data held by state agencies  
3 on the platform.

4 (B) The department shall quarterly add the information described  
5 in subparagraph (A) not available as of September 1, 2019, that  
6 becomes available at a later date.

7 (4) (A) By August 1, 2020, the department shall make available  
8 on the platform available water and ecological data related to  
9 California water supply and management that is held by the  
10 following agencies:

- 11 (i) The United States Bureau of Reclamation.
- 12 (ii) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 13 (iii) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- 14 (iv) The United States Geological Survey.
- 15 (v) The United States Forest Service.

16 (B) The department shall quarterly add the information described  
17 in subparagraph (A) not available as of August 1, 2020, that  
18 becomes available at a later date.

19 (5) By August 1, 2020, the department shall make available on  
20 the platform any other existing information listed in Section 12415.

21 (6) *By August 1, 2027, the department shall make available on*  
22 *the platform any other existing information listed in subdivision*  
23 *(b) of Section 12415.*

24 (b) The department may partner with an existing nonprofit  
25 organization, with a new nonprofit organization that the department  
26 creates, organized under paragraph (3) of subsection (c) of Section  
27 501 of Title 26 of the United States Code, or with another state  
28 agency to create, operate, or maintain, or any combination thereof,  
29 the platform.

30 (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the department may enter  
31 into an agreement with an existing nonprofit organization, with a  
32 new nonprofit organization that the department creates, organized  
33 under paragraph (3) of subsection (c) of Section 501 of Title 26  
34 of the United States Code, or with another state agency for that  
35 nonprofit organization or state agency to create, operate, or  
36 maintain, or any combination thereof, the platform.

37 (d) The Department of Technology is deemed to have delegated  
38 to the department any authority over the implementation of this  
39 part granted to it pursuant to Section 11546 of the Government  
40 Code.

1 (e) Nothing in subdivision (a) shall prevent a state agency from  
2 disseminating, managing, or publishing data separately from the  
3 platform.

4 *SEC. 3. Section 12415 of the Water Code is amended to read:*

5 12415. The statewide integrated water data platform created  
6 pursuant to Section 12410 shall, at a minimum, do all of the  
7 following:

8 (a) Integrate existing water and ecological data information  
9 from multiple autonomous databases managed by federal, state,  
10 and local agencies and academia using consistent and standardized  
11 formats.

12 (b) Integrate the following datasets, as available:

13 (1) The department's information on State Water Project  
14 reservoir operations, groundwater use, groundwater levels, urban  
15 water use, and land use.

16 (2) The state board's data on water rights, water diversions, and  
17 water quality through California Environmental Data Exchange  
18 Network (CEDEN).

19 (3) The Department of Fish and Wildlife's information on fish  
20 ~~abundance and distribution.~~ *abundance, fish distribution, and*  
21 *hatchery production, release, and escapement.*

22 (4) The United States Geological Survey's streamflow  
23 conditions information through the National Water Information  
24 System.

25 (5) The United States Bureau of Reclamation's federal Central  
26 Valley Project operations information.

27 (6) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service's, United States  
28 Forest Service's, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
29 Administration Fisheries' fish abundance *and hatchery production,*  
30 *release, and escapement* information.

31 (c) Provide data on completed water transfers and exchanges,  
32 including publicly available or voluntarily provided data on the  
33 volume, price, and delivery method, identity of the buyers and  
34 sellers, and the water right associated with the transfer or exchange.

35 (d) Provide documentation of data quality and data formats  
36 through metadata.

37 (e) Adhere to data protocols developed by state agencies  
38 pursuant to Section 12406.

39 (f) Be able to receive both spatial and time series data from  
40 various sources.

1     ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~  
2     ~~subsequent legislation related to water delivery infrastructure.~~

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**Assembly Constitutional Amendment**

**No. 11**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Macedo and Alanis**

March 24, 2025

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Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 11—A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by adding Section 8 to Article X thereof, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACA 11, as introduced, Macedo. California Water Resiliency Act.

The California Constitution declares that the general welfare requires that the water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable, and that the right to the use of water does not extend to the waste or unreasonable use, method of use, or method of diversion of water.

This measure, the California Water Resiliency Act, would require the Treasurer to annually transfer an amount equal to 1% of all state revenues from the General Fund to the Water Conveyance and Capacity Infrastructure Fund, which the measure would create. The measure would continuously appropriate moneys in the fund to the California Water Commission for its actual costs of implementing these provisions and for administering grants for the entitlement, repair, design, and construction of water infrastructure projects that will maintain or expand the availability of clean, safe drinking water for homes and businesses, and water for agricultural uses, consistent with area of origin water rights.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

1 *Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That the  
2 Legislature of the State of California at its 2025–26 Regular  
3 Session commencing on the second day of December 2024,  
4 two-thirds of the membership of each house concurring, hereby  
5 proposes to the people of the State of California that the  
6 Constitution of the State be amended as follows:

7 First—(a) This measure shall be known, and may be cited, as  
8 the California Water Resiliency Act.

9 (b) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

10 (1) Safe, sufficient, and affordable water is fundamental to our  
11 quality of life and key to the economic development of our  
12 communities. Previous constitutional amendments have prioritized  
13 spending for public education, public safety, and transportation.

14 (2) It is long past time for Californians to prioritize spending to  
15 maintain and increase California’s storage and supply of clean,  
16 safe drinking water for homes and businesses, water for agricultural  
17 use, and treatment, purification, and reclamation of stormwater  
18 and wastewater, while maintaining adequate water supplies for  
19 the environment.

20 (3) Achieving short-term and long-term drought resiliency will  
21 require an increase in the supply of water; however, water projects  
22 take years to permit, and once issued, those permits can be subject  
23 to lengthy litigation, thus increasing the cost and delaying the  
24 realization of new water supplies.

25 Second—That Section 8 is added to Article X thereof, to read:

26 SEC. 8. (a) The Treasurer shall annually transfer an amount  
27 equal to 1 percent of all state revenues eligible to be appropriated  
28 pursuant to Article XIII B from the General Fund to the Water  
29 Conveyance and Capacity Infrastructure Fund, which is hereby  
30 created in the State Treasury. The first annual transfer shall occur  
31 in the first fiscal year following the operative date of this section.

32 (b) The transfer of funds pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not  
33 reduce the amount of moneys required to be applied by the State  
34 for support of the public school system and public institutions of  
35 higher education pursuant to Section 8 of Article XVI.

36 (c) Moneys in the Water Conveyance and Capacity Infrastructure  
37 Fund are hereby continuously appropriated, notwithstanding  
38 Section 13340 of the Government Code and without regard to  
39 fiscal years, to the California Water Commission for its actual  
40 costs of implementing this section and administering grants for

1 the entitlement, repair, design, and construction of water  
2 infrastructure projects that will maintain or expand the availability  
3 of clean, safe drinking water for homes and businesses, and water  
4 for agricultural uses, consistent with area of origin water rights.

5 (d) (1) Only a public agency, special district, joint powers  
6 authority, or a public-private partnership shall be eligible to apply  
7 for a grant awarded pursuant to this section.

8 (2) A project awarded a grant pursuant to this section shall be  
9 owned, in whole or in part, by the applicant.

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AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 19, 2026

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 18, 2026

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 872**

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**Introduced by Senator McNerney**

*(Coauthors: Senators Archuleta, Cortese, Hurtado, Ochoa Bogh, and Richardson)*

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Harabedian and Wallis)*

January 6, 2026

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An act to ~~amend Section 39719.4 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to climate change, add Part 10 (commencing with Section 12996) to Division 6 of the Water Code, relating to water, and making an appropriation therefor.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 872, as amended, McNerney. ~~Climate change: funding priorities: Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund.~~

~~The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include in its regulation of those emissions the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board from the auction or sale of allowances as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Existing law requires, beginning with 2026-27 fiscal year, that funds be allocated according to a specified priority, including, among other things, that the sum of \$1,000,000,000 be reserved for appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or other statute.~~

*Existing law, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is a critically important natural resource for California and the nation and it serves as both the hub of the California water system and the most valuable estuary and wetland ecosystem on the west coast of North and South America. Existing law establishes in the Natural Resources Agency the Department of Water Resources. Existing law requires the department and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine the principal options for the Delta and requires the department to evaluate and comparatively rate each option for its ability to do specified things, including, among others, to maintain Delta water quality for Delta users, and to preserve, protect, and improve Delta levees. Existing law establishes in the agency the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy. Existing law requires the conservancy to act as a primary state agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta and to support efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents.*

*This bill would ~~require, of that amount, beginning with the 2026–27 fiscal year and continuing~~ establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury and, upon appropriation, would make the moneys in the fund available to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency for expenditure consistent with the allocations described below. The bill would authorize the secretary to seek out, and the fund to accept, state moneys from, among other sources, any bond funds, the General Fund, or the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The bill would authorize the fund to accept moneys from nonstate sources, including federal and private moneys, and would continuously appropriate those moneys without regard to fiscal year, for allocation as described below, thereby making an appropriation. The bill would require the secretary to allocate moneys in the fund, through the 2046–47 fiscal year, ~~the sum of \$150,000,000 be appropriated subject to funding availability, as follows: (1) in the amount of \$150,000,000, annually, to the Department of Water Resources for the purposes of supporting capital improvements to restore the original design water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems impacted operationally by land subsidence, and the sum of \$150,000,000 be appropriated annually~~ (2) in the amount of \$150,000,000, annually, to the ~~Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy~~ conservancy for projects in the ~~Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta~~ Delta to improve existing levees, as ~~specified, thereby making an appropriation.~~ specified. The bill would*

*require the secretary to proportionally reduce the above-described amounts if there is insufficient moneys in the fund, as provided. The bill would prohibit funds provided by these provisions these moneys from being expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of any additional Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta conveyance facilities, as provided.*

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ -majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Climate change continues to have an immense impact on
- 4 California’s water systems and changing precipitation patterns,
- 5 increasing flood and drought risks, sea level rise, and aging
- 6 infrastructure are all combining to cause significant risks to our
- 7 ability to protect water quality in the Sacramento-San Joaquin
- 8 Delta (Delta), protect flood-vulnerable communities, maintain
- 9 water deliveries, and ensure climate-responsive water operations.
- 10 (b) Before passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management
- 11 Act (Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6 of
- 12 the Water Code), groundwater pumping and other factors resulted
- 13 in significant land subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley. According
- 14 to the State Water Project Adaptation Strategy, this subsidence
- 15 threatens to reduce the water carrying capacity of the State Water
- 16 Project by 87 percent by 2040 if not repaired, putting drinking
- 17 water for 27,000,000 residents and 750,000 acres of farmland in
- 18 California at risk.
- 19 (c) The State Water Project is the single largest energy user in
- 20 state, using about 3 percent of total statewide consumption, and
- 21 with subsidized canals increasing the energy it takes to move water,
- 22 if these subsidence impacts to the State Water Project are not
- 23 addressed, there will be unnecessary increased energy usage and
- 24 associated costs.
- 25 (d) Each public water agency contracted with the Department
- 26 of Water Resources is obligated to pay the capital and operation
- 27 and management costs of the State Water Project in order to
- 28 participate in the State Water Project, and the Department of Water
- 29 Resources is authorized to issue bonds for the capital costs under

1 the Central Valley Project (Part 3 (commencing with Section  
2 11100) of Division 6 of the Water Code) that each state water  
3 contractor repays along with other expenses billed by the  
4 Department of Water Resources, including annual operation and  
5 maintenance costs.

6 (e) Damage to the State Water Project due to subsided canals  
7 is largely caused by groundwater pumping actions done outside  
8 of the public water agencies' service areas. Obligations to pay the  
9 costs of repair of the canals would significantly increase annual  
10 costs to public water agencies and their ratepayers.

11 (f) The Delta supports local communities, businesses, and more  
12 than 400,000 acres of farmland, 80 percent of which is considered  
13 United States Department of Agriculture prime farmland, and it  
14 is also a national heritage site, a site of critical cultural importance  
15 to several indigenous tribes, and a thriving ecosystem supporting  
16 several native species of plants and animals.

17 (g) The Delta is also experiencing the impacts of climate change,  
18 including, but not limited to, increasing droughts, more extreme  
19 precipitation events, earlier snowmelt, and sea level rise that all  
20 create concerns for how to manage the dynamic ecosystem in a  
21 way that continues to support human life and natural ecosystems.

22 (h) The Delta is supported by 1,100 miles of levees that provide  
23 protection to residences, businesses, agricultural lands, tribal  
24 cultural sites, and infrastructure and help ensure fresh drinking  
25 water supply to millions of Californians. However, many levees  
26 date back to the 1800s and no longer meet the United States Army  
27 Corps of Engineers' standards. If levees are breached, human life  
28 and property in the Delta would be at risk, and saltwater intrusion  
29 into the fresh water that feeds the state and federal water projects  
30 could threaten the drinking water sources for over one-half of the  
31 people in the state.

32 (i) The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009  
33 required, among other things, that the Delta Stewardship Council  
34 establish a plan to reduce flood risk and guide prioritization of  
35 state investments in the Delta. The resulting Delta Levees  
36 Investment Strategy (DLIS) is a risk-based prioritization for levee  
37 investments in the Delta adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council  
38 as part of the Delta Plan on January 1, 2024. The goal is to  
39 maximize flood protection for people, property, water supply, the  
40 delta ecosystem, and infrastructure, for the benefit of all

1 Californians. While the strategy provides a risk-based prioritization  
2 of levee repairs in the Delta, it does not currently have funding  
3 sources to meet its goals.

4 (j) The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 also  
5 established that it is state policy to reduce reliance on the Delta in  
6 meeting the state’s future water supply needs by investing in  
7 improved water use efficiency, water recycling, advanced water  
8 technologies, and other regional water supply projects. These  
9 alternative water supplies will continue to be critical to protecting  
10 and preserving the overall health of the Delta, and critical to the  
11 protection of a diverse clean water supply for the people of  
12 California.

13 ~~SEC. 2. Section 39719.4 of the Health and Safety Code is~~  
14 ~~amended to read:~~

15 ~~39719.4. Beginning with the 2026-27 fiscal year, moneys in~~  
16 ~~the funds shall be allocated in the following priority:~~

17 ~~(a) (1) Amounts described in Sections 4210 to 4214, inclusive,~~  
18 ~~of the Public Resources Code to replace the revenues generated~~  
19 ~~by the State Responsibility Area fire prevention fee authorized by~~  
20 ~~Section 4212 of the Public Resources Code.~~

21 ~~(2) Amounts appropriated by subparagraph (A) of paragraph~~  
22 ~~(3) of subdivision (g) of Section 6377.1 of the Revenue and~~  
23 ~~Taxation Code.~~

24 ~~(3) The sum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for the~~  
25 ~~establishment of the Legislative Counsel Climate Bureau.~~

26 ~~(b) After the amounts specified in subdivision (a) are fully~~  
27 ~~allocated, as determined by the Department of Finance, the~~  
28 ~~remaining moneys in the fund shall be allocated as follows:~~

29 ~~(1) Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code~~  
30 ~~and subject to Section 39719.3, the sum of one billion dollars~~  
31 ~~(\$1,000,000,000) is continuously appropriated without regard to~~  
32 ~~fiscal year to the High-Speed Rail Authority for the following~~  
33 ~~components of the initial operating segment and Phase I Blended~~  
34 ~~System as described in the 2012 business plan adopted pursuant~~  
35 ~~to Section 185033 of the Public Utilities Code:~~

36 ~~(A) Acquisition and construction costs of the project.~~

37 ~~(B) Environmental review and design costs of the project.~~

38 ~~(C) Other capital costs of the project.~~

39 ~~(D) Repayment of any loans made to the authority to fund the~~  
40 ~~project.~~

1     ~~(2) (A) The sum of one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) is~~  
2 reserved for appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget  
3 Act or other statute.

4     ~~(B) It is the intent of the Legislature that the amount reserved~~  
5 ~~pursuant to subparagraph (A) is allocated in the following amounts~~  
6 ~~for the 2026—27 fiscal year:~~

7     ~~(i) The sum of one hundred twenty-five million dollars~~  
8 ~~(\$125,000,000) for transit passes:~~

9     ~~(ii) The sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for~~  
10 ~~seed funding for a University of California Climate Research~~  
11 ~~Center:~~

12     ~~(iii) The sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for~~  
13 ~~rebuilding Topanga Park:~~

14     ~~(iv) The sum of eighty-five million dollars (\$85,000,000) for~~  
15 ~~an entity chosen by the Legislature to support climate-focused~~  
16 ~~technological innovation, related research, and the deployment of~~  
17 ~~climate solutions identified in the scoping plan prepared pursuant~~  
18 ~~to Section 38561.~~

19     ~~(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) and of the amount~~  
20 ~~described in therein, both of the following are appropriated~~  
21 ~~annually, beginning with the 2026–27 fiscal year and continuing~~  
22 ~~through the 2046–47 fiscal year:~~

23     ~~(i) The sum of one hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000)~~  
24 ~~to the Department of Water Resources for the purposes of~~  
25 ~~supporting capital improvements to restore the original design~~  
26 ~~water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems~~  
27 ~~impacted operationally by land subsidence. The department shall~~  
28 ~~prioritize projects based on the volume of water capacity they can~~  
29 ~~restore to the state water system, and shall provide priority to~~  
30 ~~projects where the surrounding groundwater basin is implementing~~  
31 ~~best management practices aligned with the goals of the Sustainable~~  
32 ~~Groundwater Management Act (Part 2.74 (commencing with~~  
33 ~~Section 10720) of Division 6 of the Water Code), or the equivalent~~  
34 ~~as determined by the department, to manage land subsidence, as~~  
35 ~~determined by the department.~~

36     ~~(ii) The sum of one hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000)~~  
37 ~~to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy for projects in~~  
38 ~~the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to improve existing levees,~~  
39 ~~including multibenefit levee projects that protect, enhance, or~~  
40 ~~restore habitat, and improve water quality. The Conservancy shall~~

1 prioritize projects that improve the sustainability of local or state  
2 water supplies, and projects that improve instream, riparian, flood  
3 plain, and wetland habitat. For purposes of this subdivision,  
4 “Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta” has the same meaning as  
5 described in Section 12220 of the Water Code.

6 ~~(D) Funds provided by this subdivision shall not be expended~~  
7 ~~to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation,~~  
8 ~~or maintenance of any additional Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta~~  
9 ~~conveyance facilities. Those costs shall be the responsibility of~~  
10 ~~the water agencies that benefit from the design, construction,~~  
11 ~~operation, mitigation, or maintenance of those facilities.~~

12 ~~(e) (1) After the amounts specified in subdivisions (a) and (b)~~  
13 ~~are fully allocated, as determined by the Department of Finance,~~  
14 ~~the remaining moneys in the fund, notwithstanding Section 13340~~  
15 ~~of the Government Code, are continuously appropriated, without~~  
16 ~~regard to fiscal year, as follows:~~

17 ~~(A) The sum of eight hundred million dollars (\$800,000,000)~~  
18 ~~to the Strategic Growth Council for the Affordable Housing and~~  
19 ~~Sustainable Communities Program created by Part 1 (commencing~~  
20 ~~with Section 75200) of Division 44 of the Public Resources Code.~~  
21 ~~Of the amount appropriated in this subparagraph, no less than 10~~  
22 ~~percent of the annual proceeds of the fund shall be expended for~~  
23 ~~affordable housing, consistent with the provisions of that program.~~

24 ~~(B) The sum of four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000) to~~  
25 ~~the Transportation Agency for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital~~  
26 ~~Program created by Part 2 (commencing with Section 75220) of~~  
27 ~~Division 44 of the Public Resources Code.~~

28 ~~(C) The sum of two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000)~~  
29 ~~to the State Air Resources Board for community air protection~~  
30 ~~programs and allocated for financial incentives to reduce mobile~~  
31 ~~and stationary sources of criteria air pollutants or toxic air~~  
32 ~~contaminants consistent with community emissions reduction~~  
33 ~~programs developed pursuant to Section 44391.2 and for support~~  
34 ~~for local air districts’ implementation of Chapter 136 of the Statutes~~  
35 ~~of 2017.~~

36 ~~(D) The sum of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) to~~  
37 ~~the Transportation Agency for the Low Carbon Transit Operations~~  
38 ~~Program created by Part 3 (commencing with Section 75230) of~~  
39 ~~Division 44 of the Public Resources Code. Moneys shall be~~  
40 ~~allocated by the Controller, according to requirements of the~~

1 program, and pursuant to the distribution formula in subdivision  
2 (b) or (c) of Section 99312 of, and Sections 99313 and 99314 of,  
3 the Public Utilities Code.

4 (E) The sum of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) to  
5 the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and allocated as  
6 follows:

7 (i) Eighty-two and one-half percent for healthy forest and fire  
8 prevention programs and projects that improve forest health and  
9 reduce emissions of greenhouse gases caused by uncontrolled  
10 wildfires.

11 (ii) Seventeen and one-half percent for the completion of  
12 prescribed fire and other fuel reduction projects through proven  
13 forestry practices consistent with the recommendations of the  
14 California Forest Carbon Plan, including the operation of  
15 year-round prescribed fire crews and implementation of a research  
16 and monitoring program for climate adaptation.

17 (F) The sum of one hundred thirty million dollars  
18 (\$130,000,000) is transferred to the Safe and Affordable Drinking  
19 Water Fund established pursuant to Section 116766 for the  
20 purposes of Chapter 4.6 (commencing with Section 116765) of  
21 Part 12 of Division 104.

22 (2) (A) Moneys appropriate pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be  
23 used for the purpose of facilitating the achievement of reductions  
24 of greenhouse gas emissions in this state in accordance with the  
25 requirements of Section 39712 or to improve climate change  
26 adaptation and resiliency of disadvantaged communities or  
27 low-income households or communities, consistent with Division  
28 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500).

29 (B) For purposes of the moneys appropriated pursuant to  
30 paragraph (1), a state agency may comply with the requirements  
31 of paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 16428.9 of  
32 the Government Code by describing how each proposed  
33 expenditure will improve climate change adaptation and resiliency  
34 of disadvantaged communities or low-income households or  
35 communities.

36 (3) If, for any fiscal year the Department of Finance determines  
37 that, after fully allocating the amounts pursuant to subdivisions  
38 (a) and (b), there are insufficient annual proceeds to fully provide  
39 for the appropriations specified in paragraph (1) in addition to any  
40 state operations costs appropriated in the annual Budget Act, the

1 amounts specified in paragraph (1) shall be proportionally reduced  
2 as determined by the Department of Finance.

3 ~~(d) Any amounts in the fund not needed to fully fund the~~  
4 ~~amounts pursuant to subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) in a fiscal year~~  
5 ~~are available to be appropriated by the Legislature in the annual~~  
6 ~~Budget Act or other statute.~~

7 *SEC. 2. Part 10 (commencing with Section 12996) is added to*  
8 *Division 6 of the Water Code, to read:*

9

10 *PART 10. DELTA LEVEES AND CANAL SUBSIDENCE FUND*

11

12 *12996. Unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions*  
13 *below govern the construction of this part:*

14 *(a) "Conservancy" means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*  
15 *Conservancy, established pursuant to Division 22.3 (commencing*  
16 *with Section 32300) of the Public Resources Code.*

17 *(b) "Department" means the Department of Water Resources.*

18 *(c) "Fund" means the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund*  
19 *created pursuant to Section 12997.*

20 *(d) "Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta" has the same meaning as*  
21 *described in Section 12220 of the Water Code.*

22 *(e) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Natural Resources*  
23 *Agency.*

24 *12997. (a) The Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund is*  
25 *hereby created in the State Treasury. Upon appropriation by the*  
26 *Legislature, moneys deposited into the fund shall be available to*  
27 *the secretary for expenditure consistent with this part.*

28 *(b) (1) The secretary may seek out, and the fund may accept,*  
29 *state moneys, including, but not limited to, from the General Fund,*  
30 *special funds, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund created*  
31 *pursuant to Section 16428.8 of the Government Code, or any bond*  
32 *funds, for purposes of this part.*

33 *(2) The fund may accept moneys from nonstate sources,*  
34 *including, but not limited to, federal and private moneys, for*  
35 *purposes of this part.*

36 *(3) The secretary may establish accounts within the fund.*

37 *(4) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), and Section 13340 of the*  
38 *Government Code, any nonstate funds, including, but not limited*  
39 *to, federal and private funds, in the fund are continuously*

1 *appropriated without regard to fiscal year to the secretary for*  
2 *expenditure consistent with this part.*

3 *(c) The secretary shall allocate moneys in the fund in the*  
4 *following manner:*

5 *(1) (A) The sum of one hundred fifty million dollars*  
6 *(\$150,000,000) annually through the 2046-47 fiscal year, subject*  
7 *to funding availability, to the department for the purpose of*  
8 *supporting capital improvements to restore the original design*  
9 *water conveyance capacity for state water conveyance systems*  
10 *impacted operationally by land subsidence.*

11 *(B) The department shall prioritize projects based on the volume*  
12 *of water capacity they can restore to the state water system, and*  
13 *shall provide priority to projects where the surrounding*  
14 *groundwater basin is implementing best management practices*  
15 *aligned with the goals of the Sustainable Groundwater*  
16 *Management Act (Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720)),*  
17 *or the equivalent as determined by the department, to manage land*  
18 *subsidence, as determined by the department.*

19 *(C) The department may adopt guidelines to implement this*  
20 *paragraph. The Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5*  
21 *(commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title*  
22 *2 of the Government Code) does not apply to the adoption of the*  
23 *guidelines by the department to implement this paragraph. Before*  
24 *adopting or revising the guidelines or other standards, the*  
25 *department shall provide an opportunity for public comment and*  
26 *at least one public workshop.*

27 *(2) (A) The sum of one hundred fifty million dollars*  
28 *(\$150,000,000) annually through the 2046-47 fiscal year, subject*  
29 *to funding availability, to the conservancy for projects in the*  
30 *Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to improve existing levees,*  
31 *including multibenefit levee projects that protect, enhance, or*  
32 *restore habitat, and improve water quality.*

33 *(B) The conservancy shall prioritize projects that improve the*  
34 *sustainability of local or state water supplies, and projects that*  
35 *improve instream, riparian, flood plain, and wetland habitat.*

36 *(C) The conservancy may adopt guidelines to implement this*  
37 *paragraph. The Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5*  
38 *(commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title*  
39 *2 of the Government Code) does not apply to the adoption of the*  
40 *guidelines by the conservancy to implement this paragraph. Before*

1 *adopting or revising the guidelines or other standards, the*  
2 *conservancy shall provide an opportunity for public comment and*  
3 *at least one public workshop.*

4 *(d) If there are insufficient moneys in the fund to fully provide*  
5 *for the allocations specified in subdivision (c), the amounts shall*  
6 *be proportionally reduced as determined by the secretary.*

7 *(e) Moneys provided by this part shall not be expended to pay*  
8 *the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or*  
9 *maintenance of any additional Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*  
10 *conveyance facilities. Those costs shall be the responsibility of the*  
11 *water agencies that benefit from the design, construction,*  
12 *operation, mitigation, or maintenance of those facilities.*



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

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To: SLDMWA Water Resources Committee Members and Alternates  
SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

Date: April 6, 2026

RE: Recommendation to Board of Directors to Authorize Execution of Professional Services Agreement and Task Order with MM Water Resources and Related Expenditures from the FY27 Leg Ops Budget

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## Background

### Regulatory

On December 4, 2025, Reclamation executed a Record of Decision<sup>1</sup> on the Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project (“CVP”) and State Water Project, as a first step towards implementing Executive Order 14181, updating operations associated with the Record of Decision executed by Reclamation and the Biological Opinions issued by the Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries in December 2024. This new operation is described as “Action 5”.

Specifically, the Action 5 ROD updates the operations of the Projects by:

- (1) **Removing the Delta Smelt Summer and Fall Habitat Action (Fall X2)**, in response to findings by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the action is not anticipated to have observable effects on delta smelt survival;
- (2) **Removing the early implementation measure of the Delta export reduction of the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (“HRL”) program**, in response to uncertainties associated with the timing of potential adoption and implementation of the HRL Program by California’s State Water Resources Control Board; and
- (3) **Updating the Delta operating criteria** to expand the opportunities for Old and Middle River (“OMR”) management at no more negative than -5,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), and a stormflex action of -6,500 cfs, including the use of predictive tools for real-time assessment of environmental conditions.

### Federal Workforce

One focus of the current federal administration has been reducing the scale of the federal workforce, which has had impacts on Reclamation’s California-Great Basin region, including staffing reductions in Reclamation’s Bay-Delta office. One result of this workforce reduction effort has been an increase in the consultant pool to provide technical support to advance various lines of evidence that can improve species recovery efforts and more efficient operations of the CVP.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_project\\_details.php?Project\\_ID=54661](https://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_project_details.php?Project_ID=54661)



## Issue for Decision

Whether the Water Resources Committee should recommend the execution of a Professional Services Agreement and associated Task Orders with MM Water Resources in the amount currently being negotiated with Reclamation to support advancement of lines of evidence that can improve species recovery efforts and more efficient operations of the CVP.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Committee recommend the execution of a Professional Services Agreement with MM Water Resources and associated task orders to the Board of Directors.

## Analysis

MM Water Resources personnel have substantial experience in the CVP, with strong strategic and technical acumen. There is substantial work needed to be performed to advance various lines of evidence that can improve species recovery and improve the efficiency of CVP operations, and MM Water Resources has the capacity and expertise to advance these important efforts.

Staff understands that Reclamation is advancing a procurement effort to directly contract with MM Water Resources for substantially similar services, but the federal procurement process has a substantial delay in completion, and associated impacts on potential advancement of key Water Authority and CVP contractor efforts to advance exploration of lines of evidence that could lead to operational improvements. The execution of a contract with MM Water Resources would reduce the temporal gap and serve to continue the advancement of these various work streams.

## Budget Implications

The Water Authority's Leg-Ops Fund (Fund 05) has a number of funding pools available to support this contract, including Technical Legal and Science Program line items. For CVP wide functions, it is anticipated that the Water Authority will be supporting this contract on a limited temporal basis, as Reclamation is currently advancing its procurement process for a direct contract with MM Water Resources. Funds expended under this contract are anticipated to be reimbursed to the Water Authority by Reclamation under a separate agreement, so the only budget implication is a short-term cash flow of the contract during the time it takes Reclamation to stand up its independent contract with MM Water Resources.

## Attachment

Draft Professional Services Agreement with Task Order

*SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY*

**AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

For

CVP Long-Term Operation Strategy Support

**AGREEMENT No. [XXX-F27-AA05]**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into effective **DATE**, 2026, between the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, hereinafter referred to as “SLDMWA” and MM Water Resources, hereinafter referred to as “Consultant” for professional services as set forth herein.

Task Order Contract:  Yes  No

The following designated Exhibits are incorporated fully into and made a part of this Agreement:

Exhibit A – Scope of Services

Exhibit B – General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services

Exhibit C – Fees, Hourly Rates and Reimbursable Costs/Expenses

Exhibit D – Task Order Format, applicable to Task Order Contracts

IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED, as follows:

**1. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Consultant shall provide the professional services described in the Scope of Services set forth in Exhibit A as may be amended or augmented from time to time, and in accordance with this Agreement, any Task Orders applicable to the Agreement, and the General Terms and Conditions for Professional Services set forth in Exhibit B, and for the compensation set forth in Exhibit C, Fees, Hourly Rates, and Reimbursable Costs/Expenses.

Any change in the Scope of the Services, budget or schedule set forth therein, or to any other matter materially affecting the performance of or nature of the professional services will not be paid for or accepted unless such change, addition or deletion be approved in advance, in writing, by SLDMWA.

**2. TERM OF AGREEMENT AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

This Agreement shall become effective as of the date indicated and shall continue until the earlier of the completion of all required services or five (5) years from the effective date of the Agreement.

**3. PARTY REPRESENTATIVES AND NOTICES**

Each party’s designated representative for administration of this Agreement and receipt of notices is designated below. All notices or other communications provided for by the Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent by 1) personal delivery, 2) nationally-recognized overnight delivery service (such as Federal Express) which provides evidence of delivery, 3) first class United States mail (postage

prepaid), registered or certified, return receipt requested, or 4) e-mail with a copy by first class U.S. mail. Notice shall be deemed received on the date actually delivered if delivered by personal delivery, overnight delivery, or U.S. Mail with return receipt requested and delivered during normal business hours on a business day. Notice by e-mail shall be deemed delivered on the date of transmission, unless the same is after 5:00 p.m. or on a weekend or holiday, in which event delivery shall be on the next business day. A party may change its address for notices under the Agreement by giving notice as provided herein. Notices shall be sent to the following party representatives at the following addresses:

<u>SLDMWA</u>	<u>Consultant</u>
Scott Petersen San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority 1331 Garden Highway, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Sacramento, CA 95833 Scott.Petersen@sldmwa.org 209-826-9696	David Mooney MM Water Resources Address City, State ZIP Email address Phone

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this Agreement has been executed by and on behalf of the parties hereto, the day, month and year so indicated above. If Consultant is a corporation, partnership or limited liability company, documentation must be provided that the person signing below for Consultant has the authority to do so and to bind Consultant to the terms of this Agreement.

<u>San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority</u>	<u>Consultant</u>
By: _____ Federico Barajas Executive Director San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority	By: _____ David Mooney Title MM Water Resources

## **EXHIBIT A SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Consultant will provide strategic advice, project formulation, and program management support on the long-term operation of the CVP to SLDMWA, as requested. Individual work efforts, specific tasks, assignments, deliverables, and associated cost estimates will be described in acceptable detail in sequential Task Orders. Consultant cost accounting, work description detail, and invoicing will track specific work efforts according to Task Order.

## EXHIBIT B GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### ARTICLE 1. SCOPE OF SERVICES OF CONSULTANT

A. Services: Consultant's Services consist of the Scope of Services described in **Exhibit A** to the Agreement, all in accordance with all terms of the Agreement and applicable laws and regulations.

B. Changes/Amendments: Consultant's Services may be changed or amended only by written amendment executed by SLDMWA and Consultant. No claim for any additional compensation or time shall be valid unless authorized by a written amendment.

C. Trust and Confidence: Consultant accepts the relationship of trust and confidence established between SLDMWA and Consultant by the Agreement.

D. Consultant's Skills and Compliance with Professional Standards: Consultant represents and warrants that it is skilled in the professional calling necessary to perform all services, duties and obligations required by the Agreement; that it will perform its Services under this Agreement with the degree of skill and diligence normally practiced in the same industry by consultants performing the same or similar services. Consultant shall comply with all Federal, State, County, local and other governing laws, rules and regulations applicable to the performance of the Services.

E. Independent Contractor: Consultant shall be an independent contractor, and neither Consultant nor any employee of Consultant or its sub-consultants shall be deemed to be an employee of SLDMWA.

F. No Relation with Sub-consultants: Nothing in the Agreement shall create any contractual relation between SLDMWA and any sub-consultants, or their agents and employees, employed by Consultant. No sub-consultants, agents, employees or other parties are third party beneficiaries of the Agreement. Consultant shall be responsible to SLDMWA for the acts and omissions of its employees, sub-consultants, and their agents and employees, and other persons performing any of the work under the Agreement.

G. Compliance with Laws: Consultant shall give all notices and comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and lawful orders of any public authority bearing on the performance of its work, including those relating to safety of its employees and sub-consultants, hazardous materials, and equal employment opportunities; obtain all permits and licenses necessary for performance of its work; pay all wages, fees, benefits, and other amounts due to personnel and sub-consultants in connection with their performance of services and as required by law; pay all applicable local, state, and federal taxes associated with its work; and pay all amounts required by law in connection with employees including, but not limited to, Social Security taxes, income tax withholdings, unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation insurance premiums. If federal funding is obtained in connection with any Phase of the project work, Consultant shall comply with all federal requirements applicable at the time of notice to proceed with the work funded in whole or in part by federal funds and that are required in connection with such federal funding. Upon the Authority's request, Consultant shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the Authority that any or all of the foregoing obligations have been fulfilled.

Note: See Article 19 for additional terms applicable to Task Order Contracts.

**ARTICLE 2. SCHEDULE**

A. Consultant shall perform in accordance with the time specified in the Agreement.

B. Any delays in or failure of performance by either party under this Agreement (except payment of compensation under Article 6) shall not constitute default hereunder and neither party shall be liable to the other for failure to perform its obligations hereunder if and to the extent that such failure to perform is caused by or results from force majeure which shall be defined to be causes or occurrences beyond the control of the party affected, including, but not limited to, acts of governmental authority, acts of God, strikes or other concerted acts of workmen, unavailability of labor or materials and operating equipment, fires, floods, explosions, riots, war, rebellion, insurrection and sabotage; provided, however, that the party whose performance is delayed shall have given notice and full description of the cause of the delay in writing to the other party as soon as possible after the occurrence of the cause relied on by it.

**ARTICLE 3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Consultant shall not have a familial, financial, or investment interest in any of the persons, contractors or companies with responsibilities related to the work described in Exhibit A or any Task Orders. A familial interest exists if any of Consultant's officers, directors, employee(s) providing professional services to SLDMWA, or owners of 10% or more of the business is the spouse, sibling, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, aunt/uncle or niece/nephew of any of the officers, directors, project managers, or owners of 10% or more of the business of any of the persons, contractors or companies with responsibilities related to the work described in Exhibit A or any Task Orders. Consultant affirms that, to the best of its knowledge, there exists no actual or potential conflict between family, business, or financial interests of Consultant and SLDMWA. Consultant agrees to advise SLDMWA of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may develop subsequent to the date of execution of the Agreement.

**ARTICLE 4. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTING**

Except as expressly authorized herein, Consultant shall neither assign its rights nor delegate its duties under the Agreement without prior written consent of SLDMWA. This prohibition of assignment and delegation extends to all assignments and delegations that lawfully may be prohibited by agreement. Except as expressly allowed in the Agreement, Consultant shall not subcontract any of the work to be performed or services to be rendered without the prior consent of SLDMWA.

**ARTICLE 5. NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Consultant shall not discriminate against any employee or potential employee on the basis of prohibited criteria, as defined in Government Code section 12940. Without limiting the foregoing in any way, during the performance of this Agreement, Consultant and its sub-Consultants shall not unlawfully discriminate, harass, or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), mental disability, medical condition (cancer), age (over 40), marital status, and denial of family care leave. Consultant and sub-Consultants shall insure that the evaluation and treatment of their employees and applicants for employment are free from such discrimination and harassment. Consultant and sub-Consultants shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) et seq.) and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (California Code

of Regulations, Title 2, Section 7285 et seq.). The applicable regulations of the Fair Employment and Housing Commission implementing Government Code Section 12990 (a-f), set forth in Chapter 5 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, are incorporated into this Agreement by reference and made a part hereof as if set forth in full. Consultant and its sub-Consultants shall give written notice of their obligations under this clause to labor organizations with which they have a collective bargaining or other Agreement. Consultant shall include the nondiscrimination and compliance provisions of this clause in all subcontracts to perform work under the Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 6. COMPENSATION; TAXES**

A. Professional Services: Consultant agrees to perform the Basic Services and any authorized Extra Services, and SLDMWA agrees to pay Consultant for such services in accordance with **Exhibit C** to the Agreement, or such other rates for Extra Services as may be expressly agreed upon in writing between SLDMWA and Consultant.

B. Reimbursable Consultant Costs/Expenses: SLDMWA recognizes that certain costs and expenses associated with the services performed may be reimbursable to Consultant. Categories of costs/expenses that may be considered for reimbursement are included in **Exhibit C**. Payments to Consultant for reimbursable costs/expenses will be made only after the specific costs/expenses have been incurred and invoicing has been verified by submission of substantiating documentation, such as copies of paid invoices or other documentation confirming that such costs/expenses have been incurred by Consultant.

C. Invoicing: Consultant shall submit one (1) invoice monthly to SLDMWA, including applicable time records and identification of any deliverables submitted during the billing period, for the work performed the prior month at rates not to exceed those stated in **Exhibit C**, with email copy to Accounts Payable, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, at [accounts.payable@sldmwa.org](mailto:accounts.payable@sldmwa.org) or via U.S. Mail at P.O. Box 2157, Los Banos, CA 93635. If applicable, Consultant's invoice also shall include reimbursable costs/expenses incurred for the billing period. Invoices requesting reimbursement for costs/expenses incurred during the billing period must clearly list items for which reimbursement is being requested and be accompanied by proper documentation (*e.g.* receipts, invoices).

D. Payment: Invoices received by SLDMWA on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of a given month and subsequently approved by SLDMWA will be paid by SLDMWA before the end of the following month. All other properly invoice amounts shall be paid not more than forty-five (45) days after delivery of an invoice. Disputed invoices shall be returned to Consultant within ten (10) working days of receipt.

E. Payment Disputes: SLDMWA may dispute any invoice or portion thereof which is not properly documented and in accordance with the Agreement. For any disputed payment, SLDMWA shall provide written notice describing its dispute to Consultant. Disputes arising in the performance of this Contract which are not resolved by agreement of the parties shall be decided in writing by the authorized representative of SLDMWA. This decision shall be final and conclusive unless within ten (10) working days from the date of the receipt of its copy, Contractor mails or otherwise furnishes a written appeal to SLDMWA's Chief Operating Officer. In connection with any such appeal, Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its position. The decision of the Chief Operating Officer shall be binding upon Contractor and Contractor shall abide by the decision. Unless otherwise directed by SLDMWA, Contractor shall continue performance under this Agreement while

matters in dispute are being resolved. In the event of a dispute between each parties Terms & Conditions, SLDMWA terms will prevail.

F. Taxes: Any and all taxes imposed or assessed on Consultant's income by reason of this agreement or its performance, including but not limited to sales or use taxes, shall be paid by Consultant. Consultant shall be responsible for any taxes or penalties assessed by reason of any claims that Consultant is an employee of SLDMWA.

#### **ARTICLE 7. SLDMWA'S OBLIGATIONS**

SLDMWA shall cooperate with Consultant to facilitate the conduct of Consultant's performance of its services under this Agreement, including for purposes of the exchange of information and consultation, as well as to provide access as required to any SLDMWA facilities that are the subject of the services. Consultant's primary source of contact with the SLDMWA shall be the contact designated in the Agreement.

#### **ARTICLE 8. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

A. SLDMWA not disclose to Consultant any information SLDMWA considers confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure under this Agreement or any associated Task Orders. Confidential Information shall be (a) any and all information provided by SLDMWA (the "Disclosing Party") to Consultant (the "Receiving Party") that is labeled and/or marked confidential, and if disclosed orally, summarized in written format within (30) calendar days of disclosure and identified as "confidential", "trade secret", or "proprietary", and (b) information that is not labeled as "confidential", "trade secret", or "proprietary" but after which SLDMWA notifies Consultant as being "confidential", "trade secret", or "proprietary", SLDMWA shall retain all ownership rights over its Confidential Information.

B. The Confidential Information will be kept confidential, and will not, without SLDMWA's prior written consent, be disclosed by Consultant, in any manner whatsoever, in whole or in part, and shall not be used in any manner directly or indirectly by Consultant, other than in connection with providing services under this Agreement.

C. Confidential Information does not include information which (i) at the time of disclosure is within the public domain through no breach of this Agreement by Consultant; (ii) has been known or independently developed by and is currently in the possession of Consultant prior to disclosure or receipt hereunder; (iii) was or is acquired by Consultant from a third party (other than a Member customer contacted by Consultant through the operation of this Agreement) who did not to Consultant's knowledge breach an obligation of confidentiality by disclosing it to Consultant.

D. Consultant will retain the Confidential Information only so long as it is necessary to perform Consultant's tasks under this Agreement, and after such time, the Confidential Information will be returned to SLDMWA (or at SLDMWA's written option, destroyed), and Consultant will retain no copies of the Confidential Information.

#### **ARTICLE 9. INSURANCE**

A. Required Policies: Consultant and any sub-consultants shall procure and maintain insurance on all of its operations during the progress of its work described in Exhibit A or any Task Orders,

with reliable insurance companies approved by the State of California Department of Insurance and with a Bests' rating of no less than (A) Level VII, on forms acceptable to SLDMWA, for the following minimum insurance coverages, which may be increased or expanded by the Agreement:

1. Workers' Compensation insurance and occupational disease insurance, as required by law, with limit of no less than \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease;
2. Employer's liability insurance, with minimum limits of \$1,000,000, covering all workplaces involved in the Agreement.
3. Commercial General Liability Insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury, property damage, personal injury, advertising liability, blanket contractual liability, Contractor's obligations under this Agreement, products and completed operations, and coverage for independent contractors with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for each occurrence, an annual aggregate of two million dollars (\$2,000,000), and a products/completed operations aggregate of two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
4. Commercial Automobile Insurance for all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles used by Consultant in the performance of its services under this Agreement with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.
5. Professional Liability Insurance, written on a "Claims Made Basis," with limits of liability in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 aggregate, insuring Consultant, for its own acts and for the acts of all persons for whose acts Consultant may be liable, against liabilities arising out of or in connection with negligent acts, errors, or omissions in connection with the carrying out of their professional responsibilities under the Agreement. Consultant shall provide SLDMWA proof of professional liability insurance coverage for two years following final completion of the Agreement.

B. Additional Terms:

1. All general liability policies shall name SLDMWA, its elected or appointed officers, officials, agents, directors, representatives, authorized volunteers and employees (collectively "SLDMWA") as additional insureds include a severability of interest provision, and shall provide that such policy is primary and not contributory with any insurance carried by SLDMWA or its Members.
2. The insurance to be provided by Consultant under this Agreement shall not include any of the following: except for Professional Liability Insurance, any claims-made insurance policies; any self-insured retention or deductible amount greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) unless approved in writing by

SLDMWA; any endorsement limiting coverage available to SLDMWA that is otherwise required by this Article 9 with respect to policies on which SLDMWA is required to be named as an additional insured; and any policy or endorsement language that (i) negates coverage to SLDMWA for SLDMWA's own negligence; (ii) limits the duty to defend SLDMWA under the policy ; (iii) provides coverage to SLDMWA only if Consultant is negligent , or (iv) permits the recovery of defense costs from any additional insured. The insurance provided under this Agreement shall not contain any restrictions or limitations which are inconsistent with SLDMWA's rights under this Agreement.

3. Consultant shall provide Certificates of Insurance, or other evidence of insurance as requested by SLDMWA, to SLDMWA within ten (10) days after receipt by Consultant of the executed Agreement. The certificates shall provide that there will be no cancellation, suspension, voiding or change of coverage without thirty (30) days' prior written notice to SLDMWA. There shall be no reduction or modification of coverage of insurance required by the Agreement without the written consent of SLDMWA. Consultant shall provide SLDMWA with a new or renewed certificate of insurance upon any changes or modifications to coverage, including any extension or renewal of required insurance coverage; provided that any changes or modifications to coverage shall be consistent with this Agreement.
4. The insurer(s) issuing the required policies shall, by separate endorsement, agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the "Additional Insureds" for losses arising in any manner from the products or work provided or performed by or on behalf of Consultant for SLDMWA, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not SLDMWA has received the waiver of subrogation.

#### **ARTICLE 10. INDEMNITY; NO LIABILITY FOR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES**

A. Consultant shall, with respect to all work which is covered by or incidental to the Agreement, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless SLDMWA, its officers, directors, agents, representatives and employees (collectively "SLDMWA"), from and against any and all liens and claims asserted by firms or individuals claiming through Consultant, and claims, liability, loss, damage, civil fines, penalties, costs, or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, expert's fees, awards, fines, or judgments, relating to the death or bodily injury to persons, injury to property, other loss, damage, or expense to the extent that any of the above arise out of, pertain to, or relate to the negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct or breach of this Agreement by Consultant or anyone acting under its direction or control or on its behalf in the course of its performance under this Agreement. Consultant's duty shall include the duty to defend the indemnitees as required by Civil Code section 2778, which duty shall arise from the need for defense and is not contingent upon a finding of liability for indemnification, and Consultant shall employ counsel reasonably acceptable to SLDMWA for this defense obligation. Consultant shall not be obligated under the Agreement to indemnify SLDMWA to the extent that the damage is caused by the active or sole negligence or willful misconduct of SLDMWA or its agent or servants other than Consultant.

B. SLDMWA shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Consultant, its officers, directors, agents, representatives and employees (collectively "Consultant") from and against any and all claims, liability, loss, damage, civil fines, penalties, costs, or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees,

expert's fees, awards, fines, or judgments, relating to the death or bodily injury to persons, injury to property, other loss, damage, or expense to the extent that any of the above arise out of, pertain to, or relate to the negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct or breach of this Agreement by SLDMWA or anyone acting under its direction or control or on its behalf in the course of its performance under this Agreement other than Consultant. SLDMWA's duty shall include the duty to defend the indemnitees as required by Civil Code section 2778, which duty shall arise from the need for defense and is not contingent upon a finding of liability for indemnification, and SLDMWA shall employ counsel reasonably acceptable to Consultant for this defense obligation. SLDMWA shall not be obligated under the Agreement to indemnify Consultant to the extent that the damage is caused by the active or sole negligence or willful misconduct of Consultant or its agent or servants.

C. Where any claim results from the joint negligence, gross negligence, willful misconduct or breach of any provision of this Agreement by SLDMWA and Consultant, the amount of such claim for which SLDMWA or Consultant is liable as indemnitor under this Article shall equal (i) the proportionate part that the amount of such claim attributable to such indemnitor's negligence, gross negligence, willful misconduct or breach of any provision of this Agreement bears to, and (ii) the amount of the total claim attributable to the joint negligence, gross negligence, willful misconduct or breach of any provision of this Agreement at issue.

D. Consultant and SLDMWA each agree to promptly serve notice on the other party of any claims arising hereunder, and shall cooperate in the defense of any such claims.

E. The acceptance by SLDMWA or its representatives of any certificate of insurance providing for coverage of any kind shall in no event be deemed a waiver of any of the provisions of this Article. None of the foregoing provisions shall deprive SLDMWA of any action, right or remedy otherwise available by law.

F. Except to the extent of any insurance coverage, neither Consultant nor SLDMWA shall be responsible to the other for any form of consequential damages, including, but not limited to losses of use, sale, profits, financing, business and reputation, and attorney fees thereon. Nothing in these provisions or in this Agreement shall waive, release or compromise any insurance requirements or coverages required in Article 9.

## **ARTICLE 11. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INFRINGEMENT**

Consultant shall defend, indemnify and hold SLDMWA free and harmless from and against, any loss, cost and expense that SLDMWA incurs because of a claim that any deliverables, materials or equipment (hereinafter "Product") provided pursuant to this Agreement infringes on the intellectual property right of others.

## **ARTICLE 12. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Except as otherwise set forth in Article 10 of this Agreement, in no event will Consultant be liable to SLDMWA for any incidental, indirect, special, consequential or punitive damages or lost profits of SLDMWA. The aggregate total liability of Consultant arising from or related to SLDMWA's engagement of Consultant shall not exceed the recoveries from insurance provided or, if none, an amount equivalent to the fee paid by SLDMWA to Consultant for its services under this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 13. USE AND OWNERSHIP OF WORK PRODUCT**

As used in this Agreement, the term "Work Product" means any and all deliverables or materials fixed in a tangible medium of expression, including software code, written procedure, written documents, abstracts and summaries thereof, or any portions or components of the foregoing created, written, developed, conceived, perfected or designed in connections with the services provided under this Agreement. SLDMWA shall retain all rights, title and interest in and to the Work Product, including all intellectual property rights therein and any and all enhancements, improvements and derivative works thereof, and Consultant obtains no rights therein.

**ARTICLE 14. ONLINE DOCUMENT ACCESSIBILITY**

Consultant will provide electronic copies of documents and materials designated for public access on the Authority's public website consistent with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2 Level AA Conformance and/or current state and federal standards for accessibility. If Consultant has any question as to whether a deliverable is subject to these requirements, Consultant shall confirm with the Authority whether the deliverable is anticipated to be posted to the Authority website. Consultant may reference the California Department of Technology's Web Accessibility Assessment Checklist at <https://dor.ca.gov/Home/Accessibility> to help Consultant comply with State and WCAG standards and requirements. Consultant should ensure documents and materials created for the Authority are compatible with most major Internet browsers, including Chrome, Firefox and Safari. The Authority reserves the right to return to Consultant for correction any deliverable that is required to be website accessible, and that the Authority determines not to be compliant, in accordance with these standards. Any such modification shall be done at Consultant's cost and without further charge to the Authority.

**ARTICLE 15. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days' written notice, with or without cause, upon written notification to the other party. Following such termination, SLDMWA shall pay Consultant all unpaid sums due for services performed under this Agreement to the date of termination, plus reasonable expenses for winding down the services. Following such payment, SLDMWA shall have the right to immediate possession of all documents, files (including electronic files), and other Work Product. No termination of the Agreement shall excuse or otherwise relieve Consultant of its responsibilities under the Agreement, including, without limitation, the standard of care for its work and services and its indemnity obligations. All of such responsibilities under the Agreement with respect to work and/or services performed prior to the date of termination shall survive any termination.

**ARTICLE 16. RECORDS AND AUDIT**

SLDMWA or SLDMWA's authorized representative shall have access, upon reasonable notice and during normal business hours during the term of the Agreement and for a period of two (2) years thereafter, to Consultant's books and records and all other documentation pertaining to Consultant's services under this Agreement for the purpose of auditing and verifying the cost of such services or for any other reasonable purpose. Such access includes the right to make excerpts, transcriptions and photocopies at SLDMWA's expense.

**ARTICLE 17. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Consultant and SLDMWA shall attempt to resolve conflicts or disputes that arise under this Agreement or that relate in any way to this Agreement or the subject matter of this Agreement in a fair and reasonable manner. The parties agree to attempt to mediate through a professional mediator any conflicts or disputes not otherwise resolved by the parties, with the costs of mediation shared equally by the parties. If the mediation does not settle the conflict or dispute, the parties may agree in writing to binding arbitration, or the matter may proceed in litigation before a court of competent jurisdiction. Neither party shall commence or pursue arbitration or litigation prior to (1) the completion of mediation proceedings, and (2) prior to completion of Consultant’s services under this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 18. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

A. Successors and Assigns: SLDMWA and Consultant each binds itself, its partners, successors, assigns and legal representatives to the other party hereto and to the partners, successors, assigns and legal representatives of such other party in respect to all covenants, agreements and obligations contained in the Agreement. Consultant shall not assign the Agreement or sublet it in whole or part without the written consent of SLDMWA, nor shall Consultant assign any moneys due or to become due to it hereunder without the prior written consent of SLDMWA.

B. Unenforceability of any Clause: If any clause or provision of the Agreement is held to be unenforceable or invalid, then that provision of the Agreement shall be stricken and all other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall not be effected thereby.

C. Waiver of Breach: Failure by one party to notify the other of a breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of any continuing breach. Failure by one party to enforce any of its rights under this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of those rights. The waiver by either Party of a breach or violation of any provision of this Agreement shall not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any other provision hereof.

D. Entire Agreement: The Agreement, including all exhibits, represents the entire and integrated agreement between SLDMWA and Consultant and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, either written or oral. No changes, amendments, alterations or modifications to this Agreement will be effective unless in writing and executed in the same manner as the Agreement.

E. Interpretation: The Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

F. Headings: The titles of sections of these General Conditions are for convenience only and no presumption or implication of the intent of the parties as to the construction of this Agreement shall be drawn therefrom.

**ARTICLE 19. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR TASK ORDER CONTRACTS**

In addition to all of the foregoing provisions, the following apply when this Agreement is designated as a “Task Order Contract”.

A. Where this Agreement is indicated to be a Task Order Contract, the Agreement will consist

of the individual projects defined by Task Orders entered into by the Parties during the term of and pursuant to this Agreement. Each Task Order will be numbered sequentially and will be similar in format to **Exhibit D**, entitled "Task Order Format," attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. Each Task Order will specifically define the scope of work for each specific project on which SLDMWA desires to retain Consultant's services. Each Task Order will also specify (1) the date on which the work covered by the Task Order is to begin; (2) the date on which the work covered by the Task Order is to be completed; (3) the estimated charges that SLDMWA can expect to pay to Consultant for Consultant's services pursuant to such Task Order; and (4) the names of the persons who will be SLDMWA's and Consultant's respective principal representatives for the management and performance of the specific services covered by said Task Order.

B. The specific services covered by each separate Task Order will be undertaken by Consultant only upon receipt of a Task Order signed by an authorized representative of SLDMWA and accepted by an authorized representative of Consultant.

C. Consultant will commence performing the services specified by each Task Order on the commencement date specified in the Task Order, and will complete such services within the time and monetary limitations specified in the Task Order. If Consultant, in the course of performing its services under any given Task Order, determines it will be unable to complete the services within the time schedule or authorized limit of charges specified in the Task Order, it will promptly so notify SLDMWA of such determination. Within fourteen (14) days of said notification, SLDMWA will inform Consultant as to how SLDMWA chooses to proceed.

D. All invoices for services shall identify the Task Order number.

E. SLDMWA will have the right to terminate Consultant's services under any specific Task Order at any time by giving notice in writing to Consultant. Consultant will not be entitled to payment for any cost related to the terminated part of services covered by the Task Order and incurred after the effective date of termination except for costs directly related to work performed by Consultant in terminating; provided that such work is authorized in advance by SLDMWA's representatives under such Task Order. SLDMWA also will reimburse Consultant for all expenses incurred by Consultant in satisfying commitments for materials, equipment and services for use in the terminated work which were made by Consultant prior to such termination. Such expenses may include the cost of returning or disposing of unused materials and equipment and terminating agreements for services by third parties. Consultant, however, will use its best efforts to minimize such costs. This paragraph provides the full and exclusive compensation to Consultant in the event of a terminated Task Order or termination of a Task Order Contract.

F. The limitation of liability in Article 12 is modified such that, if the conduct by Consultant giving rise to the loss occurs under one or more Task Orders, the aggregate total liability of Consultant arising from or related to SLDMWA's engagement of Consultant shall not exceed the recoveries from insurance provided or, if none, an amount equivalent to the fee paid by SLDMWA to Consultant for its services under the applicable Task Orders.

## **EXHIBIT C**

### **FEES, HOURLY RATES AND REIMBURSABLE COSTS/EXPENSES**

Fees, hourly rates, and reimbursable costs/expenses will be described in acceptable detail in sequential Task Orders.

**EXHIBIT D TASK ORDER FORMAT**

**[TITLE]  
Detailed Scope of Work**

**TASK 1 – [TITLE]**

[Description]

**TASK 2 – [TITLE]**

[Description]

**Basis for Payment:**

**Budget Maximum:**

**Estimate of Time Schedule:**

**SLDMWA Project Lead:** [Name] [Email]

**Consultant Project Lead:** [Name] [Email]

**Special Instructions:**

**Accepted:**

<u>San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority</u>	<u>Consultant</u>
By: _____ Federico Barajas Executive Director San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority	By: _____ [NAME] [TITLE] [ORGANIZATION]
Date: _____	Date: _____



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors and Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

Date: April 9, 2026

RE: Board of Directors to Consider Adoption of Communications Framework and Communication Action Plan for FY 2027

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## Background

As part of implementation of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority's (Water Authority) 2023 Strategic Plan, a number of Goals and Objectives were put in place regarding improving public awareness of Authority activities and to implement various policy outcomes associated with the improvement of Central Valley Project operational reliability, restoration of member agency water supplies, and public and policy-maker awareness.

In response, Water Authority staff evaluated existing communications platforms, content, and capacity, identified areas for improvement, and moved forward with the selection of a public affairs consultant(s) to assist with 1) Water Authority rebranding, 2) Website redesign and development, and 3) Communications Framework development and implementation.

## Communications Framework

The Communications Framework (Attachment 1) details strategic communications that will guide the Water Authority's Communications, in coordination with Water Authority Policy Framework and Science Plan. The Water Authority has chosen three pillars, or themes, that communications activity is designed to advance – the need for **reliability** in water supplies, the need for **affordability** for water ratepayers, and the need for **accountability** in project operations.

These communications pillars will be advanced through three different types of communications, as described in the Framework: foundational communications, project communications, and policy communications.

## Communications Action Plan

The Communications Action Plan (Attachment 2) details the annual activities, audiences, and types of communications that will be developed and delivered to implement the Communications Framework and advance the Communications and Policy goals in the Strategic Plan.

## Issue for Consideration

Whether to adopt the Communications Framework and Communications Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2027.



## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends adoption of the Communications Framework and Communications Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2027.

## Budget Implications

Sufficient resources were included in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget for implementation of this Communications Action Plan and the contract with Lucas Public Affairs is structured in a retainer framework and scaled to use available resources to avoid budget overruns.



# ATTACHMENTS



Date: March 17, 2026  
To: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  
From: Lucas Public Affairs  
Subject: Water Authority Strategic Communications Framework

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### **Overview**

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) enters 2026 from a position of significant communications strength and institutional credibility. Interviews with member agencies, partners and stakeholders reflect high confidence in SLDMWA's leadership, technical expertise and communications effectiveness. SLDMWA is widely viewed as a trusted and respected voice on complex water management, infrastructure and regulatory issues - with communications that are timely, accurate and influential among technical and policymaking audiences. Leadership accessibility, responsiveness and transparency reinforce trust and alignment across SLDMWA's diverse membership.

SLDMWA has demonstrated a strong ability to balance California's interconnected water needs—supporting environmental stewardship, agricultural productivity and urban water reliability. This reflects a broader mission centered on ensuring reliable water supplies for California's wildlife, farmers and communities within its member agencies' service area - recognizing that water reliability underpins ecosystems, local economies and the long-term public good. SLDMWA's work is essential to sustaining communities, protecting environmental resources and supporting economic stability across the Central Valley and beyond.

Looking ahead, stakeholders view SLDMWA as well-positioned to help advance greater alignment across state and federal water policy. There is strong support for pursuing policy pathways to improve water supply reliability and ratepayer affordability, while ensuring regulatory frameworks are accountable – that they reflect current scientific understanding and operational realities. By grounding its leadership in credible science, data and operational expertise, SLDMWA can help inform sound decision-making, modernize outdated regulations and increase funding opportunities, and continue serving as a trusted, solutions-oriented leader advancing water reliability as a shared statewide priority.

### **Assessment**

This strategic framework is guided by a comprehensive communications assessment consisting of a materials audit and in-depth stakeholder interviews to evaluate strengths, identify opportunities and guide strategic priorities.

### **Communications Materials Audit**

A detailed review of SLDMWA's communications platforms and materials—including SLDMWA's website, presentations, briefing materials, board communications, printed collateral, and public-facing materials—demonstrates a strong foundation characterized by:

- High technical credibility
- Consistent emphasis on core themes of reliability and stewardship
- Clear articulation of infrastructure investments and operational responsibilities
- Effective communication with member agencies, regulators and technical audiences

These materials reinforce SLDMWA's role as a capable infrastructure operator, project implementer and responsible steward of public water resources.

### **Stakeholder Interviews**

Seventeen in-depth interviews with member agency leaders, partners and stakeholders identified several consistent themes of strength:

- High satisfaction with SLDMWA's communications quality, credibility and responsiveness
- Strong trust in executive leadership and decision-making processes
- Clear recognition of SLDMWA's role in coordinating complex projects and regulatory matters
- Appreciation for SLDMWA's effectiveness in representing diverse member interests

### **Strategic Opportunity**

SLDMWA has a strong communications foundation. The primary opportunity is to build on that foundation by expanding reach, strengthening storytelling and increasing proactive engagement with external audiences.

Specifically, this communications framework seeks to:

- Expand SLDMWA's visibility beyond technical audiences to policymakers, media and the broader public
- Translate technical expertise into clear, accessible and compelling narratives
- Elevate understanding of SLDMWA's role across its three core pillars: agricultural, environmental and urban water interests
- Strengthen SLDMWA's position as a trusted, credible voice on water reliability, affordability and scientific and regulatory accountability
- Increase proactive communications around infrastructure investments, policy decisions and project milestones
- Identify and leverage strategic opportunities to elevate SLDMWA's leadership team and expertise

## **COMMUNICATIONS PRIORITIES & FOCUS AREAS**

SLDMWA's communications program during this period will focus on the following four integrated priorities that guide strategic direction and tactical implementation.

**Priority I: Message & Narrative Clarity**

Establish and reinforce a clear, consistent and accessible narrative that reflects SLDMWA's role, impact and value, building on its strong technical foundation to improve understanding and awareness among policymakers, media and broader public audiences.

**Priority II: Internal Alignment & Early Engagement**

Maintain strong internal alignment and strengthen proactive, early engagement with members and partners around major communications, policy decisions and project milestones to ensure continued trust, cohesion and coordinated external messaging.

**Priority III: Proactive External Visibility**

Increase SLDMWA's visibility and leadership presence among policymakers, media, partners, and key stakeholders through proactive, strategic communications that elevate understanding of SLDMWA's infrastructure investments, policy leadership and operational responsibilities, and reinforce its role as a trusted leader advancing water reliability, affordability and public value.

**Priority IV: Modernization of Platforms and Materials**

Modernize SLDMWA's communications platforms and materials to improve accessibility, usability and storytelling while maintaining technical credibility, ensuring SLDMWA's information is more accessible and engaging for broader audiences beyond technical stakeholders.

**TARGET AUDIENCES**

To effectively advance the SLDMWA's mission and policy priorities, our communications strategy focuses on engaging the following key internal and external audiences:

**Internal**

- SLDMWA Employees
- SLDMWA Member Agencies and Member Agency Leadership

**External**

- Elected Federal and State Officials and Staff
- Appointed Federal and State Agency Officials and Staff
- Business and Community Leaders
- Academic and Research Partners
- Community Leaders
- Water Industry Professionals
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Media/Reporters
- California Residents

## STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS APPROACH: THREE PILLARS

SLDMWA's communications strategy will operate across three integrated pillars:

- I. Foundational Communications
- II. Project Communications
- III. Policy Communications

These pillars reflect SLDMWA's role as:

- Project implementer
- Policy leader
- Trusted external voice

### **Pillar I: Foundational Communications**

Establish and maintain core messaging, platforms and communications channels that ensure consistent, accessible and effective communications across all SLDMWA activities, strengthening narrative clarity, improving public accessibility to information and enhancing SLDMWA's visibility and leadership positioning.

#### **Core Initiatives:**

- Messaging and Narrative Framework - Develop and implement a unified messaging framework emphasizing the following core themes:
  - Reliability
  - Affordability
  - Accountability
- Materials Development – Create a coordinated suite of external materials that articulate SLDMWA's policy priorities, infrastructure investments and measurable outcomes, such as:
  - Project fact sheets
  - Infographics
  - Op-eds and digital articles
  - FAQs
  - Presentation decks
  - Visual assets and graphics
  - White papers and briefings
- Website Modernization - Refresh the website to serve as a central communications platform featuring:
  - Accessible project information
  - Educational resources
  - Visual storytelling
  - Media and policymaker resources

- *External Newsletter* - Launch a bimonthly external newsletter highlighting:
  - Project updates
  - Infrastructure milestones
  - Member agency initiatives
  - Leadership activities
  - Policy developments
  
- *Internal Communications* - Strengthen internal communications through:
  - Daily water news report
  - Weekly Operations Update
  - Monthly staff newsletters
  - Monthly Executive Director update to Board members, staggered mid-point between Board meetings
  - Monthly newsletter to SLDMWA member agency Board members
  
- *Social Media Strategy* - Develop a targeted and strategic social media presence to maximize reach with limited staff engagement, with an emphasis on LinkedIn, to:
  - Share project updates and milestones
  - Highlight infrastructure investments, including member agency investments
  - Amplify leadership visibility and thought leadership
  - Support educational outreach
  
- *Earned Media Outreach* – Implement a fact-based media engagement program that positions SLDMWA as a credible, data-driven source of information for policymakers, stakeholders and the broader public by:
  - Maintaining a targeted media list that includes (and categorizes) Washington, D.C. and California water policy reporters, agricultural writers and journalists covering national security/food policy
  - Proactively pitching press releases and stories tied to project milestones, infrastructure investments and policy developments
  - Coordinating media briefings, editorial board meetings and background sessions
  - Securing op-eds and thought leadership pieces
  - Supporting project-based media events, site tours and milestone announcements
  - Preparing rapid-response statements and media materials during emerging issues
  - Providing spokesperson preparation and message development for interviews
  - Monitoring daily media coverage

## **Pillar II: Project Communications**

Demonstrate the public value of SLDMWA’s infrastructure investments through proactive, strategic communications that increase visibility of project outcomes and strengthen understanding among policymakers and stakeholders.

LPA will work closely with SLDMWA’s Executive and Government Relations teams to identify priority projects, key milestones and engagement opportunities, and develop coordinated communications plans aligned with major infrastructure and scientific lines of evidence initiatives. These efforts will

highlight measurable progress and clearly connect policy priorities to real-world results. Priority initiatives will include:

- Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project
- B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and San Luis Reservoir Expansion Project
- Regulatory Action Accountability Plan initiatives, including Science Program activities
- Other conveyance, storage and modernization projects of regional note, including member agency projects

Through milestone-driven communications tied to funding, construction and operational advancements, SLDMWA will demonstrate how these investments enhance water supply reliability, improve system efficiency and deliver long-term value to California's communities and economy.

#### **Core Initiatives:**

- *Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project Groundbreaking Event* – Plan and execute a high-visibility groundbreaking that brings together federal and state agency partners, elected officials, member agencies, and stakeholders to formally launch construction, highlight funding partnerships, and reinforce the project's role in strengthening water supply reliability.
- *Project Site Tours and Field Briefings* – Facilitate targeted site tours and on-site briefings for policymakers, regulatory officials, media, coalition partners, and key stakeholders to provide firsthand understanding of infrastructure needs, operational complexity and tangible public benefits.
- *Progress-Driven Media and Stakeholder Outreach* – Coordinate proactive communications tied to key project phases and deliverables, including:
  - Major project milestones and approvals
  - Construction launches and phase completions
  - Infrastructure investment announcements and funding commitments

#### **Pillar III: Policy Communications**

SLDMWA's communications strategy is designed to proactively advance its policy priorities and shape the broader water policy narrative through disciplined, strategic engagement. By educating stakeholders, clarifying regulatory impacts and elevating fact-based dialogue, SLDMWA will reinforce its position as a trusted, credible voice on water reliability, infrastructure investment and regulatory accountability.

Communications efforts will be aligned with and designed to advance the following Board adopted Policy Framework and aligned with the annual Board adopted Policy Action Plan:

1. **Water Supply Reliability** – Advocacy for infrastructure investment, regulatory flexibility, and operational improvements to enhance reliability of water deliveries from the Central Valley Project and other sources.

2. **Water Quality and Resource Management** – Policies related to salinity control, groundwater management, drainage, and habitat restoration.
3. **Environmental and Regulatory Compliance** – Engagement in policies affecting implementation of the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and related state and federal laws.
4. **Climate Adaptation and Resilience** – Support for science-based adaptation strategies that prepare for hydrologic variability and climate change.
5. **Energy and Conveyance Efficiency** – Promotion of policies that improve water conveyance and power cost efficiency within the SLDMWA’s operations.
6. **Funding and Finance** – Advocacy for equitable and practical mechanisms to finance infrastructure, habitat, and water management investments.
7. **Stakeholder Engagement Communication** – Coordination with federal and state agencies, water users, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the public to promote understanding and build coalitions around shared objectives.

#### **Core Initiatives:**

- Executive Visibility - Position executive leadership as a trusted resource for media and policymakers to promote and advance SLDMWA’s policy priorities
  - Secure strategic speaking opportunities at conference panels, industry roundtables, policy forums, and water infrastructure discussions
  - Support these efforts with targeted media training and message preparation
  - Elevate executive profiles via LinkedIn and other external channels
- Webinars/Educational Briefings - Develop and host targeted virtual and in-person briefings to educate legislators, policymakers, agency officials, stakeholders, and coalition partners on priority projects, regulatory developments and infrastructure investments
  - Issue-focused webinars explaining complex policy and regulatory topics
  - Project-specific briefings tied to key developments and construction phases
  - Technical updates highlighting operational improvements and system performance
  - Legislative and agency staff briefings to support informed decision-making
- Strategic Partnerships and Coalition Engagement – Engage internal and external coalition partners and allied/championed organizations to advance SLDMWA’s policy priorities through coordinated partnership and advocacy efforts.
- Water Operations Accountability – Launch a coordinated public-facing communications effort to increase awareness and understanding of regulatory impacts on water supply cost, reliability, affordability, and environmental outcomes, and to build support for practical, science-based project operations.
  - Develop clear, accessible messaging that explains the true cost of water supply and regulatory drivers, leveraging current science and data to reinforce messaging and inform decision-making, incorporating information developed through advancement of studies of various lines of evidence
  - Produce fact sheets, infographics and digital content translating complex regulatory issues into understandable public impacts

- Support release of a white paper with coordinated outreach, briefings and media engagement
- Engage coalition partners and allied organizations to amplify messaging and broaden reach – such as State Water Contractors, ACWA, Coalition for a Sustainable Delta, and CalChamber.
- Deploy targeted member advocacy tools, including a potential letter campaign demonstrating broad-based support
- Promote consistent framing around reliability, accountability, transparency and balanced water management

## **TIMELINE & IMPLEMENTATION**

Following feedback and approval, the next phase will include development of a detailed implementation roadmap outlining:

- Specific communications priorities and tactics
- Timeline sequencing
- Roles and responsibilities
- Priority milestones and key dates



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
sldmwa.org

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors and Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

Date: April 9, 2026

RE: Communications Action Plan – FY 2027

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## Communications Action Plan

This document serves as the Communications Action Plan to guide execution of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) Strategic Communications Framework for the 2026–2027 fiscal year.

The plan translates the Authority’s communications strategy into a defined set of initiatives, activities and deliverables to be implemented over the coming fiscal year. These efforts are designed to strengthen SLDMWA’s visibility, enhance stakeholder engagement and support advancement of the Authority’s policy and infrastructure priorities.

All communications activities are aligned to advance SLDMWA’s core pillars — **reliability, affordability, and accountability**—to ensure communications efforts directly support organizational priorities.

SLDMWA’s communications program will be implemented across three integrated areas of focus:

- **Foundational Communications** – Core messaging, materials, platforms and media engagement
- **Project Communications** – Strategic communications tied to infrastructure investments and milestones
- **Policy Communications** – Proactive engagement to support policy priorities and stakeholder understanding

## Key Audiences

SLDMWA’s communications efforts are designed to engage a defined set of internal and external audiences critical to advancing the Authority’s mission, infrastructure priorities and policy objectives. Each communications initiative and activation will be tailored to the most relevant audiences to ensure messages are delivered effectively and resonate with intended stakeholders.

The following represents the range of audiences identified as part of the broader communications strategy:



## Internal Audiences

- SLDMWA employees
- SLDMWA member agencies and member agency leadership

## External Audiences

- Elected federal, state, local officials and staff
- Appointed federal and state agency officials and staff
- Business and community leaders
- Academic and research partners
- Community leaders
- Water industry professionals
- Non-governmental organizations
- Media
- California residents

## Scope of Communications Work

SLDMWA’s communications efforts are designed to engage a defined set of internal and external audiences critical to advancing the Authority’s mission, infrastructure priorities and policy objectives. Each communications initiative and activation will be tailored to the most relevant audiences to ensure messages are delivered effectively.

## Foundational Communications

Establish and maintain consistent messaging, modern communications platforms and proactive engagement strategies to improve accessibility, transparency and visibility among key audiences.

<b>Program/Initiative</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Purpose/Outcome</b>	<b>Strategic Pillar Alignment</b>
Messaging & Narrative Framework	Develop and implement unified messaging across communications materials	Ensure consistency and clarity in SLDMWA’s narrative	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Materials Development	Develop fact sheets, infographics, presentations, FAQs and briefing materials	Translate complex technical and policy issues into accessible formats	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability



Website Modernization	Redesign and enhance website with project, policy and educational content	Improve accessibility, usability and transparency for external audiences	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
External Newsletter	Distribute bimonthly external newsletter	Increase visibility of projects, policy developments and leadership activities	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Internal Communications	Continue to enhance internal updates including newsletters and Board communications	Maintain alignment across staff, leadership and member agencies	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Social Media Strategy	Establish and maintain a LinkedIn presence focused on projects and leadership visibility	Expand reach and reinforce SLDMWA's role as a thought leader	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Earned Media Outreach	Conduct proactive media engagement, including press outreach, op-eds, and briefings	Position SLDMWA as a credible, data-driven voice on water policy and infrastructure	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Media Monitoring	Monitor daily media coverage and develop regular summary reports	Track media narratives, inform communications strategy and support rapid response	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability

### Project Communications

Demonstrate the public value of SLDMWA's infrastructure investments through milestone-driven communications and stakeholder engagement.

Program/Initiative	Activity	Purpose/Outcome	Strategic Pillar Alignment
Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project	Plan and execute groundbreaking event	Highlight infrastructure investment, partnerships and project significance	Reliability, Affordability



Priority Infrastructure Projects	Develop communications plans tied to key projects (e.g., B.F. Sisk Dam Raise, reservoir expansion)	Increase awareness of project benefits and long-term system improvements	Reliability; Affordability
Project Site Tours & Briefings	Facilitate tours and on-site briefings for policymakers, media and stakeholders	Provide firsthand understanding of infrastructure needs and public benefits	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Milestone Communications	Coordinate communications tied to funding announcements, construction phases and project completions	Maintain visibility and demonstrate measurable progress	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Member Agency Project Amplification	Highlight member agency infrastructure and regional investments	Reinforce collective impact and regional coordination	Reliability, Affordability

### Policy Communications

Advance SLDMWA’s policy priorities through strategic communications that educate stakeholders, support informed decision-making and reinforce SLDMWA’s leadership role.

<b>Program/Initiative</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Purpose/Outcome</b>	<b>Strategic Pillar Alignment</b>
Executive Visibility	Secure speaking engagements, media opportunities and leadership positioning	Elevate SLDMWA leadership as trusted policy experts	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Webinars & Educational Briefings	Develop and host briefings for policymakers, agency staff and stakeholders	Increase understanding of complex regulatory and infrastructure issues	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Regulatory Action Accountability Plan Communications	Implement public-facing communications campaign including white paper, fact sheets and outreach	Build awareness of regulatory impacts and support for science-based reforms	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability



Coalition Engagement	Coordinate messaging and engagement with partner organizations and stakeholders	Amplify policy priorities and strengthen external alignment	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability
Stakeholder Communications	Conduct targeted outreach to agencies, NGOs and community stakeholders	Build understanding and support for SLDMWA priorities	Reliability, Affordability; Accountability

### Timing & Implementation Approach

Implementation of these activations will occur over the FY 27 period, with activities sequenced to align with ongoing communications needs, project milestones and key policy developments.

- **Foundational Communications** activities will be implemented on an ongoing basis and maintained at a regular cadence throughout the year. This includes core communications functions such as media engagement, content development, digital communications and internal and external updates.
- **Project Communications** will be timed around key infrastructure milestones, including project approvals, funding announcements, construction phases and major project events. These efforts will be coordinated in alignment with priorities and direction provided by the SLDMWA Executive team.
- **Policy Communications** will be developed and executed in coordination with the Government Relations team and aligned with key policy windows, legislative activity and regulatory developments to support SLDMWA’s policy objectives.



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

From: Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer  
Rebecca L. Harms, Deputy General Counsel

Date: April 9, 2026

RE: Ratification of Execution of North to South Water Transfers CEQA Support Task Order with CDM Smith

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## Background

In September 2023, the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (“Water Authority”) Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2023-516 which authorized execution of a North to South Water Transfers Activity Agreement (“Activity Agreement”) for Water Authority members who desired to participate in the north to south water transfers beginning in 2025. Nine Water Authority members joined the Activity Agreement and are current Activity Agreement members: Eagle Field Water District, Mercy Springs Water District, Pacheco Water District, Panoche Water District, Patterson Irrigation District, San Benito County Water District, San Luis Water District, Santa Clara Valley Water District, and Westlands Water District (“Activity Agreement Members”).

The Revised Long-term Water Transfers Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) provided National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) and California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) coverage for a range of potential single-year north to south water transfers through 2024.

There were no north to south transfers in 2025.

The Water Authority intends to develop environmental documentation for future potential single-year north to south water transfers for 2028 and beyond (any water transfers in 2026 or 2027 would have environmental coverage under a different document). Reclamation held public scoping meetings in compliance with NEPA in late 2025. In the past, Reclamation and the Water Authority have prepared joint NEPA/CEQA documents. Due to significant changes in NEPA regulations over the last year, however, it is now recommended to proceed with separate NEPA and CEQA documents, although the Water Authority still intends to coordinate closely with Reclamation. To allow for the development of a separate CEQA document, the Water Authority requested CDM Smith to prepare a statement of work and cost estimate for the development of subsequent environmental analyses under CEQA. CDM Smith has demonstrated competence and the professional qualifications necessary for the satisfactory performance of the services required and has supported past north to south transfer analyses.

The Board previously authorized execution of contracts with CDM Smith for work supporting the DMC Subsidence Correction Project and the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project for Fiscal Year 2027 (see Board Resolution No. 2026-554); Water Authority staff executed a Professional Services Agreement with task orders for those tasks, as well as the north to south transfers CEQA support, concurrently.



## Issue for Decision

Whether the Board of Directors should ratify execution of a North to South Water Transfers CEQA Support Task Order with CDM Smith.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Water Authority Board of Directors ratify the Task Order. North to South Water Transfers Activity Agreement Members also support this recommendation.

## Analysis

CDM Smith's cost estimate for development of subsequent environmental analyses is \$717,604. The statement of work contemplates a time and materials contract meaning that the cost estimate is a maximum cost for this task. In addition, Water Authority staff is pursuing a cost share with non-member agencies that may be identified as "buyers" in the CEQA document.

After receiving CDM Smith's statement of work and cost estimate for developing subsequent environmental analyses, Water Authority staff met with Activity Agreement Members, who confirmed that entering a task order with CDM Smith for the development of the subsequent CEQA document was their desired path forward.

As noted above, the Water Authority executed the North to South Water Transfers CEQA Support Task Order, attached hereto. Execution of the Task Order in March allowed CDM Smith to begin work on the subsequent environmental analyses immediately. Because this cost was not previously budgeted for and is over the \$200,000 threshold in our Consolidated Procurement Policy, Board ratification of execution of the Task Order is needed.

## Budget Implications

No direct budget impact due to the structure of the Activity Agreement whereby the cost for the Water Authority's coordination of water transfer activities pursuant to the Activity Agreement, and any additional financial obligations and liabilities associated with the coordination of transfer activities or individual transfers, will be paid for by only the Activity Agreement Members (and any non-Water Authority buyers that ultimately agree to cost share).

## Attachment

North to South Water Transfers CEQA Support Task Order with CDM Smith

## **TASK ORDER 2 – FY27**

North to South Water Transfers Project – CEQA Support

### **Detailed Scope of Work**

Services may include, but are not limited to the following:

#### **TASK 1 – Public Involvement**

- a) Public Scoping Meeting
- b) Public Hearing

#### **TASK 2 – Draft EIR**

- a) Alternatives Development Report
- b) Administrative Draft EIR
- c) Backcheck Draft EIR
- d) Public Draft EIR

#### **TASK 3 – Final EIR, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**

- a) Responses to Public Comments
- b) Administrative Final EIR
- c) Backcheck Final EIR
- d) Public Final EIR

#### **TASK 4 – CEQA Approval Package**

#### **TASK 5 – Project Management and Quality Management**

\*\*\*Detailed Scope of Services for Task Order 2 – FY27 is included as Attachment 1\*\*\*

**Budget Maximum: \$717,604.00**

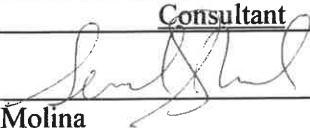
**Estimate of Time Schedule:** March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027

**SLDMWA Project Lead:** Cynthia Meyer; [cynthia.meyer@sldmwa.org](mailto:cynthia.meyer@sldmwa.org)

**Consultant Project Lead:** Chris Park; [parkce@cdmsmith.com](mailto:parkce@cdmsmith.com)

**Special Instructions:** All invoices associated with Task Order 2 must be referenced and submitted to [Accounts.Payable@sldmwa.org](mailto:Accounts.Payable@sldmwa.org).

**Accepted:**

<u>San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority</u>	<u>Consultant</u>
By: <u>Pablo Arroyave</u> Pablo R. Arroyave San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Date: <u>Mar 5, 2026</u>	By: <u></u> Servando Molina CDM Smith, Inc. Date: <u>March 5, 2026</u>

# Statement of Work

## North to South Water Transfers Project- CEQA support

### Introduction

In April 2024, CDM Smith and MBK Engineers initiated work on the North-to-South Water Transfers (NSWT) EIS/EIR & Biological Assessment with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority (SLMDWA) was identified as the CEQA lead agency on that document. In December 2025, SLMDWA requested CDM Smith prepare a SOW and cost estimate to develop a subsequent EIR for the same proposed project currently being evaluated under the NSWT EIS with the Bureau of Reclamation. The SOW and cost proposed presented herein is based on two key assumptions (1) the Project Description in the NEPA and CEQA document will be consistent and no additional modeling will be required for the CEQA effort; (2) Reclamation review on the CEQA document will be minimal.

### Scope of Services

This scope of work describes the specific tasks to complete a subsequent EIR for the North to South Water Transfers Project.

#### Task 1 – Public Involvement

**Objective:** Engage interested members of the public in scoping and reviewing the draft EIR.

##### Subtask 1.1 Public Scoping Meeting

CDM Smith will assist with one, up to 4-hour long, Scoping Meeting, including preparing presentation material and handout materials for the meeting and assisting with meeting arrangements. CDM Smith will be responsible for the cost, set-up, and coordination of scheduling and renting the facility near SLDMWAs office (if needed) or setting up a virtual meeting, preparing handouts and presentation materials, and participating in the meeting. CDM Smith will develop a draft and final Notice of Preparation (NOP) to initiate the public scoping period.

CDM Smith will prepare the Scoping Report. The Scoping Report will contain the scoping purpose and process, the scoping meeting materials including meeting notices, a summary of scoping comments, a list of commenters, and the scoping comments themselves.

##### **Assumptions:**

- The public scoping meeting will be scheduled in a virtual meeting format or could be scheduled in person near SLDMWAs office.
- If in person meeting is scheduled, CDM Smith will arrange and pay for meeting room (up to \$1000).
- CDM Smith will pay for one newspaper advertisement (up to \$100)

- The full presentation will not be distributed as a handout; handouts will include one-page comment sheets that can be mailed back (up to 150 comment sheets)
- Public written comments will be submitted to agencies via mail or email, and sent to CDM Smith

***Deliverables:***

- Draft and Final NOP - electronic deliverable, one hard copy of final
- Draft and Final Public Scoping Meeting Materials -draft as electronic version, finals as posterboards, handouts, etc.
- Draft and Final Newspaper Advertisement
- Draft and Final Scoping Issues TM - electronic deliverable

**Subtask 1.2 Public Hearing**

CDM Smith will develop a draft and final Notice of Completion (NOC) for the State Clearinghouse, and a draft and final public Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft EIR. CDM Smith will submit the NOC to the State Clearinghouse. CDM Smith will publish a newspaper advertisement with the notice of availability and file the notice of availability with the counties that could be affected by the action (Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Kings, Merced, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Benito, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sierra, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba counties). CDM Smith will assist the agencies in preparing a public hearing on the Draft EIR near the agencies' offices or virtually following the release of the Draft EIR. CDM Smith will coordinate pre-meeting planning activities; define objectives and format; determine locations; prepare notifications, handouts, poster boards, presentation, and other presentation materials; assist presenters with presentation materials; coordinate meeting logistics; provide a certified court reporter to transcribe verbal comments received during the meeting; attend the meeting; and track comments. CDM Smith will submit draft documents and materials and work with SLDMWA to finalize activities and materials.

***Assumptions:***

- The hearings will be scheduled in a virtual meeting format or could be scheduled in person near SLDMWAs office.
- CDM Smith will arrange and pay for meeting room (up to \$1000).
- CDM Smith will pay for one newspaper advertisement (up to \$100)
- CDM Smith will produce up to three display poster boards for the meeting
- The full presentation will not be distributed as a handout; handouts will include one-page comment sheets that can be mailed back (up to 150 comment sheets)
- Public written comments will be submitted to agencies via mail or email, and sent to CDM Smith

***Deliverables:***

- Draft and Final Notice of Completion - electronic deliverable
- Draft and Final Public Notice of Availability of a Draft EIR - electronic deliverable

- Draft and Final Newspaper Advertisement
- Draft and Final Public Meeting Materials - drafts as electronic versions, finals as poster boards, handouts, etc.
- Draft and Final Court Reporter Transcripts - electronic deliverable

## **Task 2 – Draft EIR**

**Objective:** Complete analysis of potential environmental impacts in compliance with CEQA requirements.

CDM Smith will prepare the Draft Subsequent EIR to meet CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR will include an environmental setting description, effects analyses, and cumulative effects analyses. CDM Smith anticipates that the evaluation of groundwater resources and biological resources requires a more detailed analysis. For each checklist item, a determination will be made as to whether no impact is anticipated, or if a physical impact may occur (and whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant after mitigation, or less than significant). The explanation for each issue will identify the significance criteria or threshold consistent with the 2019 LTWT EIR, used to evaluate each question, and the mitigation measure(s) identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant. References will be given to support all conclusions, additionally, a conclusionary statement comparing impacts to 2019 LTWT EIR will be included.

CDM Smith will not complete additional modeling for the NSWT EIR. The modeling evaluations currently underway for the NSWT EIS will be used to support the development of the NSWT EIR.

### **Subtask 2.1 Alternatives Development Report**

CDM Smith will develop an alternatives development report for the EIR. Since an alternative formulation report has been prepared for the NSWT EIS under our current contract with Reclamation, this document will refocus the information presented in the report prepared for Reclamation to consider the CEQA lead agencies project objectives. As noted above, the proposed project and alternatives under consideration for the NSWT EIR will remain consistent with the NSWT EIS.

#### **Assumptions:**

- The alternatives chapter of the EIR will assess up to four alternatives to the Proposed Project.
- The proposed project and alternatives under consideration for the NSWT EIR will remain consistent with the NSWT EIS.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Description of No Project Alternative Proposed Project, and alternatives to be included in the Administrative Draft EIR

### **Subtask 2.2 Administrative Draft EIR**

CDM Smith will prepare an Administrative Draft Subsequent EIR. The Administrative Draft EIR will be organized and formatted to meet CEQA requirements. SLDMWA (including legal counsel), and the Reclamation will review the document and provide comments to the team. Under this task, the CDM Smith team will also develop sections, such as introduction and executive summary, list of preparers, and consultation and coordination, and analyses required by CEQA not included in the resource effects

analysis, such as growth inducing impacts, significant and irreversible impacts, and identifying the environmentally superior alternative.

***Assumptions:***

- Consolidated comments will be provided as track changes in a Word document or in a spreadsheet form on the Administrative Draft EIR by each reviewing agency.
- Reclamation review will be focused on consistency between the NEPA and CEQA document.

***Deliverables:***

- Administrative Draft EIR - electronic deliverable

**Subtask 2.3 Backcheck Draft EIR**

CDM Smith will review the comments on the Administrative Draft EIR and revise the text accordingly. CDM Smith will document the way each comment has been addressed in the responses to comments spreadsheet. If required, CDM Smith will have a conference call with the commenters to resolve conflicting comments and issues that arise in the comments. CDM Smith will prepare a backcheck draft for the commenter to review the revisions made in response to their comments. It is assumed that comments on the backcheck draft EIR will be minimal and not require an additional review draft.

***Assumptions:***

- Consolidated comments will be provided as track changes in a word document or in a spreadsheet form on the Backcheck Draft EIR by each reviewing agency.
- SLDMWA and Reclamation will have limited comments on the backcheck draft and will focus on whether agency comments were addressed appropriately
- Comment issues on the Administrative Draft EIR can be resolved during one two-hour conference call.

***Deliverables:***

- Spreadsheet with responses to comments on the Administrative Draft.
- Backcheck Draft EIR-electronic deliverable

**Subtask 2.4 Public Draft EIR**

CDM Smith will prepare a Draft EIR for public distribution that incorporates agency comments on the Administrative Draft and Backcheck Draft EIR. CDM Smith will make the public distribution ready Draft EIR, 508 compliant and ready for upload to SLDMWA's website and the state clearinghouse website. The Noticing of the public draft is covered under Section 1.2.

***Assumptions:***

- CDM Smith will develop the website upload ready draft of the EIR.

***Deliverables:***

- Spreadsheet with responses to comments on the Backcheck Draft.

- Public Draft EIR- 508-complaint electronic deliverable

### **Task 3 – Final EIR, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**

**Objective:** Address public comments on the draft EIR.

#### **Subtask 3.1 Responses to Public Comments**

CDM Smith will create and maintain a process for tracking comments and developing responses. CDM Smith will track comments by commenter, issue, and environmental resource area. After initial review of the comments, CDM Smith will have a conference call with SLDMWA to discuss the major issues from comments received on the EIR. CDM Smith will group recurring comments and review these key topics with SLDMWA. Based on the results of this discussion, CDM Smith will develop master responses on recurring comments. CDM Smith will provide Draft Responses to Comments for review prior to the completion of the Administrative Final EIR.

#### **Assumptions:**

- Public comments on the Draft EIR will include up to 40 discrete substantive comments.
- CDM Smith will prepare up to 10 master responses
- Changes and corrections to the Final EIR due to response to comments will be minor and will not require recirculation of the document.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Draft Responses to Comments - electronic deliverable

#### **Subtask 3.2 Administrative Final EIR**

CDM Smith will prepare an Administrative Final EIR that incorporates the responses to comments and changes to the EIR based on public comments. The Administrative Final EIR will include errata sheets that show where changes were made to the Draft EIR based on comments received. After submitting the responses to comments in Subtask 4.1, CDM Smith will conduct a conference call with SLDMWA to address issues or conflicting comments on the draft responses. These changes will be incorporated in the Administrative Final EIR.

#### **Assumptions:**

- Consolidated comments will be provided as track changes in a word document or in a spreadsheet form on the Administrative Final EIR by each reviewing agency.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Administrative Final EIR - electronic deliverable

#### **Subtask 3.3 Backcheck Final EIR**

CDM Smith will review the comments on the Administrative Final EIR and Responses to Comments and revise the text accordingly. CDM Smith will document the way each comment has been addressed in the responses to comments spreadsheet. If required, CDM Smith will have a conference call with the commenters to resolve conflicting comments and issues that arise in the comments. CDM Smith will prepare a Backcheck Final for the commenter to review the revisions made in response to their

comments. It is assumed that comments on the Backcheck Final EIR will be minimal and not require an additional review draft.

***Assumptions:***

- Consolidated comments will be provided as track changes in a word document or in a spreadsheet form on the Backcheck Final EIR by each reviewing agency.
- SLDMWA will have limited comments on the backcheck final and will focus on whether agency comments were addressed appropriately
- Comment issues on the Administrative Final EIR can be resolved during one two-hour conference call.

***Deliverables:***

- Spreadsheet with responses to comments on the Administrative Final
- Backcheck Final EIR-electronic deliverable

**Subtask 3.4 Public Final EIR**

CDM Smith will prepare a Final EIR for public distribution that incorporates agency comments on the Administrative Final and Backcheck Final EIR. CDM Smith will make the public distribution ready Final EIR, 508 compliant and ready for upload to SLDMWA website and the state clearinghouse website. The Noticing of the Final is under Task 5.

***Assumptions:***

- CDM Smith will develop the website upload ready Final EIR.

***Deliverables:***

- Spreadsheet with responses to comments on the Backcheck Final.
- Public Final EIR- 508-complaint electronic deliverable

**Task 4 – CEQA Approval Package**

***Objective:*** Complete and file CEQA approval package.

CDM Smith will prepare draft and final versions of the CEQA Project Approval Package for SLDMWA review. The approval package will contain the following: CEQA Findings; the MMRP; and Notice of Determination. CDM Smith will develop a final approval package that incorporates comments from SLDMWA on the draft. SLDMWA shall be responsible for preparing a resolution and finalizing the CEQA Project Approval Package and obtaining signatures. CDM Smith will then file the NOD with the State Clearinghouse and the counties where impacts could occur. This task will include paying the County Clerk filing fee (\$50-\$100 for most counties) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) filing fee (in 2026, the fee is \$4,227.50 for EIRs; assumed \$4,500 to account for fee escalation). The filing fees for the County Clerks will be due for each of the counties where actions could occur; the DFW fee will only need to be paid once for the document.

**Assumptions:**

- A Statement of Overriding Considerations will not be required
- SLDMWA will be responsible for preparing a resolution and finalizing the CEQA Project Approval Package and obtaining signatures.

**Deliverables:**

- Draft and Final CEQA Findings -electronic deliverable
- Draft and Final MMRP- electronic deliverable
- Notice of Determination -electronic deliverable and 20 hard copies Final IS, MND, and MMRP (10 hard copies, 20 CDs).

**Task 5 – Project Management and Quality Management**

**Objective:** Manage project quality, scope, schedule, and budget.

Given the nexus between NSW EIS and this project, CDM Smith will work with SLDMWA to develop a schedule for this project that considers the NSW EIS schedule. It is currently anticipated that the NSW EIS Public Draft will be released in August 2026, and the Final will be released in August 2027. Since the NSW EIR will roughly follow NSW EIS schedule with a lag, the period of performance for this project is assumed to be March 2026 through December 2027.

CDM Smith will meet with SLDMWA for one (1) in-person meeting in Sacramento and up to twenty (20) team conference calls to manage the overall project. Additionally, CDM Smith will coordinate with SLDMWA staff via e-mail and through regular telephone calls. This task also includes project administration, such as developing invoices and progress reports, and implementing QA/QC of the deliverables.

**Assumptions:**

- The project will last for twenty months.

**Deliverables:**

- Monthly invoices and progress reports.

**Schedule**

Upon receiving a Notice to Proceed, CDM Smith will work with SLDMWA to prepare a detailed final schedule.

**Costs**

CDM Smith will complete the above tasks for the upper limit shown in Table 1 below. CDM Smith labor costs will be billed at the rates listed in Table 2 below.

**Table 1. Budget**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Labor Dollars</b>	<b>Other Direct Costs</b>	<b>Subcontractor Costs</b>
Task 1- Public Involvement	\$30,144	\$8,200.00	--
Task 2- Draft EIR	\$151,544	--	\$55,000
Task 3- Final EIR	\$231,916	--	\$47,300
Task 4- CEQA Package	\$16,528	\$6,700	--
Task 5- Project Management	\$157,072	--	\$13,200
TOTAL	\$587,204	\$14,900	\$115,500
<b>TOTAL COST</b>			<b>\$717,604</b>

**Table 2. CDM Smith 2026 Billing Rate**

<b>Labor Category</b>	<b>2026 Rate</b>
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 1	\$125.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 2	\$140.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 3	\$154.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 4	\$182.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 5	\$230.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 6	\$242.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 7	\$270.00
Engineer/Planner/Scientist 8	\$300.00
Editor	\$175.00
Subject Matter Expert	\$350.00
Project Manager	\$250.00
Principal In Charge	\$385.00
Project Controls	\$82.00
Project Delivery Assistant	\$138.00

Project Financials	\$200.00
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# Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: 4/6/2026 | 10:00 AM

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

## Notice of Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting / Joint Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting-Special Board Workshop

842 6th Street, Los Banos  
(List of Member/Alternate Telephonic Locations Attached)

### Public Participation Information

#### Join Zoom Webinar -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89344834920?pwd=5yKwWn9ia4Gzd0rXyhfnJn2G3wnmqY.1>

NOTE: Any member of the public may address the Water Resources Committee/Board concerning any item on the agenda before or during consideration of that item.

Because the notice provides for a regular meeting of the Water Resources Committee (“WRC”) and a joint regular WRC Meeting/Special Board workshop, Board Directors/Alternates may discuss items listed on the agenda; however, only WRC Members/Alternates may correct or add to the agenda or vote on action items.

NOTE FURTHER: Meeting materials have been made available to the public on the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority’s website, <https://www.sldmwa.org>, and at the Los Banos Administrative Office, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA 93635.

### Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	
2.	Water Resources Committee to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda for the Water Resources Committee Meeting only, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 <i>et seq.</i>	
3.	Opportunity for Public Comment – Any member of the public may address the Water Resources Committee/Board concerning any matter not on the agenda, but within the Committee or Board’s jurisdiction. Public comment is limited to no more than three minutes per person. For good cause, the Chair of the Water Resources Committee may waive this limitation.	

### **ACTION ITEMS**

4. **Approval of March 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

5. **Recommendation to Board of Directors to Adopt Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation** Petersen
- A. **A.B. 1754 (Pacheco), State general obligation bonds: requirements**
  - B. **A.B. 1772 (Papan), Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: golden mussels**
  - C. **A.B. 2013 (Bennett), Fire risk areas: water suppliers: emergency preparedness plan**
  - D. **A.B. 2026 (Aguiar-Curry), Water diversion: groundwater recharge: permit**
  - E. **A.B. 2032 (Ransom), Fish and wildlife: restricted species permits**
  - F. **A.B. 2218 (Kalra), Water policy: California Native American tribes**
  - G. **A.B. 2630 (Bennett), Water diversion and use: adoption of regulations**
  - H. **A.B. 2728 (Soria), Open and Transparent Water Data Act**
  - I. **A.C.A. 11 (Macedo), California Water Resiliency Act**
  - J. **S.B. 872 (McNerney), Climate Change: funding priorities**

6. **Recommendation to Board of Directors to Authorize Execution of Agreement with MM Water Resources for Technical Support Services** Petersen

**REPORT ITEMS**

7. Status Update Regarding the DMC Subsidence Correction Project Barajas, Arroyave
8. Update on Status of Golden Mussels Arroyave, Petersen, Meyer
9. Executive Director's Report Barajas  
(May include reports on activities within the Water Resources Committee's jurisdiction re: 1) CVP/SWP water operations; 2) California infrastructure projects; 3) regulation of the CVP/SWP; 4) existing or possible new State and Federal policies; 5) Water Authority activities)
10. Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities Petersen  
(May include reports on federal, state, and local agency regulatory, legislative, and administrative water policy/resources activities)
11. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts Arroyave
12. Committee Member Reports
13. Closed Session Akroyd

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
 Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code Section 54956.9 – 2 potential cases

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code Section 54956.9 – 2 potential cases

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Existing Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code Section 54956.9

- A. California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA), et al. v. Nickels, et al., U.S. District Court, E.D. Cal., Case No. 2:11-cv-02980; 9th Cir. Case No. 23-15599; U.S. Supreme Court Case No. 25-989 (GBP Citizen Suit)
- B. CSPA, et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), et al., Sac. Co. Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003761 (2021 TUCP Order)
- C. CSPA, et al. v. SWRCB, et al., Sac. Co. Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003763 (2021 Temp. Mgmt. Plan)
- D. SWRCB, Administrative Hearings Office, Petitions for Change of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Water Right Permits, Delta Conveyance Project (DWR Change Petition)
- E. Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, et al. v. DWR, et al., Sacramento Co. Superior Court, Case No. 24WM000183 (SWP 2024 EIR Challenge)
- F. San Francisco Baykeeper, et al. v. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, et al. U.S. District Court, E.D. Cal., Case No. 2:26-cv-00671 (2025 CVP Operations)

- 14. Return to Open Session
- 15. Report from Closed Session, if any, Required by Government Code Section 54957.1
- 16. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)
- 17. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Cheri Worthy or Sandi Ginda at the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Office, 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 2157, Los Banos, California, via telephone at (209) 826-9696, or via email at [cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org](mailto:cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org). Requests should be made as far in advance as possible before the meeting date, preferably 3 days in advance of regular meetings or 1 day in advance of special meetings/workshops.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Section 54950 et seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of the Authority's bonds, notes, or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of the Authority's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by the Authority on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/>.

SLDMWA WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING TELEPHONIC LOCATIONS

April 6, 2026

15671 W. Oakland Ave  
Five Points, CA 93624



# Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 3/2/2026 | 10:00 AM  
Location: SLDMWA Boardroom  
842 6th Street, Los

## San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting and Joint Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting – Special Board Workshop Minutes

### Attendance

#### Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio: William Bourdeau  
Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Member  
Division 2: Lon Martin, Alternate  
Division 3: Absent  
Division 4: Vince Gin, Member (ZOOM)  
Division 5: Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Federico Barajas, Executive Director  
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer  
Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel  
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel  
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance  
Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager, (ZOOM)  
Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician  
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

#### Board of Directors Present

Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Director  
Division 2: William Bourdeau, Director  
Lon Martin, Alternate  
Division 3: Jarrett Martin, Director (item 5)  
Division 4: Brett Miller, Alternate  
Division 5: Manny Amorelli  
FWA Representative: Wilson Orvis, Alternate

#### Others Present

Patrick McGowan, Panoche Water District  
Ron Milligan, Milligan Consulting (ZOOM)  
Erik Balling, Greenleaf Ag  
John Bison, Greenleaf Ag  
Lea Emmons, City of Tracy (ZOOM)

#### Authority Representatives Present

### Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
1.	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call</b> – The meeting was called to order by Chair William Bourdeau at approximately 10:00 a.m. and roll was called. During roll call, Committee Member Vince Gin was identified as participating remotely via teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953(b), consistent with traditional teleconference rules.	
2.	<b>Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.</b> - No additions or corrections.	
3.	<b>Opportunity for Public Comment</b> - No public comment.	
4.	<b>Water Resources Committee to Consider Approval of the February 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes</b> – Chair William Bourdeau deemed the February 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes approved as submitted.	

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5. **Recommendation to the Board of Directors to Adopt Staff Recommendation on Positions on Legislation** Petersen

- a. S. 3738 (Padilla), Making Our communities Resilient through Enhancing Water for Agriculture, Technology, the Environment, and Residences (MORE WATER) Act (Support & Amend)

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the staff recommendation for position adoption on one piece of legislation: S. 3738. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation. Executive Director Federico Barajas provided additional information regarding prior expressions of support for introduction of this legislation to establish new programs.

M/S - Motion by Member Anthea Hansen, seconded by Member Vince Gin, the Committee recommended adoption of the staff recommendation for position on S. 3738 (Padilla). Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Bourdeau, Hansen, Lon Martin, Gin, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

6. **Update on Status of Golden Mussels – Special Programs Manger Cindy Meyer** Arroyave/McNeil

Meyer provided a brief update. Meyer reported that the consultants from RNT Consulting completed facility site visits the first week of February and provided recommendations on monitoring and mitigation. Meyer reported that there was a kickoff Water Agency Coordination meeting on February 24, 2026 with very solid attendance. Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave and Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided additional information including information on bio boxes, and federal and state legislative responses. Staff answered questions throughout the presentation.

Public Comment: Green Leaf Ag representatives provided information about their programs and product for treatment.

7. **Executive Director’s Report** Barajas

- a. **ACWA DC Trip** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that staff had a very active and productive trip to DC.
- b. **Initial CVP Allocation** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Reclamation’s initial CVP allocation for South of Delta Ag water service / repayment contractors is 15%.. Barajas reported that Reclamation is expecting an allocation update around the third week of March.
- c. **South of Delta (SOD) Drought Plan** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the Pilot Program for 2026 is a proposal that provides operational flexibility with the use of SOD Drought Plan water.
- d. **ACWA GM Group** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the ACWA GM Group continues to meet and discuss a strategy for elevating water priorities during the transition to the new state administration.
- e. **Yuba Water** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that based on recent facility challenges the groundwater substitution component of the Yuba Transfer Program will not be in play for 2026.

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Arroyave reported that they are still waiting to hear on the surface water supplies.

8. **Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities** – Water Policy Director Petersen  
Scott Petersen provided an update regarding 2024 LTO Implementation, including adaptive management, State Water Resources Control Board, and Bay-Delta Plan Update discussions. Executive Director Federico Barajas provided additional information on the Bay-Delta Plan Update discussions. Petersen continued his update regarding the Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley and the San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.
9. **Update on Water Operations and Forecasts** – Arroyave reported that storage remains above average. Arroyave introduced consultant Ron Milligan, who provided information regarding CVP supply, reservoir storage, allocations, snowpack, and operations. Milligan and Arroyave answered questions throughout the presentation.
10. **Committee Member Reports** – No reports.
11. **Agenda Items 11-13: Closed Session** – Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:12 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:26 a.m., Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.
12. **Agenda Item 14: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)** – No reports.
13. **Agenda Item 15: Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:27 a.m.



# Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
[sldmwa.org](http://sldmwa.org)

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To: SLDMWA Water Resources Committee Members and Alternates  
From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
Date: April 6, 2026  
RE: Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities

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## Background

This memorandum is provided to briefly summarize the current status of various agency processes regarding water policy activities, including but not limited to the (1) Implementation of Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, including environmental compliance; (2) State Water Resources Control Board action; (3) Central Valley Regional Water Board Action, (4) San Joaquin River Restoration Program; (5) Delta conveyance; (6) Reclamation action; (7) Delta Stewardship Council action; (8) San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint, and (9) San Joaquin Valley Water Collaborative Action Plan.

## Policy Items

### Implementation of Executive Order 14181

On January 2024, President Trump issued Executive Order 14181<sup>1</sup>, directing analysis of potential changes to the operations in the 2024 Record of Decision (“ROD”) for consideration by the Administration. On December 4, 2025, Reclamation executed a Record of Decision on the Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, as a first step towards implementing EO 14181.

### Implementation of 2024 Record of Decision on Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project

On December 4, 2025, Reclamation executed a Record of Decision<sup>2</sup> on the Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, as a first step towards implementing EO 14181, updating operations associated with the Record of Decision executed by Reclamation and the Biological Opinions issued by the Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries in December 2024. This new operation is described as “Action 5”.

Specifically, the Action 5 ROD updates the operations of the Projects by:

- (1) **Removing the Delta Smelt Summer and Fall Habitat Action (Fall X2)**, in response to findings by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the action is not anticipated to have observable effects on delta smelt survival,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2025-01-31/pdf/2025-02174.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_project\\_details.php?Project\\_ID=54661](https://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_project_details.php?Project_ID=54661)



- (2) **Removing the early implementation measure of the Delta export reduction of the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (“HRL”) program**, in response to uncertainties associated with the timing of potential adoption and implementation of the HRL Program by California’s State Water Resources Control Board,
- (3) **Updating the Delta operating criteria** to expand the opportunities for Old and Middle River (“OMR”) management at no more negative than -5,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), and a stormflex action of -6,500 cfs, including the use of predictive tools for real-time assessment of environmental conditions.

Modeling of these proposed operational changes has estimated between 250 – 400 TAF improvement in combined CVP and SWP export capacity under Action 5 operations, with the SWP benefits being uncertain based on how the SWP operates under the Incidental Take Permit required for compliance with the California Endangered Species Act.

There is additional analysis being performed to assess the efficacy of additional potential operational changes that could improve water supply and maintain species protections, as well as alternative methods to address environmental effects on species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (“ESA”) and advance species recovery efforts.

**Note:** There are also Endangered Species Act consultations on the Trinity River and Klamath River that may have overlap/interactions with the operations of the CVP/SWP.

## State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Activity

### Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update

#### *Background*

The State Water Board is currently considering updates to its 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (“Bay Delta Plan”) in two phases (Plan amendments). The first Plan amendment is focused on San Joaquin River flows and southern Delta salinity (“Phase I” or “San Joaquin River Flows and Southern Delta Salinity Plan Amendment”). The second Plan amendment is focused on the Sacramento River and its tributaries, Delta eastside tributaries (including the Calaveras, Cosumnes, and Mokelumne rivers), Delta outflows, and interior Delta flows (“Phase II” or “Sacramento/Delta Plan Amendment”).

During the December 12, 2018 Water Board Meeting, the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) and Department of Fish and Wildlife presented proposed “Voluntary Settlement Agreements” (“VSAs”) on behalf of Reclamation, DWR, and the public water agencies they serve to resolve conflicts over proposed amendments to the Bay-Delta Plan update.<sup>3</sup> The State Water Board did not adopt the proposed VSAs in lieu of the proposed Phase 1 amendments, but as explained below, directed staff to consider the proposals as part of a future Delta-wide proposal.

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<sup>3</sup> Available at <https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Blogs/Voluntary-Settlement-Agreement-Meeting-Materials-Dec-12-2018-DWR-CDFW-CNRA.pdf>.



### *Phase 1 Status – San Joaquin River and its Tributaries*

The State Water Board adopted a resolution<sup>4</sup> to adopt amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary and adopt the Final Substitute Environmental Document during its December 12, 2018 public meeting.

On July 18, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP)<sup>5</sup> and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting for the Proposed Regulation to Implement Lower San Joaquin River Flows (LSJR) and Southern Delta Salinity Objectives in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Bay-Delta Plan).

In response to the release of the NOP, the Water Authority and member agencies provided scoping comments<sup>6</sup> and the State Water Board is working through a long-term process to address Phase 1 elements of the Water Quality Control Plan Update.

A long delay in Phase 1 action occurred as legal activity was undertaken.

Recently, on September 19, 2025, the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) released a [Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Workshop on the Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement for the Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement](#) Proposal (Draft TVA Scientific Basis Report), to which the Water Authority provided comments<sup>7</sup>.

### **Next Steps**

- Final draft Staff Report for Tuolumne River VA
- Board workshop and consideration of Tuolumne River VA
- Final draft EIR and regulation implementing Lower SJR flows and South Delta Salinity
- Board consideration of regulation implementing Lower SJR flows and South Delta Salinity

### *Phase 2 Status – Sacramento River and its Tributaries and Bay-Delta*

In the State Water Board's resolution adopting the Phase 1 amendments, the Water Board directed staff to assist the Natural Resources Agency in completing a Delta watershed-wide agreement, including potential flow and non-flow measures for the Tuolumne River, and associated analyses no later than March 1, 2019. Staff were directed to incorporate the Delta watershed-wide agreement as an alternative for a future, comprehensive Bay-Delta Plan update that addresses the reasonable protection of beneficial uses across the Delta watershed.

### **Revised Draft Sacramento/Delta Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan**

#### *Background*

In July, the Board released a draft Bay Delta Plan (July 2025 revised draft), which included proposed changes to the draft Bay Delta Plan released in October 2024 (2024 draft), based on public input and comments

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<sup>4</sup> Available at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2018/rs2018\\_0059.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/rs2018_0059.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Available at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/notices/20220715-implementation-nop-and-scoping-dwr-baydelta.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/notices/20220715-implementation-nop-and-scoping-dwr-baydelta.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Request from Authority staff

<sup>7</sup> Request from Authority staff



received throughout the planning process, including comments on several options for possible changes to the plan identified in the 2024 draft. Specifically, the 2024 draft identified the possible inclusion of flow, cold water habitat and related provisions that were based on the proposed Plan amendments and alternatives identified in the 2023 draft Staff Report in support of updates to the Bay Delta Plan, as well as options for these provisions. The 2024 draft also identified the possible inclusion of Voluntary Agreements (VAs) to provide flows and non-flow habitat proposed by state and federal agencies and water users referred to as the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes proposal, as well as options associated with inclusions of VAs. The regulatory provisions would apply to all water right holders if the Board did not move forward with VAs, or in the event the Board moved forward with VAs would apply to water rights not participating in approved VAs. The 2025 revised draft proposes to move forward with the inclusion of VAs in the Bay Delta Plan for water rights included in approved VAs (VA pathway) and the regulatory provisions for water rights not included as part of approved VAs (regulatory pathway). The 2025 revised draft also includes proposals for addressing other options identified in the 2024 draft. The 2025 revised draft also proposes the designation of Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL) beneficial use as part of the current Bay Delta Plan update.

### Current Activity

On September 16, 2025, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) rescinded the August 22, 2025 Second Revised Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Hearing on Revised Draft Sacramento/Delta Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Bay-Delta Plan or Plan). The Rescinded Notice is available on the [Board's website](#). Accordingly, the hearing previously scheduled for September 24-25, 2025, and the associated public comment period are cancelled and will be rescheduled to a future date.

Instead, the Board has released a revised Bay-Delta Plan, with workshops that occurred on January 28-30, and written comments due on February 2. Water Authority staff coordinated written comments<sup>8</sup> with member agencies and other interested parties.

Additionally, the State Water Board has received term sheets for additional voluntary agreements from Nevada Irrigation District (NID) and South Sutter Water District (SSWD) specific to the Bear River, Yuba River, and Auburn Ravine that are available to the public.

## Water Rights

### *Water Accounting, Tracking, and Reporting System (CalWATRS) Launch*

The State Water Resources Control Board has launched the California Water Accounting, Tracking, and Reporting System (CalWATRS). A link to the new system and additional information is posted on the [CalWATRS webpage](#).

If you have questions or would like the CalWATRS team to attend an event in your area, please email [CalWATRS-help@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:CalWATRS-help@waterboards.ca.gov).

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<sup>8</sup> Request from Water Authority staff.



## San Joaquin River Restoration Program

### Restoration Allocation

On March 16, Reclamations issued an update to the 2026 Restoration Allocation and Default Flow Schedule (attached). Consistent with the Restoration Flows Guidelines and based upon the best available forecast information, the Restoration Allocation covering the period March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 **is set at 276,220 acre-feet at Gravelly Ford and is a Normal-Dry year type.**

The Restoration Administrator recommended a flow schedule, which Reclamation is reviewing at the time this memo was drafted. This Restoration Allocation will be posted on the Program website in the coming days: <http://RestoreSJR.net>.

For Information about Restoration Flows, please visit <https://restoresjr.net/flows/>.

For the Restoration Administrator recommendations, please visit <https://restoresjr.net/flows/flow-scheduling/>.

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

### Reclamation Manual

*Documents out for Comment*

#### Draft Policy

- [PEC 05-03 Funding and Extended Repayment of Extraordinary Maintenance Cost](#) (comments due 03/25/26). Supplementary documents below:
  - [Memo on Interest Rate Calculation](#)
  - [Supplemental Discussion](#)

#### Draft Directives and Standards

- There are currently no draft Directives and Standards out for review.

#### Draft Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques (FIST)

- There are currently no draft Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques out for review.

#### Draft Reclamation Safety and Health Standards (RSHS)

- There are currently no Safety and Health Standards out for review.

#### Draft Reclamation Design Standards

- There are currently no Design Standards out for review.

## San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint

The Water Blueprint represents water users, districts, farmers, and municipalities across the Central Valley. Their problem statement is crystal-clear; California faces a major water supply shortfall that could affect one million acres, costing \$7.2 billion in farm revenue and 85,000 jobs statewide. Engaging various stakeholders inside and outside the Central Valley, the team advocates for a combination of infrastructure investments and policy changes to capture excess flows during wet years and replenish aquifers.



**Blueprint's strategic priorities for 2022-2025:** Advocacy, Groundwater Quality and Disadvantaged Communities, Land Use Changes & Environmental Planning, Outreach & Communications, SGMA Implementation, Water Supply Goals, Governance, Operations & Finance.

**Mission Statement:** "Unifying the San Joaquin Valley's voice to advance an accessible, reliable solution for a balanced water future for all."

## Board Expansion and Executive Committee Formation

The leadership group discussed potential updates to board structure, including filling an open director seat, exploring board expansion, and evaluating whether to formalize an executive committee. The group discussed proposed candidates for the vacant director position. The group proposed forming a small ad hoc committee to develop draft bylaw language addressing both board expansion and executive committee formation. These materials will be brought back to leadership and ultimately to the full board for review.

## Strategic Planning

The leadership group discussed the need to launch a strategic planning process following completion of the United Water Plan, noting that the current plan runs through 2025 or early 2026. The conversation highlighted the importance of defining the scope of future organizational activities—including legislative advocacy, policy, and communications—and engaging the board early to help shape direction for the latter half of 2026.

## CSU Water Webinar Series – CA Legislature and Water Policy

The Executive Director of CSU-WATER, a CSU system affinity group that serves to foster future leaders in California through water education, research engagement and networking for the nearly 500,000 students in the CSU system as well as inclusion of those in the CC & UC systems. The Blueprint was invited to contribute to the CSU-WATER Webinar Series on the CA Legislature and Water Policy, topics covered in the webinar series: Making Waves, Water Policies & Workforce Needs, Current water policy issues & workforce needs and Future Water Management and Policies; Leadership Needs, Future water management and climate resilience.

## SB72 Implementation

Senate Bill 72 (Caballero) directs DWR to consult with the Water Commission on the establishment of an advisory committee to inform the development of the 2028 update to the Water Plan. The 2028 update will usher in a new emphasis on setting and meeting quantifiable water supply goals. This builds on California's Water Supply Strategy (2022), which outlined necessary actions for the state to adapt to a hotter, drier future where the changing climate leaves less water to meet California's needs. Blueprint as an interested party in the State's water supply strategy, has been provided with the opportunity to present and provide public comment.

## Unified Water Plan

The Water Blueprint's unified water plan is moving forward with chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 for review. The plan quantifies the San Joaquin Valley's massive water supply gap at 2.5-3 million acre-feet by 2040, incorporating SGMA compliance needs, climate change impacts, and environmental flow requirements. The full administrative draft expected by this summer.



### *Unified Water Plan Chapters 5 Released for Review*

Stantec presented detailed progress on potential water supply projects (Chapter 5). Chapter 5 catalogs over 800 projects from GSPs across 16 sub-basins, with groundwater recharge projects comprising nearly half of all proposed projects. Unit costs range from \$50-\$300 per acre-foot for various recharge methods.

- Major Supply-Demand Gap Identified Requiring Immediate Action: Technical analysis reveals the valley faces a future water shortage of 2.5-3 million acre-feet by 2040, driven by SGMA compliance requirements (1.4-2 million acre-feet), environmental restoration needs, climate change impacts, and groundwater replenishment requirements. This massive gap demonstrates the critical need for comprehensive water infrastructure investments and management changes.
- Recharge Projects Dominate Solutions: The latest research points out that nearly 50% of all GSP projects are groundwater recharge projects, including on-farm recharge, injection wells, in-lieu recharge, and constructed basins, with injection wells being the most cost-effective option.

### *Water Blueprint SJV & CWI – Unified Water Plan*

The purpose of the Unified Valley Plan for the San Joaquin Valley is to identify and present possible solutions for long-term water needs in the San Joaquin Valley by bringing together existing water plans, strategies, and knowledge from across the San Joaquin Valley into one coordinated, valley-wide planning framework.

Bureau of Reclamation Report to Congress:

- Chapter 1 Introduction
- Chapter 2 Overview of the water resource needs and opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Chapter 3 Overview of flood risks and management in the San Joaquin Valley and opportunities for improving flood management.
- Chapter 4 Illustration of an environmental vision for the San Joaquin Valley and estimates of the water supplies needed to implement that vision.
- Chapter 5 Evaluation of a range of potential solutions.
- Chapter 6 Recommendations for a path forward and a roadmap for implementation. Includes policy recommendations.

## San Joaquin Valley Water Collaborative Action Program (SJV CAP)

### Background

The CAP Plenary Group adopted work groups to implement the CAP Term Sheet<sup>9</sup>, adopted on November 22, 2022. During Phase II, Work Groups are continuing to meet and discuss priorities and drafting various documents for their respective areas: Safe Drinking Water; Sustainable Water Supplies; Ecosystem Health; Land Use, Demand Reduction and Land Repurposing; Implementation.

The Bureau of Reclamation is currently funding the CAP. This funding supports its management and facilitation of the overall CAP process and the development of a prioritization tool. The tool is envisioned to be used by CAP participants, federal and state agencies, other stakeholders, and the public to evaluate

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<sup>9</sup> Request from Authority staff



policy recommendations, programmatic changes, and projects to achieve sustainable water management in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Steering Committee created a subgroup and will review several prioritization tools developed by other organizations and use those examples to craft a work plan and initial set of criteria for consideration.

## CAP Workgroups for 6-Month CAP Priority Actions

### *ILRP and CV-Salts*

1. Review changes to the ILRP and CV-SALTS updates and recommend improvements to the SWRCB and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards.
2. Better coordination between GSAs and the Nitrate Program to maximize water quality testing for multiple purposes.
3. Consider a pilot area to evaluate the potential for information sharing and integration.
4. The regulations should consider identifying targets for nitrates and other COCs so progress can be evaluated.
5. CAP could look to privately solicit information on fees across different programs to look at the potential for fee harmonization.

### *Land Transition*

1. Support CDFW implementation of Regional Conservation Investment Strategies to support mitigation projects.
2. Use the experience and results of MLRP Round 1 and 2 to provide feedback on MLRP Round 3 guidelines to the Department of Conservation to ensure effective implementation of the program, including the provision of meaningful community benefits.
3. Develop guidelines to address workforce challenges associated with land transition, especially related to rural communities.
4. Advocate for infrastructure funding and regulatory changes to accelerate large-scale solar projects, as one avenue to help support the transition of agricultural land and reduce water demand in a manner that protects communities over the long term.
5. In collaboration with the S2J2 Catalyst Project, for ecosystem restoration, create a near-term and long-term vision and set of objectives for ecosystem restoration, and advocate for funding by the state and federal governments
6. Develop best practices for data centers and water use, which could inform the approval of data centers by state and local governments

### *SGMA Implementation*

1. Complete Kaweah economic analysis and recommend improvements for SGMA implementation to the Governor, Legislature, and Department of Water Resources



2. Complete assessment of some other subbasins in the S2J2 geographic area and revise investment recommendations to S2J2 and advocate high-impact investments for funding through Prop 4.
3. Define key attributes for the successful implementation of GSPs for DWR to support in their guidelines for Prop 4 funding.
4. Track DWR subsidence best management practices and recommend improvements for implementation to DWR.

#### *Water Supply*

1. Support funding of projects and operational changes during high flow events that meet environmental regulations in the Delta and improve Delta deliveries south of the Delta to provide benefits to the San Joaquin Valley
2. Advocate for regulatory improvements to the Legislature and state agencies (i.e., DWR, SWRCB) to accelerate groundwater recharge permitting that provides flood control and protects water quality and downstream users.
3. Support actions by DWR and other agencies to implement DWR Watershed studies to advance the CAP outcomes.

#### **Other Six-Month Priorities**

1. Prioritization Tool
2. Long-term Habitat Plan
3. Water for Wildlife Refuges
4. San Joaquin River Restoration Program
5. “Cutting Green Tape”



# ATTACHMENTS



# **Unified Water Plan for the San Joaquin Valley**

## **Water Blueprint Board Meeting 3/18/2026**

**FRESNO**  
**STATE**

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California Water  
Institute

**Water  
Blueprint**  
  
for the San Joaquin Valley

# Agenda

1. Report Preparation Status and Schedule
2. Chapter 6 – Overview
3. Next Steps

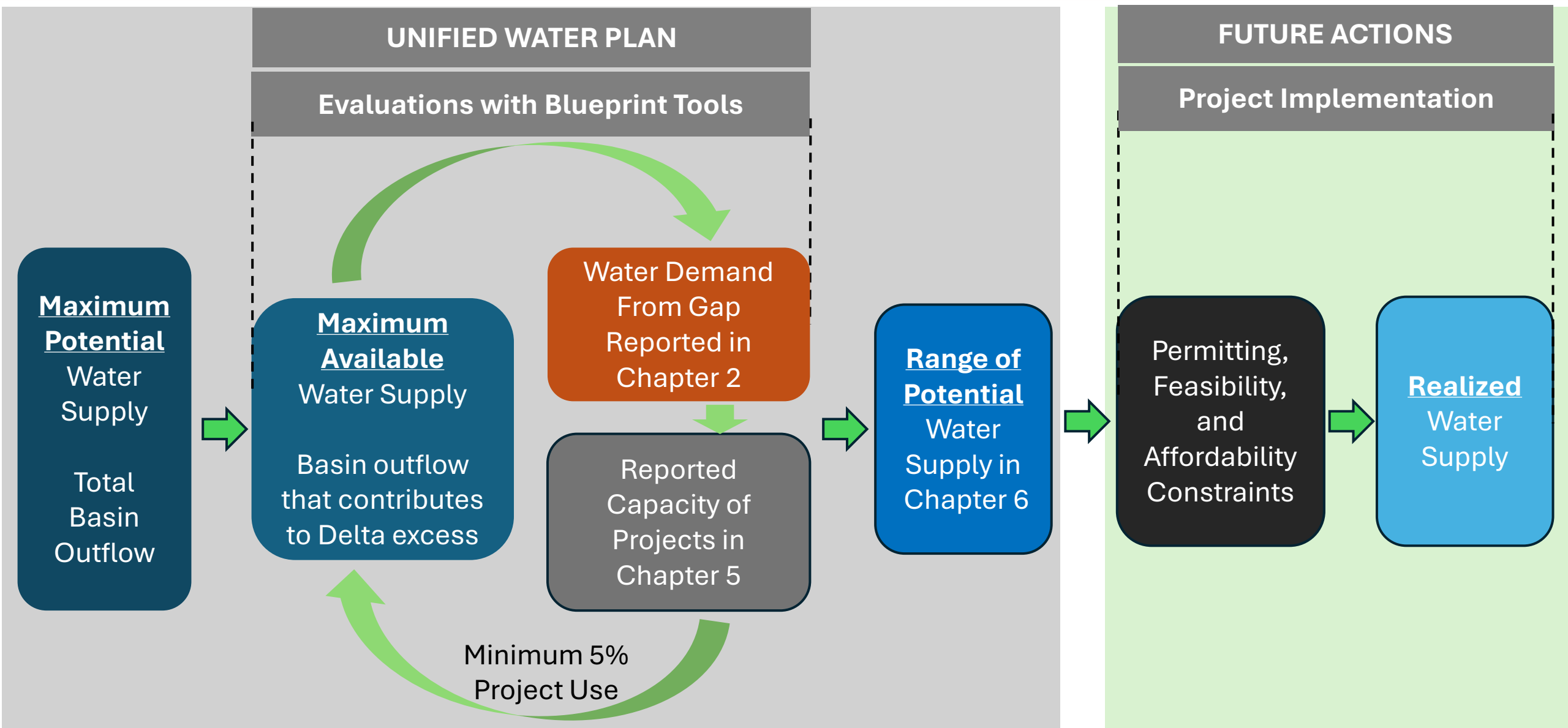
# Report Development Status and Schedule

Chapter Number	Chapter Title	Status
1	<b>Introduction</b>	Received comments, revising.
2	<b>Water Supply Problems, Needs, and Opportunities</b>	Received comments, revising. Expanding description of historical water use and project development throughout the San Joaquin Valley.
3	<b>Flood Management Problems, Needs, and Opportunities</b>	Received minor comments, revising.
4	<b>Environmental Enhancement</b>	Received minor comments, revising.
5	<b>Potential Projects and Actions</b>	Received comments, revising.
6	<b>Implementation Strategies</b>	In Progress – draft will be provided in early April for review.
7	<b>References</b>	In Progress – included with each chapter for review.

# Project Categories and Evaluation Scenarios

Project Category	Included in Scenario 1	Included in Scenario 2	Included in Scenario 3
<b>RESTORE AUTHORIZED FACILITY CAPABILITY</b>			
Restore authorized design capacity of existing facilities	X	X	X
<b>IMPROVE MANAGEMENT OF IN-VALLEY SUPPLIES</b>			
Upper watershed actions that improve timing and volume of reservoir inflow		X	X
Re-operate in-valley reservoirs (FIRO/I-FIRM)		X	X
Non-structural actions in the Delta to increase diversions with existing facilities		X	X
Local conveyance, recharge, storage, and other water supply projects		X	X
Increase east-west conveyance for recapture of SJRRP flows and transfers		X	X
<b>INCREASE ACCESS TO DELTA WATER SUPPLIES</b>			
Modify diversion facilities in the Delta			X
Increase north-of-Delta storage capacity			X
Increase south-of-Delta storage capacity			X
Enlarge and/or expand existing south-of-Delta conveyance capacity			X

# Estimating Project Benefits for the UWP and Beyond



# Preliminary Results from Blueprint Modeling Evaluations

	<b>Scenario 1</b>	<b>Scenario 2</b>	<b>Scenario 3</b>
	<b>Restore Authorized Facility Capability</b>	<b>Scenario 1 + Local Structural Projects and Non-Structural Actions</b>	<b>Scenario 2 + Increased Access to Delta Supplies</b>
Potential Water Supply Generated (MAF/yr)	Restore Baseline Capability	1.1 – 1.7	1.9 – 2.4
Water Supply (MAF/yr) from Identified Local Projects	–	0.7 – 1.2	0.8 – 1.2
Water Supply (MAF/yr) from Unspecified Additional Local Projects	–	0.4 – 0.5	1.1 – 1.2
Capital Cost (\$ Billion)	\$7	\$9 – \$12	\$13 – \$20
Unmet Demand Remaining (MAF)	2.5 – 3	0.5 – 2	0 – 1
Land Repurposing Needed (Thousand Acres)	800 – 1,100	300 – 700	0 – 500

# Key Assumptions and Uncertainties

## Assumptions that influence preliminary results

- Flood flows for diversion can be identified and diverted in real time.
- Projects can always operate as designed.
- GSA's implement additional unidentified projects to fully use water supplies.
- Many cost estimates based on concept-level information.

## Approach to bracket uncertainties - ongoing evaluations

- Limit assumed available water supply.
- Limit assumed project performance capability.
- Cap the extent of assumed additional projects.

# Preliminary Findings and Conclusions

~\$7B to restore existing project capacity

**Lost capacity of existing projects limits opportunity.** Restoring design capacity of existing facilities preserves baseline deliveries and enables local projects

> 4 MAF/YR capacity of identified local projects

**Identified local project capability exceeds the gap.** Project selection will be driven by supply, permitting, economic, and affordability constraints.

0.5 - 2.0 MAF supply-demand gap after local projects

**Local projects will not be sufficient.** Additional water supplies from the Delta are needed to support local projects and reduce the supply-demand gap.

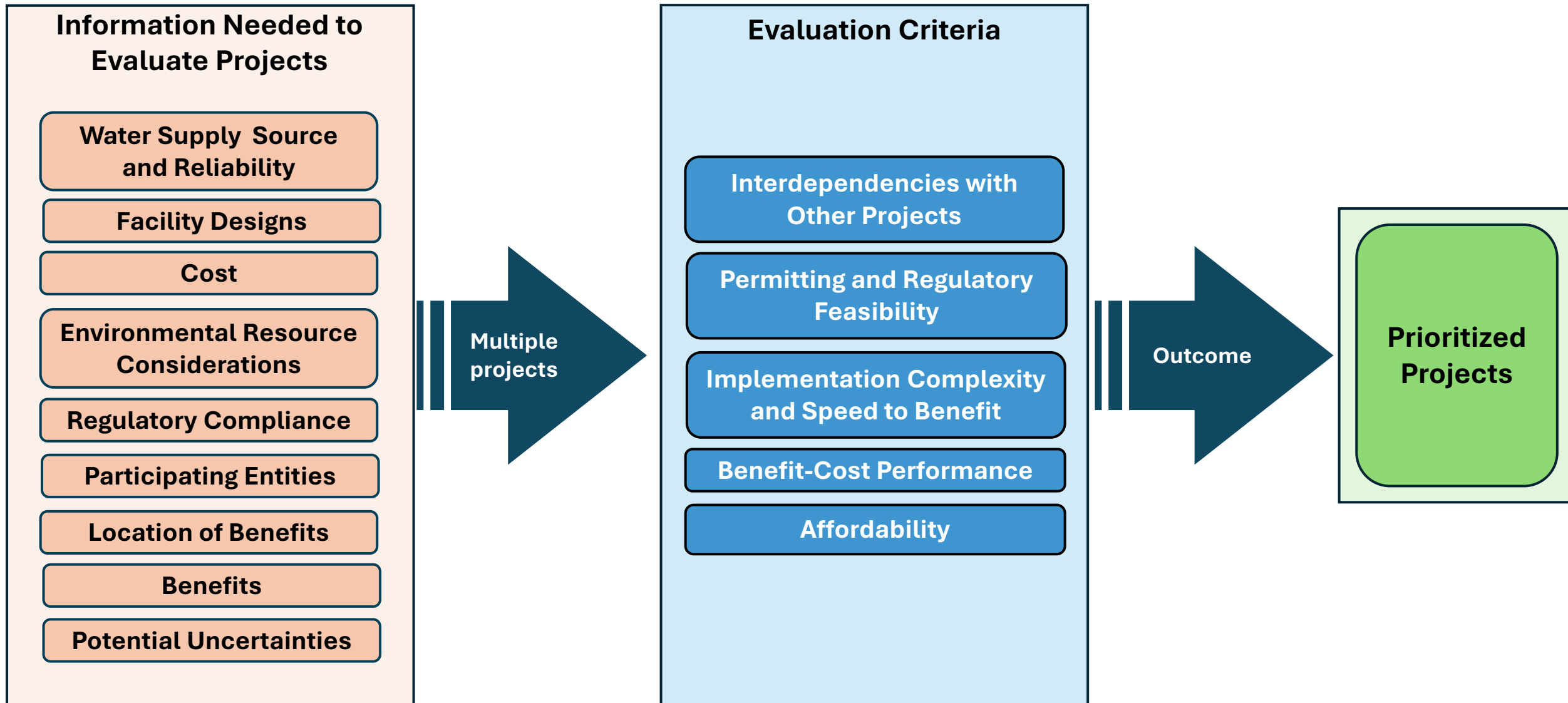
Total investments of \$13 - 20B needed

**Affordability will constrain implementation.** State and Federal funding, and partnerships with urban entities are needed.

With \$13 - 20B invested, up to 500 thousand acres still repurposed

**Farmland conversion will be necessary.** It should be strategically planned to improve environmental, community and economic conditions.

# How Projects Get Selected for Implementation



# Preliminary Recommendations

Local and Regional Agencies	State and Federal Agencies	Next Steps for the UWP
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Restore authorized project capacities.</li><li>2. Implement non-structural actions to improve operations.</li><li>3. Implement local projects identified in GSPs / accelerate shovel-readiness.</li><li>4. Increase water use efficiency.</li><li>5. Invest in regional / statewide projects.</li><li>6. Leverage regional partnerships.</li><li>7. Develop strategic farmland conversion plan.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Restore authorized project capacities.</li><li>2. Establish non-traditional funding mechanisms to support project implementation.</li><li>3. Establish method to determine flood water available for diversion.</li><li>4. Streamline permitting and approvals.</li><li>5. Fund actions that enhance surface water deliveries and groundwater recharge.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Maintain project information.</li><li>2. Assist with evaluation of projects.</li><li>3. Coordinate regional partnerships and advocacy.</li><li>4. Prepare regular UWP updates.</li></ol>

# Next Steps

- Draft Chapter 6 for review April 8 - Stantec/CWI
- Comments on Chapter 6 (send to CWI) - Board
- Full draft of the UWP in May for review – Stantec/CWI



**Thank you**



# Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: 4/6/2026 | 12:00 PM

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

## Notice of Finance & Administration Committee Regular Meeting / Joint Finance & Administration Committee Regular Meeting-Special Board Workshop

842 6th Street, Los Banos  
(List of Member/Alternate Telephonic Locations Attached)

### Public Participation Information

#### Join Zoom Webinar -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85138956202?pwd=TZptOLPRqbKdkSL0Kb4zRupJh7i06a.1>

NOTE: Any member of the public may address the Finance & Administration Committee/Board concerning any item on the agenda before or during consideration of that item.

Because the notice provides for a special meeting of the Finance & Administration Committee (“FAC”) and a joint special FAC Meeting/Special Board workshop, Board Directors/Alternates may discuss items listed on the agenda; however, only FAC Members/Alternates may correct or add to the agenda or vote on action items.

NOTE FURTHER: Meeting materials have been made available to the public on the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority’s website, <https://www.sldmwa.org>, and at the Los Banos Administrative Office, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA 93635.

### Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
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- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | Call to Order/Roll Call  |  |
| 2. | Finance & Administration Committee to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda for the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting only, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 <i>et seq.</i>   |  |
| 3. | Opportunity for Public Comment – Any member of the public may address the Finance & Administration Committee/Board concerning any matter not on the agenda, but within the Committee or Board’s jurisdiction. Public comment is limited to no more than three minutes per person. For good cause, the Chair of the Finance & Administration Committee may waive this limitation. |  |

### ACTION ITEMS

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 4. | Approval March 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes |  |
|----|--|--|

**REPORT ITEMS**

- |            |   |                      |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| <b>5.</b>  | Status Update Regarding the DMC Subsidence Correction Project   | Barajas,<br>Arroyave |
| <b>6.</b>  | FY26 Activity Agreements Budget to Actual Report through 2/28/26  | Tarka                |
| <b>7.</b>  | FY26 O&M Budget to Actual Report through 2/28/26  | Tarka                |
| <b>8.</b>  | Contract/Procurement Activity Reports   | Tarka                |
| <b>9.</b>  | Accounting Updates  | Tarka                |
| <b>10.</b> | Executive Director's Report<br>(May include reports on activities within the Finance & Administration Committee's jurisdiction re: 1) CVP/SWP water operations; 2) California infrastructure projects; 3) regulation of the CVP/SWP; 4) existing or possible new State and Federal policies; 5) Water Authority activities) | Barajas              |
| <b>11.</b> | Committee Member Reports  |                      |
| <b>12.</b> | Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)   |                      |
| <b>13.</b> | ADJOURNMENT   |                      |

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Cheri Worthy or Sandi Ginda at the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Office, 842 6<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 2157, Los Banos, California, via telephone at (209) 826-9696, or via email at [cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org](mailto:cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org). Requests should be made as far in advance as possible before the meeting date, preferably 3 days in advance of regular meetings or 1 day in advance of special meetings/workshops.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Section 54950 et seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of the Authority's bonds, notes, or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of the Authority's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by the Authority on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/>.

SLDMWA FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING TELEPHONIC LOCATIONS

April 6, 2026

15671 W. Oakland Ave  
Five Points, CA 93624



# Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 3/2/2026 | 12:00 PM

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom  
842 6th Street, Los Banos

## San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Finance and Administration Committee Regular Meeting and Joint Finance and Administration Committee Regular Meeting – Special Board of Directors Workshop

### Attendance

#### Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio: Absent  
 Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Chair/Member  
 Division 2: Stephen Farmer, Alternate  
 Division 3: Jarrett Martin, Alternate  
 Division 4: Brett Miller, Member  
 Vince Gin, Alternate (ZOOM)  
 Division 5: Manny Amorelli, Alternate  
 FWA: Wilson Orvis, Member

FWA Representative: Wilson Orvis, Alternate

#### Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director  
 Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer  
 Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
 Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel  
 Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel  
 Ray Tarka, Director of Finance  
 Lauren Viers, Accounting Manager  
 Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician

#### Board of Directors Present

Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Director  
 Division 2: None  
 Division 3: Jarrett Martin, Director  
 Division 4: Brett Miller, Alternate  
 Division 5: Manny Amorelli, Director

#### Others Present

Lea Emmons, City of Tracy (ZOOM)

### Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
1.	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call</b> — The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Anthea Hansen at approximately 12:00 p.m. and roll was called.	
2.	<b>Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.</b> — No additions or corrections.	
3.	<b>Opportunity for Public Comment</b> — No public comment.	
4.	<b>Finance and Administration Committee to Consider Approval of the February 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes</b> — M/S - On a motion made by Member Wilson Orvis, seconded by Alternate Stephen Farmer, the Committee approved the February 2, 2026 meeting minutes with minor edits. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Hansen, Farmer, Jarrett Martin, Miller, Amorelli, Orvis; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.	
5.	<b>FY26 Activity Agreements Budget to Actual Report through 1/31/26</b> — Director of Finance Raymond Tarka presented the Budget to Actual Report	

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through January 31, 2026 for the Activity Agreement funds. Tarka stated for the eleven-month period, the budget was trending positive overall with actual spending ending January 31, 2026 at \$6,560,101 or 48.85% of the approved budget.

6. **FY26 O&M Budget to Actual Report through 1/31/2026** — Director of Finance Raymond Tarka reported that for WY25, the self-funded routine O&M expenses through January 31, 2026 are under budget by \$973,016 or 4.7%, mainly due to the timing of expenditures for O&M expenses in most cost pools. Intertie conveyance costs continue to trend over budget. The fiscal year 2024 and 2025 audits are underway and will be completed as soon as possible.
7. **Contract/Procurement Activity Report** — Director of Finance Raymond Tarka presented the Contract/Procurement Activity Report included in the packet for the period of February 1, 2026 through February 28, 2026. On February 5<sup>th</sup>, a construction contract was issued with Hartman Walsh Painting Company for the JPP recoating project. The contract amount is \$1,037,350 and is funded by the EO&M budget. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, a construction contract was issued with Kiewit Infrastructure for Phase 1 of the DMC subsidence correction project. The contract amount is \$200,000 and is funded by the CIP budget. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, a construction contract was issued to Unico Mechanical for the JPP unit five impeller balancing. The contract amount is \$149,500 and is funded by the EO&M budget.
8. **Accounting Updates** — Director of Finance Raymond Tarka provided Accounting Department updates to the committee.
  - a. **Trainings/Certifications:** Accounting Manager Lauren Viers is now certified in grant management.
  - b. **NetSuite/Reporting:** Accounting staff have been working with a consultant in order to get monthly reports generated out of NetSuite.
  - c. **Excise Tax:** Staff have been working internally along with members of the committee to verify the Authority is exempt from excise tax on purchases. It has now been confirmed the Authority qualifies for exemption as a local government agency.
  - d. **Membership Assessments:** FY2027 1<sup>st</sup> installments of membership assessments will be going out by the end of the week.
  - e. **Audit:** Currently, the FY2024 audit is anticipated to be presented at the April meeting.
9. **Executive Director's Report**
  - a. **SLU Joint Use Facilities:** Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there has been an initial meeting between BOR and DWR regarding cost shares in attempt to reach alignment regarding expectations. There is interest in establishing an annual meeting going forward. DWR is going to share more information with BOR and CVP Contractors regarding forecasting over the next

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3 years. There will be a meeting in April with hopes of a premeeting among CVP contractors and BOR.

- b. **CVPIA Completion:** Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there is interest from the administration in evaluating CVPIA completion. Reclamation is seeking input from the CVP contractors.

- 10. **Committee Member Reports** — No reports.
- 11. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)** — None.
- 12. **Adjournment** — The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:31 p.m.



# Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: 04/06/2026 | 1:30 PM

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

## Notice of Planning Committee Regular Meeting / Joint Planning Committee Regular Meeting-Special Finance & Administration Committee, Water Resources Committee, Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee, and Board of Directors Workshop

842 6th Street, Los Banos  
(List of Member/Alternate Telephonic Locations Attached)

### Public Participation Information

#### Join Zoom Webinar -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83801572363?pwd=GoUyraCRMVvIAm8Om0SF98zeBxSLWG.1>

NOTE: Any member of the public may address the Planning Committee, Finance & Administration Committee, Water Resources Committee, Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee, or Board of Directors concerning any item on the agenda before or during consideration of that item.

Because the notice provides for a regular meeting of the Planning Committee (“PC”) and a joint regular PC Meeting/Special Finance & Administration Committee (“FAC”), Water Resources Committee (“WRC”), Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee (“OMTC”), and Board of Directors (“BOD”) workshop, FAC/WRC/OMTC/BOD Members/Alternates may discuss items listed on the agenda; however, only PC Members/Alternates may correct or add to the agenda or vote on action items.

### Agenda

Agenda Item	Topic	Lead
1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	
2.	Planning Committee to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda for the Planning Committee Meeting only, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 <i>et seq.</i>	
3.	Opportunity for Public Comment – Any member of the public may address the Planning Committee/Finance & Administration Committee/Water Resources Committee/Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee/Board of Directors concerning any matter not on the agenda, but within the Committees’ or Board’s jurisdiction. Public comment is	

limited to no more than three minutes per person. For good cause, the Chair of the Planning Committee may waive this limitation.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

**4. Approval of November 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

#### **REPORT ITEMS**

- |           |  |                      |
|-----------|--|----------------------|
| <b>5.</b> | Status Update Regarding the DMC Subsidence Correction Project        | Barajas,<br>Arroyave |
| <b>6.</b> | Discussion Regarding One Big Beautiful Bill Act Funding Announcement | Barajas              |
| <b>7.</b> | Discussion and Action Items for Future Planning Committee Meetings   | Barajas              |
| <b>8.</b> | Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)            |                      |
| <b>9.</b> | ADJOURNMENT  |                      |

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SLDMWA PLANNING COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING TELEPHONIC LOCATIONS

April 6, 2026



# Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 11/3/2025 | 1:43 PM  
Location: SLDMWA Boardroom  
842 6th Street, Los

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Planning Committee Regular Meeting and Joint Planning Committee Regular Meeting – Special Finance & Administration Committee, Water Resources Committee, Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee, and Board Workshop

## Attendance

### Committee Members Present

Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Member  
Bobby Pierce, Alternate  
Division 2: Justin Diener, Alternate  
Lon Martin, Alternate  
Division 3: Chris White, Member (item 5)  
Division 4: Aaron Baker, Member  
Dana Jacobson, Alternate  
Division 5: Allison Febbo, Member  
Manny Amorelli, Alternate  
Friant WA: Wilson Orvis, Alternate

### Finance & Administration Committee

Ex-Officio: Cannon Michael  
Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Member  
Division 2: Justin Diener, Alternate  
Division 3: Chris White, Member (item 5)  
Jarrett Martin, Alternate  
Division 4: Absent  
Division 5: Bill Pucheu, Member  
Manny Amorelli, Alternate  
Friant WA: Wilson Orvis, Alternate

### Water Resources Committee

Ex-Officio: Cannon Michael  
Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Member  
Division 2: Lon Martin, Alternate  
Division 3: Chris White, Member (item 5)  
Division 4: Dana Jacobson, Alternate  
Division 5: Manny Amorelli, Alternate

### Operations & Maintenance Technical Committee

Exchange Contractors:  
Chris White, Chair/Member (item 5)  
Jarrett Martin, Alternate

### Friant Water Authority:

Absent

### Lower DMC Area:

Patrick McGowan, Alternate

### Mendota Pool Area:

Absent

### San Felipe Area:

Aaron Baker, Member

### San Luis Canal Area:

Lon Martin, Alternate

### SLDMWA Technical Staff

Bob Martin, Member

Jaime McNeil, Alternate

### USBR Representatives:

Absent

### Upper DMC Area:

Bobby Pierce, Member

### Board of Directors Present

Division 1: Bobby Pierce, Director  
Anthea Hansen, Director  
Division 2: Justin Diener, Director  
Lon Martin, Alternate  
Division 3: Chris White, Alternate (item 5)  
Jarrett Martin, Director  
Cannon Michael, Chair/Director  
Division 4: Aaron Baker, Director  
Dana Jacobson, Director  
Division 5: Bill Pucheu, Director  
Allison Febbo, Director  
Manny Amorelli, Director

### FWA Representatives:

Absent

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director  
 Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer  
 Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel  
 Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel  
 Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director  
 Ray Tarka, Director of Finance  
 Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician

Others Present

Ian Buck-Macleod, Friant Water Authority  
 Chris Park, CDM Smith  
 Chuck Gardner, Hallmark Group  
 Steve Stadler, San Luis Water District  
 Brian Silva, San Luis Water District  
 Chase Hurley, Pacheco Water District  
 John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District  
 Aniruddha Bhattacharya (Babi), Reclamation

## Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
1.	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call</b> – The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:43 p.m. by Chair Justin Diener and roll was called.	
2.	<b>Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.</b> – No additions or corrections.	
3.	<b>Opportunity for Public Comment</b> - No public comment.	
4.	<b>Planning Committee to Consider Approval of the October 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes</b> - M/S - On a motion made by Member Aaron Baker, seconded by Alternate Wilson Orvis, the Committee approved the October 6, 2025 meeting minutes. Vote: Ayes – Hansen, Diener, Baker, Febbo, Orvis; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.	
5.	<b>Review of Technical Information Associated with Phase 1, Tasks 1 and 2 of the DMC Subsidence Correction Project</b> – Executive Director Federico Barajas briefly reviewed the item and then introduced Chris Park from CDM Smith. Park presented a DMC Subsidence Correction Project PowerPoint presentation focusing on the DMC Subsidence Water Supply Modeling for Tasks 1 and 2. General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd explained the cost difference between rates for upper DMC and the Intertie. Park and staff answered questions throughout the presentation.	Barajas, Arroyave
6.	<b>Update on Key Milestone Schedule for Phase 1 of the DMC Subsidence Correction Project</b> – Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced Chuck Gardner from the Hallmark Group. Gardner reviewed a preliminary schedule for DMC Subsidence Correction Project Phase 1. Gardner explained the difference between CMGC and Design Bid Build contracting. Gardner reported that the plan is to post the RFP November 10, 2025. Gardner and staff answered questions throughout the presentation.	Barajas
7.	<b>Discussion and Action Items for Future Planning Committee Meetings</b> Executive Director Federico Barajas announced that a Technical Committee meeting will be scheduled to refine modeling. Barajas requested feedback and questions in regards to the schedule.	Barajas
8.	<b>Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)</b> – None.	
9.	<b>Adjournment</b> - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:48 p.m.	



## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** SAMANTHA BARNCASTLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** UPDATE REPORT  
**DATE:** MARCH 3, 2026

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This executive director’s report is intended to keep you apprised as to what is happening behind the scenes on policy and other issues the Alliance is engaged in or is otherwise tracking. This report is intended for your use, but I understand that you may wish to share this information with your local board members and close associates. I would ask that you be circumspect when you distribute this, however. Here is your update on activities during the month of April:

### GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Trump Administration sent its federal budget request for fiscal year 2027 to Congress on April 3, 2026 (Good Friday). This request begins the annual appropriations process, where lawmakers decide how hundreds of billions of dollars will be spent before the fiscal year starts on October 1. Although presidents are legally required to submit the budget by early February, delays have been common in the past few Administrations. President Trump has proposed a \$1.5 trillion baseline for the Pentagon, a significant 50% increase from current levels. Additional emergency defense funding related to the U.S. and Israel conflict with Iran may be requested separately in an emergency supplemental funding bill.

The Administration’s proposed FY2027 budget signals a continued restructuring of the federal workforce that is highly relevant to Western agriculture and water management. While overall federal employment is projected to remain relatively flat—with a modest net increase of roughly 3,000 positions—the composition of that workforce is shifting significantly. Major reductions are targeted at traditional civilian and land-management agencies, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture expected to see some of the largest losses, even accounting for the transfer of wildfire responsibilities to a new Interior-based fire service. The Department of the Interior, after already reducing its workforce by roughly 20% over the past 15 months, is again offering widespread

incentives for additional employees to leave through a “deferred resignation program” and early retirement options.

At the same time, the Administration is prioritizing growth in areas tied to national security, technology, and operational capacity, alongside broader efforts to consolidate programs, pursue privatization, and reduce the footprint of federal service delivery. The practical implication for our community is a federal government that may be less present in day-to-day agricultural, conservation, and water program delivery, with increased reliance on fewer personnel, different agency structures, and potentially greater expectations placed on state, local, and producer-led efforts to fill those gaps. This also means we need to step up our game when it comes to making sure Congress and the Administration are aware that agriculture and food security directly impact our national security.

## **TRUMP 47 ADMINISTRATION**

### **1. WaterSMART NOFOs out!**

The Bureau of Reclamation has three open WaterSMART funding opportunities to support water management, drought resilience, and innovation efforts. The available funding opportunities include:

1. Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects- Supports projects that improve water use efficiency, increase water conservation, and help communities better manage water resources.

The Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects funding opportunity is available on [grants.gov by searching for opportunity number R25AS00279](#). Applications are due by June 2, 2026, at 4pm MDT.

2. Applied Science Grants- Provides funding for projects that develop tools and information to support water management decisions and enhance hydrologic resilience.

The Applied Science Grants funding opportunity is available on [grants.gov by searching for opportunity number R25AS00280](#). There are two rounds of applications for this funding opportunity. The first round is due by July 8, 2026, at 4pm MDT and the second round is due by April 13, 2027, by 4pm MDT.

3. Drought Response Program- Assists communities in preparing for and responding to drought, including drought contingency planning and construction of drought resilience projects.

The Drought Response Program funding opportunity is available on [grants.gov by searching for opportunity number R26AS00016](#). Applications are due by July 28, 2026, at 4pm MDT.

On Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 1:00pm MDT, the Bureau of Reclamation will host an informational webinar to discuss eligible applicants and project types, program requirements, and

the evaluation criteria for the Applied Science Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity. Use [this link](#) to join the webinar. A recording will be made available after April 28 on the [Applied Science Grants](#) webpage. Additional information will be posted on their [website](#).

## **2. Historic funding for Western Water Infrastructure!**

The Bureau of Reclamation announced an \$889 million investment in Western water infrastructure through the Trump Administration’s “One Big Beautiful Bill,” part of a broader \$1 billion commitment through 2034 to expand water storage, improve conveyance, and modernize aging systems across the West. The funding targets projects in California, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming, with a heavy emphasis on strengthening water reliability for agriculture and growing communities. California alone will receive \$540 million, including major investments in the Delta-Mendota Canal, Friant-Kern Canal, San Luis Canal, and Shasta Dam expansion—projects that are critical to Central Valley water users.

Many of the funded projects are led by or directly benefit Family Farm Alliance members and partners, highlighting the organization’s strong presence in federal water infrastructure efforts. Notable awards include \$200 million for the Friant-Kern Canal restoration, \$30 million for Idaho’s Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, \$100 million for Utah’s Strawberry Highline Canal replacement, and \$100 million for Wyoming’s Fort Laramie Tunnel repairs. Additional funding supports projects like the Eastern North Dakota Alternate Water Supply Project and Belle Fourche irrigation system improvements, underscoring a broad, multi-state effort to enhance water delivery systems that underpin Western agriculture. Congrats to those of you who were successful!

For the Alliance, we do not stop here. This is a drop in the bucket when compared to the need we’re experiencing – thinking bigger and developing larger strategies with continued funding at this level will be required for our continued success in the West. The Alliance continues to engage with federal agencies to ensure spending targets our members’ real needs. Reclamation will be doling out another approximately \$1B by the end of FY2026 consistent with the IRA mandate, likely to the CO River only, so we’ll continue to monitor those developments and report back.

## **3. More details emerge on USDA’s \*new\* Regenerative Ag program**

The Trump administration has launched a \$700 million regenerative agriculture pilot program that pays farmers to adopt conservation practices aimed at improving soil health, water retention, and productivity—an approach that closely mirrors earlier “climate-smart agriculture” initiatives of the Biden Administration despite past Republican skepticism. The program emphasizes direct payments to farmers, mandatory soil testing, and measurable on-farm benefits, while avoiding climate-focused language and instead tying soil health to broader goals like nutrition and public health. While the initiative has drawn cautious support from some conservation and agriculture groups, significant questions remain about implementation, including reduced USDA staffing, a narrower list of eligible practices, and unresolved debates over the link between soil health and crop nutrition. Overall, the effort reflects a growing bipartisan convergence around conservation practices, even as political disagreements persist over framing, funding, and regulatory approach.

#### **4. USDA NEPA Rulemaking complete**

The USDA has finalized a historic overhaul of its NEPA regulations, consolidating seven agency-specific rules into a single, streamlined framework that cuts the overall regulatory volume by 66%. The reform aims to restore NEPA to its original purpose—ensuring environmental impacts are considered—while dramatically reducing review timelines by up to 80%, saving millions in taxpayer dollars and allowing critical loans, infrastructure, forest health, and rural development projects to move forward faster. According to Secretary Rollins, this reform is a key part of USDA’s broader deregulatory agenda, addressing years of bureaucratic delays that slowed approvals, increased costs, and hindered innovation, ultimately benefiting farmers, ranchers, loggers, and rural communities who rely on timely USDA support.

#### **5. USDA Water Savings Commodities Grant Update**

No news is good news, or is it? We really aren’t certain, but we began to push more broadly for this money to be released. In addition to meeting with USDA directly, the Alliance has reached out to industry partners, like the Farm Bureaus and other agriculture groups, to seek assistance in getting this money released. We have also sought the advise and support of Hill staff and members of Congress who, in an election year with a tight budget, will be looking for wins anywhere they can get them. We’re told that the USDA’s farmer safety net program has caused some potential reallocations and budgeting flexibilities to be deployed such that the money may just not be present in this grant account, which would explain why it has not been released. In any case, we have not heard anything back from USDA since we met and still do not know the status of this money. We will be tracking this and continuing our efforts to get this money freed up for our districts who were successful awardees, but in this budget cycle there are certainly no promises being made!

#### **6. USDA Reorganization drama continues**

Tribal governments are strongly criticizing USDA’s planned reorganization, warning that relocating roughly 2,600 Washington-based employees to regional “hubs” could erode long-standing relationships, reduce institutional knowledge, and disrupt services—particularly in areas tied to treaty obligations and wildfire management. Leaders argue the plan risks significant staff attrition and “brain drain,” especially after the department already lost more than 16,000 employees last year, and say it will make coordination more difficult despite USDA’s claims it will improve local access. USDA leadership, including Undersecretary Stephen Vaden, has defended the reorganization as necessary to streamline operations and place staff closer to stakeholders, with relocations targeted for completion by the end of the summer. However, the department has not yet finalized or announced which employees will be moved, and concerns remain widespread—reflected in overwhelmingly negative public feedback—leaving uncertainty about implementation and its impacts as the plan moves forward. Nonetheless, Secretary Rollins has assured the public that all flexibilities will be in place to support this transition and the federal agency’s employees.

## **7. US Forest Service Announces HQ Relocation to Utah**

The U.S. Forest Service announced it will relocate its headquarters from Washington, D.C. to Salt Lake City, Utah, as part of a broad restructuring aimed at positioning agency leadership closer to the western lands that make up most of the 193-million-acre national forest system. The move is expected to be complete by summer 2027, with approximately 260 headquarters positions relocating to Salt Lake City and 130 remaining in Washington. The restructuring also includes transitioning to a state-based organizational model to push decision-making authorities closer to the field, eliminating existing regional and station office structures, and establishing operational service centers in six cities across the country. Research operations will be consolidated under a central organization in Fort Collins, Colorado. Western Republican leaders praised the move as bringing management decisions closer to the lands managed by the agency, while some Forest Service retirees and policy groups expressed concern about losing proximity to Congress and federal decision makers in Washington. For more information, please visit: [USDA Prioritizing Common Sense Forest Management, Moves Forest Service Headquarters to Salt Lake City | USDA](#)

## **8. The Debate over the CO River continues – All eyes on Reclamation**

Supply conditions on the Colorado River have deteriorated rapidly over the past month, with hydrology now pointing toward one of the worst runoff years on record. Federal forecasters recently cut projected inflows into Lake Powell to just 1.75 million acre-feet—about 27% of average, following an already historic snowpack collapse across the basin, including Colorado’s worst snowpack in more than 80 years. As a result, reservoir elevations are projected to fall toward crisis levels as early as this summer, raising the risk of lost hydropower production and threats to downstream deliveries. Basin State officials and water managers are increasingly sounding the alarm, with Upper Basin leaders noting they “can’t cut water they don’t have,” while Lower Basin states warn that proposed reductions could devastate agriculture and key industries. Interior Secretary Doug Burgum has acknowledged the reality of the situation, warning that “nobody will be happy” with the eventual plan, as the basin faces unavoidable shortages.

Declining water levels in Lake Powell are raising serious concerns about the future of hydropower generation at Glen Canyon Dam, as projections show the reservoir approaching the critical “minimum power pool” threshold where electricity production would no longer be possible. Low snowpack and reduced runoff across the Colorado River Basin are driving these conditions, with forecasts indicating historically weak inflows that could push water levels dangerously close to that cutoff. If levels drop below roughly 3,490 feet, the dam would be unable to generate hydropower, threatening a key source of electricity for millions in the West and increasing pressure on already strained water and energy systems.

At the same time, lower reservoir levels are altering water temperature dynamics below the dam—reducing cold water releases and changing mixing patterns—which can favor nonnative species like bass while stressing native fish such as the humpback chub that depend on more stable thermal conditions. The Colorado River Energy Distributors Association (CREDA) has raised concerns about operational changes that prioritize cold water releases, arguing they could further constrain already limited hydropower generation. Reclamation is closely monitoring conditions and considering management actions to keep the reservoir above critical levels, but the situation

underscores the growing risks to both water supply, ecosystem balance, and energy reliability in the Colorado River Basin.

On the federal side, the Bureau of Reclamation is preparing to take a more direct role after basin states failed to reach agreement on post-2026 operations, with the agency signaling it will act unilaterally if necessary to operate the system. Options under consideration include releasing additional water from upstream reservoirs like Flaming Gorge, cutting releases from Lake Powell to downstream users, and imposing deeper allocation reductions across the Lower Basin. At the same time, states are lawyering up—Arizona has retained outside counsel, and multiple states and irrigation districts are formally positioning around “Law of the River” arguments—while Congress and stakeholders push back on various federal proposals. With negotiations stalled, deadlines missed, and both sides digging in over how shortages should be shared, this update may be moving from the this section to the Litigation section of this monthly update memo soon (unfortunately), as the risk of a Supreme Court fight becomes increasingly real.

#### **9. A new source of funding for Trump vetoed SW CO project**

New state funding for the Arkansas Valley Conduit highlights the ongoing tension between federal efforts to shift responsibility back to states and the financial realities facing rural communities. After the Trump administration vetoed legislation that would have reduced repayment costs for local users, Colorado is stepping in with an additional \$45 million to keep the long-delayed project moving forward—ensuring continued progress on a pipeline intended to deliver clean drinking water to more than 50,000 people in southeastern Colorado. While the administration has emphasized limiting federal spending and returning cost responsibility to local beneficiaries, the situation underscores the challenge of making that approach workable on the ground. State leaders are now filling funding gaps to prevent the burden from falling too heavily on small, rural communities that lack the financial capacity to absorb large infrastructure costs, reinforcing the need for a balanced, fiscally sustainable partnership between federal, state, and local stakeholders.

#### **10. President’s Budget hard on Reclamation and others**

The Administration’s proposed FY2027 budget outlines significant reductions in federal investment across key agencies that support Western water infrastructure, most notably a 24% cut to the Bureau of Reclamation’s core Water and Related Resources account and a 28% reduction for the Army Corps of Engineers. The proposal also scales back or eliminates programs critical to Western water users—including WaterSMART grants, water recycling, and ecosystem restoration—while broader cuts to Interior, EPA, and USDA further reduce staffing, science, and conservation capacity that underpin water project development and management. Taken together, the budget reflects a shift toward a narrower federal role focused on core operations, with fewer resources for collaborative, locally driven water supply and infrastructure projects—though Congress has historically stepped in to restore many of these funding cuts during the appropriations process. Here is the language from the President’s budget proposal regarding Reclamation:

#### **Bureau of Reclamation**

The Budget refocuses Reclamation on its core missions of maintaining assets that provide safe, reliable, and efficient management of water resources throughout the western United States. The

Working Families Tax Cut Act also included \$1 billion for construction of Reclamation water storage and water conveyance projects.

For example, the Budget:

- Eliminates funding for WaterSmart grants for local ecosystem restoration projects, climate studies, and water recycling plants;
- Focuses Reclamation on its mission of managing water in the western United States and ends its foray into woke projects like lining water canals with solar panels at the taxpayers' expense; and
- Terminates funding for programs that support frivolous local projects like installing artificial turf at schools and community parks.

Programmatic funding is going to continue on a downward trend, at least for this next budget cycle. We continue to stay engaged to ensure Congress understands and follows through for Western Agriculture, while also continuing to try to shape the narrative with the Administration to protect continued investment in western water infrastructure and agriculture.

## **11. Administration's Expedited Permitting Agenda Moves Forward**

### **a. Bipartisan permitting reform talks resume (cautiously)**

Bipartisan permitting reform talks on Capitol Hill are cautiously restarting after months of stalled negotiations tied to the administration's actions on renewable energy projects. Senate Democrats had paused discussions following stop-work orders on offshore wind and what they described as a de facto slowdown in solar permitting, but recent Interior Department moves to resume reviewing large-scale solar and onshore wind projects—combined with the Department of Justice's decision not to appeal a federal court ruling allowing a major offshore wind project to proceed—are being viewed as signs of good faith. Key negotiators have indicated a willingness to reengage if the administration continues demonstrating a consistent and balanced approach across energy sources.

At the same time, the White House has become more actively involved in negotiations, reflecting growing urgency around energy costs, grid reliability, and infrastructure needs. While there is broad bipartisan interest in advancing permitting reform to accelerate energy development, significant tensions remain over renewable energy policy and trust in the administration's follow-through. As a result, any final deal still faces uncertainty, particularly in a politically charged election year.

### **b. ESA Rulemaking hits troubled waters**

Efforts to reform and scale back the Endangered Species Act (ESA) encountered significant legal, political, and practical headwinds over the past month. The Administration is advancing proposals to narrow the scope of ESA protections—most notably by revisiting the definition of “harm” to potentially exclude habitat modification—and is continuing to weigh changes to grizzly bear management, both of which are now under White House review. At the same time, these efforts are facing immediate pushback, including new lawsuits over federal sage grouse management

plans in the West and broader criticism that proposed changes could weaken already struggling species protections.

Compounding these challenges, a federal court recently struck down prior ESA regulatory rollbacks related to interagency consultation, dealing a legal setback that could constrain future reform efforts and reinforce stricter habitat protection requirements. Meanwhile, on-the-ground conflicts tied to ESA-listed or protected species—particularly wolves in California—are intensifying, with public safety concerns and significant livestock losses increasingly driving the policy conversation. Taken together, the Administration’s ESA reform agenda is moving forward, but is already encountering substantial resistance from the courts, conservation groups, and real-world management challenges across Western landscapes.

c. God Squad convenes – litigation can’t stop them (this time)

The Endangered Species Committee—commonly known as the “God Squad”—convened on March 31st to consider an ESA exemption for offshore oil and gas activities, marking just the fourth time the committee has met since its creation in 1978 and its first meeting in roughly three decades. Despite its sweeping authority to override ESA protections, the committee has been used only sparingly, and at least one of its past decisions was ultimately overturned in court. This latest convening has already drawn significant legal scrutiny, with the Center for Biological Diversity filing suit both before and after the meeting—first attempting unsuccessfully to block it, and now challenging the legal basis and process behind the exemption itself. The renewed use of the God Squad, combined with immediate litigation, underscores both how rare—and how contentious—this tool remains, while signaling it could play a more prominent role in future ESA conflicts.

**12. DOI, Bureau of Reclamation: Agency Realignment and Efficiency**

Family Farm Alliance and NWRA continue to meet with Reclamation on this initiative, though much of the progress has recently slowed. With large overhauls of NEPA and other internal policies, in part formulated in Secretarial Order 3446, the ground continues to move under our feet. We continue to hold regular meetings and discussions as things are shifting, and will continue to keep membership appropriately informed in our progress. As a more immediate matter, if you are part of a Reclamation Irrigation District with reserved works that requires O&M or Procurement for an upcoming project, and you believe you are capable of taking on more responsibility related to features of your project, please reach out to me to discuss this topic further.

**DEVELOPMENTS IN THE 119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**

**13. Reconciliation 2.0**

Congressional House Republicans are exploring a second reconciliation bill to advance party priorities before the midterms, with energy policies—especially permitting reform—high on the agenda. However, the effort faces significant hurdles from a narrow majority, procedural constraints, and internal disagreements, including concerns about making permitting reform a partisan issue. Some Senate Republicans were quick to weigh in on the lack of procedural ability to achieve a reconciliation package surrounding permit reform, stating the parliamentarian will need to make determinations that may stop any such effort. The Senate has recently begun

bipartisan permit reform discussions again. And, talks of a third reconciliation bill have also recently started, but again, even getting through a second one will be extremely tough.

#### **14. Farm Bill (Maybe)**

The House Agriculture Committee has advanced a revised 2026 Farm Bill to the full House for a soon to occur vote, marking a significant step toward reauthorizing federal agriculture and food programs through 2031. The legislation includes updates to risk management tools, expanded access to credit, investments in rural development and energy programs, and enhancements to conservation and disaster assistance for producers. However, the bill remains controversial, with critics raising concerns about provisions affecting environmental regulation, nutrition programs, and overall funding priorities, signaling potential challenges as it moves through the full House and into Senate negotiations. The Congressional Western Caucus unanimously endorsed the 2026 version of the bill that came out of the House Agriculture Committee after markup. Some staff remain uncertain whether we will see a Farm Bill completed this year, but Senate Agriculture Committee Chair, John Boozman (R-Ark.) has promised action soon and we also know a House floor vote is imminent, so we remain hopeful and engaged.

The Senate version of the farm bill could diverge from the House approach by expanding flexibility in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), including allowing more access to enrolled lands for livestock grazing and emergency haying during drought. Senators are also considering lifting summer restrictions on E15 ethanol sales, though that faces jurisdictional hurdles. In addition, the Senate package is likely to address rising input costs by promoting fertilizer price transparency and boosting domestic production, alongside broader efforts to respond to ongoing financial pressures facing farmers. The Alliance provided a letter in support of the House version of the Farm Bill and will similarly engage when the Senate begins moving forward. When the bill is called for a floor vote, we'll reach out further to encourage engagement among our membership with your congressional delegation.

#### **15. Senate ENR Subcommittee Considers Water Infrastructure and Drought Legislation**

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Subcommittee on Water and Power held their rescheduled legislative hearing Tuesday, March 17 where they considered 20 legislative proposals aimed at strengthening water infrastructure and addressing drought conditions in the West. Among the bills under consideration is S. 3743, introduced by full committee Chair Mike Lee (R-UT), which would direct the Interior Department to study improvements to hydropower performance at the Glen Canyon Dam and address invasive species downstream of Lake Powell. Additional legislation focused on increasing water recycling and storage in the drought-stricken Colorado River Basin, authorization of watershed pilots to assess priority investments in conservation, and authorization of cost share to accelerate improvements to large irrigation canals of concern in urbanized areas of the West, as well as hydropower licensing reform. Witnesses included representatives from the Bureau of Reclamation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

#### **16. Appropriators Begin Fiscal 2027 Spending Bill Process**

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have begun the early stages of drafting FY 2027 spending bills, but the process faces several obstacles. The White House budget request was delayed until early April, preventing Cabinet officials like the Interior Secretary and EPA Administrator from testifying. Congress has also yet to finish its fiscal 2026 bills, with the

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) remaining unfunded due to a partisan standoff over immigration policy. Additionally, a potential multi-billion-dollar supplemental funding package could reshape overall spending decisions. Despite these hurdles, some subcommittee hearings and preliminary meetings are underway, with Cabinet officials tentatively scheduled to testify in April and May.

The House and Senate Energy-Water Appropriations Subcommittees are in the early stages of FY 2027 planning, but progress is limited. Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA), chair of the Senate subcommittee, held an initial meeting to discuss funding priorities for the Department of Energy and the Army Corps of Engineers, though he noted that meaningful work on a bill cannot begin until overall top-line spending levels and subcommittee allocations are agreed upon. On the House side, Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN), chair of the House subcommittee, expressed optimism, saying he is ready to move forward and get a bill passed in committee and on the floor.

### **17. DROUGHT Act introduced**

Federal lawmakers have introduced the “DROUGHT Act” to expand funding for water infrastructure projects in the Coachella Valley and other drought-stricken regions across the West. The bill would increase the federal cost-share cap under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) from 80% to 90% for projects in areas facing extreme drought or serving disadvantaged communities, making it easier for local agencies to finance large-scale water projects. Supporters say the legislation is aimed at accelerating critical investments in water recycling, storage, and conveyance systems as drought conditions intensify, while reducing financial barriers that have delayed projects. The proposal reflects growing recognition in Congress that expanded federal support will be necessary to address long-term water supply challenges in regions like the Coachella Valley and across the broader Colorado River Basin.

### **18. House version of Glen Canyon Dam Water Management bill introduced**

A new bill introduced by Celeste Maloy (R-UT) would require a feasibility study on installing a selective withdrawal system (such as a thermal curtain) at Glen Canyon Dam to improve water management while preserving hydropower generation. The proposal responds to low Lake Powell levels and forced costly bypasses of power production and aims to identify solutions that maintain energy output without impacting ongoing Colorado River operating negotiations. Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) introduced a companion bill in the Senate, which the Alliance has already publicly signaled support for.

### **19. Wildfire still a \*HOT\* topic!**

Congress has been actively addressing wildfire risk and forest management in recent weeks, advancing multiple bills aimed at prevention, response, and long-term resilience. The House is set to vote on measures including the “Wildfire Aerial Response Safety Act” (H.R. 6618), which directs a federal study into how civilian drones have disrupted firefighting operations and explores counter-drone technology and public education. Lawmakers are also considering the “Long-Term Good Neighbor Authority Act” (H.R. 7951), which would allow states, tribal nations, and local governments to enter 20-year agreements with federal agencies to collaboratively manage forests and reduce wildfire risk. Additional legislation under review includes bills expanding public lands access, improving road and trail safety, and extending water restoration programs across major river basins. These congressional efforts reflect growing recognition that wildfires are increasingly

interconnected with drought, water shortages, and regional ecosystem management, and that coordinated federal, state, and local action is needed to mitigate escalating threats. We're also told that Wildfire remains a priority on the Senate side, and expect to see movement there soon, too.

#### **20. More ESA focus last month, and more to come**

Congressional activity around the Endangered Species Act (ESA) picked up this month, with the Senate taking a notably more measured and bipartisan approach compared to ongoing efforts in the House. A recent hearing before the Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife focused on evaluating how the law is functioning after 50 years, with members on both sides of the aisle emphasizing that species recovery—not just protection—should be the central goal. Lawmakers and witnesses highlighted several shared priorities, including improving transparency, incorporating more state-led data, providing incentives for recovery, and ensuring agencies have sufficient resources to implement the law effectively.

Importantly, the Senate discussion reflected a willingness to find common ground, with both Republicans and Democrats expressing openness to targeted reforms such as modernizing agency operations, increasing flexibility for private landowners, and strengthening state-federal collaboration. However, concerns about agency capacity—particularly staffing shortages at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—were raised as a potential barrier to meaningful reform. This more collaborative tone stands in contrast to the House, where a broader ESA overhaul has advanced along more partisan lines, focusing on expanding state authority and narrowing the scope of the law. Taken together, congressional momentum on ESA reform is clearly building, but the path forward remains uncertain, with the Senate pursuing incremental, bipartisan improvements while the House continues to push more sweeping changes.

#### **21. AI has become a Hill topic, with a variety of bills going in all directions**

Congress is beginning to more actively engage on AI-related infrastructure, particularly around the rapid expansion of data centers and their impacts on energy and water resources. In the House, lawmakers are advancing proposals like the Protect American AI Act to streamline permitting and shield projects from litigation delays, while others are pushing in the opposite direction—calling for a pause on new data center development until environmental and resource impacts are better understood. This emerging divide, coupled with state-level actions like Utah's new water reporting requirements, signals that AI policy debates in Congress are increasingly intersecting with Western resource concerns, especially around water use and infrastructure strain. Please also see the additional section below on other happenings in the world of AI regulation.

### **IN THE COURTS**

#### **22. Court rules farm groups have right to intervene in CWA litigation**

A federal appeals court has ruled that pork producers and other agricultural groups can formally join a major Clean Water Act case challenging nutrient pollution regulations in Ohio's Maumee River watershed. The case centers on whether current limits on agricultural runoff—set through a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)—are sufficient, with environmental groups arguing they are too weak. By allowing groups like the National Pork Producers Council to intervene as full parties, the court gives agriculture a stronger role in defending existing regulations and arguing that

additional requirements are not mandated under the law. This decision elevates the stakes of the litigation, as farm groups will now be able to directly influence arguments, potential settlements, and appeals in a case that could shape how agricultural runoff is regulated nationwide.

See also the paragraph below on states' recent activities regulating nitrate levels.

### **23. Nebraska v. Colorado (US Supreme Court)**

Nebraska officials are continuing to actively advance the Perkins County Canal project—working through planning, land acquisition, and early development steps—demonstrating a clear intent to move forward with construction even as legal questions remain unresolved. At the same time, Nebraska has filed an original action with the U.S. Supreme Court seeking to compel Colorado to meet its obligations under the South Platte River Compact, while Colorado has countered that the case is premature because Nebraska has not yet suffered a concrete injury.

This dual-track approach appears to be a deliberate strategy: by proceeding with the canal, Nebraska strengthens its position either to ultimately complete the project and begin diverting water or to force a more immediate legal confrontation if Colorado intervenes to block or impede development. In doing so, Nebraska increases the likelihood of creating a ripe, justiciable dispute—one grounded in actual impacts rather than hypothetical harm—which could compel the Court to more directly address Colorado's delivery obligations under the compact.

### **24. King Ranch Case (Washington)**

A federal judge has denied a preliminary injunction sought by the King Family, a multigenerational Washington ranching family, allowing state enforcement proceedings over alleged wetland violations and significant fines to continue. However, the broader legal fight is ongoing, with the family—represented by the Pacific Legal Foundation—arguing that they are entitled to a jury trial rather than being forced into an administrative process, a constitutional question that will be addressed in a hearing to be held this coming May. The Alliance continues to track this case and will report on any significant legal issues.

## **ALLIANCE INITIATIVES**

### **25. Water quality – States and nitrate monitoring**

One topic across multiple states this month was that of nitrate monitoring in streams from farm runoff. Oregon has adopted new nitrate monitoring rules for the Lower Umatilla Basin that will require most farmers to develop certified nutrient management plans, regularly test soil for nitrates, and maintain records for at least a decade. The rules aim to address decades-long groundwater contamination issues that have threatened drinking water supplies in the region, but they have drawn mixed reactions—farm groups warn of added costs and regulatory burden, while environmental advocates question whether the state has sufficient resources to enforce them. Overall, the policy represents a significant shift toward more data-driven accountability in agricultural water quality, though its effectiveness will depend heavily on implementation and oversight.

Minnesota regulators are reevaluating whether the state's 2019 Groundwater Protection Rule is sufficient to address nitrate pollution from agricultural fertilizer, following a lawsuit and court order requiring further review. Critics argue the rule has failed to meaningfully reduce contamination in drinking water, noting it targets only certain fertilizer practices and does not fully address other major sources like manure, while much of the pollution problem persists. State officials are now seeking public input on whether stronger restrictions are needed, highlighting an ongoing debate between environmental groups pushing for stricter regulation and agricultural stakeholders who say the issue is more complex and may take years or decades to reflect improvements in groundwater quality.

California lawmakers have introduced the Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act in the state legislature, which would require state regulators to establish enforceable limits on nitrogen runoff from agricultural lands to address widespread groundwater contamination. The proposal is said to be aimed at tackling a long-standing public health and environmental issue, as excess fertilizer use contributes to unsafe drinking water, harmful algal blooms, and significant greenhouse gas emissions. Supporters argue the bill would hold polluters accountable and create a more level playing field for farmers already using responsible practices, while also targeting impacts disproportionately affecting rural and low-income communities.

## **26. Experimental Crops**

Lately we're seeing a lot of grant funding and promotion of new, experimental water savings crops. This past month saw the announcement of a new \$9 million federally funded study to explore using the cactus pear as a drought-resilient biofuel crop that could significantly reduce agricultural water use in the Mountain West. Researchers at the University of Nevada, Reno will test hundreds of varieties in multiple states, including Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, New Mexico, Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah, over five years to evaluate how much biomass they can produce with minimal water, with the goal of developing renewable fuels like ethanol and biodiesel. Because cactus pear thrives in arid environments and requires far less water than traditional crops like corn or soybeans, scientists see it as a promising option for expanding biofuel production without competing with food crops or straining limited water supplies. The impact of such an experimental crop on local economies is something to watch closely as this research plays out.

A recent Arizona Republic article explains that researchers across the Colorado River Basin are studying alternative forage crops that could use less water than alfalfa, aiming to reduce pressure on the river as drought worsens. These efforts highlight experimental crops and water-saving potential, but they remain largely in the research phase, with significant uncertainty about whether they can match alfalfa's reliability, economics, and suitability for farmers' operations. From a practical, producer-focused perspective, the piece reflects a growing push from researchers to influence cropping decisions based on water use, but it underscores a key tension: while alternative crops may look promising on paper, adoption ultimately depends on whether they work in real-world conditions—on real farms, with real markets—rather than what policymakers or academics think should be grown. Here is the article – take a look: [To conserve Colorado River water, less-thirsty crops sought](#)

## **27. AI and Data Centers in the Desert**

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) forthcoming update to its Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP) is expected to help states develop regulatory frameworks for water reuse as data centers face mounting pressure over their water consumption. The revised plan is anticipated to be released soon, according to Bruno Pigott, executive director of the WaterReuse Association and former acting head of EPA's water office. Pigott cited inconsistent state regulations, and in some cases outright prohibitions on recycled water use, as key barriers to broader water reuse adoption. While states like Florida, California, and Texas have strong frameworks in place, most states lag behind. EPA is expected to focus on guidance and coordination rather than setting national standards, though some tech industry groups are calling for uniform federal regulations to avoid a patchwork approach. Growing localized community opposition to data centers over water scarcity concerns is adding urgency to the issue. A Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory study projects data center water demand will nearly double within three years. Legislation has been introduced in Congress, [H.R. 2940](#), that would create a 30 percent tax credit for water reuse projects to help offset the cost of recycling infrastructure.

Then, in late March, the White House released a new AI policy blueprint urging Congress to adopt a light-touch federal framework that prioritizes innovation, competitiveness, and a unified national approach over a patchwork of state regulations. The plan emphasizes key areas including child safety, energy demands from data centers, workforce impacts, and protections for free speech and intellectual property, while largely relying on existing laws rather than creating new regulatory bodies. It also calls for federal preemption of state-level AI laws deemed burdensome, though states would retain authority over areas like consumer protection and child safety. However, the proposal leaves major questions—such as liability, privacy, and national security risks—largely unresolved and faces uncertain bipartisan support in Congress.

A new report from Food and Water Watch argues that the rapid expansion of AI-driven data centers is dramatically increasing energy and water consumption, raising concerns about impacts to already strained resources. It estimates a single hyperscale facility can use as much electricity as 2 million households, while nationwide water use from data centers could equal that of 18.5 million households by 2028. The report also warns that states are increasingly bending energy and environmental policies—extending fossil fuel use or limiting local regulation—to accommodate data center growth. Overall, it characterizes the AI data center boom as a major emerging environmental and policy challenge, particularly in water-scarce regions like the West.

## **28. Agriculture and water technology**

Across the West, policymakers and water managers are increasingly turning to technology-driven solutions to supplement traditional water supplies, with growing interest in both desalination and cloud seeding. Desalination—while still expensive and energy-intensive—is gaining renewed attention in places like Southern California and Nevada as a long-term drought hedge, alongside emerging technologies like atmospheric water generation and more energy-efficient treatment systems. At the same time, cloud seeding is seeing expanded investment across Western states, with programs now operating in at least nine states and delivering an estimated 5–15% boost in snowpack at relatively low cost. While none of these tools are silver bullets, the broader trend is

clear: as water scarcity intensifies, states are increasingly willing to invest in innovation to stretch existing supplies and create new ones, particularly where traditional surface and groundwater sources are no longer keeping pace with demand.

## **WESTERN WATER “HOT SPOTS”**

Across the West, water supply conditions are trending sharply downward as the region heads into the 2026 irrigation season, driven by a combination of historically low snowpack, record winter and early spring heat, and an early runoff that has already peaked in many basins. In multiple states, snowpack levels are among the lowest on record, triggering water restrictions, reduced allocations, and growing concern about a return to widespread drought conditions by summer. Major systems like Lake Powell continue to decline, while rivers such as the Rio Grande are already projected to fall short of meeting irrigation and ecological demands. Federal and state responses are ramping up, including drought task forces, contingency planning, and expanded conservation measures, but the overall picture remains one of tightening supplies and high uncertainty. With a likely transition from La Niña to El Niño later this year adding further unpredictability, producers across the West are facing a season defined by limited water availability, increased reliance on groundwater, and the need for continued operational flexibility.

Here’s the link to the US Drought Monitor: [Maps | U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

### **29. Drought – and the “Drought Paradox”**

A new study has found that plants in the Colorado River Basin are drawing heavily on groundwater during hot, dry summers, rather than relying only on surface soil moisture as previously assumed. This “drought paradox” means vegetation continues high levels of water use even during drought, effectively pulling water that would otherwise contribute to river flows. Researchers warn this process is a significant and underappreciated driver of declining streamflows, as rising temperatures increase plant water demand and reduce the efficiency of snowmelt runoff.

### **30. More on Wildfire, and each month the outlook is worse**

Drought and worsening water supply conditions are already translating into a severe and early wildfire season across the West, with impacts hitting both rangeland and agricultural operations. In New Mexico, officials have enacted sweeping statewide fire restrictions as unseasonably hot and dry conditions—combined with historically low snowpack—have led to 288 wildfires in just the first three months of the year, more than double the recent average. Similar conditions are playing out elsewhere, with nearly 900,000 acres of pastureland burned in Nebraska in recent weeks, forcing emergency responses and livestock support efforts as grazing land and feed supplies are destroyed. Federal and state officials are warning that low snowpack and early drying will extend and intensify fire risk, prompting calls for accelerated mitigation work from agencies like the U.S. Forest Service, even as staffing and resources remain constrained. Taken together, the combination of limited water supply, dry soils, and extreme heat is not only reducing irrigation reliability but also significantly increasing wildfire risk, creating compounding challenges for agricultural producers across the region.

### **31. California weather and water supply**

California water officials are warning that below-average snowpack this year is unlikely to recover, threatening the state's water supply as it heads into the hot, dry summer months. Because snowpack provides roughly one-third of California's annual water, reduced accumulation and early melt could significantly limit runoff into rivers and reservoirs. While reservoirs are currently in relatively good shape, experts caution that without sufficient spring snowmelt, water availability could quickly decline later in the season. Last month's initial allocation of only 15% for Central Valley farmers led to an outcry. Please see this article about Family Farm Alliance Board Member Cannon Michael's thoughts on the current situation: [Cannon Michael Warns West Side Farmers Face Major Challenges](#)

California's situation is like others, entering the 2026 water year in a significantly constrained position, with statewide snowpack at just 18% of average, including only 6% in the northern Sierra, 21% in the central Sierra, and 32% in the southern Sierra. Extremely warm late-winter conditions have further reduced that already limited snowpack, accelerating melt and raising concerns about drought, wildfire risk, and reduced runoff into the summer. Despite some reservoir gains from earlier storms, storage remains under pressure, and irrigation districts have already begun delivering water earlier than normal due to heat and limited capacity, with concerns that supplies in some areas could run short by mid-summer.

On the federal side, the Bureau of Reclamation has taken several concrete actions to manage shortages. Central Valley Project allocations were modestly increased but remain low, with south-of-Delta and Delta agricultural contractors at 20%, and municipal and industrial users south-of-Delta at 70%. Reclamation is also holding back about 94,000 acre-feet in San Luis Reservoir as a drought reserve and continuing real-time operational adjustments to balance water deliveries with environmental requirements. In addition, spring pulse flow releases on the Sacramento River are being implemented to meet fishery needs, underscoring the ongoing tradeoffs between environmental mandates and water supply reliability for agriculture.

### **32. Columbia, Snake and Yakima River Basins (ID/OR/MT/WA)**

Water supply conditions in the Pacific Northwest are already constrained heading into the 2026 irrigation season. In the Yakima Basin, the Bureau of Reclamation's March forecast shows junior water users receiving about 44% of full supply, while senior rights holders receive 100%. That reduced allocation is driven by snowpack at just 33% of average, despite reservoirs sitting at 76% full (128% of average for this time of year). Across Washington more broadly, snowpack is roughly 50–55% of normal statewide, with some basins closer to 35%, reinforcing expectations of a fourth consecutive drought year and a likely dry irrigation season.

On the federal side, the Bureau of Reclamation is actively managing the Yakima Project under shortage conditions—setting prorated allocations, continuing monthly water supply forecasts through at least July, and operating reservoirs to meet irrigation, contract, and instream flow obligations. At the same time, broader federal involvement in the region remains focused on system operations and policy tradeoffs, including ongoing management of flows in the Columbia River Basin where hydropower, fish requirements, and water supply reliability continue to be in

tension. Taken together, the current numbers point to a below-average water year with federal project operations and allocation decisions directly shaping how shortages are distributed across agriculture.

Southern Idaho farmers are also facing a severe water shortage heading into the 2026 growing season due to record-low snowpack caused by unusually warm temperatures, limiting the natural runoff that typically supplies irrigation (to echo the song of the rest of the West). With little spring snowmelt expected, producers will be forced to rely on reservoir storage much earlier, leaving those with junior water rights especially vulnerable to shortages. Many farmers may have to reduce water-intensive crops or leave fields fallow, and some areas could run out of irrigation water months earlier than normal, raising concerns about significant production losses. Primary crops said to be affected will include alfalfa, potatoes, and sugar beets.

### **33. Colorado River Basin (AZ/CA/CO/NV/NM/UT/WY)**

#### **a. Nevada groundwater recharge highlighted in new report**

A new study highlights Las Vegas as a rare example of successful groundwater recovery, showing how decades of overuse were partially reversed through active management strategies like artificial recharge—injecting treated Colorado River water back into aquifers. These efforts have helped stabilize groundwater levels despite continued population growth and rising overall water demand. However, the case also underscores limits: Las Vegas still relies heavily on imported surface water and continues to pump groundwater faster than natural recharge in some areas, illustrating both the potential and constraints of recovery efforts in arid regions.

#### **b. Colorado’s Snow Drought and its broad impact**

Colorado, like the rest of the West, is facing a deepening “snow drought” with snowpack levels near record lows and major river basins well below normal—raising serious concerns about water supply heading into spring and summer. In response, the state has activated a multiagency drought task force to coordinate planning around expected shortages, wildfire risk, and broader impacts to water users. Officials warn that reduced snowpack—Colorado’s primary natural reservoir—will limit runoff, strain reservoirs, and increase the likelihood of both water restrictions and an intense wildfire season, signaling a challenging year ahead for agriculture and communities across the state.

Even as Colorado cities push residents to conserve water amid severe drought, utilities are increasingly turning to drought surcharges and rate structures that mean customers’ bills may still rise even if they use less water. These fees are designed to both encourage conservation and stabilize utility revenues—since reduced water sales during drought create budget shortfalls—so in many cases, households must significantly cut usage just to keep bills flat, rather than see savings.

c. Arizona is looking to private funding for solutions

Saving water in Arizona is proving increasingly expensive, as solutions like recycling, conservation programs, and developing new supplies require significant investment while federal funding has declined. There is a growing interest in shifting more of those costs onto large water users—particularly corporations like data centers—rather than households and farmers alone. Policymakers and water experts are exploring mechanisms for companies to help fund conservation efforts, arguing that businesses benefiting from Arizona’s limited water resources should play a larger role in sustaining them. And what’s more, large corporations like Proctor & Gamble and Google are stepping up to fund on-farm efficiency projects. The nonprofit Bonneville Environmental Foundation, which channels corporate money to water-saving efforts through its “Business for Water Stewardship” program, has contracted more than \$27 million from major companies for such projects since 2020. While not always so eager to help, companies are now getting involved for two primary reasons: preventing harm to their production capabilities and preventing harm to their reputation. The actual impact of this new trend remains to be seen. And one thing remains clear, the private sector simply cannot do what federal funding can do – in other words, this is no replacement for the federal dollars that are needed in the West.

d. Utah’s Weber River Basin – new technology!

Utah water managers are piloting NASA-developed airborne technology in the Weber Basin to improve how snowpack is measured and forecasted, using advanced sensors like LiDAR and imaging spectrometers to map snow depth and water content across entire watersheds. Unlike traditional point-based systems, the technology provides high-resolution, basin-wide data that can significantly improve runoff forecasting and water supply planning. The multi-year “Wings Over Weber” project is intended to help inform decisions around reservoir management, drought response, and Great Salt Lake conditions, though officials are still evaluating whether the benefits justify the cost.

e. Utah’s effort to map and remove water guzzling invasive species

Utah is launching a new mapping effort focused on identifying where water-intensive vegetation—particularly invasive species like phragmites—is consuming significant amounts of water in the Great Salt Lake basin. Scientists say these plants can drain tens of thousands of acre-feet annually, and better mapping will help target removal and restoration efforts more effectively. The goal is to give water managers more precise, actionable data to recover flows to the lake without broad, blunt policy measures. Ultimately, the initiative reflects a growing emphasis on measurement and targeted management—recognizing that improving water supply outcomes increasingly depends on understanding exactly where water is being lost across the system.

f. Utah is on a roll this month!

Scientists are said to have identified a potentially large freshwater reservoir beneath Utah’s Great Salt Lake using airborne geophysical surveys, with water stored in sediments thousands of feet below the surface and likely fed by mountain snowmelt over long periods. While the discovery could have implications for addressing dust pollution from the shrinking lake and may eventually

be considered for uses like environmental mitigation or even irrigation, researchers emphasize that the findings are preliminary, the full size and accessibility of the resource remain uncertain, and significantly more study is needed before any practical application can be determined.

g. New Mexico's 2019 Water Data Act sets stage for national recognition

Recent news highlighting New Mexico's Water Data Initiative has recognized the public service project as one of the nation's "50 States, 50 Breakthroughs," reflecting its role in modernizing how water information is collected and shared. The initiative aims to integrate fragmented water data into a more accessible, real-time system to support decision-making by policymakers, researchers, and water users, improving understanding of water use, availability, and system vulnerabilities across New Mexico. Led by the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources (NMBGMR) at New Mexico Tech, the initiative was launched as part of the 2019 New Mexico Water Data Act, a landmark piece of legislation that set the state on a path to become a national leader in collecting, standardizing, and sharing water data.

**34. Nebraska wildfires**

As of the end of March, historic wildfires across Nebraska have burned more than 700,000 acres—much of it critical grazing land—making the Morrill Fire the largest in state history and leaving tens of thousands of cattle displaced. Driven by extreme winds, drought, and dry conditions, the rapidly spreading fires have forced evacuations, overwhelmed local response capacity, and prompted a state emergency declaration with support from the National Guard and federal fire teams. The damage comes amid broader drought conditions across the region, compounding already strained forage and water supplies for producers.

In the aftermath, ranchers are facing urgent challenges to feed and relocate livestock, while relief efforts are mobilizing to meet immediate needs. Industry groups and nonprofits have launched disaster funds and in-kind support initiatives like hay shipments to affected operations, with thousands of bales being donated and transported by volunteers. While community response has been strong, the scale of the disaster underscores the growing vulnerability of agricultural systems to wildfire and drought across the Great Plains and the West.

Recent precipitation has brought some drought relief to parts of the Midwest—particularly in the eastern Corn Belt—but conditions worsen moving west, with Nebraska facing a bleak outlook heading into the growing season. Meanwhile, nearly 99% of Texas remains in drought, highlighting persistent dryness across the southern Plains. Despite localized improvements, soil moisture remains precarious in many key agricultural regions, and broader concerns continue over low snowpack and ongoing dryness in the West.

**35. Rio Grande Basin (CO/NM/TX)**

a. Rio Grande water supply running thinner than ever

The headlines this past month across numerous media outlets for approximately four days straight read as follows: "Climate change and prolonged overuse are pushing the Middle Rio Grande into

‘dire’ situation” highlighting what the media called a severe and potentially irreversible water crisis. With the river already drying for extended periods in recent years and expected to dry even earlier in 2026 due to record-low snowpack and shifting runoff patterns, both of which are reducing flows, increasing wildfire risk, and forcing greater reliance on groundwater for municipal supply. While not the 5-alarm fire the media would make it out to be (yet), the situation is raising alarms about legal and management consequences, including potential violations of Rio Grande Compact obligations and growing competition among agricultural, municipal, and environmental demands. Experts warn the crisis reflects long-term climate-driven changes rather than temporary drought, signaling the need for significant adjustments in water use and planning statewide.

b. New Mexico increases water theft violation fees

New Mexico’s Governor signed legislation in March to significantly strengthen water enforcement and investment statewide, including a major update to water code penalties—the first in over a century—raising fines for violations from \$100 to up to \$3,400 per day. The law is intended to deter illegal water use, such as unauthorized well drilling, and gives the Office of the State Engineer stronger enforcement authority. The penalty had not been increased since the NM Water Code was first passed by its Territorial Legislature in 1907. New Mexico is one of the hardest hit by the ongoing drought, not having seen an ‘average’ or ‘above average’ water supply since 2003. The move comes as other states are also tightening the rules related to water use, including new groundwater regulations that cover metering and reporting requirements, and more. (Note: I worked on this legislation in my home state for multiple years, and it was widely supported by agriculture who, in this case, are often the senior water users being stolen from)

## MISCELLANEOUS

- Republican US Senator Steve Daines of Montana dropped his bid for re-election to a third term this past month. Daines withdrew his name just minutes before the deadline for candidates to file for the November election with the Montana secretary of state’s office. Simultaneously Seth Bodnar, former president of the University of Montana, launched an independent campaign for Daines’s seat.
- Rep. Ryan Zinke (R-Mont.), a former Interior Secretary during President Trump’s first term, also announced he will not seek reelection this November. Zinke, who has represented Montana in the lower chamber for three non-consecutive terms joins over a dozen Republican House lawmakers not seeking re-election, as Democrats are optimistic about their chances of taking control of the lower chamber this November.
- House Committee on Agriculture Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson (PA-15) announced the official placement of Rep. David Valadao (CA-22) to the House Committee on Agriculture to replace the late Doug LaMalfa. Valadao is a producer himself with a strong record of representing farm families in Congress.
- Here is an opinion piece worth reading if you have some extra time: [OPINION: Public Land Grazing is Vital for a Healthy America – Pagosa Daily Post News Events & Video for Pagosa Springs Colorado](#)
- In case you missed it, DEF sensor relief has finally arrived! EPA has eliminated the DEF sensor requirement, and projects it will save farmers in the neighborhood of \$4B annually. Read the press release here: [Trump Administration Announces Latest Action to Address](#)

[Diesel Exhaust Fluid \(DEF\) System Complaints, Saves American Farmers and Truckers Over \\$13 Billion Annually | US EPA](#)

- Here's a couple of hard statistics to chew on: The number of cattle raised in the United States is already the [lowest since the 1950s](#) — a consequence of a 2022-2023 dry spell that reduced forage and raised hay prices across the High Plains. This year, according to the [Agriculture Department](#), 64 percent of the U.S. cattle inventory is affected by drought, along with most of the hay and alfalfa used for feed.
- The Salton Sea contains an estimated \$500 billion in lithium critical for batteries and clean energy, but development faces growing local opposition due to existing environmental damage and concerns that extraction could further strain already limited water supplies in the region. Stay tuned for more as this topic grows in interest.

### ADMINISTRATIVE

- This month I'll be sitting still preparing to take on interns for the summer, writing, and working on more development of the 'Boots on the Ground' advocacy Campaign. I am also in the beginning stages of planning the Board's Summer Retreat. But, I'm off and running again in May and June, with most of my calendar filled with travel for those months. More to come on that front.
- Please continue to send pictures and an explanation paragraph for any of your successful water infrastructure projects you have in motion or recently completed. Also, if you have digital images or videos of your projects, facilities, or producers, and you can share those, please send them my way so we can continue to add to our arsenal for our 'Boots on the Ground' Campaign.

*This is a quick summary of just a few of the issues the Alliance has been engaged in, some of which has come directly from other authors, such as Alliance Contractors. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 575-202-2705 or [samantha@familyfarmalliance.org](mailto:samantha@familyfarmalliance.org) if you have specific questions or would like further information about what the Alliance is doing to protect water for Western irrigated agriculture.*



# Member Board Report

March 2026

Effective March 1, the California Farm Water Coalition transitioned leadership to Michelle Paul as Executive Director, marking the beginning of the organization's next chapter. This month, we prioritized engagement with members and industry partners and participated in a wide range of water policy discussions with the media and collaborative groups. Mike Wade continues to support the organization on a part-time basis, providing continuity and ensuring a smooth transition.

## Public Relations

Media activity increased this month, with inquiries ranging from rising reservoir levels to the impacts of SGMA on agricultural communities. Mike Wade appeared on KTVU Channel 2 (Bay Area) to emphasize the importance of increasing groundwater storage, noting historically high reservoir levels as winter snowpack melts. CFWC also provided perspective to a rural media outlet on how data center development could affect farm water in the Delta and participated in a live episode of *AirTalk with Larry Mantle*, NPR's flagship affiliate for Los Angeles and Southern California.



Above: Mike Wade appears on behalf of CFWC on KTVU Channel 2 (Bay Area)

The Coalition also prepared an op-ed highlighting the benefits of SB 872, introduced by Senator McNerney, which would allocate \$300 million annually to repair aging water infrastructure. The piece underscores the importance of making federal water projects eligible for these funds. Once placed, CFWC will amplify it through its social media channels.

Media monitoring continued, with Golden Mussel, CVPIA implementation, Colorado River management, and federal funding for California water infrastructure drawing the most attention. We continued developing timely responses to keep the Coalition's perspective visible to policymakers and journalists.

### **Industry Collaborations**

CFWC's work with the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint continued as we participated in strategic discussions to prepare for upcoming Board conversations, develop fact sheets, and shift outreach toward more visually driven social media content in place of text heavy email communications. We also focused on fundraising and membership growth. In parallel, early planning is underway to organize agricultural engagement in the forthcoming California Water Plan update process.

CFWC staff also engaged with industry stakeholders to identify opportunities to amplify our voice and add value in telling farm water's story. We established a regular cadence of meetings with Western Growers' external communications team, and collaboration opportunities will continue to evolve. Additionally, CFWC provided a farm water update to the Organic Advisory Committee at the Almond Board of California and began building relationships with its communications team and growers.

### **Membership Engagement**

Engagement with member districts and water agencies continued, ensuring member priorities and regional concerns are accurately reflected in CFWC's policy positions and media engagement. This included participation in Imperial Irrigation District's board meeting and an extended tour with the district staff. We also presented at Arvin-Eddison Water District's Board meeting, Friant Water Authority board meeting, and attended the Western Canal Water District's annual meeting. We will continue to prioritize in-person engagement with CFCW's membership for the remainder of the year.

### **Social Media Activity**

February was another strong month for social media activity, as reflected in the charts below. Data includes activity across all platforms for CFWC's social channels (@cultivateca, @farmwater).

<b>Total for all social platforms</b>	<b>February 2026</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Posts	8	21
Views	1.2 m	3 m
Reach	623.5k	1.4m
Interactions	26.2k	63.8k
Follows	8.9k	21.6K
Profile Visits	17.9k	42.8K

<b>Paid advertisement breakdown</b> <i>(Instagram and Facebook only)</i>	<b>February 2026</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Impressions	536k	1.43m
Engagement	260.33k	586.3K
Link clicks	14.2k	32.7K
Click through rate (CTR)*	2.6%	2.28%
Cost per click (CPC)**	\$0.61	\$0.69

\*Average is 0.9 to 1.5%

\*\*Average is \$0.50 to \$1.00

Top performing posts in February:



Behind the Scenes:  
Bar 20 Dairy  
Reach: 78.4k  
Follows: 1.3k



@lexasnoms  
collaboration  
Reach: 33.3k  
Follows: 1.3k



Bar 20 Cow Care  
Reach: 43.4k  
Follows: 1k