



**Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee
Regular Meeting of the Steering Committee**

Friday, August 18, 2023 ~ 9:30 a.m.

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Boardroom
842 6th Street, Los Banos, California**

Telephonic Participation

Conference Call Dial-in: 1-623-600-3769

Conference Code: 518817

AGENDA

NOTE: Any member of the public may address the GBD Steering Committee concerning any item on the agenda before or during consideration of that item, as appropriate. For each item, public comment is limited to no more than three minutes per person. For good cause, the Committee Chair may waive this limitation. Committee Members/Alternates may discuss items listed on the agenda or add to the agenda as necessary, in accordance with Government Code section 54954.2, subd. (b)(2).

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Corrections or Additions to the Agenda, as authorized by Government Code section 54950 et seq.
3. Opportunity for Public Comment

Action Items

4. **Committee to Consider Approving May 19, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**
5. **Committee to Consider Acceptance of the Financial Report**
6. **Board to Discuss and Approve Appointing Chris Linneman as Drainage Coordinator for the Grassland Basin Drainers and the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition**
7. **Board to Discuss and Consider Approval of Additional Funding to USGS for Panoche Creek Gauging Station**

Report Items

8. Committee to Receive Report on the Mud Slough Restoration Program
9. Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Program

10. Grassland Bypass Project Updates:
 - a. Operations Report
 - b. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report - Committee to Review and Authorize Release of Information
11. Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater, Grassland Drainage Area Coalition
12. Reports from District Representatives
13. Reports on Other Items Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)
14. Date and Time of Next Meeting
15. CLOSED SESSION
 - Conference with Legal Counsel on Existing Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (1) Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
 - a. Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Friends of the River, San Francisco Crab Boat Owners Association, Inc., The Institute for Fisheries Resources, and Felix Smith v. Donald R. Glaser, Regional Director of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, U.S. District Court (E.D. Cal), Case No. 2:11-CV-02980-DAD-CKD
 - b. North Coast Rivers Alliance, et al., v. San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Merced County Superior Court), Case No. 19CV-09489
 - c. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Pursuant to Subdivision (a) and Paragraphs 2 or 3 of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (1 potential case) or Paragraph 4 of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (1 potential case)
16. Return to Open Session
17. Report from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1
18. 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 6th Street, P.O. Box 2157, Los Banos, California, via telephone at (209) 826-9696, or via email at cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org or sandi.ginda@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/>.

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**SAN LUIS & DELTA – MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY MINUTES-
GRASSLAND BASIN STEERING COMMITTEE TELEPHONIC MEETING
May 19, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:38 a.m. at 842 6th Street, Los Banos, California with Chairman David Cory presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Camp 13 Drainage District

David Cory, Chairman

Firebaugh Canal Water District

Kevin Hurd Member - Jeff Bryant, Alternate Member

Pacheco Water District

David Parreira, Member

Panoche Drainage District

Mike Linneman, Member

SLDMWA Staff Present

Rebeca Harms, Deputy Executive General Counsel

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Lauren Viers, Staff Accountant III

Others Present

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering

Palmer McCoy, Grassland Basin Authority

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Chairmen David Cory called the meeting to order and requested self-introductions.

2. Corrections or Additions to the Agenda

No corrections or additions were made to the agenda.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comments were made.

4. Committee to Consider Approval of December 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes

After review of the February 17, 2023 Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) meeting minutes, with one minor edit: Lauren Viers title with the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority is Staff Accountant III. Committee Member Mike Linneman moved to approve the February 17, 2023 minutes as corrected, the motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously.

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AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

5. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.

Staff Accountant III Lauren Viers presented the Financial Report with a baseline through 3/31/23. Committee Member Kevin Hurd moved to approve the Financial Expenditures Report as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member David Parreira and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, Parreira and Linneman
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

6. Committee to Receive Report on Mud Slough Restoration Project

Chris Linnemann explained the Grassland Basin Drainers have an obligation to return Mud Slough to its original state- hence the need for restoration project. Linneman noted he has reached out to California Fish and Wildlife for direction on a few issues and noted he has a meeting with them scheduled for next week. Chris Linnemen responded to questions.

7. Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Program

Chris Linneman reported two pump stations are in the design phase and the SCADA tower permit was approved by the County of Fresno.

8. Grassland Bypass Project Updates

- a. Operations Report – Chris Linneman referred to maps detailing all the discharge points for the project. A graph of Sites A and B discharge amounts and rainfall events was reviewed. Site D Mud Slough selenium and flow for March 1, 2022– April 2023 Storm events was reviewed. Next the Site D Mud Slough (North) Downstream San Luis Drain – selenium concentration on a daily, 7-day average and monthly average selenium concentrations and goals were presented, Linneman concluded by reporting on Site B Monthly Salt Load and Site R Selenium concentrations.
- b. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report – Chris Linneman presented and the Committee reviewed event 94, 95 and 96; samples collected January 26, 2023, February 22, 2023 and March 7, 2023. The reports reflected no toxicity. The Committee gave direction to release the Toxicity data.

9. Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater Water for the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan reported he is

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following up on the information from the membership requirements and discussed the Nitrate Control Program requirements which are “time sensitive - 6 months” on wells in the GBD area.

10. Reports from District Representatives – No Reports given.

11. Reports on Other Items Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 (a)(3) – No other items were presented or discussed.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting is June 17, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

13. Closed Session

The Committee convened to a Closed Session at 9:50 a.m.

14. Return to Open Session

The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:00 a.m.

15. Report from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1

Chairman David Cory reported the Committee discussed items posted on the Closed Session Agenda and received updates from legal counsel and took no action.

16. Adjournment

Chairman David Cory adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:01 a.m.

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY

MARCH 1, 2023 - FEBRUARY 29, 2024

GRASSLAND BASIN DRAINAGE #3A (FUND 22)

ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS BUDGET TO ACTUAL

Report Period 3/1/23 - 6/30/23

GBD 08/18/23

EXPENDITURES	Annual Budget	Paid/ Expense	Amount Remaining	% of Amt Remaining	Expenses Through
<u>Legal:</u>					
Linneman et al	\$ 20,000		\$ 20,000	100%	
Pioneer Law Group - CEQA Legal Consultant	\$ 70,000	\$ 2,767	\$ 67,233	96%	6/12/23
Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy	\$ 40,000	\$ 974	\$ 39,026	98%	6/14/23
Kahn, Soares & Conway	\$ 45,000	\$ 1,569	\$ 43,431	97%	5/31/23
Misc. Legal Support	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000	100%	
Baker Manock & Jensen	\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000	100%	
<u>GBD Specific:</u>					
Drainage Coordinator (Summers)	\$ 143,000	\$ 28,700	\$ 114,300	80%	5/31/23
Quality Data Processing/Load Calc (Summers)	\$ 176,255	\$ 39,075	\$ 137,180	78%	6/12/23
Flow Calculation/Station Maint. (Summers)	\$ 38,500	\$ 26,205	\$ 12,295	32%	5/31/23
Field Coordinator (PDD)	\$ 35,000	\$ 5,522	\$ 29,478	84%	5/31/23
Real Time Monitoring Equip (PDD)	\$ 10,000	\$ 778	\$ 9,222	92%	5/31/23
Panoche Creek Gauging Station	\$ 7,900	\$ 7,900	\$ -	0%	4/20/23
Water Quality Monitoring (Reg. Sites)	\$ 243,000	\$ 66,718	\$ 176,282	73%	6/29/23
Newman Water Costs	\$ 118,856		\$ 118,856	100%	
Restoration of Mud Slough Channel (Newman Land)	\$ 96,800	\$ 3,542	\$ 93,258	96%	5/31/23
Waste Discharge Permit Fees	\$ 64,000		\$ 64,000	100%	
Drainage Management Plan	\$ 13,200	\$ 18,772	\$ (5,572)	-42%	5/31/23
New UA Mud Slough Mitigation:					
Remove Sediment in SLD	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000	100%	
Use of Drain:					
Operation & Maintenance (PDD)	\$ 158,400	\$ 23,054	\$ 135,346	85%	5/31/23
Biological Monitoring:					
Pacific Eco Risk	\$ 100,000	\$ 37,239	\$ 62,761	63%	6/30/23
HT Harvey-SJRIP Egg Monitoring	\$ 100,000	\$ 27,863	\$ 72,137	72%	6/16/23
Fish Biologist - Splittail/Sturgeon	\$ 50,000	\$ 3,110	\$ 46,890	94%	6/16/23
Groundwater WDR Specific:					
Membership Enrollment/List (Summers)	\$ 115,830	\$ 13,145	\$ 102,685	89%	5/31/23
Farm Evaluation Plan (Summers)	\$ 23,100	\$ 4,695	\$ 18,405	80%	4/30/23
NMP Summary Report	\$ 20,915	\$ 1,518	\$ 19,397	93%	5/8/23
MPEP Group Workplan	\$ 5,400		\$ 5,400	100%	
Groundwater Protection Formula	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000	100%	
CVSalts Nitrate Compliance	\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000	100%	
Prioritization and Optimization Study-CVSalts	\$ 10,983	\$ 11,438	\$ (455)	-4%	
Trend Monit Prgm	\$ 67,600	\$ 22,731	\$ 44,869	66%	6/12/23
Develop Web Portal	\$ 5,648	\$ 637	\$ 5,011	89%	5/8/23
Collect State Board Fee	\$ 126,000		\$ 126,000	100%	
Annual Monitoring Report (Summers)	\$ 46,200	\$ 4,695	\$ 41,505	90%	5/31/23
CVGMC Data	\$ 2,700	\$ 659	\$ 2,041	76%	4/3/23
<u>Other:</u>					
General Counsel	\$ 2,896	\$ 1,313	\$ 1,583	55%	6/30/23
In-House Staff	\$ 965	\$ 1,153	\$ (188)	-19%	6/30/23
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,078,148	\$ 355,772	\$ 1,722,376	83%	

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
GRASSLAND BASIN DRAINAGE
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 03/01/23 - 02/29/24**

	Grassland Basin Drainage Fund 22		Total
Report Period: 4/1/23-6/30/23			
Report Date: 8/15/23			
Receivable Balance at March 31, 2023	\$ 318,091.66	\$	318,091.66
Collections:			
Pacheco Water District	\$ 57,664.50	\$	57,664.50
Panoche Drainage District	\$ 231,983.66	\$	231,983.66
Widren LLC	\$ 2,352.00	\$	2,352.00
Total Collections:	\$ 292,000.16	\$	292,000.16
Receivable Balance at June 30, 2023	\$ 26,091.50	\$	26,091.50
Outstanding Accounts:			
1st Installment FY20/21 - GBD WDR Specific			
AMK Pereira	\$ (1.00)	\$	(1.00)
2nd Installment FY20/21 - GBD WDR Specific			
Madeline Pereira	\$ (1.00)	\$	(1.00)
	\$ (2.00)	\$	(2.00)
1st Installment FY24 - GBD			
Camp 13 Drainage District	\$ 26,093.50	\$	26,093.50
	\$ 26,093.50	\$	26,093.50
Outstanding Grand Total	\$ 26,091.50	\$	26,091.50

SUMMERS ENGINEERING

887 N. Irwin St. – PO Box 1122
Hanford, CA 93232
(559) 582-9237 FAX (559) 582-7632

MEMORANDUM

TO: Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee

FROM: Joseph C. McGahan

DATE: August 14, 2023

SUBJECT: Joe McGahan

The Steering Committee operates under the umbrella of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors. Summers Engineering has a consultant agreement that is renewed year to year, to provide Drainage Coordinator Services and to manage the Steering Committee and the various regulations under its purview. I would like to propose to the Steering Committee that Chris Linneman, Vice-President of Summers Engineering, assume the duties of Drainage Coordinator. The Regional Board recognizes the Drainage coordinator as the point person for contact and communication related to the Waste Discharge Requirements for the Grassland Basin Drainers and the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition. The Drainage Coordinator also has local understanding, as the person leading the GBD Steering Committee and related functions. A team of other Summers Engineering staff, outside consultants and SL&D-MWA staff provide the necessary support services.

SUMMERS ENGINEERING

887 N. Irwin St. – PO Box 1122
Hanford, CA 93232
(559) 582-9237 FAX (559) 582-7632

MEMORANDUM

TO: Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee

FROM: Chris Linneman

DATE: August 14, 2023

SUBJECT: Additional Funding for Panoche/Silver Creek Gauging Station

I spoke with Ben Glass of USGS today regarding the costs associated with operating the Panoche/Silver Creek flow monitoring station. Historically the GDA has funded ½ the cost at \$7900 per year. The remaining half has come either from USBR or USGS. USBR has apparently dropped the site and USGS cannot cover the remaining. They are asking us to fully fund the site at a total cost of \$15,800 per year. That said, they have “matching funds” available that could potentially cover up to \$6000 of that cost (which is most of the 2nd half of the cost). Those matching funds are highly variable and change from week to week.

I asked Ben at USGS to provide a draft agreement with the new cost, which will be summarized at the Aug 18 GBD meeting with intent of requesting getting approval. Additional costs can be taken from reserves and other budget item shortfalls and no change in GBD budget is required.

Panoche/Silver creek can be a very important site during storm events and I think it is worth the continued monitoring. During the 2022/23 storm events, flows from Panoche/Silver Creek reached several thousand cfs for short periods and had significant impacts on the GBP management decisions.

8/14/2023

USGS Contact:

Ben Glass

5-Year Joint Funding Agreement

WYs 2024 - 2028

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2028

Agreement # 24ZGJFA06000043

San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Mr. Federico Barajas, Executive Director

Post Office Box 1122

Hanford, California 93232

c/o Mr. Joseph C. McGahan

jmcgahan@summerseng.com

Program Total = \$79,820

USGS CMF Total = \$31,600

Cooperator Total = \$48,220

WY2024

Type	Station Number	Station Name	Activity	Activity Cost	USGS Funds	Cooperator Funds
SW	11255575	Panoche Creek at I-5 near Silver Creek	Streamflow, seasonal	\$ 15,800	\$ 6,320	\$ 9,480

WY2025

Type	Station Number	Station Name	Activity	Activity Cost	USGS Funds	Cooperator Funds
SW	11255575	Panoche Creek at I-5 near Silver Creek	Streamflow, seasonal	\$ 15,800	\$ 6,320	\$ 9,480

WY2026

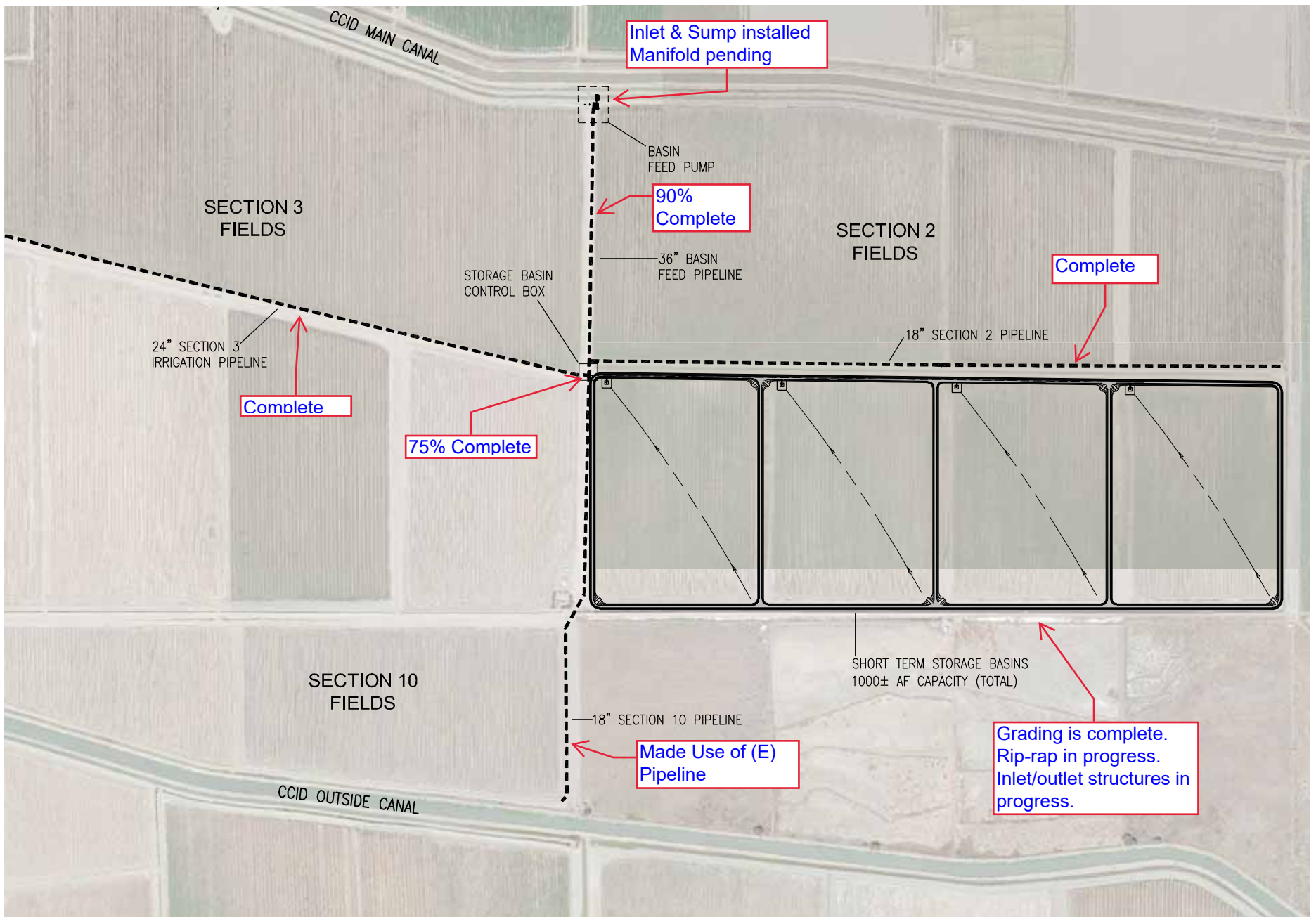
Type	Station Number	Station Name	Activity	Activity Cost	USGS Funds	Cooperator Funds
SW	11255575	Panoche Creek at I-5 near Silver Creek	Streamflow, seasonal	\$ 15,800	\$ 6,320	\$ 9,480

WY2027

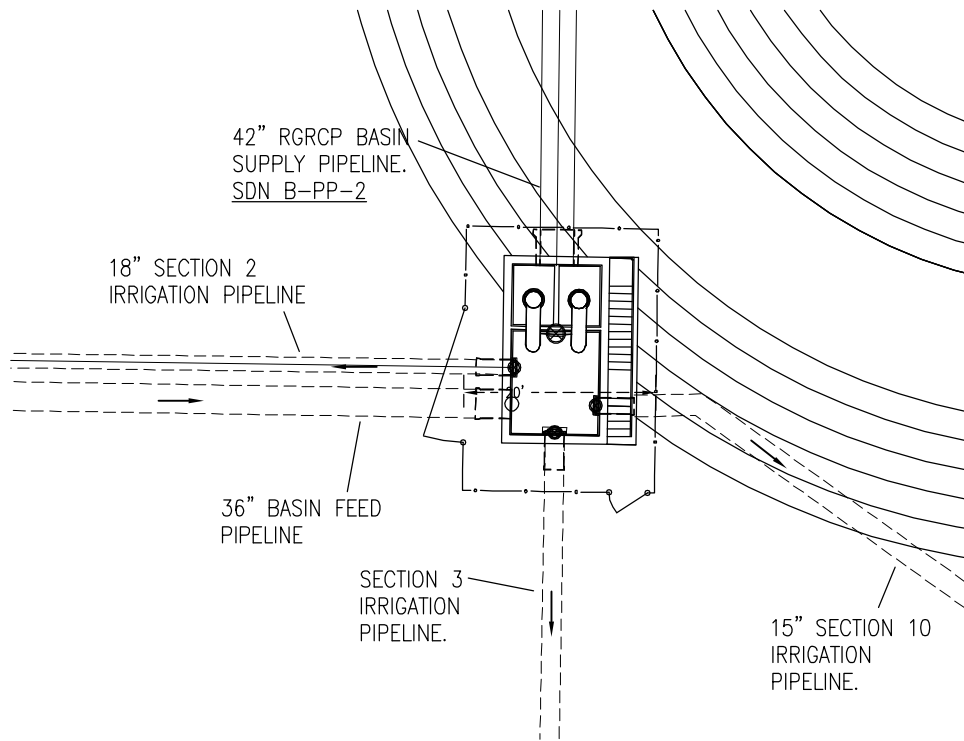
Type	Station Number	Station Name	Activity	Activity Cost	USGS Funds	Cooperator Funds
SW	11255575	Panoche Creek at I-5 near Silver Creek	Streamflow, seasonal	\$ 16,050	\$ 6,320	\$ 9,730

WY2028

Type	Station Number	Station Name	Activity	Activity Cost	USGS Funds	Cooperator Funds
SW	11255575	Panoche Creek at I-5 near Silver Creek	Streamflow, seasonal	\$ 16,370	\$ 6,320	\$ 10,050









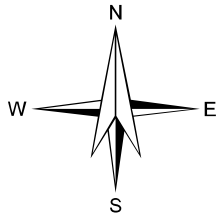
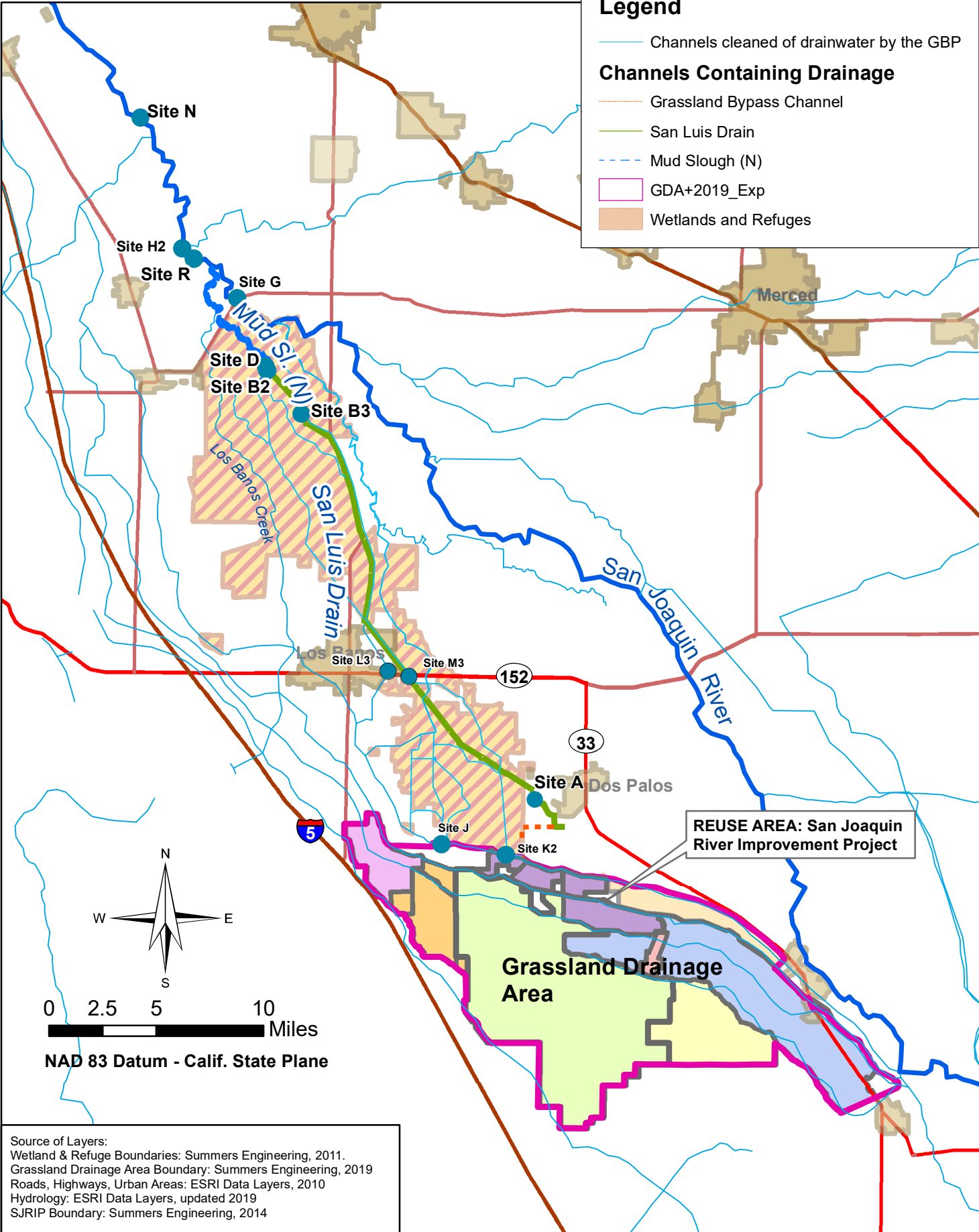
SHORT TERM STORAGE
BASINS



CONTROL BOX

Legend

-  Channels cleaned of drainwater by the GBP
- Channels Containing Drainage**
 -  Grassland Bypass Channel
 -  San Luis Drain
 -  Mud Slough (N)
-  GDA+2019_Exp
-  Wetlands and Refuges



0 2.5 5 10 Miles

NAD 83 Datum - Calif. State Plane

REUSE AREA: San Joaquin River Improvement Project

Grassland Drainage Area

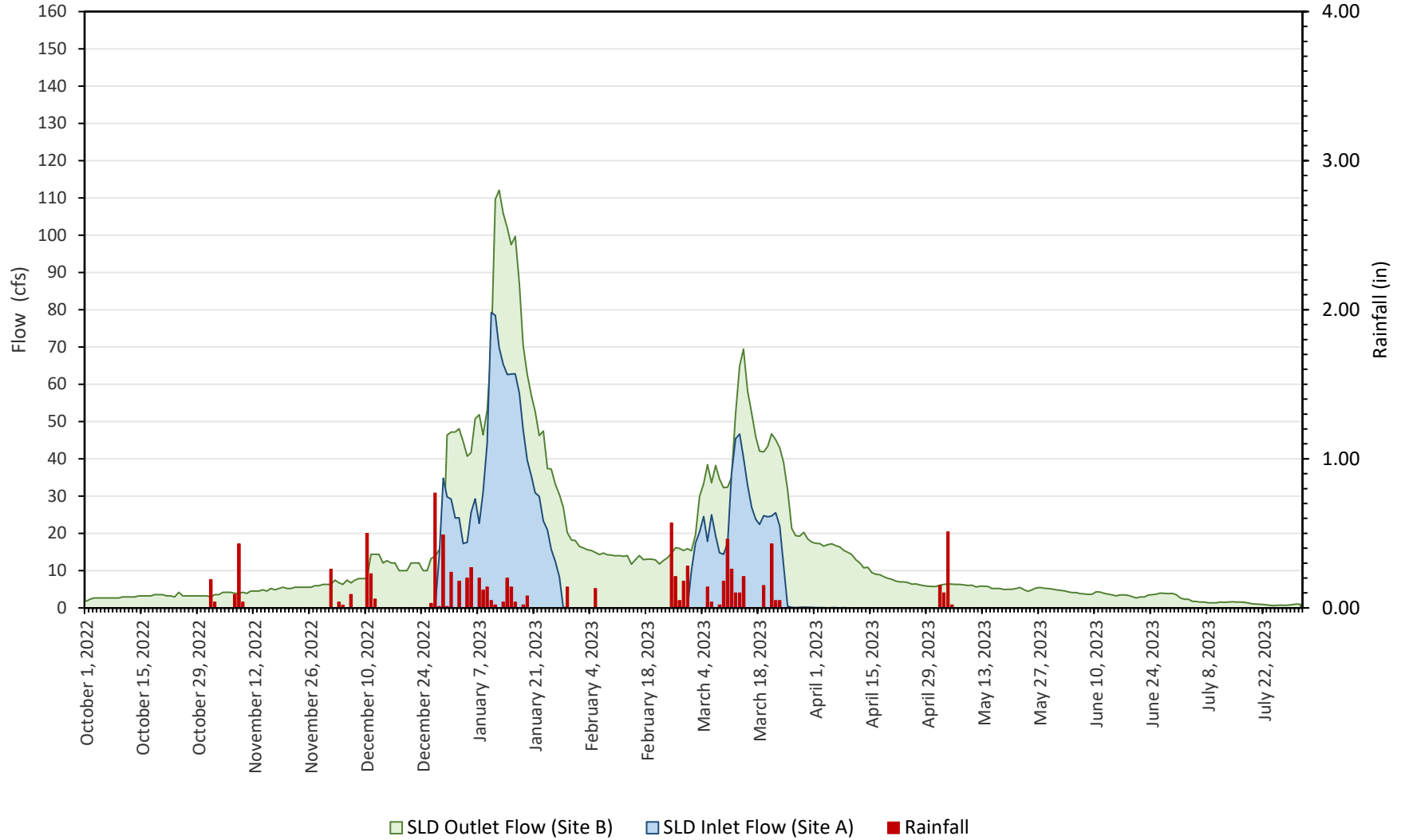
Source of Layers:
 Wetland & Refuge Boundaries: Summers Engineering, 2011.
 Grassland Drainage Area Boundary: Summers Engineering, 2019
 Roads, Highways, Urban Areas: ESRI Data Layers, 2010
 Hydrology: ESRI Data Layers, updated 2019
 SJRIP Boundary: Summers Engineering, 2014

Document Path: G:\data\ARCVIEW\MAPS\GBPI\LR\GBP Basemap+Monitoring.mxd

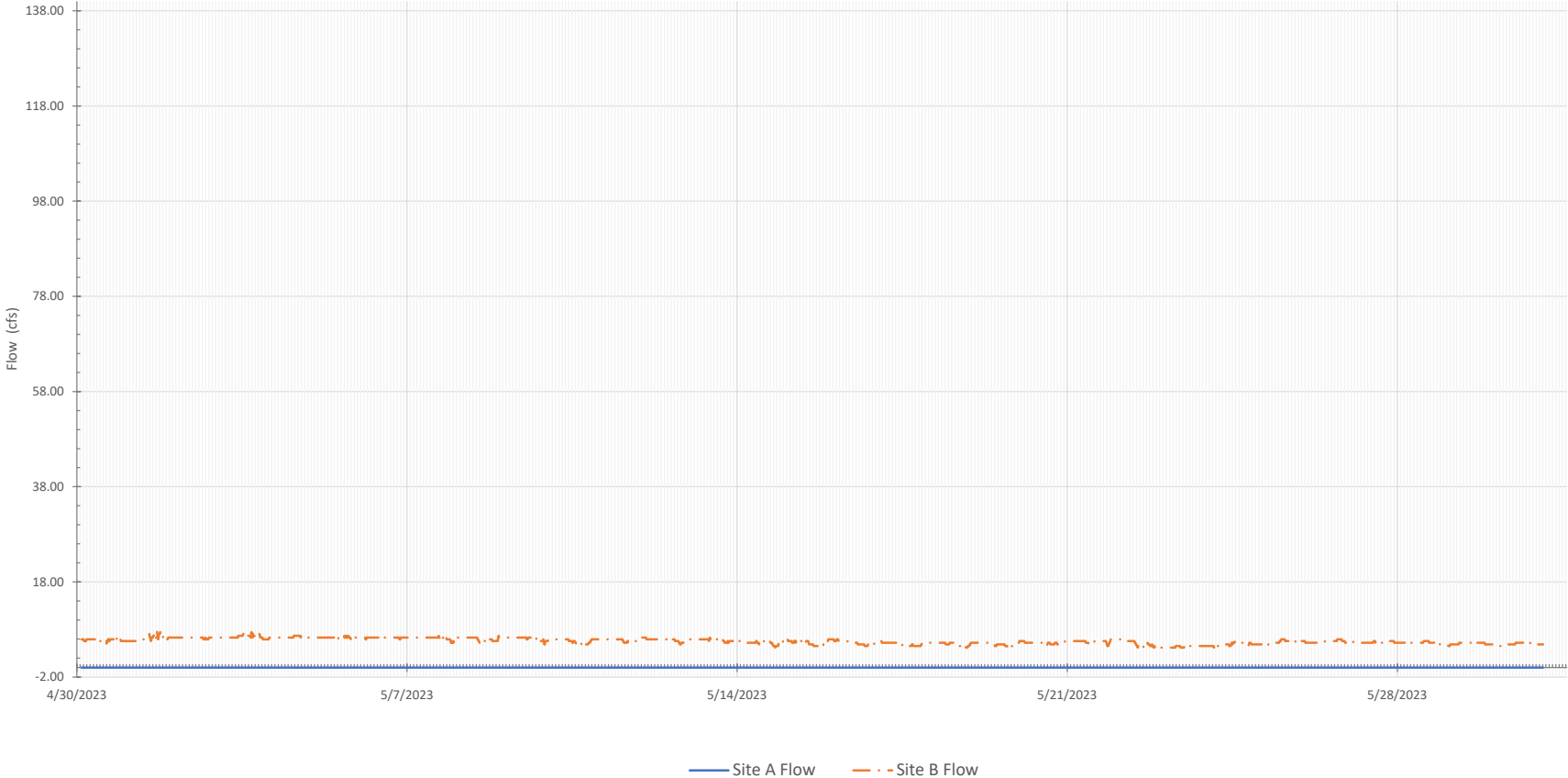
Grassland Bypass Project Location Map

Prepared by:
 Summers Engineering, Inc.
 Consulting Engineers
 Hanford California

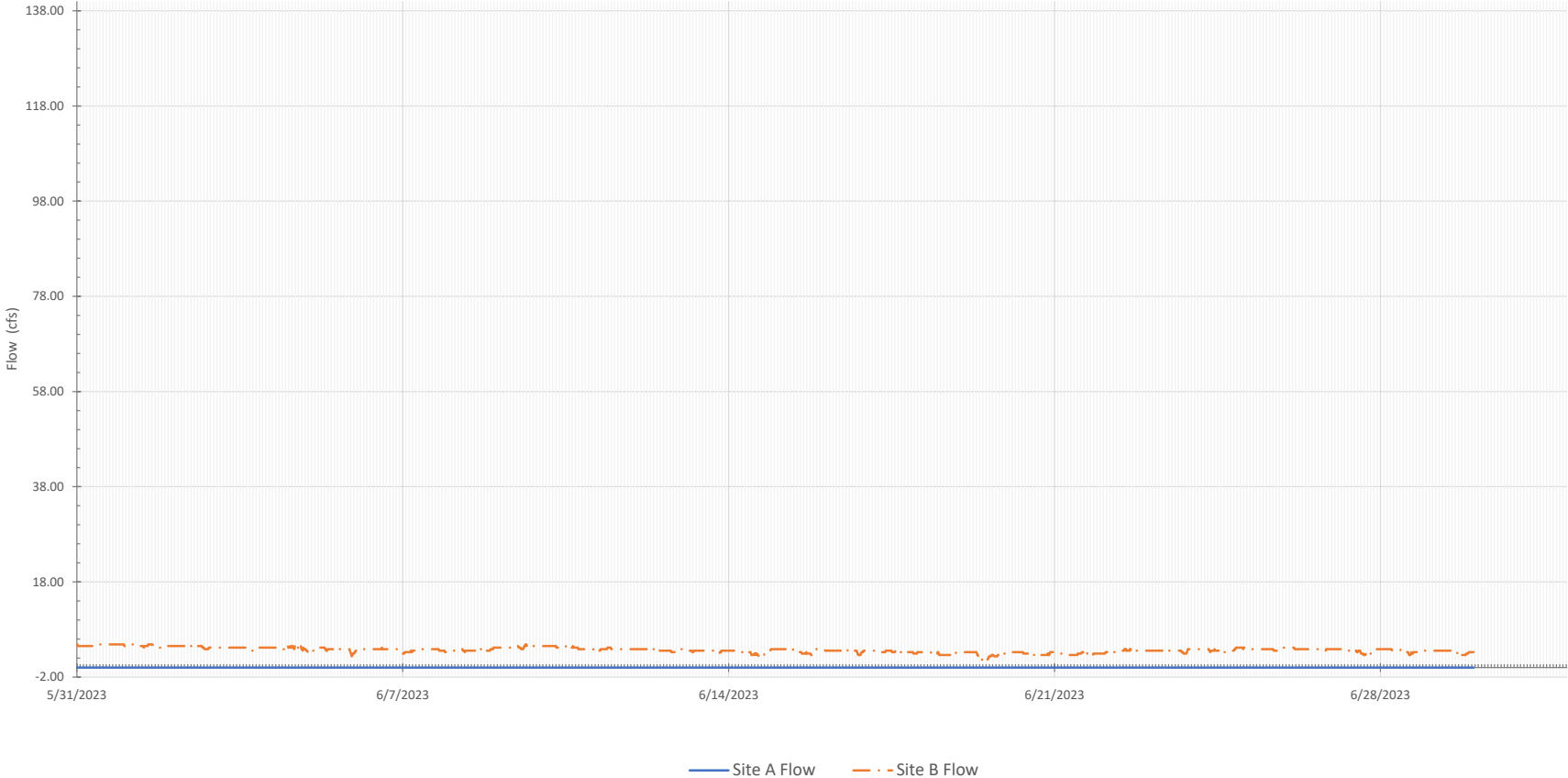
Grassland Bypass Project - Site A & B Discharge & Rainfall



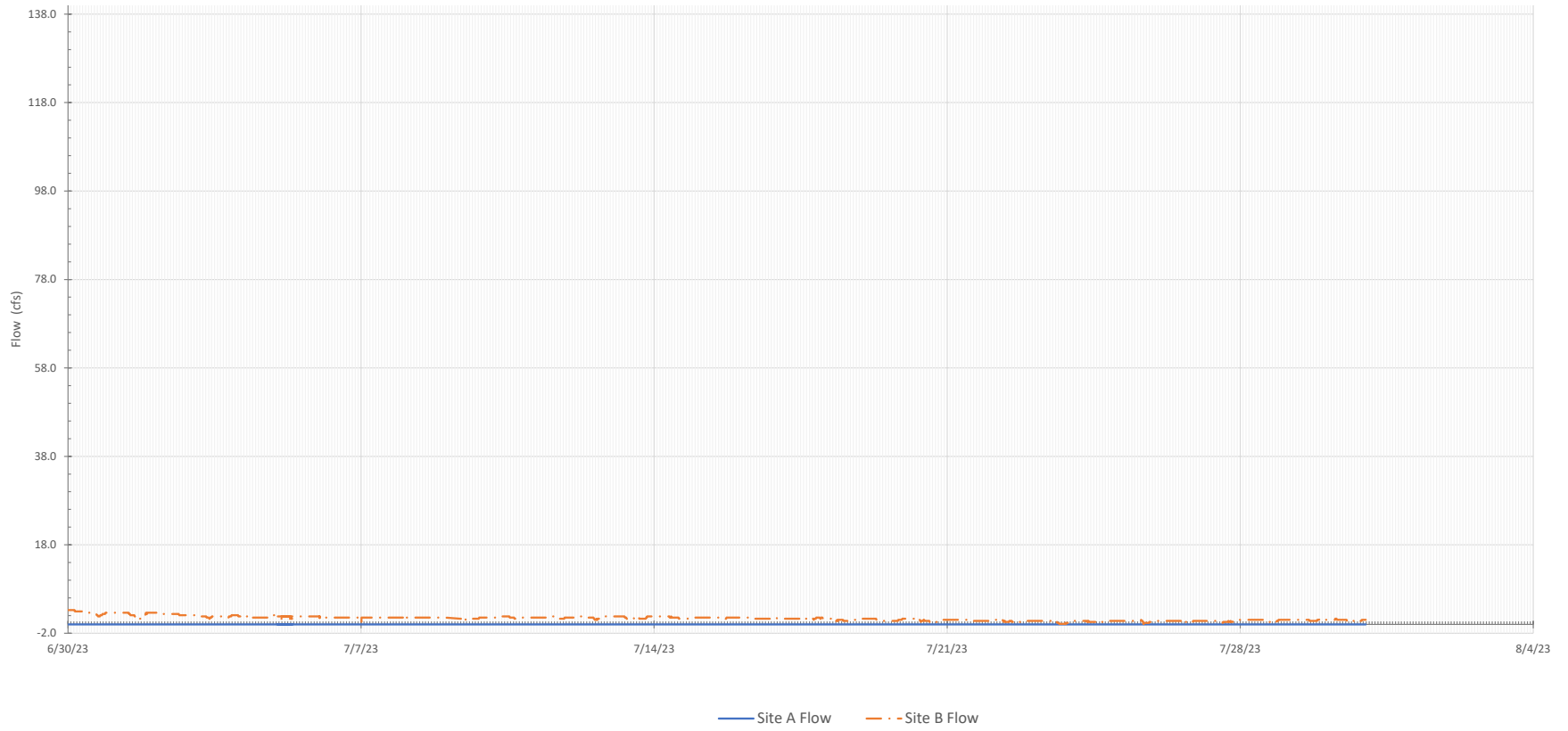
Site A & B Flow
May 2023



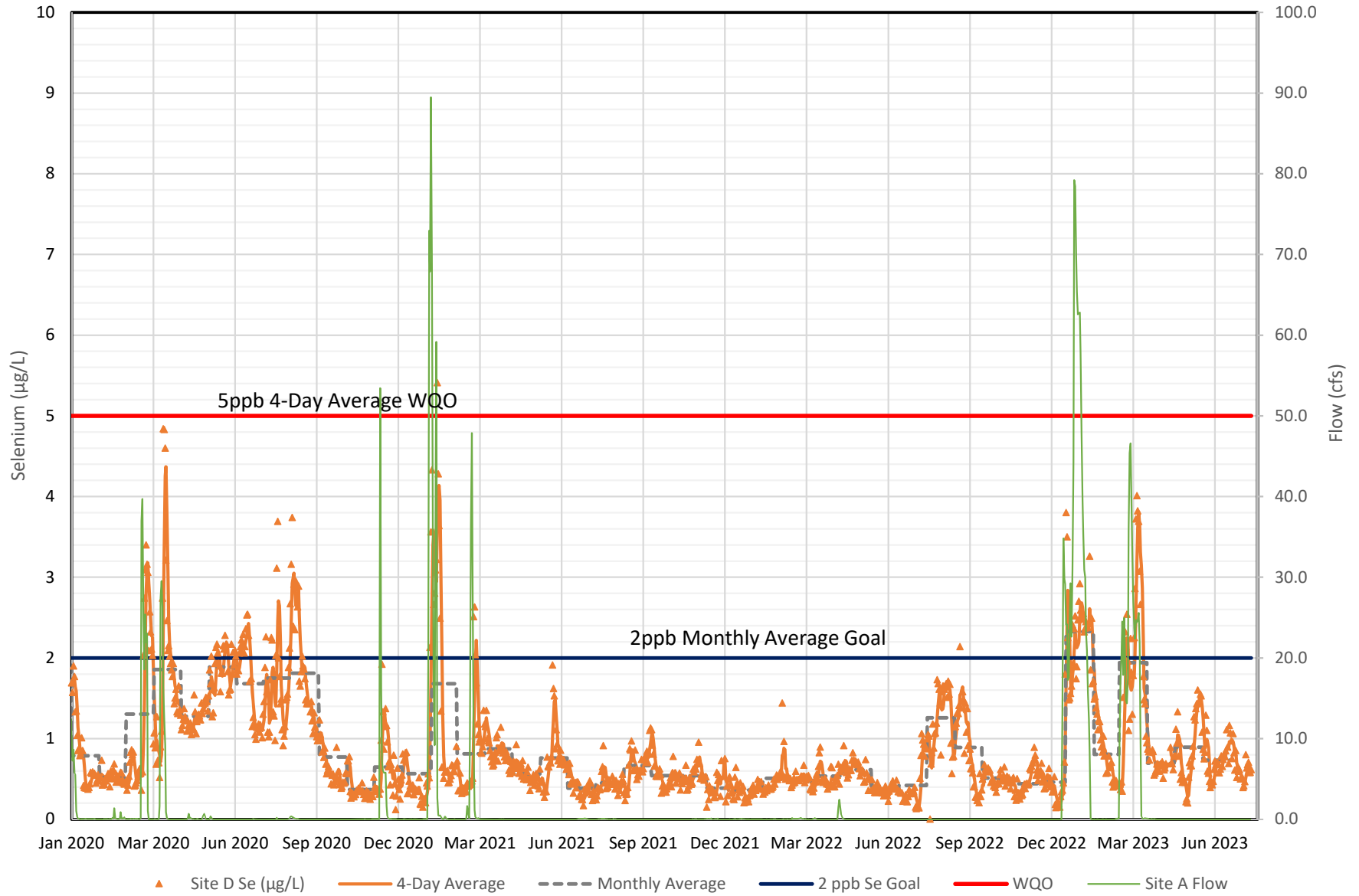
Site A & B Flow
June 2023



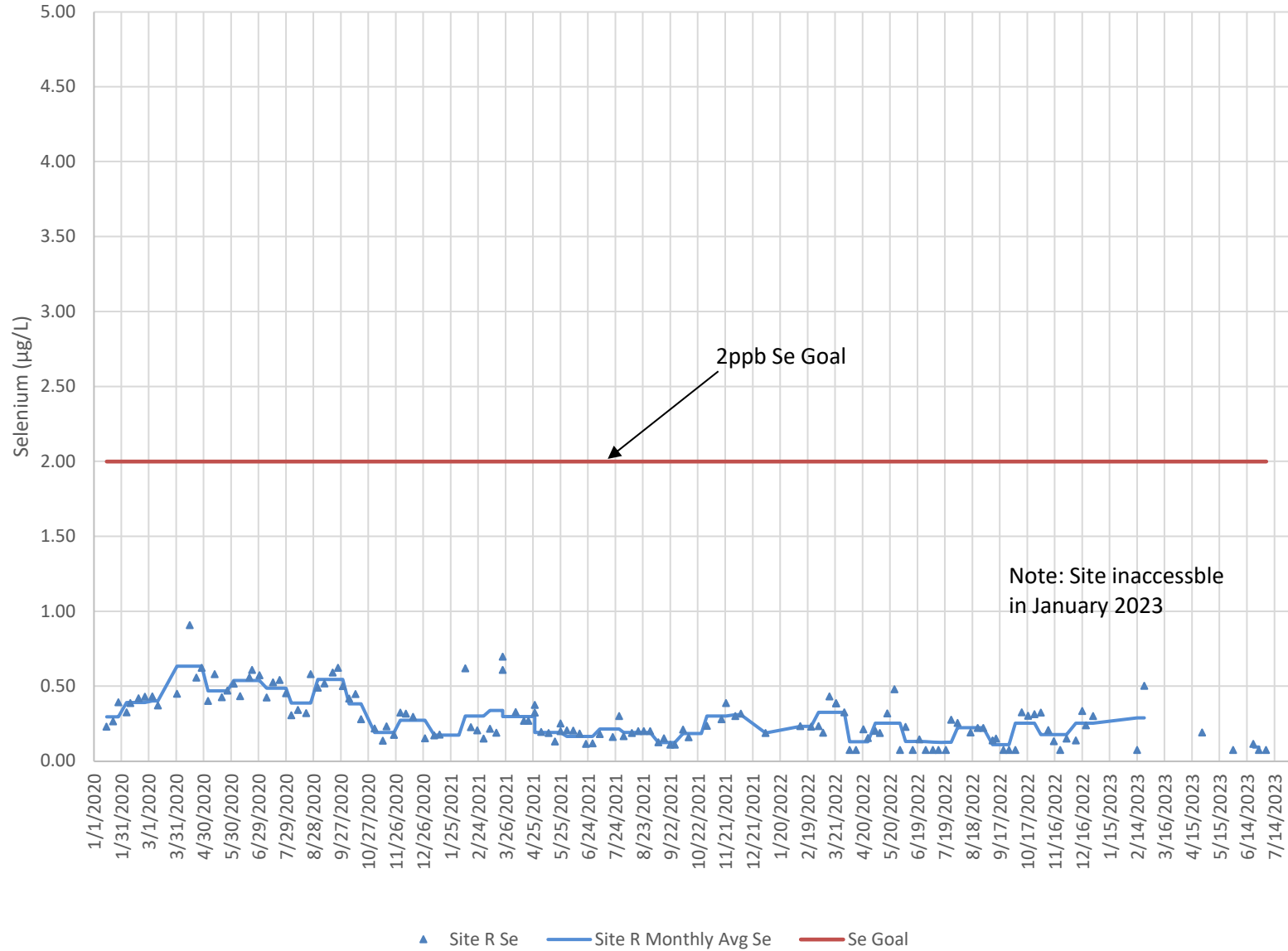
Site A & B Flow
July 2023

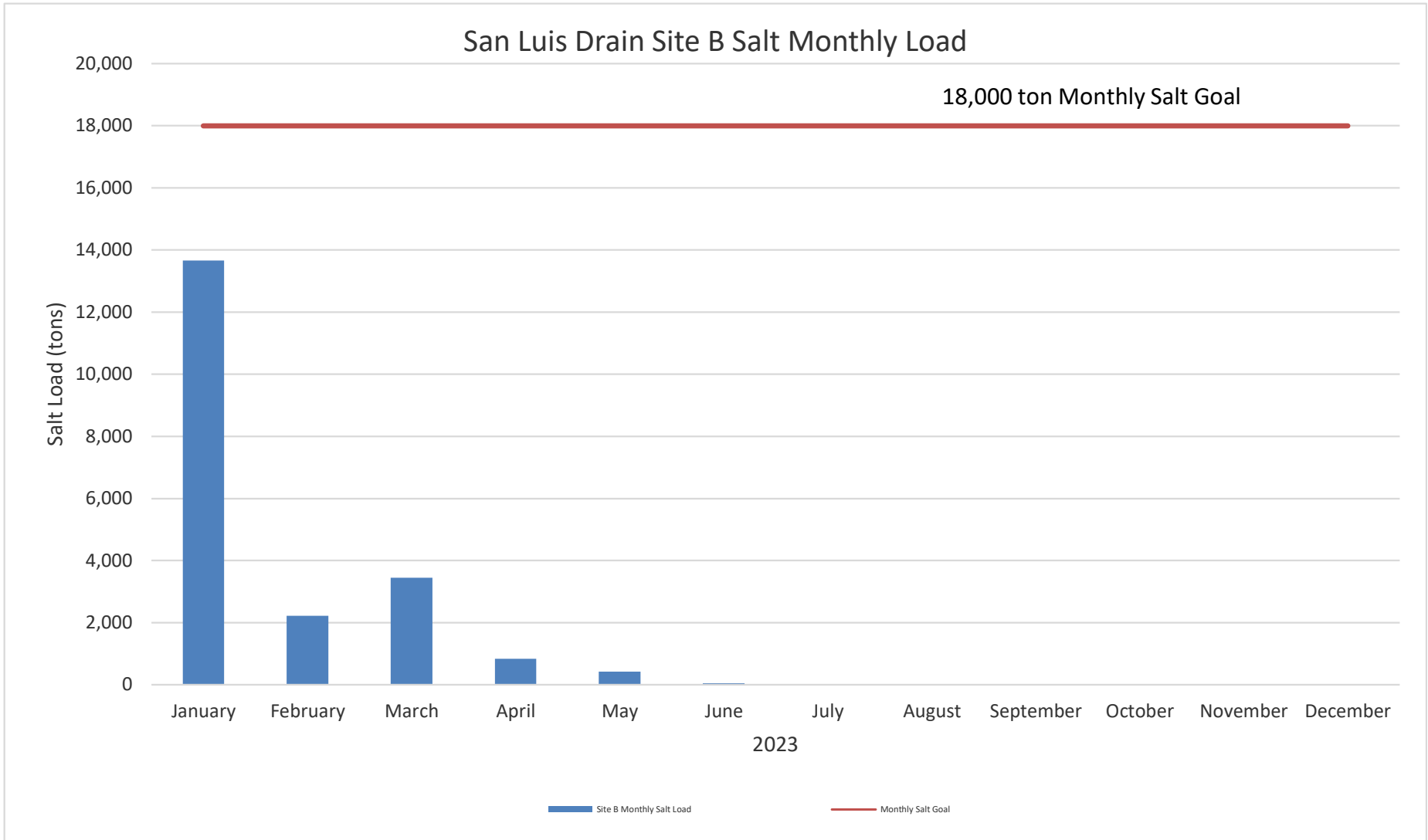


Mud Slough Selenium January 2020 - June 2023



Site R - San Joaquin River downstream of Mud Slough - Selenium





Chris Linneman
 Summers Engineering, Inc.
 887 N. Irwin Street
 Hanford, CA 93230

June 20, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report “Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water and Sediment Samples: Event 97” for the samples that were collected April 20, 2023. The results of this testing are summarized below.

Toxicity summary for Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water and sediment samples.				
Sample Station	Toxicity relative to the Lab Control treatment?			
	<i>Selenastrum capricornutum</i>	<i>Daphnia magna</i>	Fathead Minnow	<i>Hyalella azteca</i>
	Growth	Survival	Survival	Survival
Site D	No	No	No	No
Site B3		No		
Site F		No		
Site R		No		

Chronic Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water to *Selenastrum capricornutum*

There was no significant reduction in algal growth in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water to *Daphnia magna*

There were no significant reductions in survival in any of the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water samples.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water to Fathead Minnows

There was no significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Ambient Sediment to *Hyalella azteca*

There was no significant reduction in survival in the Site D sediment tested with *H. azteca*.



Chris Linneman
Summers Engineering, Inc.
887 N. Irwin Street
Hanford, CA 93230

June 28, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report “Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water Sample: Event 98” for the sample that was collected May 25, 2023. The results of this testing are summarized below.

Toxicity summary for Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water samples.			
Sample Station	Toxicity relative to the Lab Control treatment?		
	<i>Selenastrum capricornutum</i>	<i>Daphnia magna</i>	Fathead Minnow
	Growth	Survival	Survival
Site D	No	No	No

Chronic Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to *Selenastrum capricornutum*

There were no significant reductions in algal growth in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to *Daphnia magna*

There were no significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to Fathead Minnows

There were no significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.



Chris Linneman
Summers Engineering, Inc.
887 N. Irwin Street
Hanford, CA 93230

July 21, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report “Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water Sample: Event 99” for the samples that were collected June 29, 2023. The results of this testing are summarized below.

Toxicity summary for Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water samples.			
Sample Station	Toxicity relative to the Lab Control treatment?		
	<i>Selenastrum capricornutum</i>	<i>Daphnia magna</i>	Fathead Minnow
	Growth	Survival	Survival
Site D	No	No	No
Site B3	No		No
Site F	No		No
Site R	No		No

Chronic Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to *Selenastrum capricornutum*

There were **no** significant reductions in algal growth in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water samples.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to *Daphnia magna*

There were **no** significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water samples.

Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to Fathead Minnows

There were **no** significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water samples.