



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

**Friday, May 19, 2023 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

**San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Boardroom  
842 6<sup>th</sup> 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 February 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**
5. **Committee to Consider Acceptance of the Financial Report**

**Report Items**

6. Committee to Receive Report on the Mud Slough Restoration Program
7. Committee to Receive Report on the Status of the Prop 84 Grant Program
8. Grassland Bypass Project Updates:
  - a. Operations Report
  - b. Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report - Committee to Review and Authorize Release of Information

9. Update on Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Groundwater, Grassland Drainage Area Coalition
10. Reports from District Representatives
11. Reports on Other Items Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)
12. Date and Time of Next Meeting
13. 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. Winnemem Wintu Tribe, et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al. (Merced County Superior Court), Case No. 21CV-02721
    - d. 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)
14. Return to Open Session
15. Report from Closed Session, if Required by Government Code Section 54957.1
16. 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](mailto:cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org) or [sandi.ginda@sldmwa.org](mailto: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/>.

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

**February 17, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) met at 9:38 a.m. at 842 6<sup>th</sup> 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

**Panoche Drainage District**  
Mike Linneman, Member

**SLDMWA Staff Present**

Joe McGahan, Drainage Coordinator

Lauren Viers, Staff Accountant

**Others Present**

Ara Azhderian, Panoche Water and Drainage District

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 December 16, 2022 Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee (GBDSC) meeting minutes, with one minor edit: Raymond Tarka's title with the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority is Director of Finance. Committee Member Kevin Hurd moved to approve the December 16, 2022 minutes as corrected, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Michael Linneman and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd and Linneman

DRAFT

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**5. Committee to Consider Acceptance of Financial Expenditures Report.**

Staff Accountant 3 Lauren Viers presented the Financial Report through 2/17/23 and noted the expenditures were trending under budget. Committee Member Mike Linneman moved to approve the Financial Expenditures Report as presented, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Kevin Hurd and passed unanimously.

AYES: Cory, Hurd, and Linneman

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

**6. Committee to Receive Report on Mud Slough Restoration Project**

Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan explained the Grassland Basin Drainers have an obligation to return Mud Slough to its original state- hence the need for restoration project. McGahan noted he has reached out to California Fish and Wildlife for direction on a few issues associated with the restoration project. Both Joe McGahan and Chris Linnemen responded to questions.

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

Ara Azhderian reported on construction work for storm water regulation ponds has been slowed by rainfall.

**8. Grassland Bypass Project Updates**

- a. Operations Report – Drainage Coordinator Joe McGahan referred to the forecast for the San Joaquin Valley Water Year Type Index 60-20-20 (SJI) in today's meeting packet. McGahan explained the 75 percent probability of Exceedance indicates a 4.2 million acre-foot forecasted runoff on the San Joaquin River and noted this forecast was once used to determine an allowable Selenium load for the Grassland Basin Drainers.

Chris Linneman then 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 December 2022– January 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 then reported on Site B Monthly Salt Load and Site R Selenium concentration and concluded by discussing

DRAFT

December - January storm water flows and noted water quality objectives were attained.

- b. **Monitoring Program and Toxicity Data Report** – Chris Linneman presented and the Committee reviewed event 93; samples collected December 8, 2022. The report 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 in the process of coordinating information from the membership that is due by April 1, 2023.

10. **Reports from District Representatives** – Chairman David Cory thanked Chris Linneman and Palmer McCoy for their due diligence in managing discharges during the past few months storm events.

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 March 17, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

13. **Closed Session**

The Committee convened to a Closed Session at 10:00 a.m.

14. **Return to Open Session**

The Committee returned to Open Session at 10:25 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 but took no action.

16. **Adjournment**

Chairman David Cory adjourned the meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee at 10:27 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 - 3/31/23**

**GBD 5/19/23**

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>Paid/ Expense</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>% of Amt Remaining</b>	<b>Expenses Through</b>
<u>Legal:</u>					
Linneman et al	\$ 20,000		\$ 20,000	100%	
Pioneer Law Group - CEQA Legal Consultant	\$ 70,000		\$ 70,000	100%	
Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy	\$ 40,000		\$ 40,000	100%	
Kahn, Soares & Conway	\$ 45,000	\$ 126	\$ 44,874	100%	3/31/23
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		\$ 143,000	100%	
Quality Data Processing/Load Calc (Summers)	\$ 176,255		\$ 176,255	100%	
Flow Calculation/Station Maint. (Summers)	\$ 38,500		\$ 38,500	100%	
Field Coordinator (PDD)	\$ 35,000		\$ 35,000	100%	
Real Time Monitoring Equip (PDD)	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000	100%	
Panoche Creek Gauging Station	\$ 7,900		\$ 7,900	100%	
Water Quality Monitoring (Reg. Sites)	\$ 243,000	\$ 20,853	\$ 222,148	91%	3/31/23
Newman Water Costs	\$ 118,856		\$ 118,856	100%	
* Restoration of Mud Slough Channel (Newman Land)	\$ 96,800		\$ 96,800	100%	
Waste Discharge Permit Fees	\$ 64,000		\$ 64,000	100%	
Drainage Management Plan	\$ 13,200		\$ 13,200	100%	
New UA Mud Slough Mitigation:					
Remove Sediment in SLD	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000	100%	
Use of Drain:					
Operation & Maintenance (PDD)	\$ 158,400		\$ 158,400	100%	
Biological Monitoring:					
Pacific Eco Risk	\$ 100,000	\$ 12,703	\$ 87,297	87%	3/31/23
HT Harvey-SJRIP Egg Monitoring	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000	100%	
Fish Biologist - Splittail/Sturgeon	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000	100%	
Groundwater WDR Specific:					
Membership Enrollment/List (Summers)	\$ 115,830		\$ 115,830	100%	
Farm Evaluation Plan (Summers)	\$ 23,100		\$ 23,100	100%	
NMP Summary Report	\$ 20,915		\$ 20,915	100%	
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		\$ 10,983	100%	
Trend Monit Prgm	\$ 67,600		\$ 67,600	100%	
Develop Web Portal	\$ 5,648		\$ 5,648	100%	
Collect State Board Fee	\$ 126,000		\$ 126,000	100%	
Annual Monitoring Report (Summers)	\$ 46,200		\$ 46,200	100%	
CVGMC Data	\$ 2,700		\$ 2,700	100%	
<u>Other:</u>					
General Counsel	\$ 2,896	\$ 440	\$ 2,456	85%	3/31/23
In-House Staff	\$ 965	\$ 141	\$ 824	85%	3/31/23
Other Services & Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 2,078,148</b>	<b>\$ 34,262</b>	<b>\$ 2,043,886</b>	<b>98%</b>	

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

		Grassland Basin	
Report Period: 3/1/23-3/31/23		Drainage	
Report Date: 4/21/23		Fund 22	
Receivable Balance at December 31, 2022			Total
		\$ (2.00)	\$ (2.00)
<b>Billings:</b>			
<b>1st Installment FY24 - GBD</b>			
Camp 13 Drainage District	\$	12,337.50	\$ 12,337.50
Charleston Drainage District	\$	16,913.00	\$ 16,913.00
Firebaugh Canal Water District	\$	92,276.00	\$ 92,276.00
Pacheco Water District	\$	44,570.00	\$ 44,570.00
Panoche Drainage District	\$	347,975.50	\$ 347,975.50
<b>1st Installment FY24 - GBD WDR Specific</b>			
Camp 13 Drainage District	\$	13,756.00	\$ 13,756.00
Charleston Drainage District	\$	10,735.50	\$ 10,735.50
Firebaugh Canal Water District	\$	60,821.50	\$ 60,821.50
Pacheco Water District	\$	13,094.50	\$ 13,094.50
Panoche Drainage District	\$	112,866.50	\$ 112,866.50
San Joaquin River Improvement Project	\$	16,062.00	\$ 16,062.00
Widren LLC	\$	2,352.00	\$ 2,352.00
<b>Total Billings:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>743,760.00</b>	<b>\$ 743,760.00</b>
<b>Collections:</b>			
Camp 13 Drainage District			\$ -
Charleston Drainage District	\$	27,648.50	\$ 27,648.50
Firebaugh Canal Water District	\$	153,097.50	\$ 153,097.50
Pacheco Water District			\$ -
Panoche Drainage District	\$	228,858.34	\$ 228,858.34
San Joaquin River Improvement Project	\$	16,062.00	\$ 16,062.00
Widren LLC			\$ -
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>425,666.34</b>	<b>\$ 425,666.34</b>
<b>Receivable Balance at March 31, 2023</b>		<b>\$ 318,091.66</b>	<b>\$ 318,091.66</b>
<b>Outstanding Accounts:</b>			
<b>1st Installment FY20/21 - GBD WDR Specific</b>			
AMK Pereira	\$	(1.00)	\$ (1.00)
<b>2nd Installment FY20/21 - GBD WDR Specific</b>			
Madeline Pereira	\$	(1.00)	\$ (1.00)
	<b>\$</b>	<b>(2.00)</b>	<b>\$ (2.00)</b>
<b>1st Installment FY24 - GBD</b>			
Camp 13 Drainage District	\$	26,093.50	\$ 26,093.50
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
	<b>\$</b>	<b>318,093.66</b>	<b>\$ 318,093.66</b>
<b>Outstanding Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>318,091.66</b>	<b>\$ 318,091.66</b>

## Legend

Channels cleaned of drainwater by the GBP

## Channels Containing Drainage

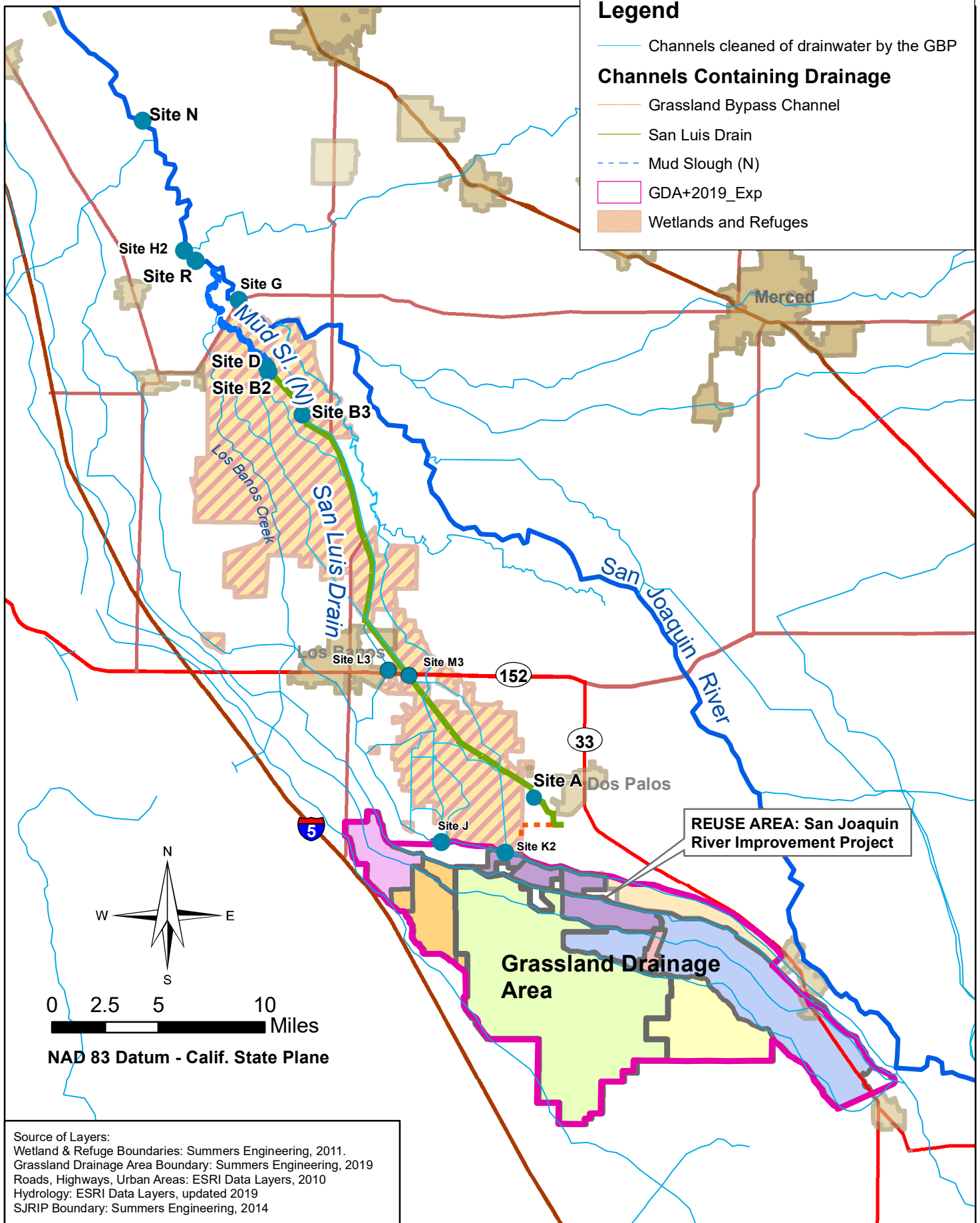
Grassland Bypass Channel

San Luis Drain

Mud Slough (N)

GDA+2019\_Exp

Wetlands and Refuges



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  
SJRIIP Boundary: Summers Engineering, 2014

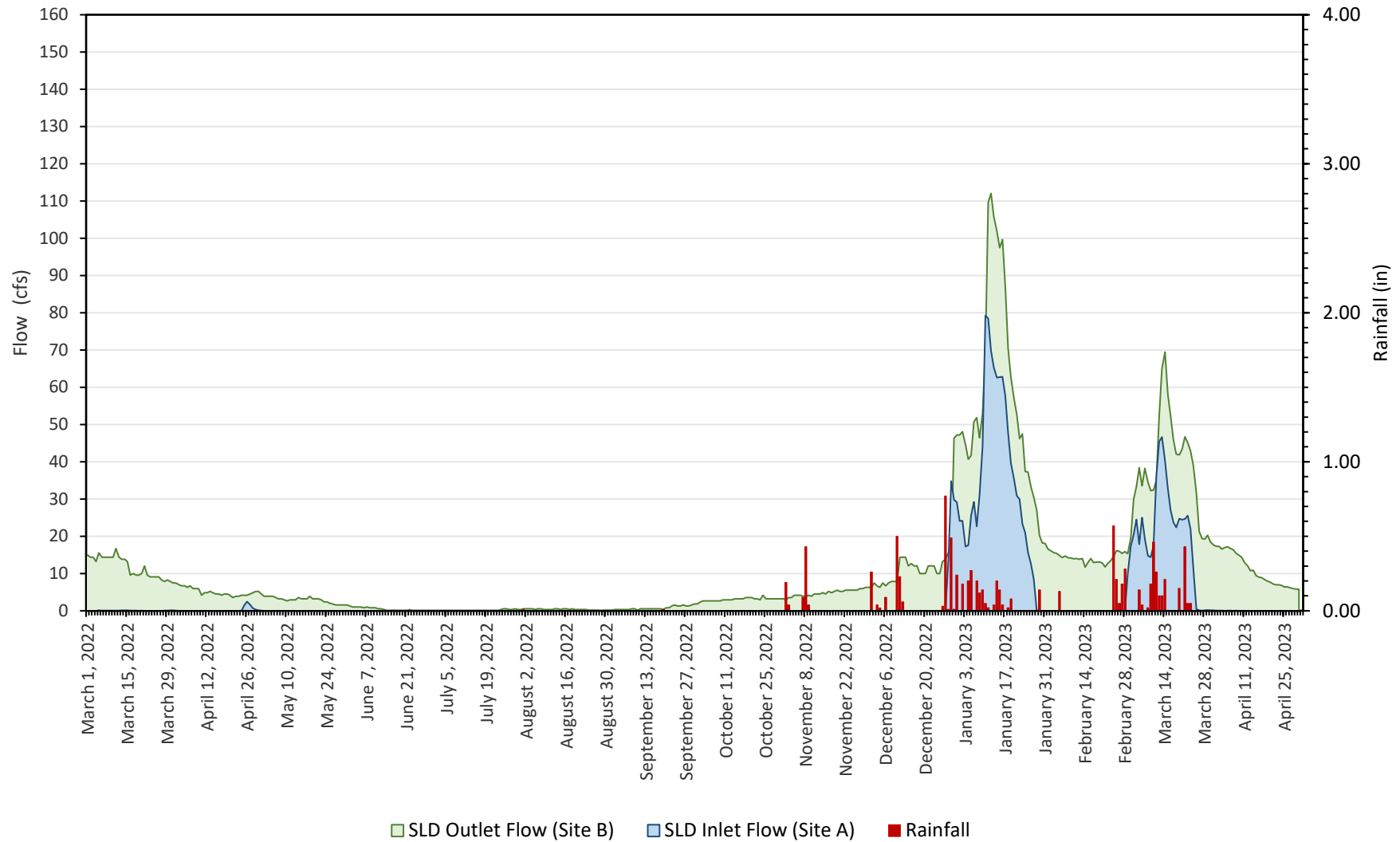
Document Path: G:\data\ARCVIEWMAPS\GBP\LRP\GBP Basemap+Monitoring.mxd

## Grassland Bypass Project Location Map

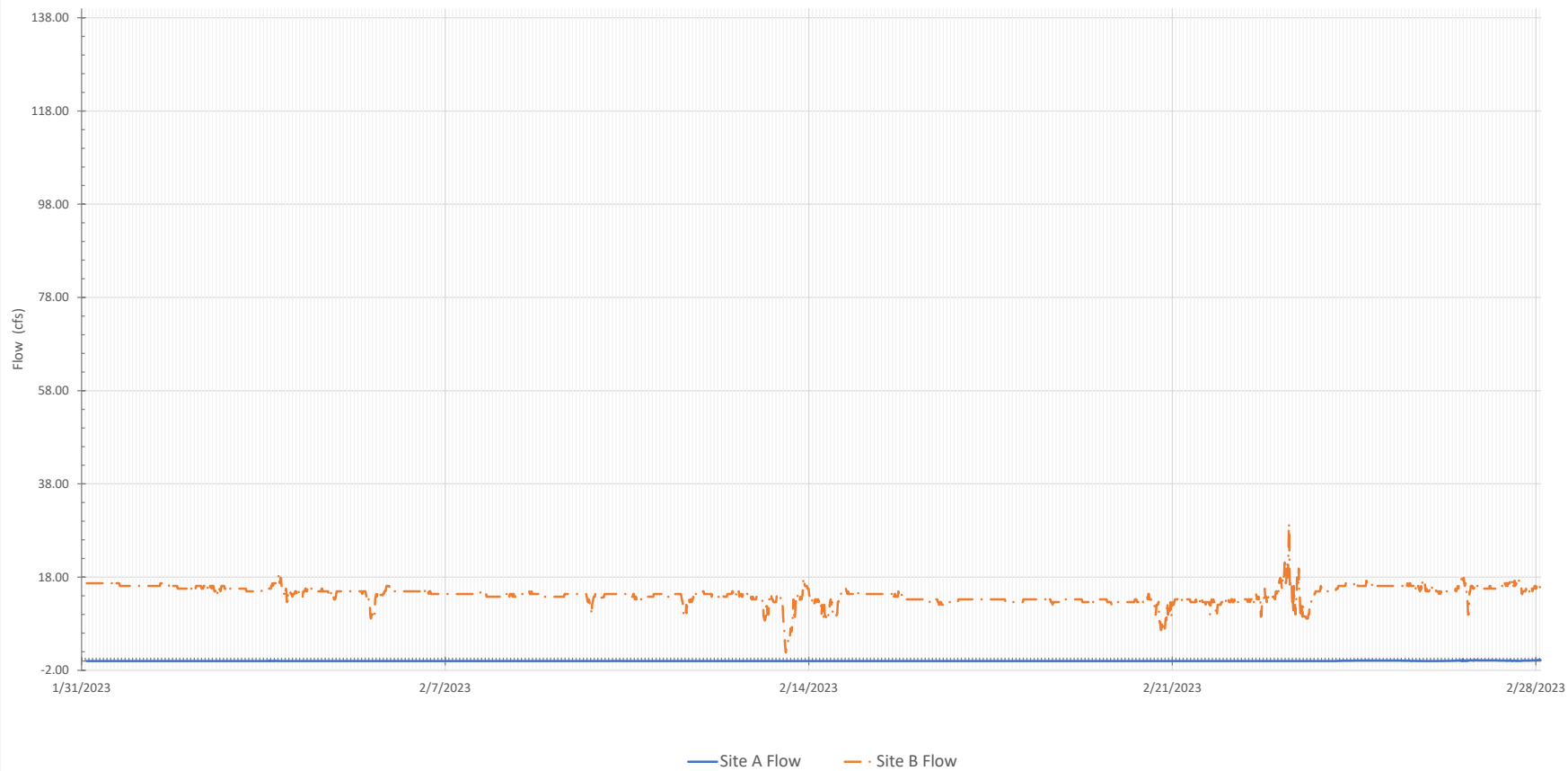
Prepared by:  
Summers Engineering, Inc.  
Consulting Engineers  
Hanford California



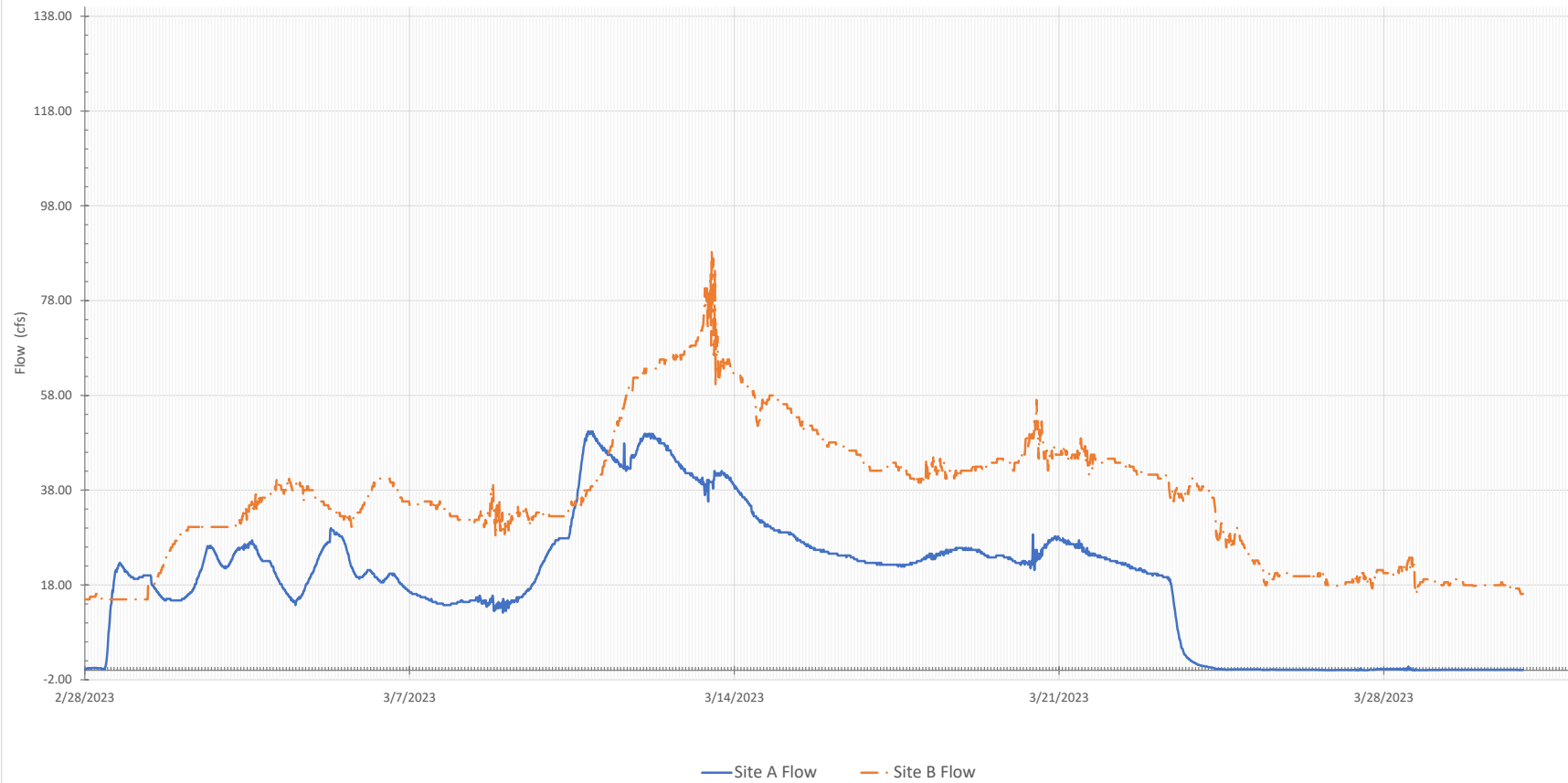
## Grassland Bypass Project - Site A & B Discharge & Rainfall



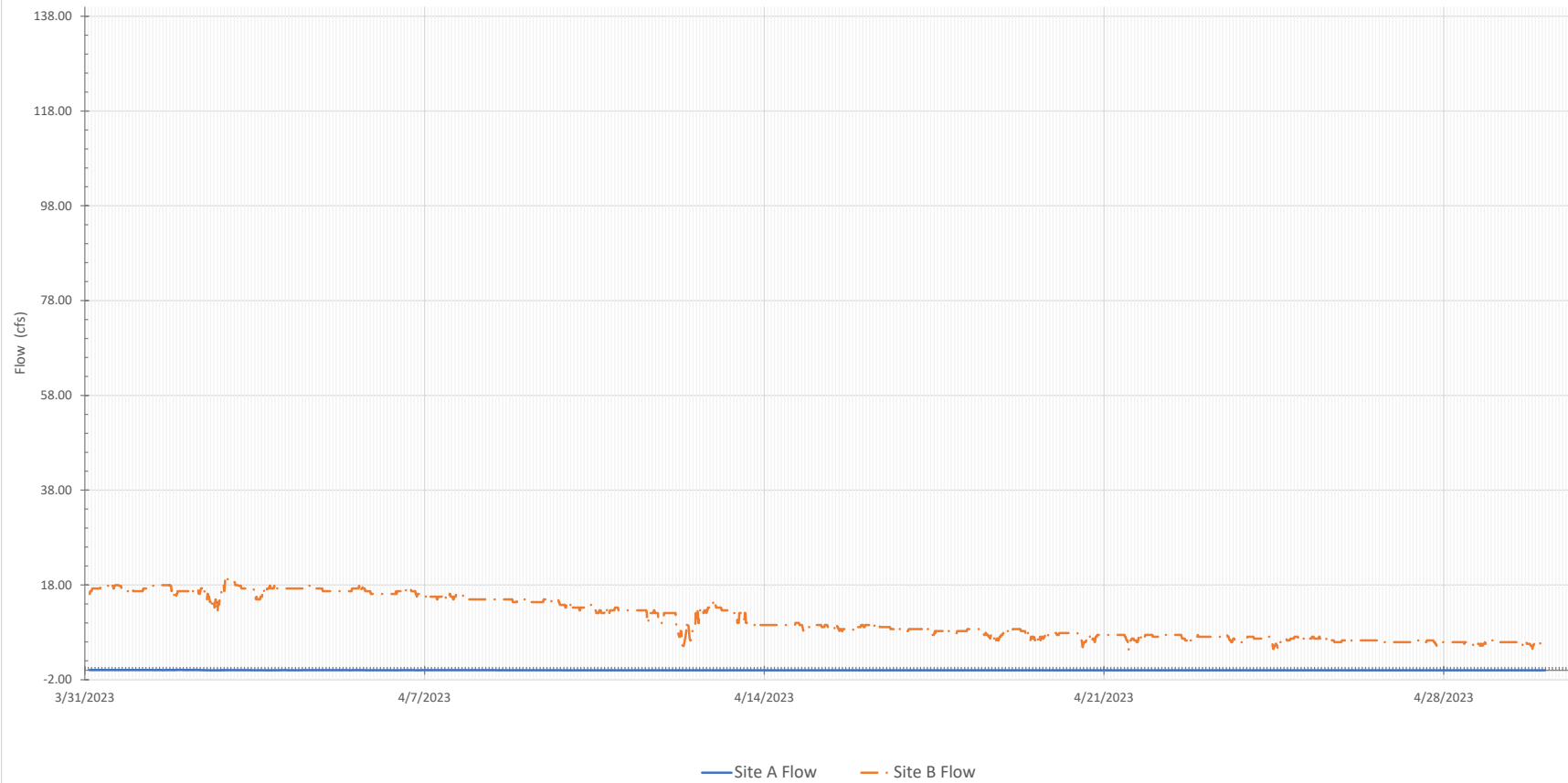
Site A & B Flow  
2023



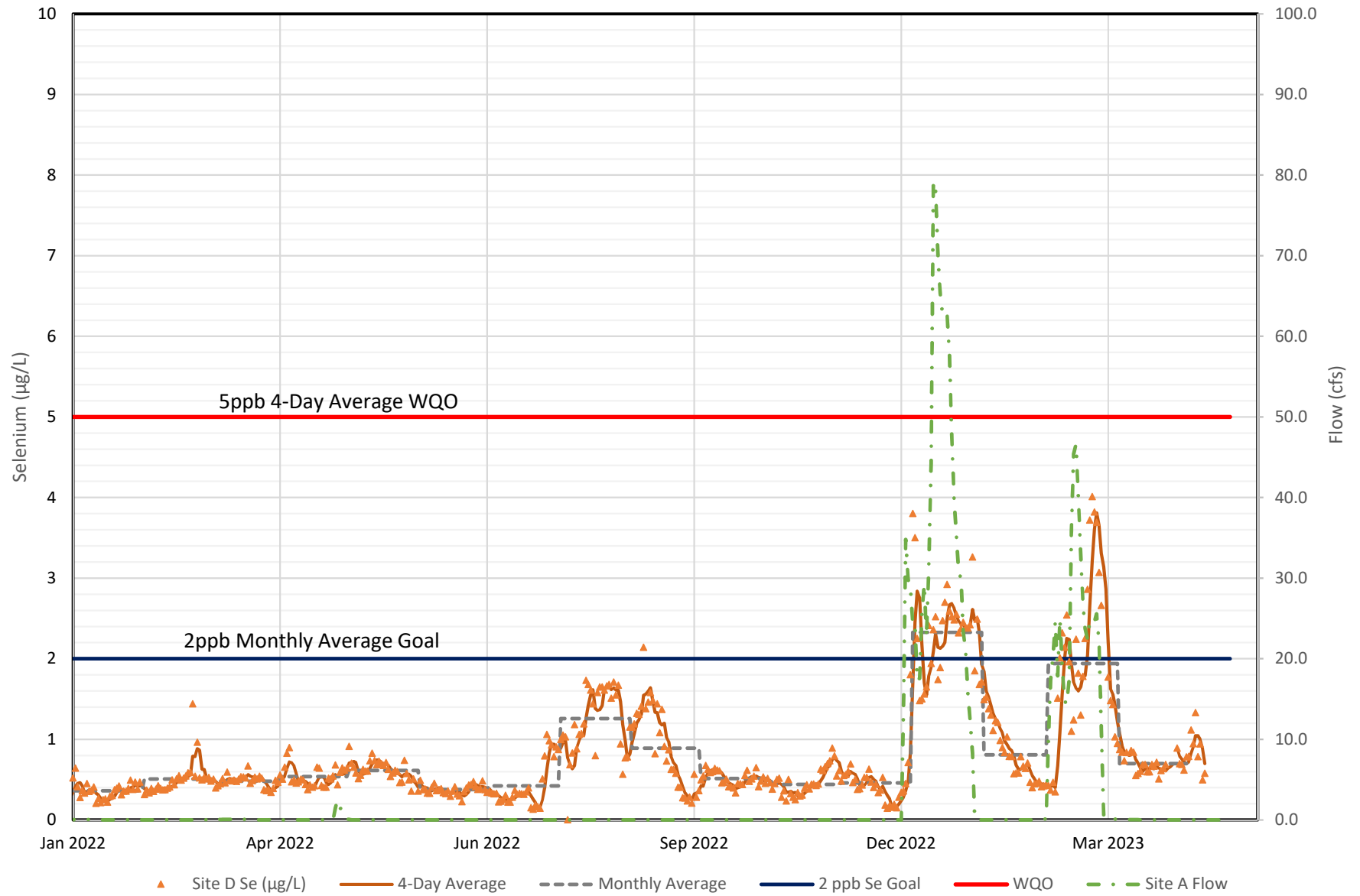
Site A & B Flow  
2023



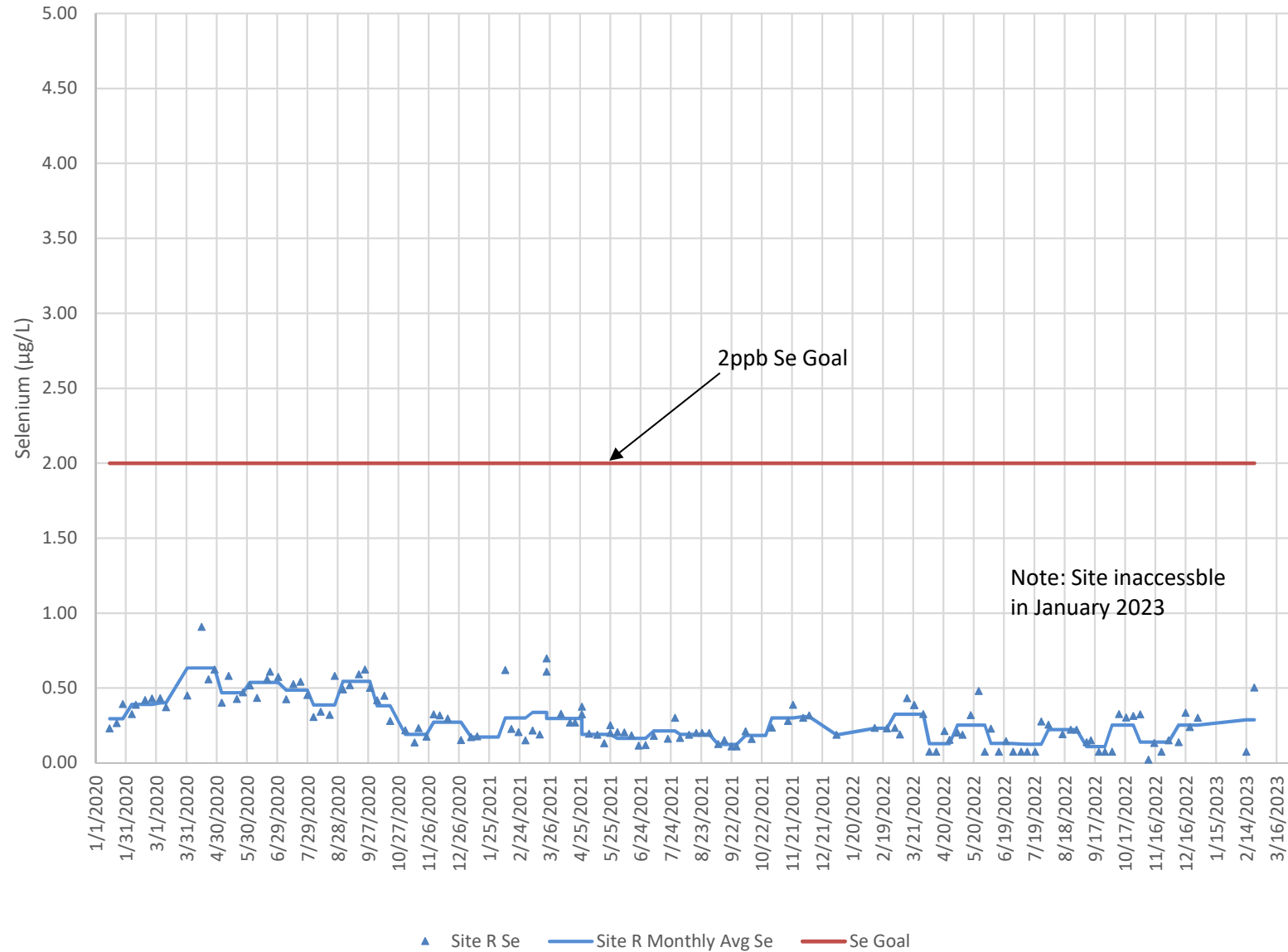
Site A & B Flow  
2023

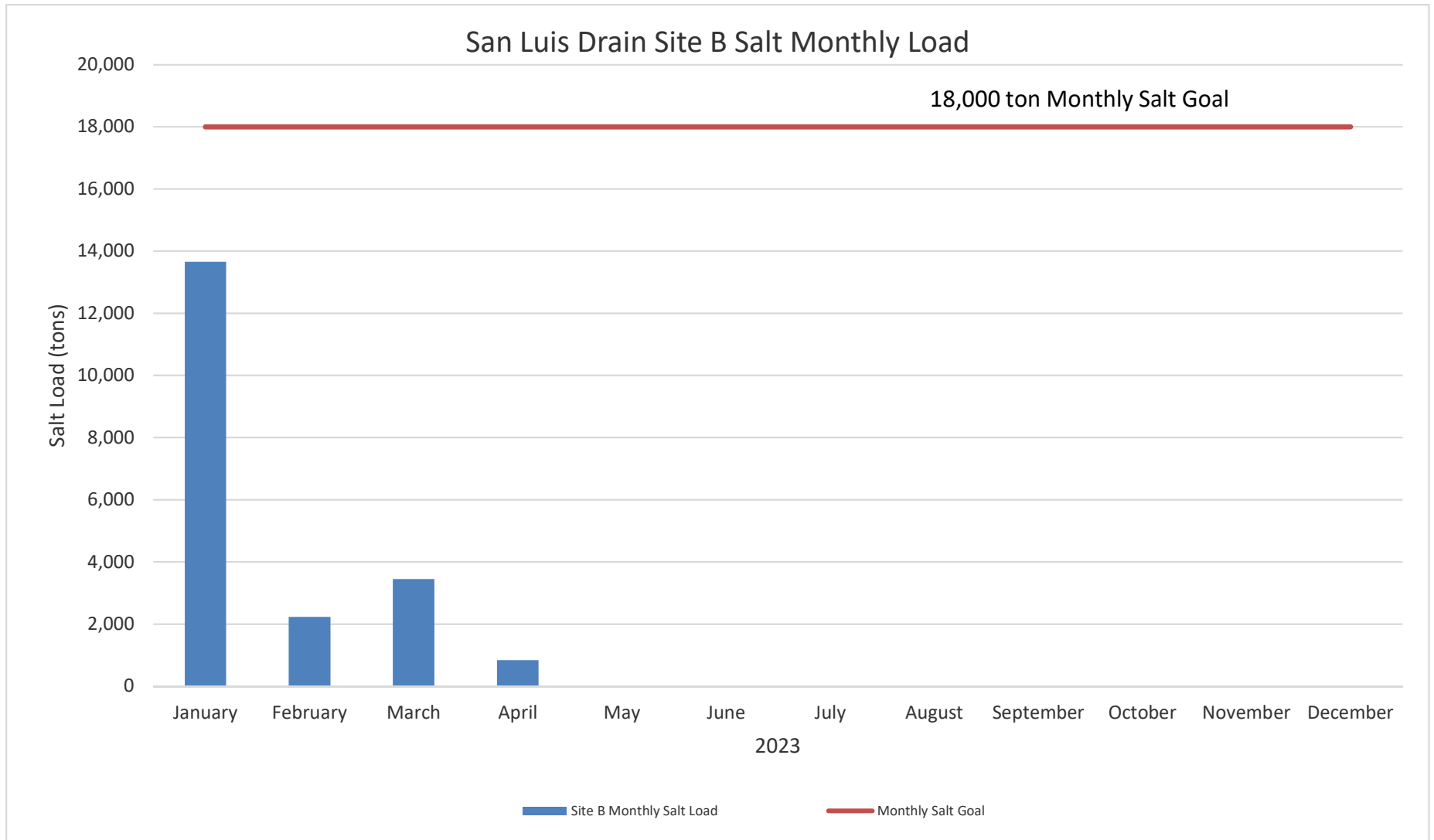


# Mud Slough Selenium January 2022 - May 2023



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







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

February 23, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report "Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water Sample: Event 94" for the sample that was collected January 26, 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.

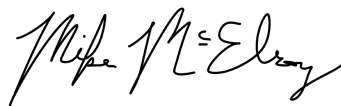
#### **Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to Fathead Minnows**

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



If you have any questions regarding the performance and interpretation of these tests, feel free to contact us at (707) 207-7760.

Sincerely,



Mike McElroy  
Senior Project Manager



Pacific EcoRisk is accredited in accordance with NELAP (ORELAP ID 4043). Pacific EcoRisk certifies that the test results reported herein conform to the most current NELAP requirements for parameters for which accreditation is required and available. Any exceptions to NELAP requirements are noted, where applicable, in the body of the report. This report shall not be reproduced, except in full, without the written consent of Pacific EcoRisk. This testing was performed under Lab Order 22166.



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

March 20, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report “Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water Sample: Event 95” for the sample that was collected February 22, 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***

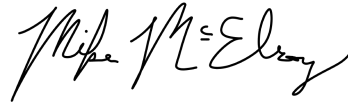
There were no significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.

**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.

If you have any questions regarding the performance and interpretation of these tests, feel free to contact us at (707) 207-7760.

Sincerely,



Mike McElroy  
Senior Project Manager



Pacific EcoRisk is accredited in accordance with NELAP (ORELAP ID 4043). Pacific EcoRisk certifies that the test results reported herein conform to the most current NELAP requirements for parameters for which accreditation is required and available. Any exceptions to NELAP requirements are noted, where applicable, in the body of the report. This report shall not be reproduced, except in full, without the written consent of Pacific EcoRisk. This testing was performed under Lab Order 22166.



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

April 5, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report "Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters" for the samples that were collected March 7, 2023. The results of this testing are summarized below.

Toxicity summary for the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.	
Sample Station	Toxicity relative to the Lab Water Control treatment?
	<i>Hyalella</i> Survival
GBP-B3-TE	No
GBP-D-TE	No
GBP-R-TE	No

**Acute Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Waters to *Hyalella azteca***

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

If you have any questions regarding the performance and interpretation of these tests, feel free to contact us at (707) 207-7760.

Sincerely,

Mike McElroy  
Sr. Project Manager



Pacific EcoRisk is accredited in accordance with NELAP (PJ Labs ID 86138). Pacific EcoRisk certifies that the test results reported herein conform to the most current NELAP requirements for parameters for which accreditation is required and available. Any exceptions to NELAP requirements are noted, where applicable, in the body of the report. This report shall not be reproduced, except in full, without the written consent of Pacific EcoRisk. This testing was performed under Lab Order 22166.



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

April 5, 2023

Chris:

I have enclosed our report “Evaluation of the Toxicity of Grasslands Bypass Project Ambient Water Sample: Event 96” for the sample that was collected March 7, 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***

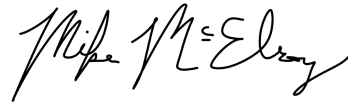
There were **no** significant reductions in survival in the Grasslands Bypass Project ambient water sample.

**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 samples.

If you have any questions regarding the performance and interpretation of these tests, feel free to contact us at (707) 207-7760.

Sincerely,



Mike McElroy  
Senior Project Manager



Pacific EcoRisk is accredited in accordance with NELAP (PJ Labs ID 86138). Pacific EcoRisk certifies that the test results reported herein conform to the most current NELAP requirements for parameters for which accreditation is required and available. Any exceptions to NELAP requirements are noted, where applicable, in the body of the report. This report shall not be reproduced, except in full, without the written consent of Pacific EcoRisk. This testing was performed under Lab Order 22166.