



# Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: 6/1/2026 | 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/87336808611?pwd=LXEsiZVd1gqBh2ISxde5acnrCZRlan.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

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 May 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes	
5.	Recommendation to Board of Directors to Authorize Amendments to Task Orders with Stantec, Inc. and Related Expenditure of \$139,500 from the FY27 Leg Ops and OM&R Budgets	Petersen

**REPORT ITEMS**

- |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>6.</b>  | Update on Status of Golden Mussels                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Arroyave,<br>Petersen,<br>Meyer |
| <b>7.</b>  | Executive Director’s Report<br>(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) | Barajas                         |
| <b>8.</b>  | Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities<br>(May include reports on federal, state, and local agency regulatory, legislative, and administrative water policy/resources activities)                                                                                                                             | Petersen                        |
| <b>9.</b>  | Update on Water Operations and Forecasts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Arroyave                        |
| <b>10.</b> | Committee Member Reports                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                 |
| <b>11.</b> | Closed Session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Akroyd                          |
|            | CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION<br>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<br>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<br>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)                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |
|            | G. Bettencourt v. SLDMWA, et al., Merced Co. Superior Court, Case No. 26CV-01422 (employment complaint)                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                 |
| <b>13.</b> | Return to Open Session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                 |
| <b>14.</b> | Report from Closed Session, if any, Required by Government Code Section 54957.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 |

15. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)

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 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

June 1, 2026

15671 W. Oakland Ave  
Five Points, CA 93624

1025 Deerhaven Drive  
Vista, CA 92084



# Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 5/11/2026 | 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: Cannon Michael  
William Bourdeau

Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Member

Division 2: Lon Martin, Alternate

Division 3: Ric Ortega, Alternate

Division 4: Vince Gin, Member  
Dana Jacobson, Alternate

Division 5: Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Division 5: Manny Amorelli  
FWA Rep.: 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  
Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician  
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

#### Board of Directors Present

Division 1: Anthea Hansen, Director  
Lea Emmons, Alternate

Division 2: Justin Diener, Director  
William Bourdeau, Director  
Lon Martin, Alternate

Division 3: Jarrett Martin, Director  
Cannon Michael, Chair/Director  
Ric Ortega, Director

Division 4: Aaron Baker, Alternate  
Dana Jacobson, Director  
Brett Miller, Alternate

#### Others Present

Chase Hurley, Pacheco Water District  
Stephen Farmer, Westlands Water District  
John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District  
Brian Silva, San Luis Water District  
Patrick McGowan, Panoche Water District  
Ron Milligan, Milligan Consulting (ZOOM)

### 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.	
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. **Water Resources Committee to Consider Approval of the April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes** – Chair William Bourdeau deemed the April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes approved as submitted.
5. **Recommendation to the Board of Directors to Adopt Staff Recommendation on Positions on Legislation** Petersen
- A. **H.R. 8259 (Bentz), Reclamation Project Consultation Improvement Act of 2026** - Support & Amend
  - B. **A.B. 2214 (Jackson), Government finance: deposits** - Not Favor
  - C. **A.B. 2215 (Calderon), Water rights: permits: State Water Project** - Watch
  - D. **A.B. 2216 (Aguiar-Curry), Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy** - Watch
  - E. **A.B. 2447 (Bauer-Kahan), Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act** - Oppose
  - F. **A.B. 2739 (Soria), Water: affordability and system stabilization** - Support
  - G. **S.B. 1001 (Archuleta), Local agency, public utility, or mutual water company: personnel access: Person Identity Verification-Interoperable** - Favor
- Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the staff recommendations for positions on the seven listed pieces of legislation. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.
- M/S - Motion by Member Vince Gin, seconded by Alternate Lon Martin, the Committee recommended adoption of the staff recommendations for positions on H.R. 8259, A.B. 2214, A.B. 2015, A.B. 2016, A.B. 2447, A.B. 2739, and S.B. 1001. Vote: Ayes – Michael, Bourdeau, Hansen, Lon Martin, Ortega, Gin, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.
6. **Recommendation to Board of Directors to Adopt Resolution Providing Support for ACWA Vision for Our Water Future** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reviewed the documents included in the packet. Barajas reported that ACWA is encouraging members to help elevate the Vision for Our Water Future by adopting a resolution or proclamation in support. Barajas reported that ACWA’s Vision for Our Water Future seeks to elevate water as a top priority for California’s next governor, legislative leadership, and state officials. Barajas reported that the four key priorities associated with this Vision are: (1) Lead on Water, (2) Protect Affordability, (3) Deliver Critical Infrastructure, and (4) Modernize Water Management.
- M/S - Motion by Alternate Lon Martin, seconded by Member Vince Gin, the Committee recommended adoption of resolution providing support for ACWA Vision for Our Future. Vote: Ayes – Michael, Bourdeau, Hansen, Lon Martin, Ortega, Gin, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.
7. **Update on Status of Golden Mussels** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave, Petersen,

Arroyave reported that the Authority continues to be focused on near-term actions, which includes installing Bio Boxes at Jones Pumping Plant and O'Neill Pumping/Generating Plant. Arroyave reported that staff will support the organization and facilitation of monthly coordination meetings with the assistance of Kearns & West through July 2026. Arroyave and staff answered questions throughout the presentation.

Meyer

**8. Executive Director's Report**

Barajas

- a. **Strategic Plan Implementation Update** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that staff will provide a Strategic Plan implementation update at the Board meeting on Thursday.
- b. **Organizational Framework** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that restructuring is taking place. Barajas reported that Water Policy Director Scott Petersen will assume oversight of Human Resources and Finance. Barajas reported that Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave will be focusing on O&M/EO&M/CIP. Barajas reported that there will also be restructuring of the Engineering Department.
- c. **Yuba Transfers** – Chief Operating Officer reported that staff will know whether Yuba transfers will be available this year in the next couple weeks.

- 9. Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided an update regarding Executive Order 14181 advancement, Bay Delta Plan Update, and the San Joaquin River Restoration Program. Petersen continued his update regarding the Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley, the San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program, and provided an ACWA personnel update reporting that Karla Nemeth has been selected as the new Executive Director of ACWA. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.

Petersen

- 10. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts** – Arroyave provided a brief operations update, including updates on planned outages. 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.

Arroyave,  
Milligan

- 11. Committee Member Reports** – None.

- 12. Agenda Items 12-14: Closed Session** – Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 10:41 a.m. Upon returning to open session at approximately 11:18 a.m., Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.

Akroyd

- 13. Agenda Item 15: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)** – No reports.

- 14. Agenda Item 16: Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:19 a.m.



# Official Memorandum

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

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To: SLDMWA Water Resources and Finance and Administration Committee Members and Alternates  
SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Chief Strategic and Administrative Officer

Date: June 1, 2026

RE: Recommendation to Board of Directors to Authorize Amendments to Task Orders with Stantec, Inc. and Related Expenditure of \$139,500 from the FY27 Leg Ops and OM&R Budgets

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## Background

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (“Water Authority”) has budgeted for a vacant position for a Water Resources Engineer for several years, with multiple attempts at recruiting to fill this position being unsuccessful, for a variety of factors. The Water Authority requires assistance with real-time operations support, water supply analyses, modeling support, and other water resources technical support.

In May, the Water Authority executed a Professional Services Agreement with Stantec, Inc. (Stantec) with two Task Orders, under delegated authority and consistent with the Water Authority’s Procurement Policy:

- Task Order 1: Real Time Operations Monitoring and Annual Report of Central Valley Project Operations - \$15,500 (Fund 01, through June 28, 2026)
- Task Order 2: On-Call Water Resources Support - \$70,000 (Fund 05, through February 28, 2027)

Staff now seeks to extend Task Order 1 for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2027, which will place the total contract value over the \$200,000 threshold for Board action.

## Issue for Decision

Whether the Water Resources and Finance and Administration Committees should recommend the execution of an amended Task Order with Stantec in the amount of \$139,500 to add (1) \$124,000 to Task Order 1 from Fund 01, and (2) a time extension through the end of Fiscal Year 2027 to provide Real-Time Operations Monitoring and an Annual Report of Central Valley Project Operations.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Committees recommend, and the Board authorize, execution of amended Task Orders with Stantec and related expenditures.

## Analysis

Stantec is a recognized leader in water resources engineering consulting support, with substantial experience in water operations modeling and biological modeling associated with the Central Valley Project and State Water Project for a wide variety of agencies, including Reclamation, DWR, and water districts



throughout California. Stantec is technically qualified and has the experience needed to perform these services for the Water Authority.

## Budget Implications

The Water Authority's Fiscal Year 2027 budget included \$185,200 in Fund 01 (OM&R) for salary and benefits associated with the Water Resources Engineer position. The Water Authority has executed an interim contract with Stantec for the services that would be performed by the in-house Water Resources Engineer through June 28, 2026.

There are sufficient funds in the OM&R budget through utilization of the Water Resources Engineer funds to support this contract extension without the need for a budget adjustment.

## Attachments

- (1) Draft Amendment to Task Order 046-F27-AA05-TO001
- (2) Redlined Amended Task Order 046-F27-AA05-TO001
- (3) Task Order 046-F27-AA05-TO002

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY**

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT  
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES  
FOR**

**Real-Time Operations Monitoring and Annual Report of CVP Operations**

**Agreement No.: 046-F27-AA05-TO001**

This First Amendment to Agreement No. 046-F27-AA05-TO001 is made and entered into effective June 8, 2026 by and between San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (“SLDMWA”) and Stantec, Inc. (“Consultant”).

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2026, SLDMWA and Consultant entered into a Task Order Agreement Whereby Consultant would perform Technical Support Services; and

WHEREAS, the parties now agree that a First Amendment to said Task Order Agreement is advisable;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES ENTER INTO THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH THE CHANGES OUTLINED BELOW:

1. Increase Task 1.1 – Forecast and Operations Monitoring and Annual Summary total budget maximum by \$124,000 and extend time from June 28, 2026 to February 28, 2027
  - a. From: \$15,500
  - b. To: \$139,500
  - c. From: June 28, 2026
  - d. To: February 28, 2027

All other tasks, terms and conditions on original agreement remain unchanged.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this Amendment 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 so bind Consultant to the terms of this Agreement.

<u>Consultant</u>	<u>San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority</u>
By: _____ Jeffrey T. Payne Senior Principal Water Resources Engineer Stantec, Inc.	By: _____ J. Scott Petersen Chief Strategic and Administrative Officer San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

**Real-Time Operations Monitoring and Annual Report of Central Valley Project Operations  
Detailed Scope of Work  
Task Order 046-F27-AA05-TO001**

The San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority ("Authority") has a longstanding staffing vacancy for a water resources engineer. Internally, such a role would support the monitoring of state-wide water supply conditions, forecasting, and daily Delta Export decisions; and performing analyses for the purpose of informing discussions with Reclamation and its Board of Directors.

This Task Order is intended to provide technical support to supplement Authority staff capacity. This Task Order also includes capacity for associated project management, including project coordination, project accounting, and invoicing.

Services described herein assume timely access to data, direction, and coordination from Authority staff. Services do not include expert testimony, litigation support, or regulatory compliance documentation unless authorized under a separate task order or written amendment.

**TASK 1.1 – Forecast and Operations Monitoring and Annual Summary**

For this task, Stantec will not charge for services based on hourly rates. Rather, Stantec would provide the following services to backstop informational shortages for a monthly fee of \$15,500.

- **Forecast evaluations.** This product includes an evaluation of Reclamation forecasts, when issued, with as-needed analyses and formulation of alternatives scoped in coordination with Authority staff. This product is likely to be active between December and June. Deliverables may include written memoranda, briefing materials, or verbal briefings summarizing forecast implications for Authority operations.
- **Weekly operations tracking.** This product would be year-long, being most active during the forecasting and Delta entrainment season (January through May)
  - Attendance of weekly ops calls, as assigned by Authority staff, and meeting notes,
  - Calculation of the water supply costs of policy decisions,
  - Review of COA accounting decisions,
  - Weekly summaries of key decisions, constraints, and items to watch.
  - Monthly reporting at Authority Water Resources Committee

Estimates of water supply costs will be performed at a planning level using available data and assumptions coordinated with Authority staff.

- **Annual operations summary.** This product evaluates CVP South of Delta operational objectives, with a focus on Delta exports, and characterizes past year operational outcomes relative to those objectives. The purpose of this report is to identify how closely the past year's operations were aligned with Authority objectives and to assist with the identification of areas for improvement. The report may, depending on direction of Authority staff, be separated into an open and closed session report to allow for candid technical discussion of operational decisions where appropriate. The annual summary will be provided in draft form for Authority review prior to finalization.

- Maintenance of Graphic Visualization of Operational Regulations.** Through a separate task Stantec will create a dashboard to assist the Authority with tracking of time-bound representation of operational restrictions on Central Valley Project and State Water Project operations. Once established, the routine maintenance and upkeep of this dashboard will be conducted under this task.

**Basis for Payment:** Monthly retainer (“Fixed Fee”), upon receipt of invoice and deliverables.

Stantec will invoice the Authority on or about the 15 of each month for the monthly Fixed Fee, and the Authority will pay the monthly Fixed Fee within 30 days after receiving the invoice.

The monthly Fixed Fee may be higher or lower than the monthly fees the Authority would have incurred had it agreed to pay fees based on hourly rates. The parties anticipate that such variances will even out over the longer term. However, if the volume of professional services required by the Authority within a year varies materially from the projections on which the Fixed Fee was based, the parties will confer regarding potential adjustments, with the objective of ensuring that the fee arrangement remains fair and reasonable for both parties. Parties agree to meet at least annually to review the fee arrangement.

**Budget Maximum:** \$~~15,500~~139,500

**Estimate of Time Schedule:** May 28, ~~2026~~ – ~~June 28, 2026~~February 28, 2027

**SLDMWA Project Lead:** J. Scott Petersen      scott.petersen@sldmwa.org

**Consultant Project Lead:** Jeff Payne      jeff.payne@stantec.com

**Special Instructions:** (1) All invoices should be sent to Project Lead, as well as Felicia Luna at [accounts.payable@sldmwa.org](mailto:accounts.payable@sldmwa.org) pursuant to Article 6 of Exhibit B to the Agreement; (2) All invoices shall reference: **“046-F27-AA05-TO001 Real-Time Operations Monitoring”**.

**Accepted:**

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority	Consultant
By: _____ J. Scott Petersen Chief Strategic and Administrative Officer San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  Date: _____	By: _____ Jeffrey T. Payne Senior Principal Water Resources Engineer Stantec, Inc.  Date: _____

**On-Call Water Resources Technical Support  
Detailed Scope of Work  
Task Order 046-F27-AA05-TO002**

The San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority ("Authority") has an irregular and unscheduled need for technical support. Areas where support is needed include, but are not limited to, the assessment of operations conditions, outcomes of alternative decisions or regulatory conditions, and evaluation of fisheries and other monitoring data to assess risk.

Services described herein assume timely access to data, direction, and coordination from Authority staff. Services do not include expert testimony, litigation support, or regulatory compliance documentation unless authorized under a separate task order or written amendment. Costs include associated project management, coordination, accounting, and invoicing for this task order.

**Task 2.1 Prototype Tool Development – Allocation Forecast Modernization**

Stantec will review existing Bureau of Reclamation Central Valley Project allocation methodology, provide recommendations to modernize water allocations to be more responsive to real-time conditions, with a goal of real-time allocations.

Stantec will develop, in coordination with Authority consultants, member agency staff and consultants, and Reclamation, and under direction of Authority staff, an allocation tool prototype with sufficient resolution to determine proof of concept for future scaling and improved resolution.

*Deliverable:* Prototype Tool or Technical Memorandum describing the tasks necessary to develop such a tool, with more detailed cost estimate.

**TASK 2.2 – Prototype Tool Development - Operations Visualization Tool**

Stantec will develop, in coordination with and under direction of Authority staff, an automated web-based visualization tool that portrays current conditions relevant to both water supply and biological triggers (e.g., reservoir levels and progress towards facility restriction triggers) using publicly available information, and logs operations decisions by Reclamation and DWR/CDFW. It is anticipated that this dashboard will be hosted or capable of being displayed on the Authority website as a product of the Authority.

*Deliverable:* Prototype Tool or Technical Memorandum describing the tasks necessary to develop such a tool, with more detailed cost estimate.

**TASK 2.3 – On-Call Technical Support (Hydrology, Operations, and Ecosystem analyses)**

Products for this task include technical analyses, preparation of communications materials appropriate for a variety of audiences, and participation in meetings to convey information and answer questions.

Support is expected to include at a minimum CalSim, DSM2, and PTM modeling tools, but may also include any of the modeling tools used in the recent formulation of Action 5. Analyses may include screening level or decision support analyses and exploratory modeling depending on the nature of the request and available schedule. Turnaround times and scope for individual modeling requests will be coordinated in advance with Authority staff.

**TASK 2.4 – Science Implementation Plan Technical Support**

In support of its Strategic Plan, SLDMA is developing a Science Plan to support implementation plans that span its interrelated science, policy and communications goals.

Products for this task include as-needed assistance to SLDMWA for the development and review of its 2026 Science Implementation Plan.

**Basis for Payment:** Time and Materials, upon receipt of Invoice and Deliverables, pursuant to Rates and expenses in the Master Services Agreement.

**Budget Maximum:** Each Task under this Task Order are subject to a Not to Exceed amount as shown below.

Task 2.1 Not to Exceed – \$15,000

Task 2.2 Not to Exceed – \$15,000

Task 2.3 Not to Exceed – \$30,000

Task 2.4 Not to Exceed - \$10,000

**Estimate of Time Schedule:** June 8, 2026 – February 28, 2027

**SLDMWA Project Lead:** J. Scott Petersen scott.petersen@sldmwa.org

**Consultant Project Lead:** Jeff Payne jeff.payne@stantec.com

**Special Instructions:** (1) Consultant will bill SLDMWA on a time and materials basis; (2) All invoices should be sent to Project Lead, as well as Felicia Luna at [accounts.payable@sldmwa.org](mailto:accounts.payable@sldmwa.org) pursuant to Article 6 of Exhibit B to the Agreement; (3) All invoices shall reference: **“046-F27-AA05-TO002 On-Call Water Resources Support”**.

**Accepted:**

<u>San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority</u>	<u>Consultant</u>
By: _____ J. Scott Petersen Chief Strategic and Administrative Officer San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  Date: _____	By: _____ Jeffrey T. Payne Senior Principal Water Resources Engineer Stantec, Inc.  Date: _____



# 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: June 1, 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.

## San Joaquin River Restoration Program

### Restoration Allocation

On May 15, Reclamation issued an update to the 2026 Restoration Allocation and Default Flow Schedule<sup>9</sup>. 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 281,739 acre-feet at Gravelly Ford and is a Normal-Dry year type.**

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<sup>8</sup> Request from Water Authority staff.

<sup>9</sup> Request from Water Authority staff.



The Restoration Administrator recommended a flow schedule<sup>10</sup> on May 4, 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/>.

## Delta Conveyance Project

### Bond Financing Plan

On May 19, the California Department of Water Resources [dismissed](#) its second Validation Action, by which it sought judicial approval of its Conveyance financing plan.

Ruling against DWR in the first Validation Action, the trial court found that DWR had exceeded its delegated authority. DWR and its allies among the State Water Contractors appealed. In a unanimous Decision, the Court of Appeal later affirmed the judgment against DWR. (*Department of Water Resources v. Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif., et al.* (2025) 117 Cal.App.5th 751.)

DWR then petitioned the California Supreme Court in an effort to overturn the Court of Appeal's Decision. Last month, the Supreme Court, sitting *en banc*, denied DWR's petition for review and its alternative request for depublication of the Decision.

## U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

### Reclamation Manual

#### *Documents out for Comment*

- No Documents out for Comment

## 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."

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<sup>10</sup> Attached



## Strategic Planning

September 16, 2026, is the tentative date for board strategic planning process following completion of the Unified Water Plan, noting that the current plan runs through 2026. The planning session will focus on the importance of defining the scope of future organizational activities—including legislative advocacy, policy, communications—and engaging the board early to help shape direction for 2026 and beyond.

## San Joaquin Valley Water Resilience Summit

The summit brought together state leaders, regional water agencies, policymakers, water district executives, flood management leaders, agricultural organizations, environmental stakeholders, and community advocates to review recent California Department of Water Resources (DWR) studies and the Unified Water Plan for the San Joaquin Valley, event's focus was on resilience—aligning water management strategies to address long-term challenges and build adaptive capacity.

- Translated findings from major DWR studies into coordinated action.
- Identified a shared 2025–2030 resilience roadmap for the Valley.
- Addressed interconnected water system challenges such as climate variability, groundwater sustainability requirements, infrastructure subsidence, land-use changes, and flood management pressures

The agenda centered on:

- Unified Water Plan for the San Joaquin Valley.
- State Water Project adaptation strategy.
- San Joaquin Valley conveyance study.
- San Joaquin Valley Watershed (Flood-MAR) studies.

A recording of the Summit can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUyY5oqSpYE>

## 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 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. The San Joaquin Valley has a massive water supply gap at 2.5-3 million acre-feet by 2040, incorporating SGMA compliance needs, climate change impacts, and environmental flow requirements. A full administrative draft is now available.



The Unified Valley Water Plan Shows a Massive Water Supply Gap —Even under the most optimistic scenario — combining restored canal capacity, local recharge projects, and increased Delta access — the gap cannot be fully closed. Best-case projections still leave ~0.5–0.9 million acre-feet unmet and 200,000– 400,000 acres needing to be repurposed, at a total infrastructure cost of \$13–20 billion.

#### *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>11</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 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.

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<sup>11</sup> Request from Authority staff



*Updates*

On Friday, May 29, the CAP released its “Vision for the San Joaquin Valley”<sup>12</sup>, detailing desired outcomes, investment strategies, and policy reforms needed to transition the region toward sustainable water management for people, agriculture, and the environment.

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<sup>12</sup> Request from Authority staff