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AGENDA WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
UWCD Headquarters, First Floor, Board Room
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

ROLL CALL

1. **Public Comment**
Information Item

The public may comment on any matter not on the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Committee. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit.

2. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion

Approve the minutes from the July 7, 2024, Water Resources Committee meeting.

3. **Summary and Update on District Surface Water Conditions** (Murray McEachron)
Information Item

Staff will present a summary of reservoir releases and diversions to date during water year 2024 and provide an update on current hydrologic conditions in the Santa Clara River watershed.

4. **Lake Piru Reservoir Operations Planning for Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project** (Dr. Bram Sercu)
Information Item

Staff will present a modified reservoir operations plan for the duration of the Santa Felicia Dam outlet works construction and the accompanying hydrological risk assessment.

5. **Summary of Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency's (FCGMA) Draft 5-Year GSP Updates for Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and Las Posas Valley Basins** (John Lindquist)
Information Item

Staff will present an overview and highlight key conclusions and recommendations from the FCGMA's draft 5-year GSP updates released in August for public review and comment.

6. **Water Resources Department and GSA Activities Update** (John Lindquist)
Information Item

Staff will present a summary of Water Resources Department activities and respond to comments on the most recent Water Resources Department staff report.

7. **Future Agenda Items**

The Committee will suggest topics or issues for discussion at future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Water Resources Committee Agenda
Tuesday, October 1, 2024
Page 2

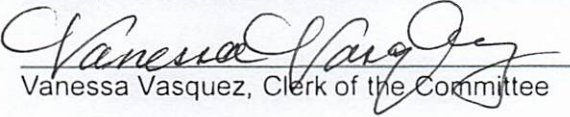
The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participating in, or denied the benefits of, the District's services, programs or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or if you require agenda material in an alternative format, please contact the District's offices at (805) 525-4431. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.

Approved: _____


Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager


Dr. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

This agenda was posted Thursday September, 27, 2024, at 11:45 a.m. at United Water Conservation District Headquarters, Oxnard, CA and at www.unitedwater.org.


Vanessa Vasquez, Clerk of the Committee

**MINUTES
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Boardroom, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030**

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Two committee members were present (Kimball and Hasan), one committee member was absent (Ford).

1. Public Comment

No public speakers.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Action: M/S/C (Hasan, Kimball) to approve the April 30, 2024, minutes.

Vote: Ayes: Hasan and Kimball; Noes: None; Absent: Ford.

3. Summary and Update on District Surface Water Conditions (Dr. Bram Sercu)

Senior Hydrologist Dr. Bram Sercu presented a summary of reservoir releases and diversions to date during water year 2024 and provided an update on current hydrologic conditions in the Santa Clara River watershed (presentation attached).

Director Hasan recommended the latter part of Dr. Sercu's presentation be taken to the full Board. Chair Kimball agreed the presentation be condensed with the key points.

4. Update on Water Supply and Demand Trends in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins (Patrick O'Connell)

Senior Hydrogeologist Patrick O'Connell presented total water use in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins from 1985-2023 to reflect trends in Agriculture and Municipal and Industrial water demand (presentation attached).

Chair Kimball recommended the presentation go to the full Board with the focus being on surface water and deliveries.

Public Speakers: Martin Gramckow and Anonymous

5. Summary of Groundwater Modeling Conducted by United to Support FCGMA's 5-Year GSP Updates for Oxnard, Pleasant Valley Basins, and West Las Posas (Dr. Jason Sun)



Supervisory Water Resources Engineer Dr. Sun presented on District groundwater models, GSP evaluation, baseline and scenarios along with the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project and sustainable management criteria (presentation attached).

Director Hasan recommended the presentation go to the full Board focusing on the conclusion.

Public Speakers: Sam Collie and Burt Handy

Director Hasan left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

6. Water Resources Department and GSA Activities Update (John Lindquist)

John Lindquist announced the meeting would be adjourned due to a lack of quorum; the Water Resources department updates were available for review in the agenda packet.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Water Resources Committee Meeting of July 2, 2024.

ATTEST: _____
Gordon Kimball, Chair



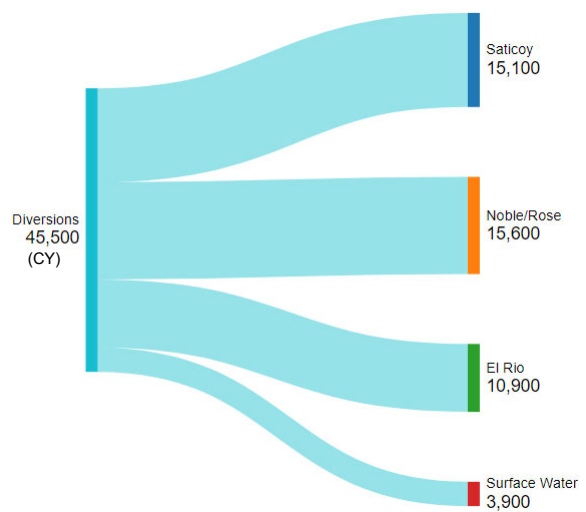
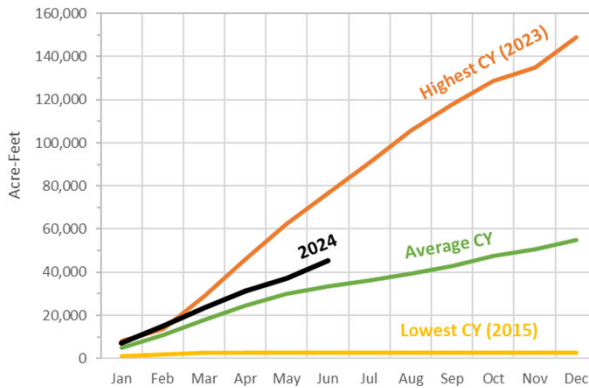
3. SUMMARY AND UPDATE ON DISTRICT SURFACE WATER CONDITIONS

Presented by: Bram Sercu, Senior Hydrologist
Water Resources Committee Meeting
July 2, 2024



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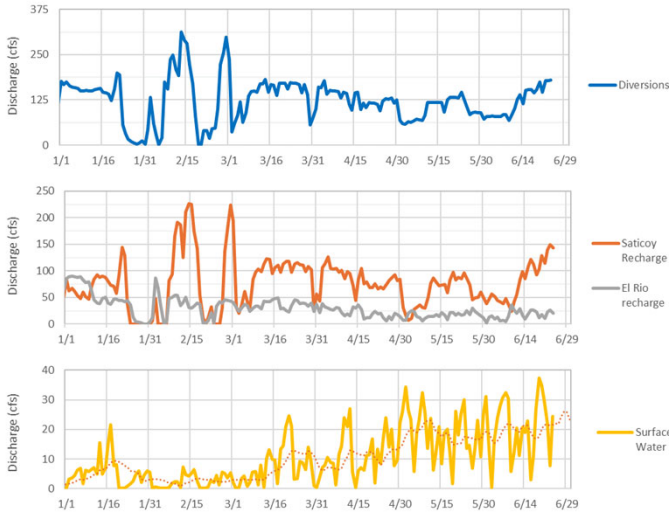
2024 Diversions



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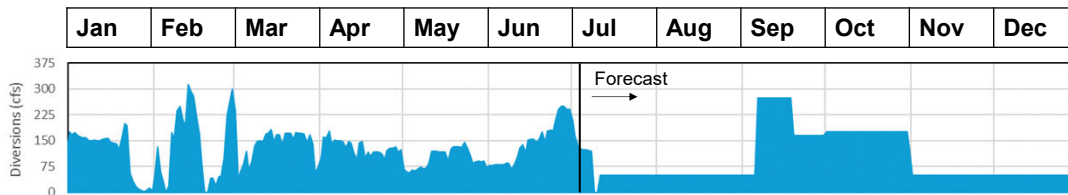
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Jan-May Operations Summary



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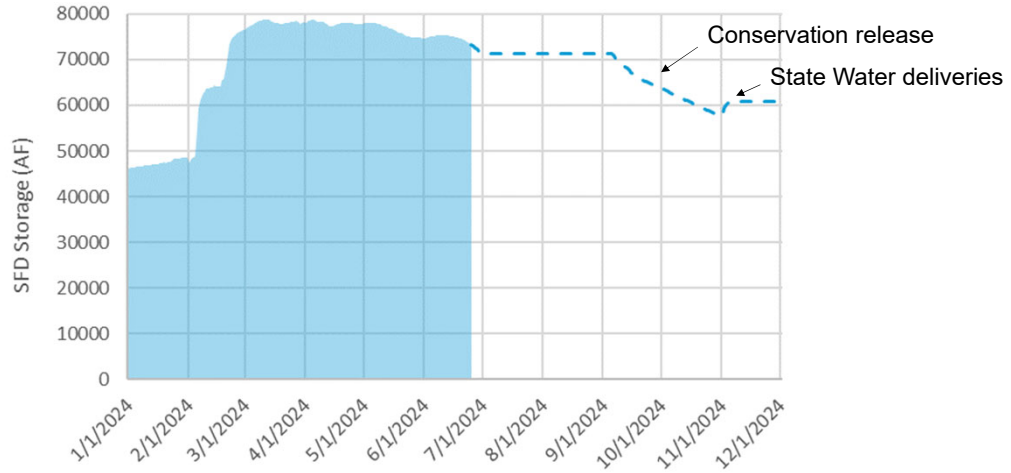
CY 2024 Planning*



*Approximate schedule for planning purposes

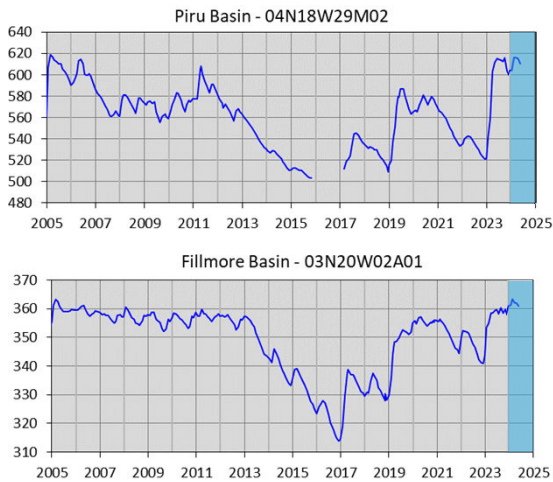
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Lake Piru Storage Forecast

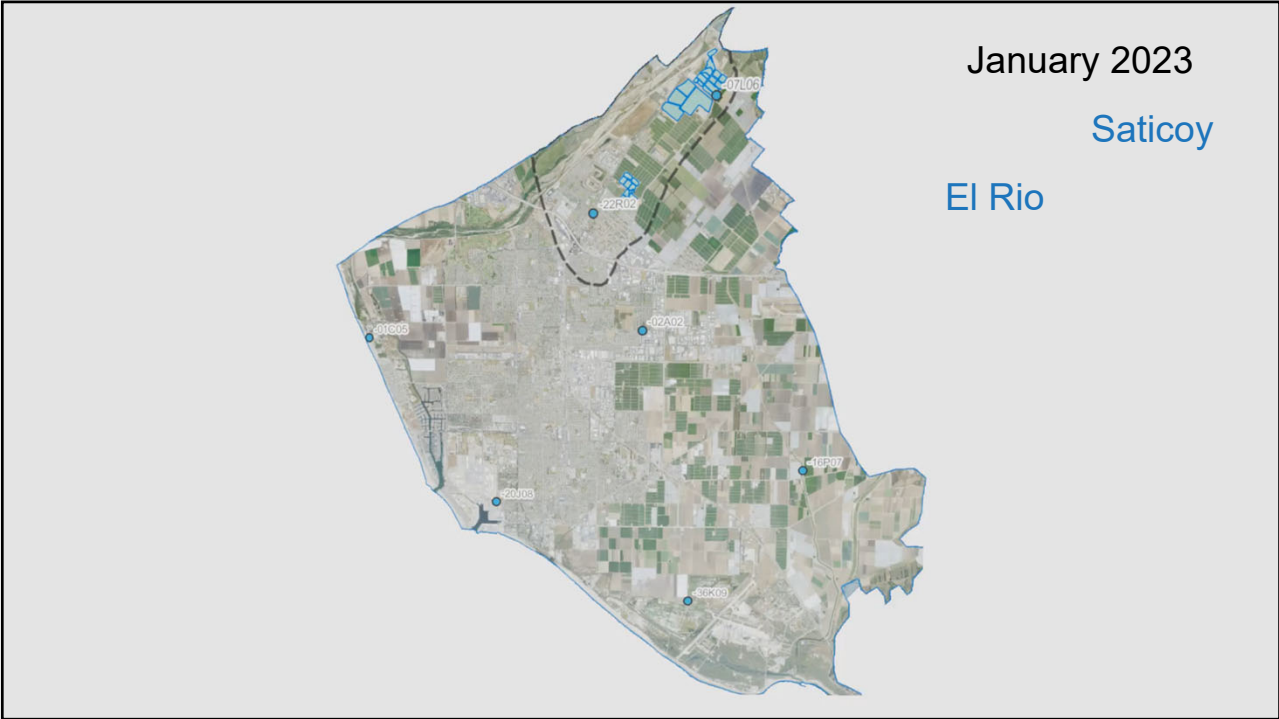


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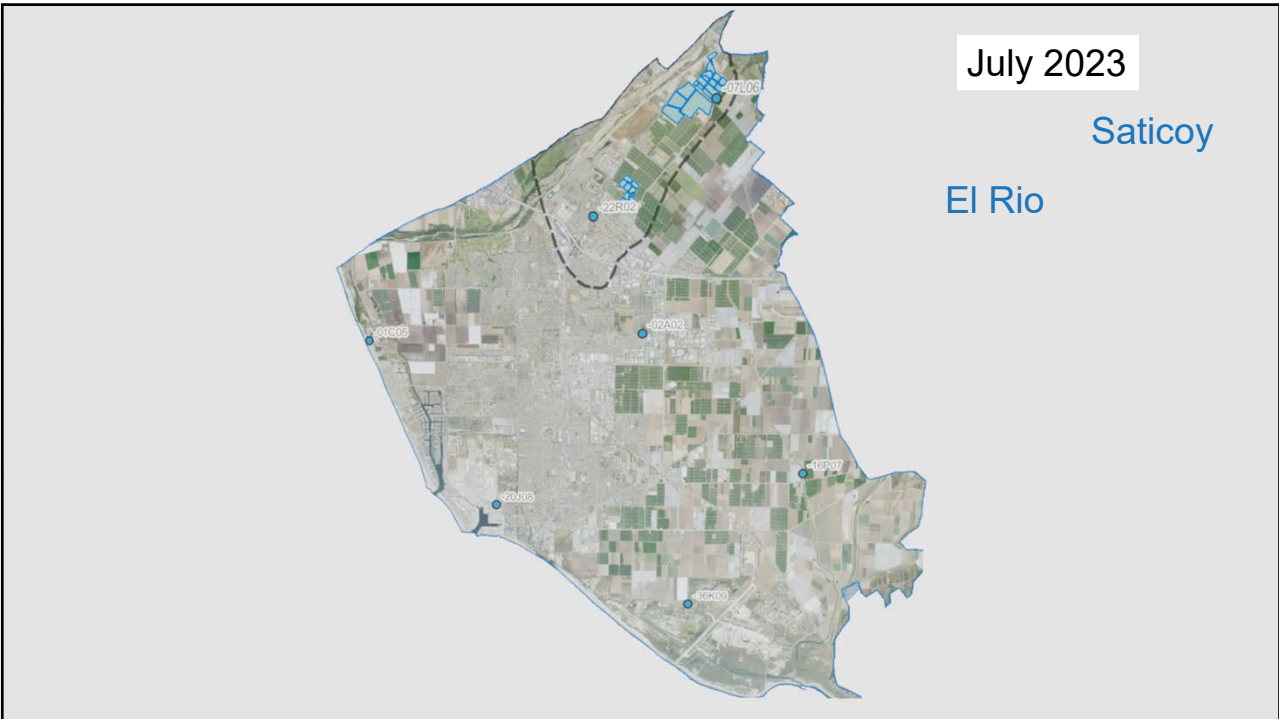
Groundwater Conditions Upper Basins



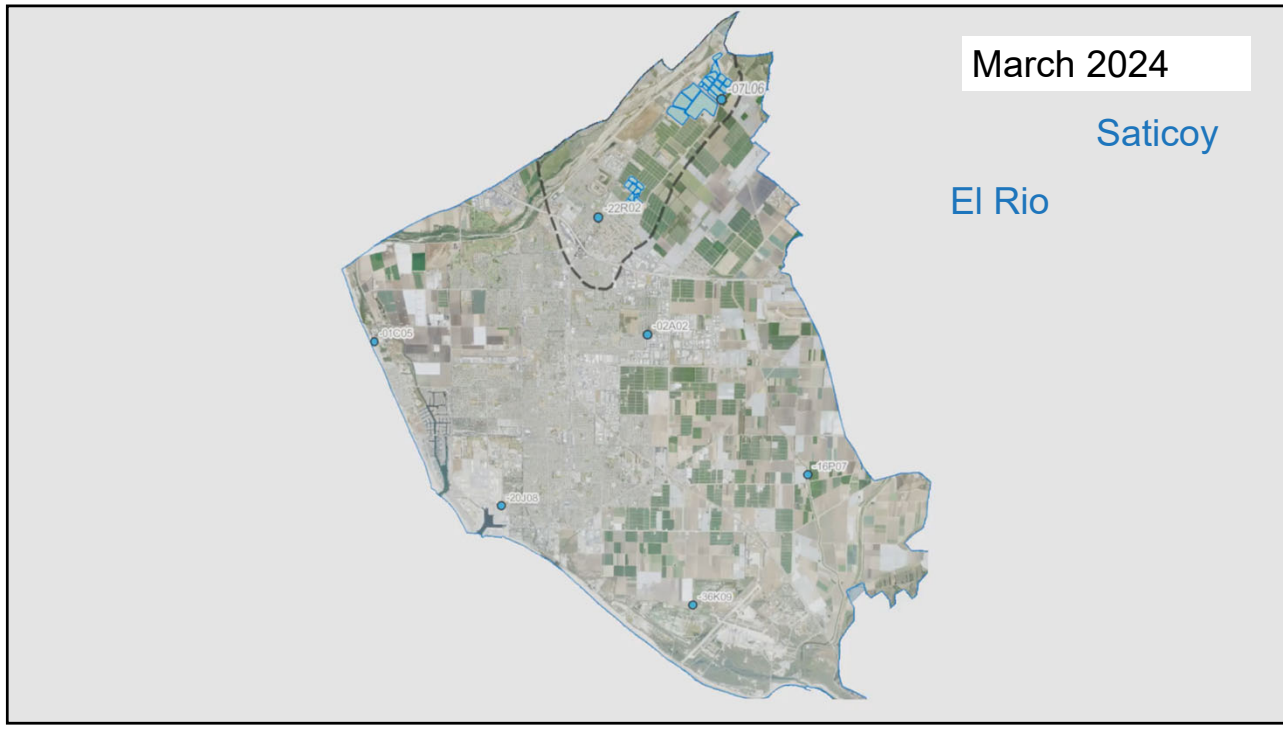
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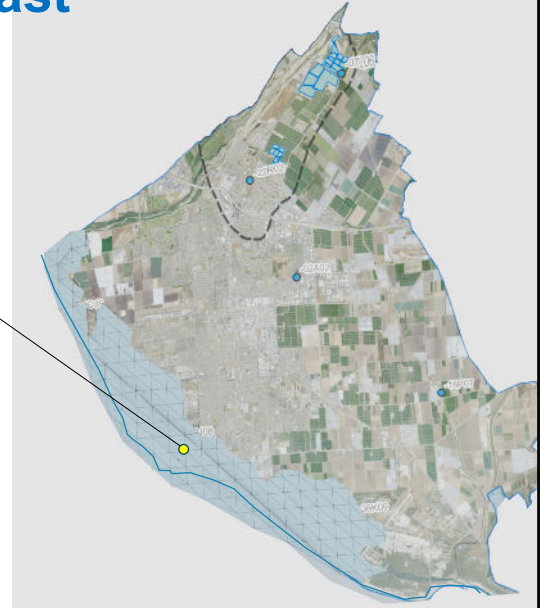
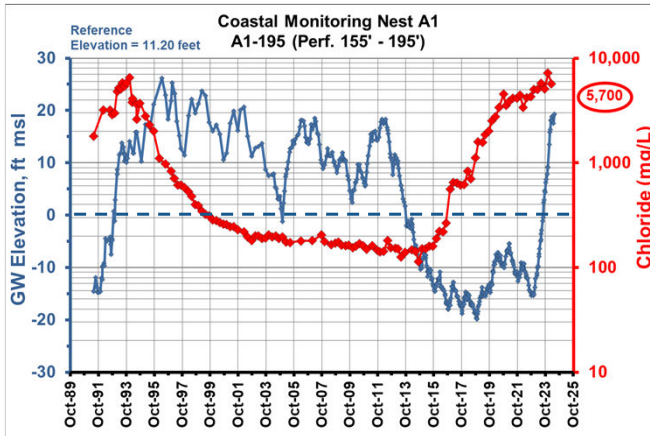


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10

Extended period above sea level needed for reducing chloride along coast




11

Questions?




12

12



4. UPDATE ON WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND TRENDS FOR OXNARD AND PLEASANT VALLEY BASINS



Presented by: Patrick O'Connell, Senior Hydrogeologist
Water Resources Committee Meeting
July 2, 2024



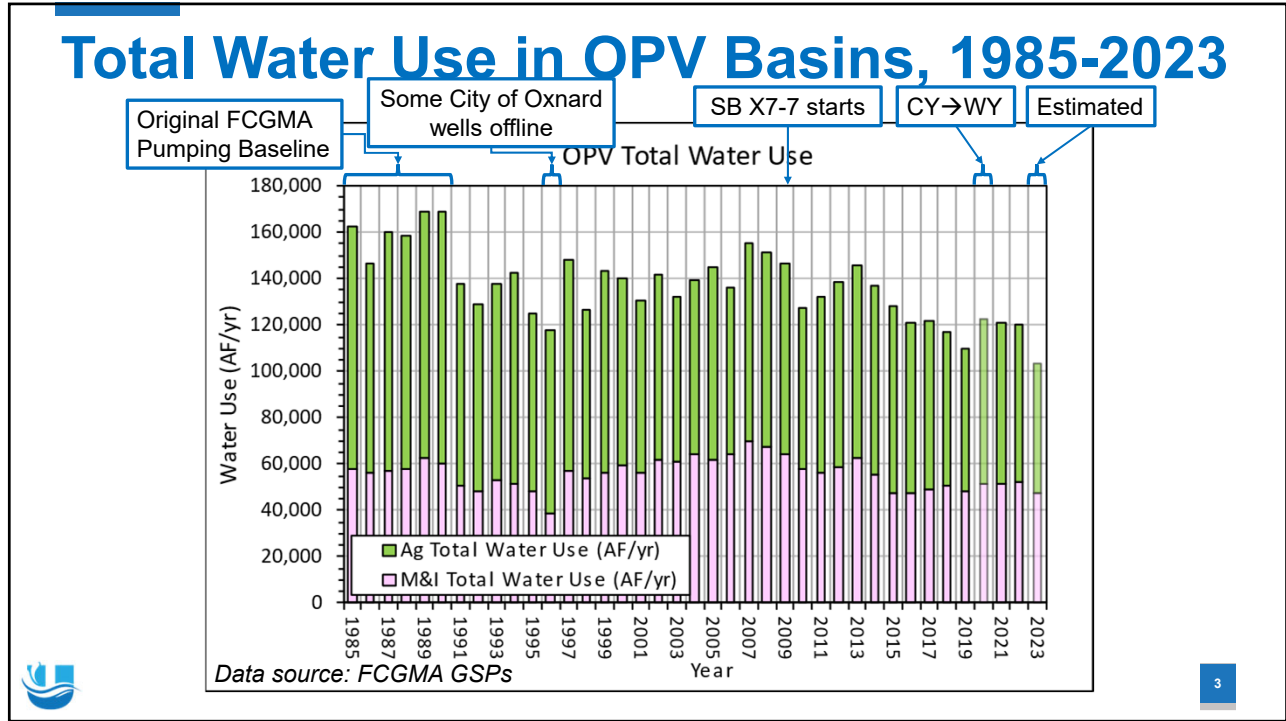
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Questions of Interest

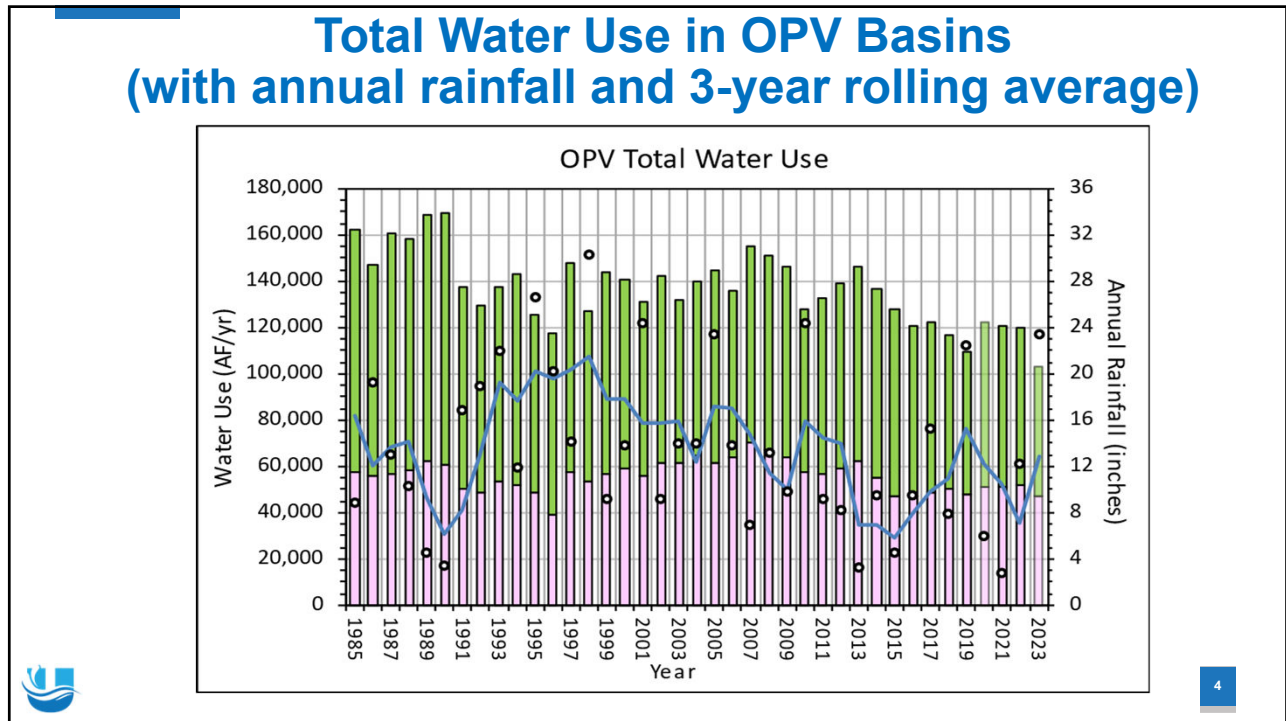
- What trends do we see in Ag and M&I water demand in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) Basins since 1985?
- What can explain these changes in demand?
 - *Wet and dry climate cycles?*
 - *Conservation efforts?*
 - *Land use changes?*
- How do different sources of water supply help meet demands?



2

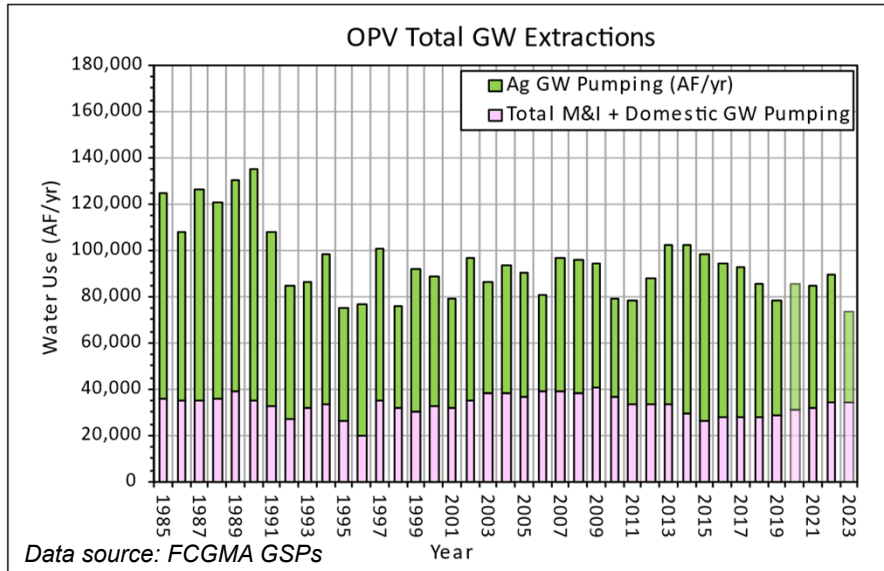


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Groundwater Use in OPV Basins, 1985-2023

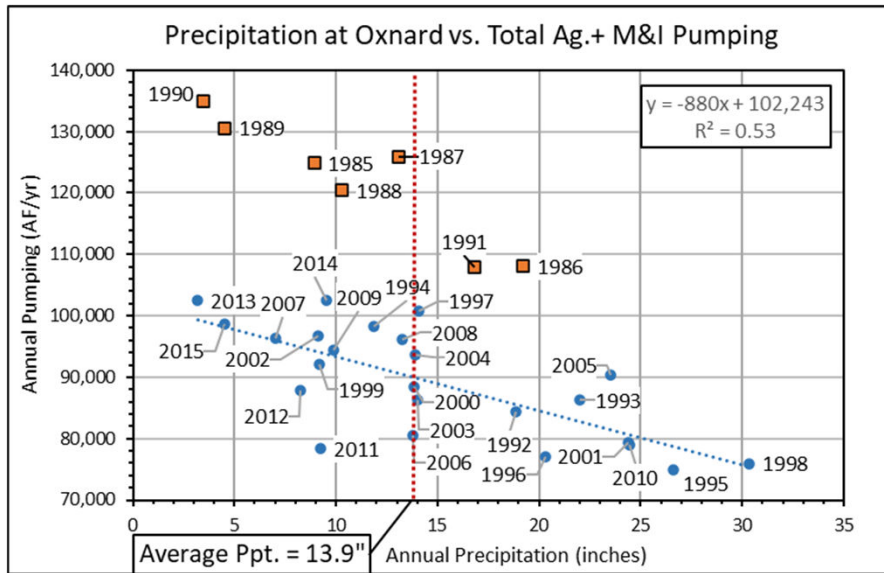


GW pumping accounts for 50% to 75% of total demand.



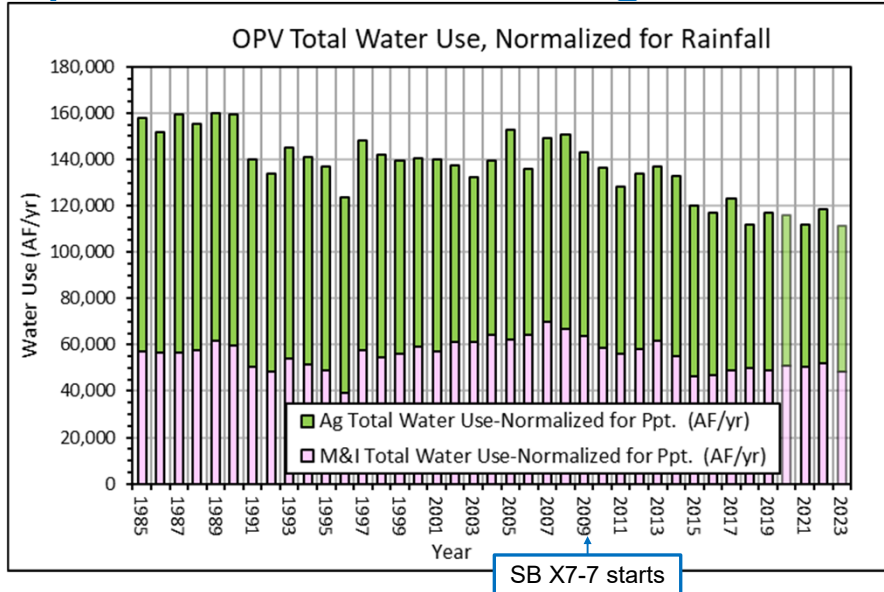
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More Rain → Less Pumping



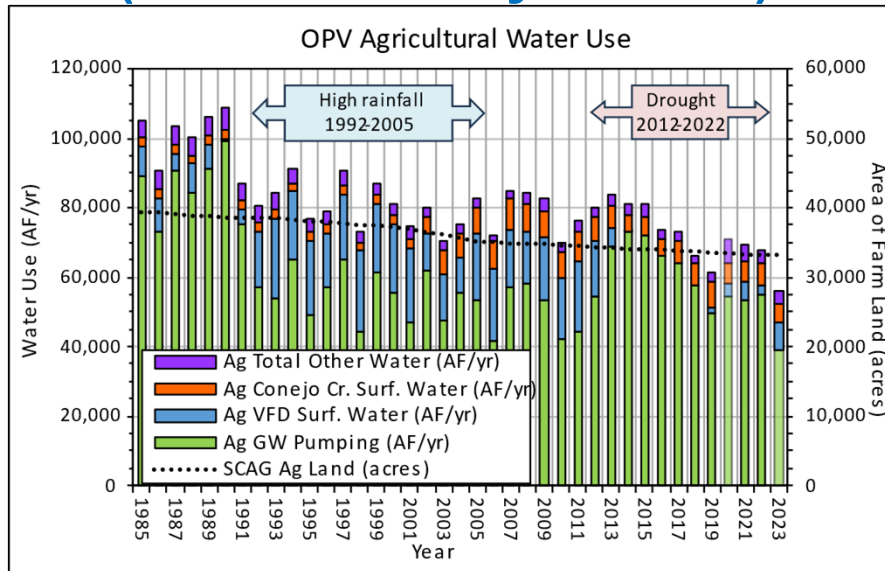
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Total Water Use in OPV Basins (normalized to average rainfall)



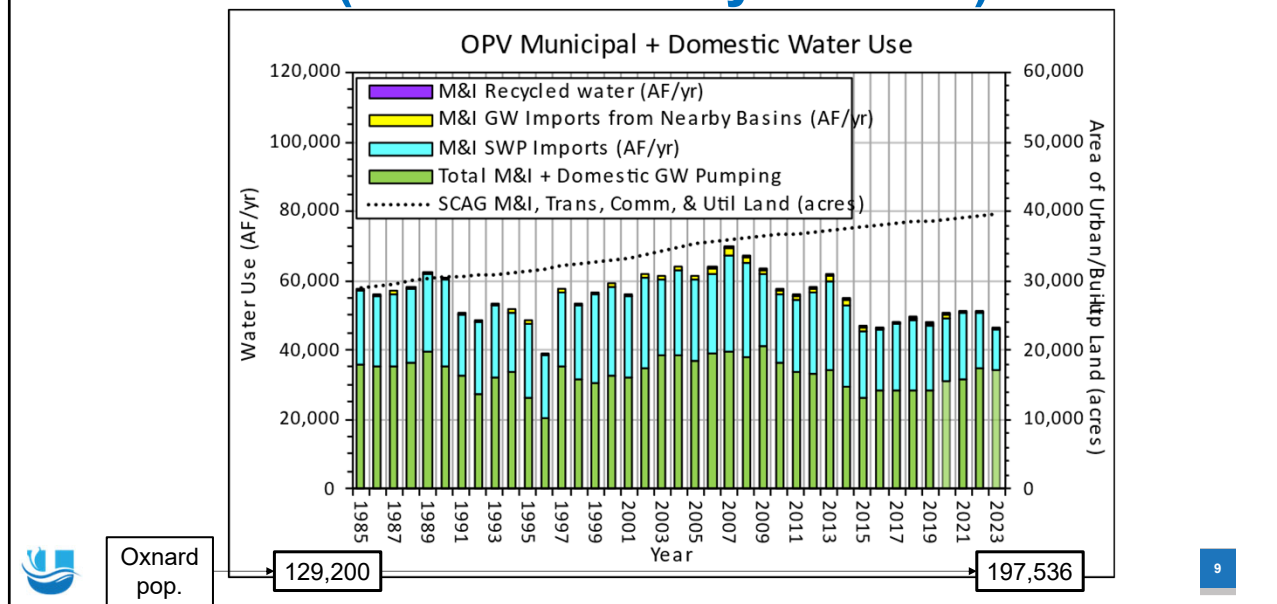
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Ag Water Use in OPV Basins (Broken Out by Source)



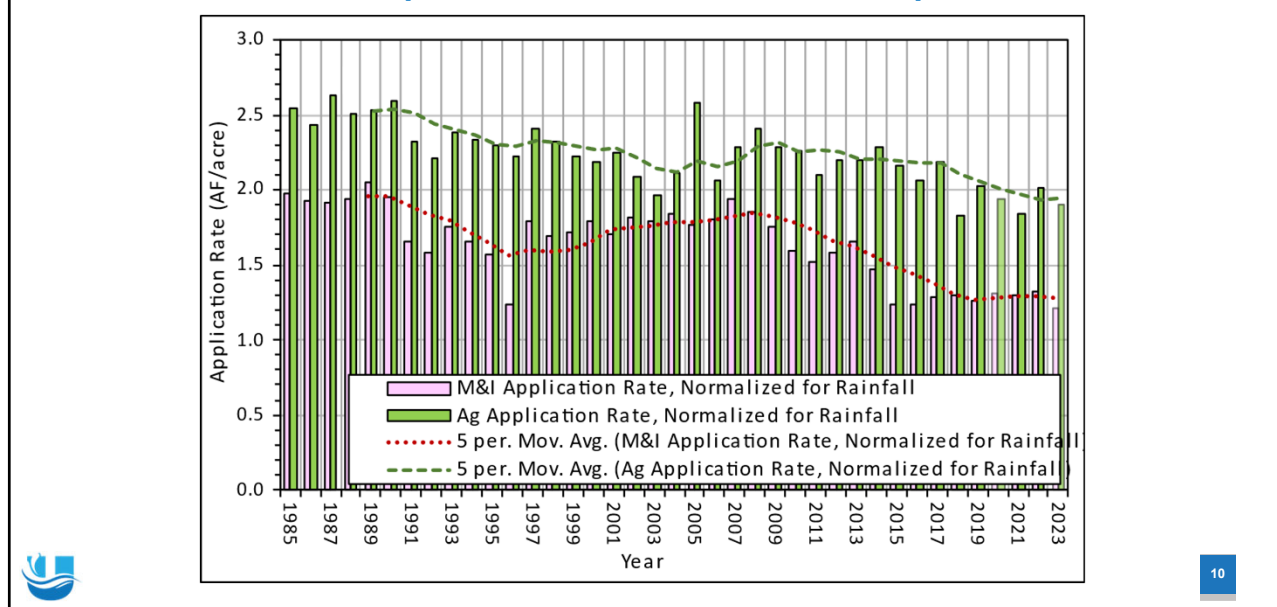
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M&I Water Use in OPV Basins (Broken Out by Source)



9

Ag and M&I Total Water Application Rates (normalized for rainfall)



10

Takeaways

- Accounting for water year types and land use changes helps reveal water use trends.
- Application rates have decreased while water conservation by Ag and M&I has increased, especially since 2009.
- Groundwater is an important local water supply, especially during droughts.
- Diverse water supplies - *local and imported surface water, desalinization, and recycled water* - provide resiliency and help achieve sustainability goals.



Questions?



STAFF REPORT

To: UWCD Water Resources Committee

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

From: Dr. Jason Sun, Supervisory Water Resources Engineer
Murray McEachron, Hydrologist Supervisor
John Lindquist, Water Resources Supervisor

Date: September 25, 2024 (October 1, 2024, meeting)

Agenda Item: 6.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Water Resources Committee members will receive a report on Water Resources Department activities for the month of September 2024, including a summary of the activities of the Santa Paula Basin (adjudicated) Technical Advisory Committee and three local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency [FCGMA], Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency [FPBGSA], and Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency [MBGSA]).

Discussion:

Staff Activities

Notable efforts and activities conducted by staff during September included the following:

- Groundwater Modeling:
 - Staff responded to and addressed questions related to FCGMA's groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) modeling results from DUDEK and others.
 - Staff prepared and submitted a budget proposal for the West Las Posas modeling request from FCGMA.
 - Staff are preparing to update the groundwater model for the Fillmore-Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPGSA).
 - Staff are preparing documentation for the groundwater model update/extension.
 - Staff are assisting the City of Ventura in evaluating additional injection and recovery scenarios for indirect potable reuse (IPR) using United's groundwater model.

Agenda Item: 6.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

- Hydrology:
 - Staff are monitoring and coordinating with Operations for the implementation of releases at the Santa Felicia Dam and bypass flows at the Freeman Diversion.
 - Staff continued to assist the Environmental Services and Engineering Departments in evaluating fish passage under consideration for United's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), particularly comments provided by NMFS and CDFW.
 - Staff continued to provided surface water model inputs for the OPV GSP modeling update.
 - Staff prepared and submitted a first draft Water Availability Analysis (WAA) to the Water Boards in preparation of a water right application.
 - Staff continue to provide information to FPBGSA on technical issues.
 - DWR/Flood diversion and recharge enhancement (FDRE) monthly funding report for the inverted siphon project.
 - Staff continued collecting surface water data throughout the district's service area, following up with quality control, analysis, and reporting activities required or requested to support water resources management by United and other entities within our service area.
 - Staff are developing presentations and images for the upcoming Sustainability Summit.
 - Staff attended a DWR certification course for the ability to sign off on our water rights annual reporting.
- Hydrogeology:
 - Staff continued collecting groundwater elevation and quality data throughout the District's service area, following up with quality control, analysis, and reporting activities required or requested to support water resources management by United and other entities within our service area.
 - Staff continued to participate in planning and execution of Phase 1 of the EBB Water Project, including the following activities:
 - Oversee and direct contractors that are nearing completion of monitoring wells at Navy Base Ventura County (NBVC) Point Mugu.
 - Coordinate with contractors and analytical laboratories to plan for initial sampling of the new EBB monitoring wells.
 - Continue assisting with design of extraction wells.
 - Plan for a site tour by DWR staff, accompanied by Navy personnel and FCGMA's consultant (Kennedy-Jenks), who supports administration of the SGM Grant.

Agenda Item: 6.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

- Continue planning for execution of specific EBB project tasks required under the recently awarded \$8.4 million grant from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), including establishment of technical and stakeholder advisory committees and meeting progress reporting requirements specified in the grant agreement.
- Staff continued planning activities required for support of the first 5-Year GSP Update effort for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, which will commence in the coming months.
- Staff participated in a virtual meeting with California-American Water Company’s consultants to discuss water-supply options in the El Rio area.
- Staff reviewed the FCGMA’s 5-Year GSP Update reports for the Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and Las Posas Valley Basins.
- Staff participated in planning for Water Sustainability Summit #5, to be hosted by United on October 17.
- Staff continue supporting development of United’s strategic plan update.
- Outreach and Education
 - Staff set up and attended an exhibitor booth at the Ventura County Agri-Tech Fair on September 10 hosted by the Ventura County Farm Bureau, fielding questions about water-supply issues in the region.
 - Staff attended the “Community Leaders’ Briefing on Water Supply Strategies” hosted by Calleguas MWD on September 16, featuring a panel discussion by Assemblymember Steve Bennett and Metropolitan Water District Chairman of the Board Adán Ortega.
 - Staff from the Water Resources and Engineering Departments gave a joint presentation titled “United’s Past, Current, and Future Roles in Water Resources Management on the Oxnard Plain” at the City of Oxnard Council Meeting on September 17.
 - Staff attended the AWA Water Issues Committee meeting on September 17 and provided an update on watershed conditions.
 - Staff attended a Groundwater Resources Association of California webinar titled “Leverage Domestic and Small Farm Wells to Cost-Effectively Fulfill Monitoring Program Goals” on September 25.

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA)

Staff continue to monitor and, where appropriate, participate in the FCGMA’s groundwater sustainability planning and implementation efforts in the Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and West Las Posas Valley basins. United staff continued to meet periodically with FCGMA staff and other stakeholders to analyze benefits and impacts of water-supply projects in

Agenda Item: 6.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

support of developing a sustainable, resilient water-supply portfolio for the service areas of both agencies, and to support the 5-year update of the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basin GSPs. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to, FCGMA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings – The FCGMA held a public workshop on the 5-year GSP updates for the Las Posas Valley Basin on September 9 and a similar workshop for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins on September 10.

The FCGMA held a special Board meeting on September 13, which included the following notable agenda items:

- Reimbursement of legal expenses incurred by the agency for Las Posas Valley Watermaster rules appeal.
- Consideration of the Las Posas Valley Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) recommendation to appoint Tony Morgan to serve as PAC Administrator.
- Approve FY 2022-23 \$1,000,000 loan from Surcharges Account to Operating Account.
- Hearing on adoption of Resolution 2024-05 extending a groundwater extraction fee at the current rate of \$20 per acre-foot to maintain a reserve fund to be used to pay the cost and expenses of actions and proceedings related to the Agency's groundwater sustainability program.

The FCGMA held a regular Board meeting on September 25, which included the following notable agenda items:

- Receive an update from Agency staff and a presentation from Dudek staff on the Agency's GSP Five-Year Evaluations.
- Adoption of Resolution 2024-05 extending a fee of \$20.00 per acre-foot on groundwater extractions to maintain a reserve fund to be used to pay the cost and expenses of legal actions and proceedings related to the implementation of the Agency's groundwater sustainability program.
- Receive a presentation on the proposed work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25 and adopt both.
- Receive presentations on and act upon several issues related to the Agency's role as the Las Posas Valley Watermaster.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 23.

Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA)

Staff continue to participate in FPBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP implementation for the Fillmore and Piru basins. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to, FPBGSA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Agenda Item: 6.0 Water Resources Department Monthly Report and Update on Activities of Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Information Item

Board of Directors meetings – The FPBGSA held a special Board meeting on September 5, which focused on contracting of consulting services for technical and logistical support. The FPBGSA held a special Board meeting on September 26, which included the following notable agenda topics:

- The Board held a public hearing and adopted its amended GSP for the Fillmore Basin.
- The Board held a public hearing and adopted its amended GSP for the Piru Basin.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 24.

Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MBGSA)

Staff continue to participate in MBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP implementation for the Mound basin. United staff also attended and, where appropriate, contributed to, MBGSA Board and Committee meetings, as follows:

Board of Directors meetings – The MBGSA cancelled its regular Board meeting scheduled for September 23.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 28.

Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Staff continue to participate in the Santa Paula Basin TAC in support of the Santa Paula Basin Judgment and in conformance with SGMA reporting requirements for adjudicated basins, as follows:

- Staff continue to evaluate data and develop the annual report for calendar and WY 2023 for Santa Paula Basin.
- Staff have been working with Finance Department staff and the Limoneira Company to determine the pumping history for wells operated by Limoneira near the boundary between Santa Paula and Fillmore Basins.