



Board of Directors
Lynn E. Maulhardt, Vice President
Catherine P. Keeling, Secretary/Treasurer
Keith Ford
Mohammed A. Hasan
Steve Huber
Rachel Jones
Gordon Kimball

General Manager
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel
David D. Boyer

AGENDA ENGINEERING and OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.
UWCD Headquarters, First Floor, Board Room
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

OPEN SESSION - 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 November 7, 2024, Engineering and Operations Committee meeting minutes.

3. **January 8, 2025, Board Meeting Motion Agenda Items**

Review, discuss, and make a recommendation on the following agenda items for approval at the January 8, 2025, Board meeting:

3.1 **Authorize Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants for services related to the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project (CIP 8018)**

(Engineering Department, Nathan Summerville)

Recommend the full Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants in the amount of \$52,000 (including 10% contingency in the amount of \$4,580) for services related to the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project (CIP 8018).

4. **Monthly Department Updates**
Information Item

Receive and review the monthly reports from the Engineering, Environmental Services, and Operations and Maintenance Departments as well as receive a verbal presentation of its highlights.

4.1 **Engineering Department Update** (Robert Richardson)

4.2 **Environmental Services Department Update** (Marissa Caringella)

4.3 **Operations and Maintenance Department Update** (Craig Morgan)

UWCD Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting Agenda

January 2, 2025


Page 2


5. Future Agenda Items

ADJOURNMENT

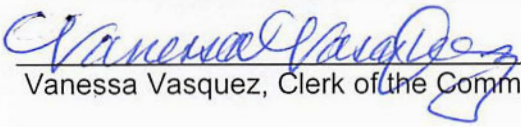
The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the District's services, programs or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or 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, Assistant General Manager

This agenda was posted Monday, December 23, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. at the United Water Conservation District Headquarters, Oxnard, CA and www.unitedwater.org.


Vanessa Vasquez, Clerk of the Committee



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**MINUTES
ENGINEERING and OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
UWCD Headquarters, First Floor, Board Room
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030**

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

Committee Members Roll Call

Two Committee members were present (Maulhardt, Huber) and one was absent (Keeling).

1. Public Comment

No public speakers.

2. Approval of Minutes

Action: M/S/C (Huber, Maulhardt) to approve October 3, 2024, minutes.

Voice Vote: Ayes: Huber, Maulhardt; Noes: None; Absent: Keeling.

3. November 13, 2024, Board Meeting Motion Agenda Items

3.1 Resolution Authorizing a Funding Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation Project (CIP 8001)

Motion

Action: M/S/C (Huber, Maulhardt) Recommend to the full Board to adopt the Resolution authorizing and designating United Water Conservation District's General Manager, Mauricio Guardado, to enter into a funding agreement with the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, and to accept and expend \$20 million in federal funds under the WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects grant program for the Freeman Diversion Fish Passage Rehabilitation Project.

Vote: Ayes: Maulhardt and Huber; Noes: None; Absent: Keeling

3.2 Authorize Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with GEI Consultants, Inc. for the Final Design of the Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Improvement Project (CIP 8002)

Motion

Chair Maulhardt requested staff, at some point during the project, to share who the panel of consultants are emphasizing how the District is "doing it right." Including a

slide would be very helpful. He referenced the Environmental Services Department's slide as an example (agenda item 3.1) of who supports what we do.

Chair Maulhardt revisited his request to mention or list the names of the panel of consultants. Rather than listing all the names, he felt it was evident that the District is following procedures, so it would be an acceptable solution to use the following words when describing the project that it is going through an "*independent review*."

Action: M/S/C (Huber, Maulhardt) Recommend to the full Board to authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 2 with GEI Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$1,075,060 for the Final Design of the Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Improvement Project (CIP 8002).

Vote: Ayes: Huber, Maulhardt; Noes: None; Absent: Keeling

4. Monthly Department Updates **Information Items**

4.1 Engineering Department Update

Received and reviewed the Engineering Department update as well as received a verbal presentation by the Engineering Manager Robert Richardson (presentation attached).

The meeting was paused at 10:08 a.m. as Director Huber briefly stepped out of the room; a quorum was not met. Director Huber rejoined the meeting at 10:09 a.m. A quorum was met and the meeting continued.

4.2 Environmental Services Department Update

Received and reviewed the Environmental Services Department monthly update as provided in the agenda packet.

4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Update

Received and reviewed the monthly Operations and Maintenance update as well as received a verbal presentation by the Chief Operations Officer Craig Morgan (presentation attached).

Chair Maulhardt requested staff to update the soil analysis testing results regularly (as depicted in slide 21 of the presentation). He also recommended the staff research and develop ways to make sediment available for use since there seems to be limited space in where to store it.

5. Future Agenda Items

Director Huber would like to hear more about the Defense Community Innovation Program (DCIP) grant. The General Manager and Dr. Bral provided a brief update. More information will be shared at the next Engineering and Operations Committee meeting.

Director Huber also recommended staff look into microgrid power sourcing.

Director Huber further requested staff to reach out to Dr. Brenda Forbes from Ventura College Community District regarding college/university internships.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of November 7, 2024.

ATTEST: _____
Chair Lynn E. Maulhardt

Fiscal Responsibility & Regulatory Compliance

MOTION ITEM 3.1

Recommend Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing and Designating the General Manager to Enter into a Funding Agreement with USBR and to Accept and Expend \$20M in Federal Funds for the Freeman Diversion Fish Passage Rehabilitation Project (CIP 8001)



- United was selected for a \$20 million grant from the USBR WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program to fund the hardened ramp.
- Prior to execution of a grant agreement and award disbursement, a Board-approved resolution authorizing a representative is required.
- Consider recommending that the Board adopt the resolution to authorize the General Manager to sign the funding agreement, any amendments, and reimbursement requests.

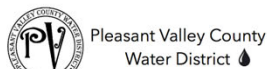


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Fiscal Responsibility & Regulatory Compliance

MOTION ITEM 3.1



2

2

Regulatory and Environmental Compliance

Motion Item 3.2

Authorize Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with GEI Consultants, Inc. for the Final Design for the Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Improvement Project (CIP 8002)

Amendment No. 2 – Cost Breakdown Per Task

Proposed Tasks	Proposed Fee
1. Sloping Intake Stability Analysis	\$206,586
2. Final Design Reports	\$516,504
3. Final Plans and Specifications	\$142,216
4. BOC Meeting No.10	\$53,024
5. Project Management	\$106,730
6. Contingency Services	\$50,000
Total	\$1,075,060



Intake Control Facility Rendering



Regulatory and Environmental Compliance

Motion Item 3.2

Santa Felicia Dam - Outlet Works Improvement Project Timeline

	2019				2020				2021				2022				2023				2024				2025							
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
OW Improvement Project Design Phase	10%																															
					30%																											
									60%																							
													90%																			
																	100%															
Contractor Procurement																													Final			

Updated Schedule Key Milestones Per August 06, 2024 Submittal to FERC

- Final Design Completion: **March 3, 2025**
- Board of Consultants Meeting No.10: April 29-30, 2025 (Tentative)
- Advertise for Bids: June 26, 2025



Regulatory and Environmental Compliance

Motion Item 3.2

Summary – Budget Under Contract -100% and Final Design SFD Outlet Works

Contract and Amendments	Contract Amount	Date Authorized
Original Contract	\$867,980	June 9, 2023
Amendment No. 1	\$1,158,211	December 13, 2023
Amendment No. 2	\$1,075,060	November 14, 2024 (Proposed)
Total Contract Amount	\$3,101,251	

Summary – CIP Budget - Account (8002-815) Design Professional Services

Date	Budget Available	Proposed Action
November 7, 2024	\$1,621,182.31	-
	(\$1,075,060)	Execute Amendment No.2 with GEI on November 14, 2024
November 14, 2024	\$546,122.31	-

Staff Recommendation:


Authorize Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with GEI Consultants, Inc. for the Final Design for the Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Improvement Project (CIP 8002)





ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT Monthly Update November 7, 2024

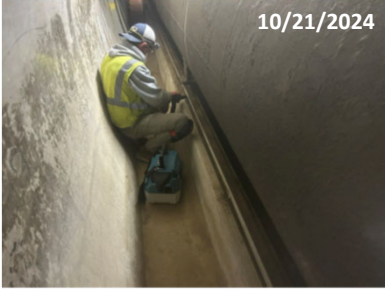
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 C. REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE


Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project

72" Butterfly Valve Redundant Control Project:

- ✓ Oct 3 – Contract with MDJ executed
- ✓ Oct 8 – Notice to Proceed
- ❑ **Nov 13th – 21st Commissioning Test (Target)**
- Construction Cost: \$116,012

 10/21/2024



 10/28/2024





2

2



 A. WATER SUPPLY  B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY

Freeman Conveyance System Upgrade

Inverted Siphon Replacement

- ✓ July 8th – Pre-Construction Mobilization
- ✓ July 15th – Construction begins
- ✓ Sep 10th – Bypass decommissioned, water flows under bridge
- ✓ Oct 25th – Road opened
- ✓ Nov 4th – Project Complete (November 19th Contract Deadline)
- Project Closeout Underway

Grant funding:
➤ \$1.01 million (DWR 2022 SGMA R1)



3

3

 A. WATER SUPPLY  B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY

Freeman Conveyance System Upgrade



4

4

 B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY

El Rio Water Treatment Plant

Well 12/13/14 Pressure Relief Station

- ✓ Sep 30 – Contract with Travis Ag executed
 - ✓ Oct 29 – CLA-VAL commissioning
 - Electrical & Instrumentation Install
 - Punch List and Project Closeout
- Construction Cost: \$47,780

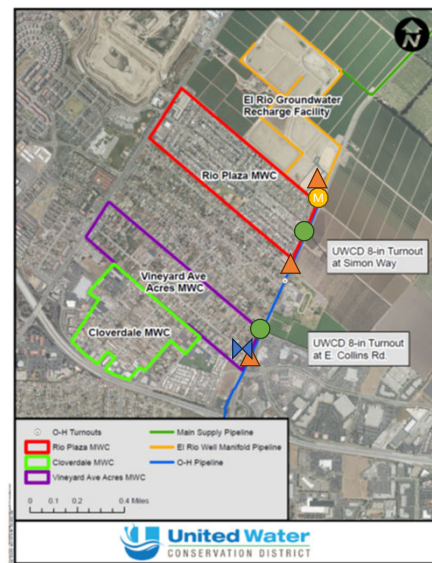


 B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY

OH Pipeline and Asset Management

Cal-Am Emergency Connections:

- **OH Pipeline shutdown scheduled for November 23-26**
- Locations:
 - 2 new emergency connections (Cal-Am) ●
 - 1 mainline meter turnout (O&M) Ⓜ
 - 3 valve replacements (O&M) ⚡
 - 3 camera inspection locations ▲



A. WATER SUPPLY

Recycled Water Connection – Laguna Road Pipeline Project

- ✓ Oct 17 - Notice of Award to Toro Enterprises (Contractor)
- ✓ Nov 6 – Pre-Construction Meeting
- ☐ **Nov 15th – Mobilization**
- ☐ Mar 15 – Construction Completion

- Grants
 - ✓ Oct 15 - NRCS Docket Executed
 - ✓ Nov 1 – DWR SGM Amendment requests approved
 - \$1.5m from Oxnard Subbasin
 - \$464k from PV Basin

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A. WATER SUPPLY

Recycled Water Connection – Laguna Road Pipeline Project

Budget Item	Total Projected Costs
Non-Construction	\$1,461,138
Construction (Toro)	\$5,092,286
5% Construction Contingency	\$254,614
Total Project Budget	\$6,808,038

Funding Source	Amount
PT Pipeline (8043 + 8022)	\$1,997,242
USDA NRCS	\$347,231
DWR SGMA (original)	\$2,651,500
DWR SGMA (reallocation)	\$1,964,356
Total Funding	\$6,860,329

Total Grant Funding: \$4,963,087
Approx. 97% of Construction Cost

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F. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Public Outreach



10/16/2024
UWCD Facilities Site Tours with Foley & Lardner

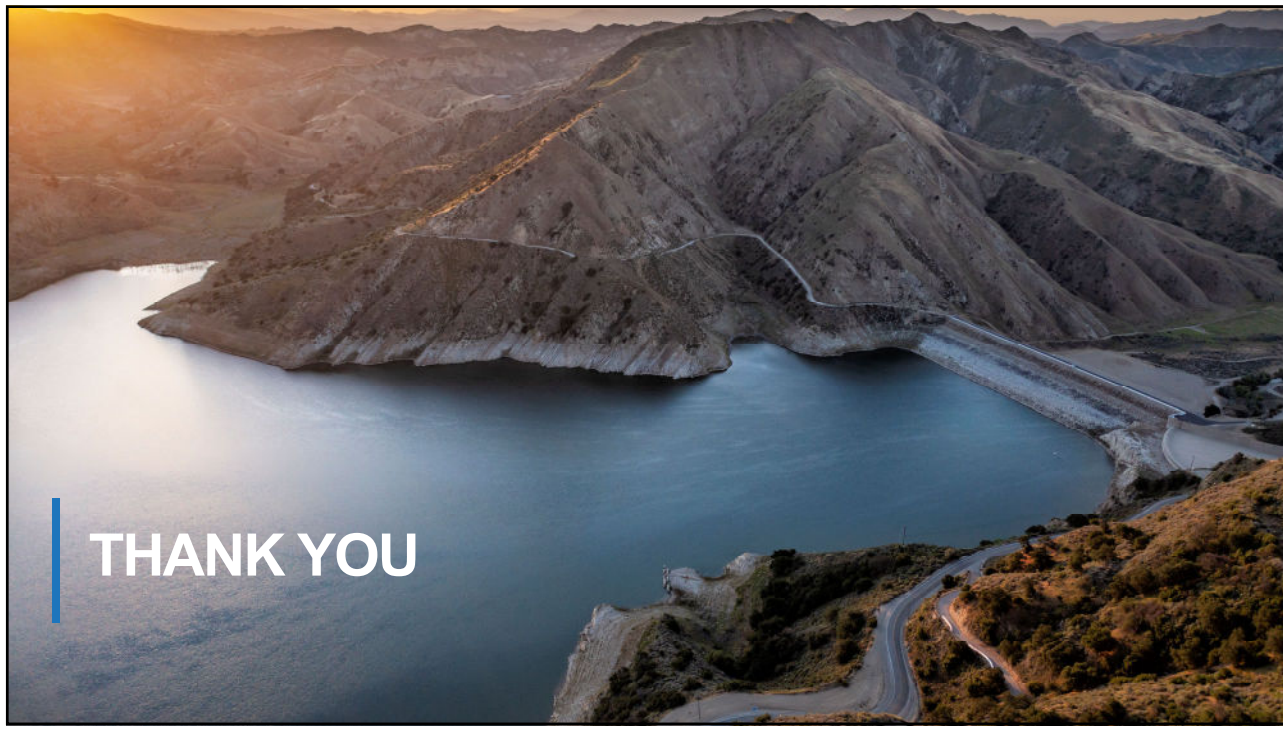
10/17/2024
Maryam Bral, Robert Richardson, and Chris Coppinger presenting the EBB Project at the 2024 Water Sustainability Summit

10/23/2024
Maryam Bral presenting at the FCGMA Board Meeting

10/28/2024
Destiny Rubio and Maryam Bral at the Installation Innovation Forum 2024 in San Antonio, Texas


9

9



10

**OPERATIONS AND
MAINTENANCE
DEPARTMENT
UPDATE**



November 7, 2024

1



2

Lake Piru Recreation Area



Leak Repairs caused by Felicia Fire



3

3

Santa Felicia Dam



SFD Conservation Release



4

4

Saticoy



SFD, El Rio Staff and Lake Piru Recreation Team Performing Sediment Removal at the Desilting Basin



5

Saticoy



6

El Rio



Pressure Relief Station



7

7

El Rio



8

8

El Rio



CLA-VAL Installation



9

9

El Rio



12" Valve with elevated AUMA for Pressure Relief Station



10

10

Questions?





STAFF REPORT

To: Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Maryam Bral, Ph.D., P.E., Assistant General Manager
Robert Richardson, P.E., Engineering Manager
Nathan Summerville, P.E., Senior Engineer

Date: December 18, 2024 (January 2, 2024, meeting)

Agenda Item: 3.1 Authorize Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants for services related to the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project (CIP 8018)
Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Engineering and Operations Committee will consider recommending that the full Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants in the amount of \$52,000 (includes 10% contingency in the amount of \$4,580) for services related to the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project (CIP 8018).

Background:

The Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project is one component of the Freeman Conveyance Upgrade Freeman to Ferro Project (CIP 8018). The project will replace aging infrastructure and improve the efficiency of the existing system. Replacing the culvert would also remove a hydraulic bottleneck and prepare the system for future flow increase. Planning efforts for the overall conveyance system were completed in 2017 by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants (NHC). United Water Conservation District (United) entered into a Professional Consulting Services Agreement (PCSA) with NHC for the final design of both the Inverted Siphon Replacement Project and the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project. The original contract was executed on May 4, 2020, and the contract has been amended four times. The Inverted Siphon Replacement Project was completed on November 4, 2024. However, the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project area is within a portion of the Santa Clara River Levee, which was built by the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and is owned and maintained by the Ventura County Public Works Agency Watershed Protection (WP). Because of the impact the project will have on the federally funded County facility, a County Encroachment Permit is required under County Ordinance WP-2 and a Section 408 Permission is required from the US Army Corp of Engineers.

Agenda Item: 3.1 Authorize Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants for services related to the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project (CIP 8018)
Motion

United Staff began working with the County in September 2023. After obtaining preliminary concurrence from County staff, the USACE permit process began in December 2023. On July 9, 2024, a complete permit application package was submitted to USACE, and subsequently, two rounds of review comments have been completed.

Discussion:

The Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project is within the permitting phase. United staff is currently working with WP and USACE staff to respond to environmental and technical comments. After all environmental and technical comments are addressed, United staff must complete administrative requirements and coordinate the specification package with the permit conditions that will be required by both WP and USACE. Amendment No. 5 provides for an additional budget to continue the permitting efforts with the goal of completing the permitting effort and enabling a construction-ready project. The actual construction schedule will depend on funding availability, operations, and weather. The proposed amendment, which includes a small contingency, will increase the contract budget to a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$350,149, as summarized in the table below. The original contract amount and Amendment 2 were executed under the General Manager's signing authority as defined by United's procurement policy. However, all subsequent amendments require Board approval per the procurement policy because the total contract value is above the General Manager's approval limit.

Contract and Amendments	Contract Amount	Execution Date
Original Contract	\$193,208	May 4, 2020
Amendment No. 1	Time Extension Only	March 2, 2022
Amendment No. 2	\$55,481	February 1, 2023
Amendment No. 3	Time Extension Only	March 1,
Amendment No. 4	\$49,460	May 21, 2024
Amendment No. 5	\$52,000 (including contingency)	January 8, 2025 (tentative)
Total Contract Amount	\$350,149	

Staff recommend that the Engineering and Operations Committee consider recommending to the full Board of Directors to authorize the General Manager to execute the proposed Contract Amendment No. 5, which is attached herein as Attachment A and further details the associated scope of work and schedule of fees.

Mission Goal:

Meets Mission-Related Goal A, Water Supply, and Goal B, System Reliability.

Agenda Item: 3.1 Authorize Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Consulting Services Agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants for services related to the Three Barrel Culvert Replacement Project (CIP 8018)
Motion

Fiscal Impact:

There are sufficient funds in the FY 2024-25 budget (Account No. 051-400-81080-8018-815) to cover the proposed additional fee of \$52,000 associated with Amendment No. 5.

Attachments:

Attachment A – NHC Proposal for Amendment No. 5.



NHC Ref. No. 5005686

15 Nov 2024

United Water Conservation District
1701 N Lombard Street
Oxnard, CA 93030

Attention: Nathan Summerville, P.E.
Senior Engineer

Via email: NathanS@unitedwater.org

Subject: Three Barrel Culvert; Services for Bid-Ready Documents

BACKGROUND

United Water Conservation District (United) retained Northwest Hydraulic Consultants and subconsultant Gannett Fleming to design improvements to the Freeman Diversion conveyance system to supply more water to existing and future recharge ponds. NHC and Gannett Fleming completed the design of the inverted siphon replacement. The three-barrel culvert design has recently been completed to draft final and NHC and Gannett Fleming have assisted United with Section 408 permitting of the project. United plans to go to construction for the project in 2025 or 2026 and has requested engineering support services to address any additional comments from United, Ventura County or USACE and to incorporate permit conditions into a bid-ready set of construction documents.

NHC will provide technical input where appropriate, focusing on hydraulic and civil design aspects of the project. As design engineer, Gannett Fleming (GF) will lead response to comments, permitting coordination support, and preparation of bid documents with NHC oversight and coordination.

SCOPE OF WORK

Based on discussion with United we anticipate the following tasks:

- Task 1 – Permitting and Coordination
- Task 2 – Bid-Ready Construction Document Preparation
- Task 3 - Project Management

Each task is briefly described below.

Task 1 – Permitting and Coordination

The draft plans and design report have been reviewed by Ventura County and USACE as part of the Section 408 permitting process. Comments were received, and a comment-response table and memorandum have been prepared. United anticipates additional comments and coordination to finalize the permitting process, respond to agency questions, and identify permit conditions that need to be incorporated into the construction documents.

- Coordinate with United on any additional agency comments and questions.
- Assist United to prepare responses to comments or questions, as needed.
- Compile changes needed in the construction documents to incorporate permit conditions or other requirements from the agencies.

Deliverables:

- May include revisions to comment-response table, as needed.
- May include additional responses to questions or comments, as needed
- Compiled list of changes needed in construction documents to incorporate permitting conditions and requirements

Task 2 – Finalize Bid-Ready Construction Documents

The changes compiled in Task 1 will be incorporated into the project plans, as changes to respond to United comments. NHC and Gannett Fleming will also assist United with technical aspects of the Special Provisions to prepare for advertising the project. Review submittals to confirm conformance to plans (assume review of up to 20 submittals, up to 80 GF hours)

- Incorporate United comments, permit conditions and other comments in project plans
- Assist United with Special Provisions and final bid package.

Deliverables:

- Bid-Ready plans with notes
- Final Design Calculation Technical Memorandum
- Input to sections of the Special Provisions

Task 3 – Project Management

This task includes administration of the consulting contract, invoicing, and coordination with United. This task assumes that all comments will be received by the end of January 2025, and the work will be completed by 30 Apr 2025.

Deliverables:

- No deliverables anticipated for this task.

COST

The cost to complete the work described above is estimated to be \$47,420 including all direct costs. Table 1 shows a breakdown of costs.

CLOSURE

We appreciate the opportunity to present this proposal and look forward to supporting United in construction of the project.

Sincerely,

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward E. Wallace". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Edward E. Wallace, P.E.
Principal

Attachment: Table 1 NHC Cost Proposal

TABLE 1. NHC COST PROPOSAL

PROJECT:
 PROJECT NO:
 CLIENT:
 DATE:
 BY:

Freeman Diversion Conveyance - 3-Barrel Culvert Engineering Services Bid-Ready Documents
 5005686
 United Water Conservation District
 15 Nov 2024
 EW

Task No	Task Description	NHC Personnel		Labor Cost	GF Subcons Cost	Direct Cost	Task Cost
		pe2 bjm 310.00	se1 ghp 220.00				
1	Permitting and Coordination	12		\$3,720	\$17,270	\$0	\$20,990
2	Bid-Ready Construction Documents	16		\$4,960	\$11,990	\$0	\$16,950
3	Project Management	10		\$3,100	\$6,380	\$0	\$9,480
	<i>Totals</i>	38	0	\$11,780	\$35,640	\$0	\$47,420

10% Contingency for Unanticipated Comments or Delays = \$4,580
Total Amendment Amount = \$52,000

STAFF REPORT

To: Engineering and Operations Committee

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado Jr., General Manager
Maryam A. Bral, Assistant General Manager

From: Robert J. Richardson, Engineering Manager
Nathan Summerville, Senior Engineer

Date: December 18, 2024 (January 2, 2024, meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report
Information item

Staff Recommendation:

The Engineering and Operations Committee will receive this summary report from the Engineering Department regarding its activities for the end of November through December 2024. Please refer to the end of the report for a list of acronyms.

Discussion:

1. Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project

- FERC General Compliance
 - November 30 – Staff e-filed the final HHA and PSHA with FERC
 - End of December – Staff e-filed the 2024 EAP Status Report, DSSMR, and ASCC with FERC.
- Outlet Works Improvement Project
 - December 2 - 72" Butterfly Valve Redundant HPU successfully commissioned.
 - December 12 – Site visit to review sloping intake geologic features with DSOD and GEI (see **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**).
- Spillway Improvement Project
 - November 26 - A construction Agreement in the amount of \$48,497.70 with MDJ for the 2024 Santa Felicia Dam Spillway Waterproofing Project was executed by the Assistant General Manager.
 - December 2 – Notice to Proceed for the 2024 Spillway Waterproofing Project issued.
- Grants: See the Grants section as part of this report.

2. Lake Piru Recreation Area FIP

4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report Information Item

- November 25 – Continued to advance Lake Piru Recreation Area FIP by assessing CUP conditions, discussing existing water treatment plant operations with Stantec, the design engineer, reviewing and providing comments on the geotechnical report, and coordinating with Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation staff on a potential site visit of yurts at Lake Cachuma.
- December 19 – Conducted a site visit with Gordian and a potential contractor to develop the scope of work and cost proposal for the Lower Olive Grove Restroom rehabilitation project.

3. Freeman Diversion Expansion

- Please see the Monthly Environmental Services Department Report for updates on the Project's environmental compliance and permitting process.

4. Freeman Conveyance System Upgrade – Freeman to Ferro

- Inverted Siphon Replacement
 - December 5 - Staff prepared an end-of-water year report on the DWR's FDRE Initiative for the Canal Bypass Pumping that was completed on September 9, 2024.
- Three Barrel Culvert Replacement
 - December 13 – USACE responded to the District's 408 application.
 - See Motion Item related to Amendment No. 5 with NHC.
- Vineyard Avenue Crossing
 - December 5 - A Ventura County Well Permit Application for two test bores was executed by United to enable HDR to conduct a geotechnical investigation in support of the Groundwater Recharge Capacity Expansion Project - Noble to Ferro.
- Please see the Monthly Environmental Services Department Report for updates on the Project's environmental compliance and permitting process.

5. SWP Interconnection Pipeline Project

- December 5 – The City of Ventura's consultant (Stantec) is planning to mobilize to conduct cultural resources shovel test pits along the alignment of the proposed State Water Interconnection Project.
- December 13 – Staff continued to collaborate with the City of Ventura on the project. The pipeline will cross under the Santa Clara River and through the access roads of the District's Ferro and Noble 3 basins. Staff reviewed the 100% design plans at the request of the City of Ventura and provided feedback.

4.1 **Engineering Department Monthly Report** **Information Item**

6. El Rio Water Treatment and Groundwater Facility

- December 5 - Agreement with Beacon West Energy Group LLC for Professional Electrical Engineering Consultation Services for a Feasibility Study to replace the Gas-Driven Booster Pumps at the El Rio Water Treatment and Groundwater Facility was executed by the Assistant General Manager in the amount of \$84,190.
- December 10 – Kick-off meeting and site visit with Beacon West Energy Group with engineering and O&M staff.

7. Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility

- November 26 – Staff met with OLDCC staff to discuss grant close-out procedures for the DCIP grant.
- December 5 – Staff and GSE reached an agreement on the final accounting and close out of the project. Staff and GSE agreed to set the start date for the 10-year tank warranty on April 11, 2024.
- December 6 - Received unstamped/unsigned as-built drawings from K/J. Staff reviewed as-built drawings for completeness.
- December 10 – Staff met with OLDCC staff to discuss final accounting and clarify non-Federal amount.

8. OH Pipeline Shutdown (November 23-26)

- November 27 – Staff continued to update record drawings related to the OH Pipeline shutdown on November 23 through 26, which included Cal-Am emergency interconnections at two locations off the OH pipeline and new valve and meter installations by the District at various locations.

9. Rice Avenue Grade Separation Project and Impact on PTP

- Staff coordinated a follow-up meeting with K/J, who designed the utility relocations and PTP pipeline reinforcement in response to the Project impacts on the PTP system. K/J will provide engineering support services to the District during the construction of the Project.

10. PTP Metering Improvement Project

- December 4 – Internal meeting with Finance and Water Resources staff to discuss Ranch System proposal for PTP turnout user interface that would provide real-time flow, totalization, and conductivity to users at an estimated cost of \$180/yr per turnout.

11. PTP Recycled Water Connection – Laguna Road Pipeline Project

- November 25 - Laguna Road potholing was completed by Toro at PTP POC and at Wood Road.

4.1 **Engineering Department Monthly Report** **Information Item**

- November 25 – Engineering and Water Resources staff located a temporary GW well and took measurements of current GW conditions. Data was forwarded to MottMac to be distributed to Toro.
- December 2 - UWCD rejected Toro's request for the HDD realignment.
- December 2 - Toro mobilized to the designated staging area (VCWPD property) and began setting up BMPs. Toro installed a project sign on the existing VCWPD property fence.
- December 4 - Toro north shoulder grading and pavement completed (hot mix asphalt). Received written approval from landowners regarding Laguna Road tree-trimming (VCPWA added tree-trimming to existing encroachment permit).
- December 13 – Conductor Casing Pit 1 (east) excavation and shoring completed. Sixty (60) feet of 36-inch casing was installed (see **Figure 4**).

12. **Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project**

- Continued solicitation requesting bids for potholing to advance pipeline design.
- Continued solicitation requesting proposals to conduct power study to advance electrical design.
- K/J continued to prepare 30% design documents.
- December 9 – UWCD met with Navy staff and discussed the February 5-6 CalDesal Annual Conference and letter of request for Phase 1 outgrant easement.
- CEQA/NEPA/Permits: Please see the Monthly Environmental Services Department Report for updates on the Project's environmental compliance and permitting process.
- Geotech/Hydrogeology: Please see the Monthly Water Resources Department Report for updates on the construction of new monitoring wells.
- Grants: See the Grants section as part of this report.

13. **Asset Management/ CMMS System**

- Continued to review asset management pilot proposals from two prospective consultants.

14. **Grants:**

- Staff participated in OLDCC-hosted DCIP listening sessions.
- December 12 – GTF, Engineering, and Water Resources staff met with the NBVC Community Planning Liaison Officer regarding the FY25 DCIP grant.

15. **Training and Conferences**

- December 3-5: Maryam Bral attended the 2024 ACWA Fall Conference and Expo in Palm Desert, CA, and presented/participated in the Water Supply in Dry Times – Region 5 Panel. See **Figure 2**.

4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report Information Item

16. Public Outreach

- December 5 – Staff attended the RDP Meeting at the Ventura County Government Center.

**4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report
Information Item**



Figure 1 - Site Visit with DSOD, GEI, and District Staff on December 12.



Figure 2 - Site Visit with DSOD, GEI, and District Staff on December 12.

4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report Information Item



Figure 3 - Kick-off Meeting and Site Visit with Beacon West Energy Group, LLC



Figure 4 - Conductor Casing Pit 1 (East) Installation - Laguna Road Recycled Water Pipeline (December 13)

4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report
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Figure 5 - Maryam Bral participating in the Water Supply in Dry Times – Region 5 Panel at ACWA's 2024 Fall Conference on December 5, 2024.

**4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report
Information Item**

Acronym Index

Acronym	Definition
AALRR	Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo Law Firm
AgWUE	Agricultural Water Use Efficiency
AM	Asset Management
APWA	American Public Works Association
ASCC	Annual Security Compliance Certification
BA	Biological Assessment
BFV	Butterfly Valve
BMP	Best Management Practice
BOC	Board of Consultants
BOD	Board of Directors
BRIC	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
BWRDF	Brackish Water Reclamation Demonstration Facility
BV	Black & Veatch
CalAm	California American Water
Calboring	California Boring
Cal-OSHA	California Division of Occupational Safety and Health
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNRSW	Commander Navy Region Southwest
CoLAB	Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
DBW	Division of Boating and Waterways
DCIP	Defense Community Infrastructure Program
DDW	Division of Drinking Water
DFA	Division of Financial Assistance
DPP	Drilling Program Plan
DSOD	Division of Safety of Dams
DSSMR	Dam Safety Surveillance and Monitoring Report
DWPR	Drinking Water Purification Research Program
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
EBB	Extraction Barrier and Brackish
ESA	Environmental Science Associates
ESD	Environmental Services Department
FCGMA	Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency

**4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report
Information Item**

Acronym	Definition
FDRE	Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FERC	Federal Regulatory Commission
FGL	Fruit Growers Laboratory
FIP	Facility Improvement Project
FMA	Flood Mitigation Assistance
GEI	GEI Consultants
GF	Gannett Fleming
GHD	GHD Group
GPRS	Ground Penetrating Radar Systems, LLC
GSE	GSE Construction Company, Inc.
GTF	Grant Task Force
GW	Ground Water
GWGP	Groundwater Grant Program
HHA	Hydraulic Hazard Analysis
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HPU	Hydraulic Power Unit
ICF	Intake Control Facility
IRWM	Integrated Water Management Plan
IS-MND	Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
K/J	Kennedy Jenks Consultants
MDJ	MDJ Management, LLC
MKN	MKN & Associates
MNS	MNS Engineers, Inc.
MottMac	Mott MacDonald
NAVFAC	Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command
NAVFAC EXWC	Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center
NBVC	Naval Base Ventura County
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHC	Northwest Hydraulic Consultants
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOI	Notice of Interest
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OH	Oxnard-Hueneme
OLDCC	Office of Local Defense and Community Cooperation
OMMP	Operation, Maintenance, and Monitoring Plan

**4.1 Engineering Department Monthly Report
Information Item**

Acronym	Definition
PCSA	Professional Consulting Services Agreement
PDM	Pre-Disaster Mitigation
PFMA	Potential Failure Mode Analysis
PHWA	Port Hueneme Water Agency
POC	Point of Connection
PSHA	Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis
PTP	Pumping Trough Pipeline
PVWCD	Pleasant Valley County Water District
QCIP	Quality Control and Inspection Program
RDP	Regional Defense Partnership
REPI	Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposals
SAG	Stakeholder Advisory Group
SAME	Society of American Military Engineers
SFD	Santa Felicia Dam
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SIP	Safety Improvement Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TCP	Traffic Control Plan
TM	Technical Memorandum
Toro	Toro Enterprises, Inc.
Trussell	Trussell Technologies, Inc.
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USBR	United States Bureau of Reclamation
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFW	U.S. Fish and Wildlife
VCPWA	Ventura County Public Works Agency
VCWPD	Ventura County Watershed Protection District
VFD	Variable Frequency Drive
WM	Waste Management
WTP	Water Treatment Plant
WUE	Water Use Efficiency



STAFF REPORT

To: Engineering and Operations Committee Members

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager
Dr. Maryam Bral, Assistant General Manager

From: Marissa Caringella, Environmental Services Manager

Date: December 17, 2024 (January 2, 2025, meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.2 Environmental Services Department Monthly Report
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

Receive this summary report from the Environmental Services Department staff regarding its activities for the month of December 2024.

Discussion:

1. Santa Felicia Project Operations and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission License Support

Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project (SFDSIP)

On November 18, 2024, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) asked United Water Conservation District (United) to submit supplemental draft environmental protection measure plans to support the September 30, 2024, SFDSIP Endangered Species Act Section 7 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) consultation package submittal. On December 5, 2024, United filed the requested plans. On December 6, 2024, FERC requested additional information, and on December 10, 2024, United met with FERC staff to discuss and clarify the request.

Water Release Plan and Water Release and Ramping Rate Implementation Plan

Under the Water Release Plan and FERC license for the Santa Felicia Project, United is required to make certain water releases from the Santa Felicia Dam for steelhead habitat and migration when specific triggers are met. Triggers for habitat water releases are based on cumulative rainfall within the water year. The measured cumulative rainfall for the current water year has exceeded the triggers for enhanced habitat water releases through October 1, 2024. The minimum required habitat water release from June 1 through October 1, 2024,

4.2 Environmental Services Department Monthly Report Information Item

was nine cubic feet per second (cfs). The minimum required water release from October 2, 2024, through January 1, 2025, is seven cfs.

Habitat Improvement Plan

On September 4, 2024, United submitted a revised draft of the Lower Piru Creek Habitat Improvement Plan (HIP) and response to comments to NMFS for review and approval. NMFS' review and approval is required prior to FERC's approval of the HIP. NMFS requested a technical meeting with United staff to discuss the revised draft. On December 5, 2024, United staff participated in a technical workshop with NMFS and FERC staff to discuss the plan. An additional technical meeting will be held in 2025 to continue the technical discussion. FERC requested that United file the December 5, 2024, meeting minutes, a proposed schedule, and a scheduled date for the follow up meeting by January 3, 2025.

Santa Felicia Whitewater Boating Access – Lake Piru Recreation Area

On December 13, 2024, United submitted the draft 2024 Annual Whitewater Boating Access Monitoring Report to stakeholders including the U.S. Forest Service, California State Parks, the Sierra Club, Los Angeles Kayak Club, and American Whitewater. Stakeholders have 30 days to provide comments prior to the report being finalized and filed with FERC.

Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) - Lake Piru Recreation Area

On December 31, 2024, ES Staff submitted the 2024 Annual Report covering activities under the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) LSAA General Maintenance Permit at the Lake Piru Recreation Area. The report details routine maintenance activities conducted at the Lake Piru Recreation Area and Santa Felicia Dam between January 1 and December 31, 2024.

Arroyo Toad Protection Plan and Revised Lower Piru Creek Herpetological Monitoring Plan

On December 31, 2024, ES staff submitted the 2024 combined annual report for the FERC Arroyo Toad Protection Plan and Revised Lower Piru Creek Herpetological Monitoring Plan. This report details the activities conducted under each of these plans between January 1 and December 31, 2024, including aquatic exotic species removal below Santa Felicia Dam.

Santa Felicia Fish Passage Pre-implementation Studies

On December 30, 2024, ES staff submitted an information update to FERC regarding the status of the Santa Felicia Fish Passage Pre-implementation Studies. This update included a summary of preliminary data collected in 2024 and prior project phases, a summary of the project deliverables currently in development, and an anticipated timeline for upcoming

4.2 Environmental Services Department Monthly Report Information Item

agency consultation (FERC, NMFS, CDFW, US Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Forest Service). United anticipates the project deliverables will be finalized in June 2025.

Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP)

On November 26, 2024, ES staff filed a Supplemental Status Update supporting the 2024 HPMP annual report filed with FERC on September 30, 2024. The annual report documented all work conducted under the HPMP within the reporting period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, including built environment property findings, activity specific cultural resource surveys, a summary of conducted screened activities, and a summary of exempt work activities conducted utilizing cultural resource avoidance and mitigation measures. This completes the 2024 HPMP annual reporting.

2. Freeman Diversion Operations

During the month of December, ES staff supported Freeman Diversion operations and maintenance activities by coordinating with resource agencies as needed, assisting with fish ladder operations and sediment management activities, conducting surveys of dewatered areas, and providing on-site biological monitoring.

On December 16, 2024, the District finalized the CDFW LSAA for Freeman Diversion routine maintenance activities including vegetation control, in-kind repair of riprap and roads, and desilting basin maintenance. The new permit has a five-year term expiring December 13, 2029.

3. Quagga Mussel Management

Throughout the month of December, ES staff continued conducting quagga mussel monitoring activities on Lake Piru, lower Piru Creek, and the spillway pool in accordance with the Quagga Mussel Monitoring and Control Plan (QMMCP). ES staff also continued quagga mussel veliger (larva) sampling in United's lower system. United staff continues to meet and coordinate regularly with Pleasant Valley County Water District.

4. Grant Efforts

During the month of December, United provided U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) requested additional information in relation to the awarded \$20 million WaterSMART grant for the hardened ramp fish passage facility. Coordination with USBR is ongoing regarding the execution of a grant agreement.

5. Miscellaneous

On December 4, 2024, United submitted a letter to the Fish and Game Commission and CDFW including supplemental *O. mykiss* survey data and an update on the Cramer Fish Sciences southern California steelhead lifecycle model acceptance for publication. This letter follows similar supplemental data submissions by United in June and August of 2024.

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On December 10, 2024, ES staff submitted special-status species observations to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for the 2024 calendar year.

On December 11 and 12, 2024, ES staff virtually attended the 8th Annual Information Exchange of the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative, an annual conference hosted by the interagency cooperative (governmental, tribal, non-governmental, and private organizations) focused on pacific lamprey conservation.

STAFF REPORT

To: Engineering and Operations Committee Members

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Craig Morgan, Chief Operations Officer
Randy Castañeda, Operations Supervisor — Water Treatment
J.D. Smallwood, Operations Supervisor — Water Distribution

Date: December 18, 2024 (January 2, 2025, meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Monthly Report
Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

Receive this summary report from the Operations and Maintenance department about its activities for November and December 2024.

1. Major Facilities Update

- **Santa Felicia Dam**
 - On November 1st, 2024, the lake level was 1007.6' and on November 31st, 2024, the lake level was 1007.3' and is static due to reduced inflows, evaporation, and SFD Habitat Releases.
 - Santa Felicia Dam release flows varied from approximately 7 CFS to 52 CFS throughout November due to Habitat Flow requirements and Conservation Releases.
 - SFD staff is hosting MDJ Management LLC for the SFD 72-Inch Butterfly Valve Redundancy and Seismic Resiliency Project. Commission testing of the hydraulic system was successfully completed on December 2nd.
 - SFD staff are preparing for the rainy season by cleaning out and removing debris in various drainages and catch basins within the Recreation area and along the East Road.
 - SFD staff are continuing to assist with various Felicia Fire clean up tasks.
- **Freeman Diversion, Saticoy, and El Rio Recharge Facilities**
 - District staff operated the Freeman Diversion throughout December, harvesting Santa Clara River flows and delivering surface water to El Rio, PTP and PV pipelines.
 - Saticoy's Desilt Project has concluded, and staff are currently awaiting sediment removal totals.
 - Saticoy staff replaced critical components to the Freeman Fish Wiper assembly as part of our winter preparations activities.
 - Various clean-up and storm preparation activities are taking place around the Saticoy facility and the Freeman Diversion.

**Agenda Item: 4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Monthly Report
Information Item**

- Herbicide application tasks are ongoing and continuing near the Freeman Diversion, the Saticoy Spreading Grounds, the Noble Basins, and the North Bank.
- Various cleanup and storm preparation activities are ongoing at the Rose and Nobles Basins.
- Static water levels (distance of water from the well pad to the water table):

	2024	2023	2022
Saticoy	37'	28'	145'
El Rio	56'	71'	145'
PTP	76'-105'	80'-111'	145'176'

- **Oxnard-Hueneme (OH) Delivery System**

- El Rio operators assisted with scheduled El Rio Booster Plant shutdown so multiple projects could be performed on the the OH Pipeline, such as installation of new turnout valves and video inspection of pipeline interior.
- El Rio operators assisted UWCD I&E team with completion of telemetry station for new Fe/Mn pressure relief valve.
- El Rio operators completed troubleshooting Gas Eng. 4 priming issues by removing and installing refurbished air starter.
- El Rio staff resolved numerous Booster Plant and OH well issues after an extreme high wind event.
- El Rio operators made repairs to continuous monitoring analyzers at OH sample station 1 location.
- El Rio operators put Fe/Mn Plant through new testing procedures when utilizing OH Wells 12 and 13.

- **Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD)**

- PVCWD received United's surface water supply, surface supply from Conejo Creek Project, and received highly treated recycled water from the City of Oxnard's Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF).
- 12% sodium hypochlorite injection continues at Saticoy's Moss Screen facilities for quagga mussel control.

- **Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP)**

- During November, the PTP system demand was met with surface water and PTP wells.
- UWCD staff conducted drone video footage of construction work for Recycle Water pipeline work on Laguna Rd.
- El Rio operators performed monthly operational tests for the PTP emergency generators.
- El Rio operators began planning for the upcoming replacement of isolation valves on Sturgis Rd.

Agenda Item: 4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Monthly Report Information Item

- **Control Systems**

- We have replaced the VFD Cisco Catalyst 3560 Network Switch with an Ubiquiti USW Pro 24 to improve network reliability and security.
- The team has completed the wiring for the new Endress+Hauser OH-MLM and connected head units to the meter.
- We have completed the installation of the new OH-MLM Clamp-On Meter.
- We began the initial phase for Pleasant Valley (PV) Clamp-On Meter Installation
- We conducted the first successful test of the new elevated OH Well 13 valve at the Pressure Relief Station. The actuator opened and closed the valve.
- The Control Systems team participated in SFD-Dam Safety Cross Training and introduced the new and revised SFD Emergency Power Generator SOP.
- We have set up the new desk and workstation for our new Chief Operator Steven Torres.
- We installed new electrical panel boxes for the Pressure Relief Station to power the equipment. This included pulling cable from the VFD building and laying new conduit.
- We participated in the UWCD EOC Section Overview.
- We welcome a new member to the Control Systems team, Luis Perez.
- We elevated cabling at SFD between the Hydro Bldg. and Support Bldg. to accommodate boring operations and equipment upon Engineering's request.
- Successfully Completed Genetec Enterprise Technician Training

- **Lake Piru Water System**

- All chlorine residuals and turbidity readings for the drinking water system were within proper ranges for December.
- Monthly pH, turbidity and coliform samples were obtained for Lake Piru, as part of the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule compliance monitoring.
- Basic maintenance and inspections are ongoing and continuing.

2. Operations and Maintenance Projects Update

- El Rio completed the monthly DDW Drought Tolerance report.
- El Rio operators worked with HACH Co. technician on quarterly service of continuous monitoring water quality analyzers.
- Staff performed weed abatement at PTP and PV reservoirs.
- El Rio operators made operational adjustments to comply with Voltus Demand Respond energy curtailment for OH well field.
- El Rio staff began training the new interim Chief Water Treatment Operator on daily operations for OH, PTP and PV activities.

**Agenda Item: 4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Monthly Report
Information Item**

3. Other Operations and Maintenance Activities

- Monthly bacteria samples were obtained for the PTP system.
- Monthly meter readings were obtained for OH, PTP and PV pipelines.
- Staff completed and electronically transmitted the monthly OH Surface Water Treatment Rule report to the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water.
- Static water levels were obtained for all El Rio, Saticoy, and PTP wells.
- Weed abatement continued throughout the district.
- The Annual 2024 Santa Felicia Dam / Saticoy Duty Operator - Dam Safety Cross-Training took place on Tuesday, November 19.
- Saticoy Staff assisted El Rio staff with the OH Pipeline Shut Down / Meter Replacement on the weekend of 11/23 - 11/24.

4. Safety and Training

- Staff attended a safety meeting that traffic safety.
- Tailgate safety meetings were conducted at all individual O&M field locations and the topics included refresher training on equipment used at the various O&M locations; specifically, tailgate safety meetings were conducted prior to every commencement of maintenance activities at the Freeman Diversion.

Attachment: Operations Log for November

