

**MINUTES
ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

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

OPEN SESSION

Chair Catherine Keeling called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members Roll Call

Present: Directors Ford, Kimball, and Keeling

Absent: None.

1. Public Comments: None.

**2. Approval of Minutes
Motion**

Action: M/S/C (Kimball, Ford) to approve July 3, 2025, minutes.

Vote: Ayes: Ford, Kimball, and Keeling; Noes: None.

3. October 8, 2025, UWCD Board of Directors Meeting Agenda Items

The General Manager along with the Committee members agreed to combine Agenda items 3.1 and 4 (item 4 presented first) since the topics were similar in nature.

Action: M/S/C (Ford, Kimball) motion to approve amendment of the October 2, 2025, Agenda to combine items 3.1 and 4.

Vote: Ayes: Kimball, Ford, and Keeling; Noes: None.

**4. Chief Dam Safety Engineer's Annual Dam Safety Program Report
Information Item**

Maryam Bral, Chief Dam Safety Engineer and Assistant General Manager along with Adrian Quiroz, Deputy Chief Dam Safety Engineer and Senior Engineer delivered a presentation as well as an annual report to the Committee in accordance with the Santa Felicia Dam Owners Dam Safety Program and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requirements. This Annual Report and presentation cover dam safety program activities from October 2024 through September 2025 (reporting period). *Per Government Code Title 18 § 388. 113 Critical Energy/Electric Infrastructure Information, the Annual Report is a critical/confidential document. Committee members only were provided with hard copies for review at the meeting.*



With guidance from the General Manager, Director Keeling requested the other Board members be given the opportunity to review the critical/confidential documents prior to the UWCD Board of Directors meeting being held on October 8, 2025. An email will be sent from Executive Assistant Tara Acosta to the Board members with instructions.

3.1 Adopt a Resolution Approving Revision of the Owners Dam Safety Program and Overarching Dam Safety Program Policy

Motion

Senior Engineer Adrian Quiroz summarized this motion for the Committee, presentation attached.

Action: M/S/C (Kimball, Ford) recommend to the full Board of Directors adoption of a resolution approving the revised Santa Felicia Dam Owners Safety Program, revision 11.0 dated October 2025, and the Overarching Dam Safety Program Policy.

Vote: Ayes: Ford, Kimball, and Keeling; Noes: None.

3.2 Adopt a Resolution Determining that the Lake Piru Early Warning System Installation Project is Exempt from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act and Approving the Project

Motion

Associate Environmental Scientist Haven Whipple summarized this motion for the Committee, presentation attached.

Action: M/S/C (Ford, Kimball) recommend to the full Board of Directors adoption of a resolution determining that the Lake Piru Early Warning System Installation Project (Project) is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and directing staff to file the Notice of Exemption in accordance with CEQA and approving the Project.

Vote: Ayes: Ford, Kimball, and Keeling; Noes: None.

5. Monthly Department Updates
Information Items

5.1 Engineering Department Update
Information Item

Engineering Manager Robert Richardson presented department highlights to the Committee, presentation attached.

5.2 Environmental Services Department Update
Information Item

Environmental Services Manager Marissa Caringella presented department highlights to the Committee which also included a *Freeman Fish Ladder Overview* presented by Environmental Scientist Evan Lashly, presentation attached.



**5.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Update
Information Item**

Chief Operations Officer Craig Morgan presented department highlights to the Committee, presentation attached.

6. Future Agenda Items

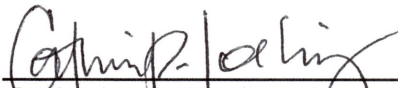
None were offered by the Committee.

7. Adjournment

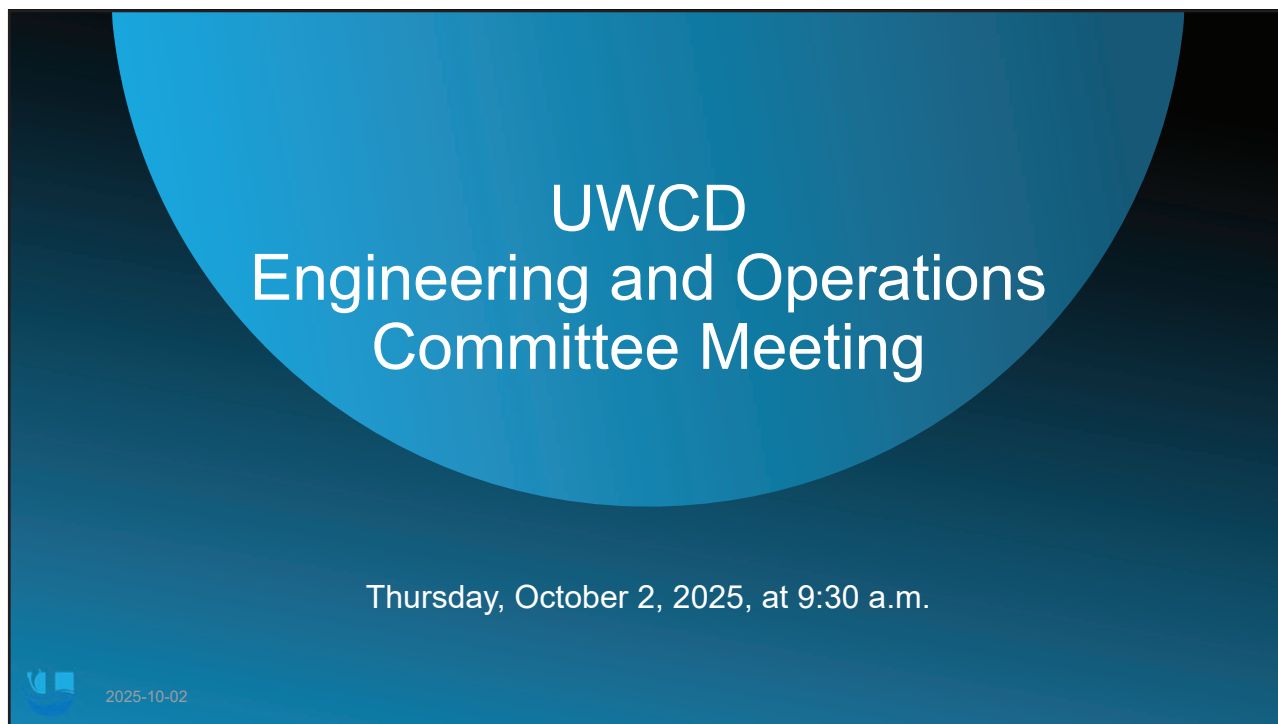
Chair Keeling adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of October 2, 2025.

ATTEST:




Catherine P. Keeling, Chair




UWCD
Engineering and Operations
Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.



 2025-10-02

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Owner Dam Safety Program
CDSE's Annual Dam Safety Program Report

Reporting Period – October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025

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Topics(Based on 2022 ODSP Audit Recommendations):

- ✓ Dam Safety Incidents
- ✓ Critical Inspection Findings
- ✓ Surveillance and Monitoring
- ✓ Evaluations and Assessments
- ✓ EAP Exercises and Updates
- ✓ Dam Safety Trainings
- ✓ Public Outreach
- ✓ Dam Safety Program Needs (Current and Future)

Annual CDSE report includes 2024-25 dam safety events and accomplishments (Ref: 2025 Annual Dam Safety Program Report)



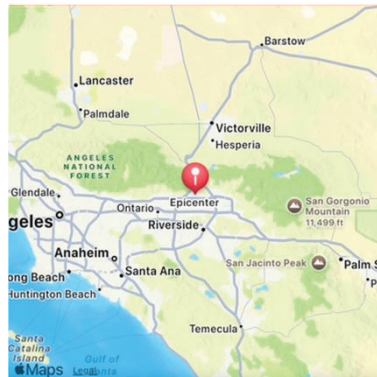
2025-10-02

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Dam Safety Incidents – Seismic Events

- None to Report (none with adverse impacts to SFD)
- Three post-earthquake inspections performed during reporting period, no adverse impacts to SFD detected.



4.5 M Earthquake – 79 miles from SFD
July 31, 2025



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4

Dam Safety Incidents – Spillway Flow Events



SFD Spillway Ogee Weir

- No spillway flow events observed during the reporting period
- December 2024 – removed and replaced 250 lineal feet of degraded waterproof sealant material along the joints of the ogee weir



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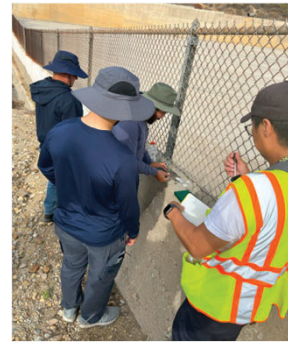
Critical Inspection Findings



- DSOD Annual Inspection completed on June 17, 2025.



- Engineering staff inspecting “drummy” concrete in spillway on August 5, 2025.




- Annual FERC Inspection completed on August 6, 2025.




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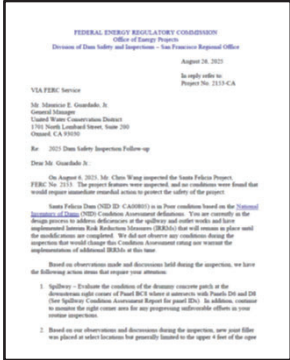
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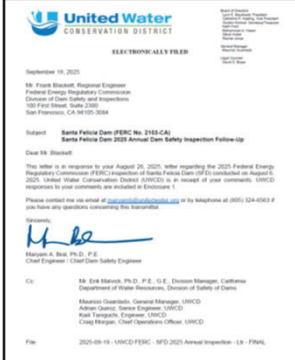
Critical Inspection Findings







- Received Inspection Follow-up letter from FERC on August 26, 2025.





- UWCD submits response to Inspection Follow-up letter on September 19, 2025.







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Surveillance and Monitoring



- Conducted 2025 SFD Biennial Monitoring Survey
- Conducted 9 out of 12 monthly inspections
- Conducted semi-annual spillway discharge channel erosion measurement
- Annual Dam Safety and Surveillance Monitoring Report (DSSMR) due to FERC by December 31, 2025.



2025 SFD Biennial Monitoring Survey

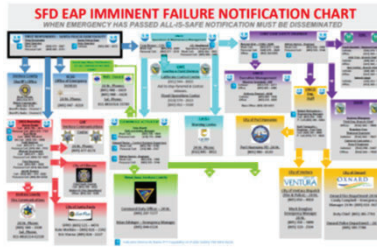


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EAP Exercises and Training



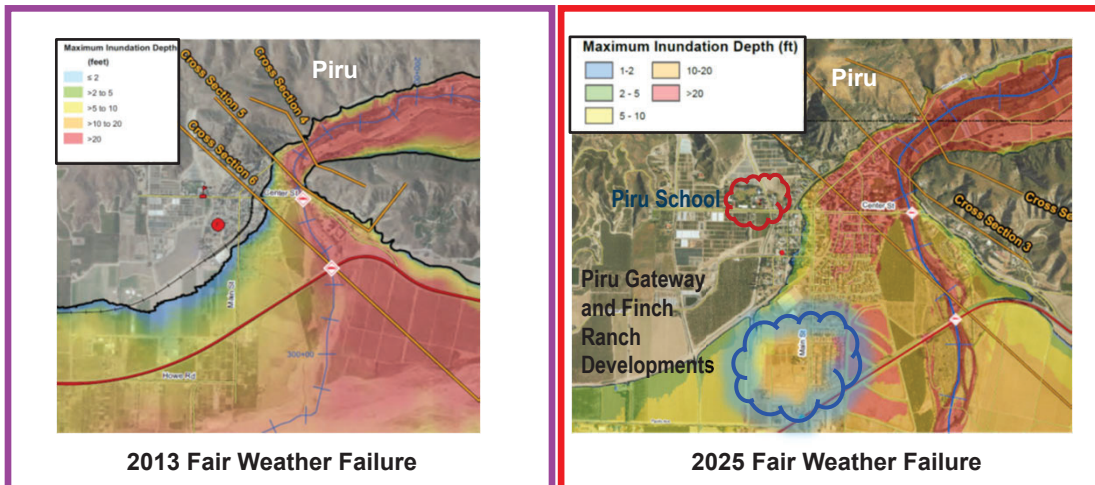
****Drill**** This is the United Water Conservation District Annual Felicia Dam and Lake Piru EAP Call-Down Drill. Please standby as you may receive a call. Reply with YES to confirm receipt.

2024 SFD Dam Safety Cross-Training	2025 Call-Down Drill	Everbridge System
November 19, 2024 25 Staff Members Participated	June 26, 2025 15 Agencies Received Notifications over 18 Minutes	June 26, 2025 35 out of 46 Responses
2025 SFD EAP Seminar	2025 SFD Dam Safety Cross-Training	
October 23, 2025 In-Person Seminar	December 11, 2025 Saticoy/SFD O&M, Eng and Rec	

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2025 EAP Updates

- SFD EAP Inundation Map Update per DSOD Requirements

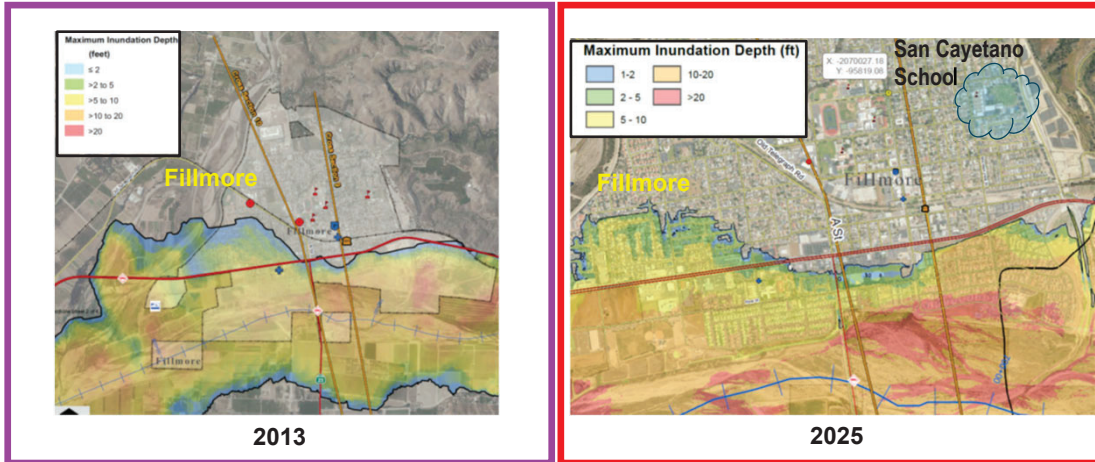


* 2025 Inundation Maps pending DSOD Approval

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2025 EAP Updates

- Larger scale maps will be more detailed.
- 10 maps compared to 4 maps in 2013 set.



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* 2025 Inundation Maps pending DSOD Approval

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Public Outreach



- Photos (Upper left - Clockwise)
 - Local Emergency Managers Tour – May 2025
 - Santa Paula Basin Pumpers Association – June 2025
 - Piru Neighborhood Council Meeting – July 2025
 - VCOES Dam Safety Collaboration – August 2025



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Public Outreach



Animated SFD Inundation Map

SAMPLE



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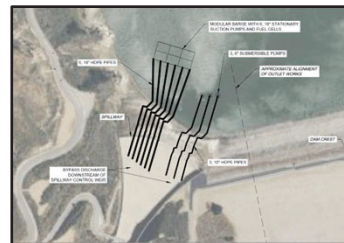
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Dam Safety Program Needs

SFD Interim Risk Reduction Measures

- ✓ 72" Butterfly Valve Redundancy Project – Completed December 2024
- ✓ Lake Piru Reservoir Drawdown Contingency Plan – Accepted by FERC March 2025



Lake Piru Reservoir Drawdown Contingency Plan



2025

Construction of 72" BFV Redundancy Project



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SFD SIP - Evaluations and Assessments

- **New Release Channel Drilling**
Completed in January 2025.
Geotechnical Investigation Report
e-filed with FERC in April 2025.
- **Groundwater Infiltration Testing**
Completed in-house in July
2025.

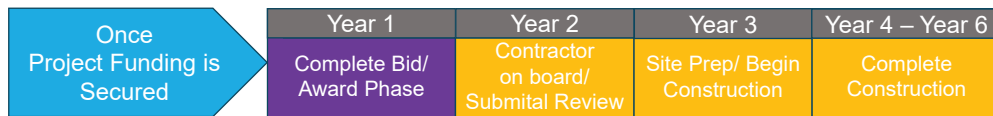
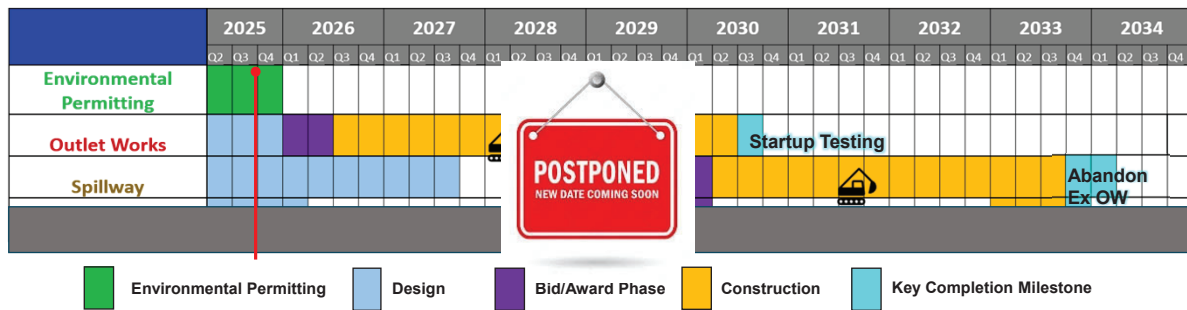


New Release Channel Drilling - November 2024



Groundwater Infiltration Testing at SFD - July 2025

Dam Safety Program Needs – SFD SIP





Thank you!

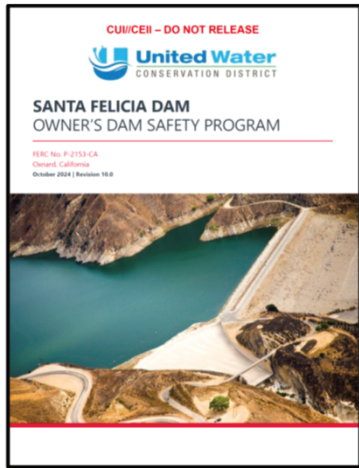


Resolution Adopting the Revised Owners Dam Safety Program Document - October 2025

3.1 A Resolution of the United Water Conservation District Board of Directors Adopting the Revised Owners Dam Safety Program and Overarching Dam Safety Program Policy, Dated October 2025



ODSP Overview



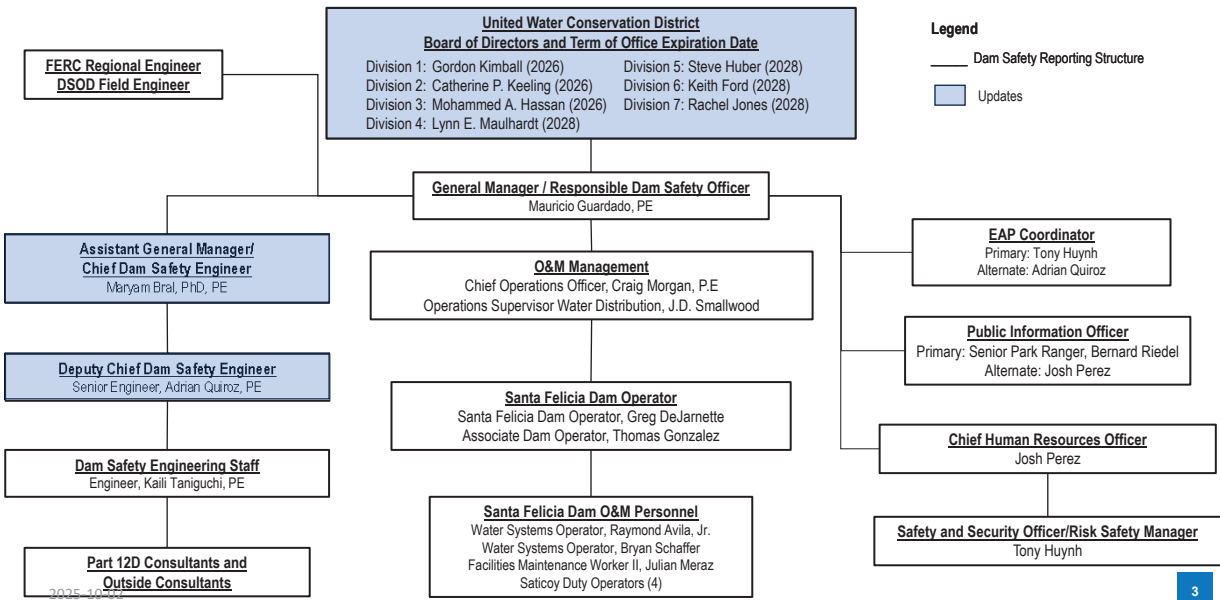
- **Purpose:** Promote dam safety accountability, prevent dam failure, and foster a strong dam safety culture within organization. The ODSP serves as policy for the District.
- **Applicability:** Required for dams with high or significant hazard classification.
- **Key Elements:**
 - Designate a Chief Dam Safety Engineer/Coordinator
 - Define policy, roles, responsibilities, training, and communication
 - Maintain records and continuous improvement
- **Oversight:**
 1. Annual review with executive management
 2. Self-Assessment every two-years
 3. 5-year external audit
- **Responsibility:** Ultimate dam safety responsibility remains with the owner/licensee

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Dam Safety Reporting Structure



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RESOLUTION 2025-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADOPTING THE REVISED OWNER'S DAM SAFETY PROGRAM AND REAFFIRMING THE DISTRICT'S COMMITMENT TO DAM SAFETY AS POLICY

WHEREAS, the United Water Conservation District ("District") owns and operates Santa Felicia Dam; and

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2012, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District adopted Resolution 2012-15, a formal declaration of the District's commitment to Dam Safety as policy; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2024, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District adopted Resolution 2024-16, a formal declaration of the District's commitment to Dam Safety as policy; and superseding Resolution 2012-15

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned Resolution 2024-16 included the adoption of the Santa Felicia Dam Owner Dam Safety Program and the overarching Dam Safety Program Policy, dated October 2024, as a policy of the District, listing documents that must be continuously updated; and

WHEREAS, training, succession planning, program assessments, corporate accountability, and staff are some of the key elements of the Santa Felicia Owner Dam Safety Program; and


WHEREAS, recent organizational changes in District personnel warrant modification to the Santa Felicia Owner Dam Safety Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:



1. The District Board of Directors hereby adopts the revised Santa Felicia Dam Owner Dam Safety Program and the overarching Dam Safety Program Policy, within, dated October 2025, as a policy of the District, a formal declaration reaffirming the District's commitment to Dam Safety as policy.
2. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF October, 2025

QUESTIONS?




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 **B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY**
 **F. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Motion Item 3.2

Lake Piru Early Warning System Installation Project

Consideration of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Exemption

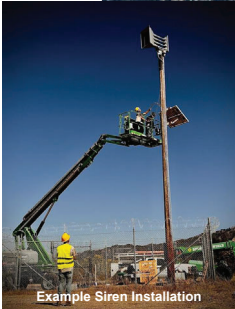




About the Project:

- Installation of 60-foot pole and warning siren
- Range of 1.2 miles at 70dB and 2.3 miles at 60dB
- Alerts boaters and campers of emergencies

Status:

- 100% Design - Complete
- Estimated Construction Cost - \$111,177.12
- CEQA Notice of Exemption - In Progress
- Categorically Exempt Under Class 1, Guidelines § 15301 – Existing Facilities and Class 3, Guidelines § 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures



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B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY



F. COMMUNICATIONS AND
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Motion Item 3.2

Request to the Engineering and Operations Committee:

Recommend this item go to the Board to consider adoption of a Resolution determining that the Lake Piru Early Warning System Installation Project is exempt from the provisions of CEQA and approving the Project.

Questions



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C. REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE



B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY

Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project

- Federal Share Request - \$17,404,800
- September 15 - Submitted sub application to CalOES
- CalOES anticipates submitting priority projects to FEMA: April 2026
- Estimated Award Date: January 2028
- Estimated Period of Performance: 1/1/28 - 12/31/31



FEMA



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



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Lake Piru Recreation Area

Priority projects in planning for FY25-26:

- Restroom rehabilitation
- Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation and upgrades

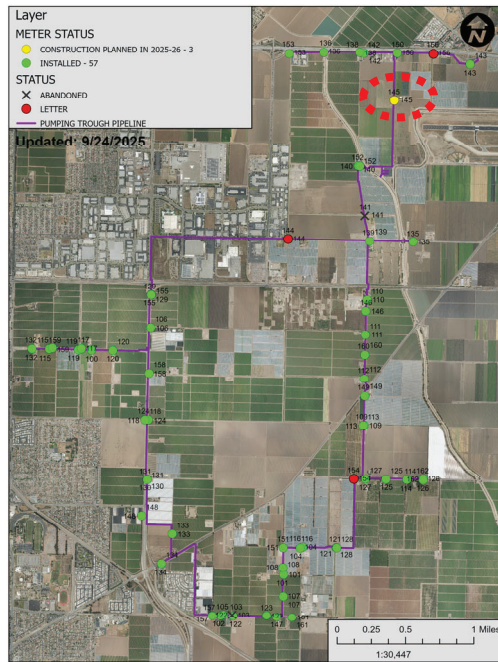


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PTP Metering Improvement

- Installed new meter (Turnout No. 145)
- Amendment No. 5 (reduced scope and time extension request) submitted to DWR
 - 62 meters originally (2 abandoned)
 - 57 meters installed
 - 4 pending easements
 - 3 pending installations



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Utility Requests



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LM1

Utility Requests



PV Pipeline Pre-Construction (Costco Development) Condition Assessment on September 11, 2025



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A. WATER SUPPLY



B. SYSTEM RELIABILITY

EBB Water Treatment Project

Summary of Real Estate Actions:

	License Agreement (Monitoring Wells)	Memorandum of Agreement (Phase 1)	License Agreement (Phase 1A)	Outgrant Easement (Phase 1B)
Original	~1970s	Nov 9, 2023	Feb 21, 2023	Pending
Modified/ Succeeded	Mar 28, 2024	--		--
Expires	Mar 28, 2029	Nov 9, 2027	Feb 20, 2026	50 years
Purpose	Operate/construct existing and new monitoring wells	UWCD/Navy roles and responsibilities	Design and environmental documentation	Construction
Status	Construction Complete Site Approvals Pending (instrumentation)	NEPA EA (admin draft) complete	30% Design Site Approvals Pending (remaining field work)	Legal map and description complete



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F. COMMUNICATIONS AND
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Other Events and Public Outreach

Upcoming:

- October 7 – Meeting with Ventura County Executive Office CEO to discuss Santa Felicia Dam
- October 16 – 2025 Water Sustainability Summit VI
- October 23 – 2025 Santa Felicia Dam Emergency Action Plan Seminar
- October 27-29 – Dr. Maryam Bral attending the 2025 Installation Innovation Forum in Monterey, CA



Annual Fire Extinguisher Training
September 23, 2025



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ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATE

October 2, 2025



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Brief Updates

Collaboration on EBB
Environmental consultations

Supporting EBB monitoring
well sample collection

Interest from Navy in using
Freeman sediment

Highlight: Fish ladder operations



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Photo Credit: H. Whipple

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

FREEMAN FISH LADDER INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

October 2, 2025



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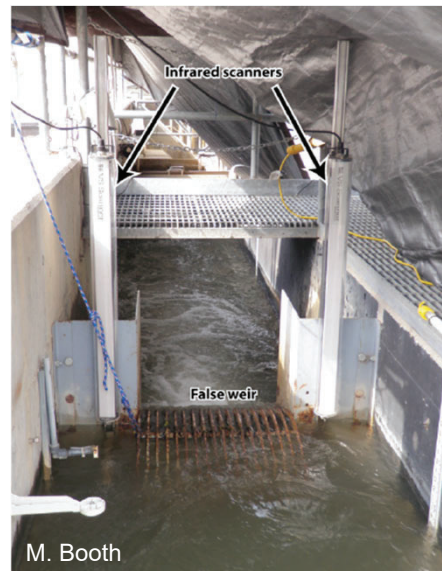
Fish Ladder Monitoring Methods

Video Monitoring 2002-2025

- 2002 false weir and surveillance system installed
- 2010 DVR/VCR upgraded to digital
- 2016 upgraded cameras
- 2020 incorporated cloud upload/remote review
- 2023 upgraded cameras & added overhead camera
- 2024 added grid pattern

DIDSON Monitoring 2019-2025

- Underwater sonar



Fish Ladder Monitoring Methods

Video Monitoring

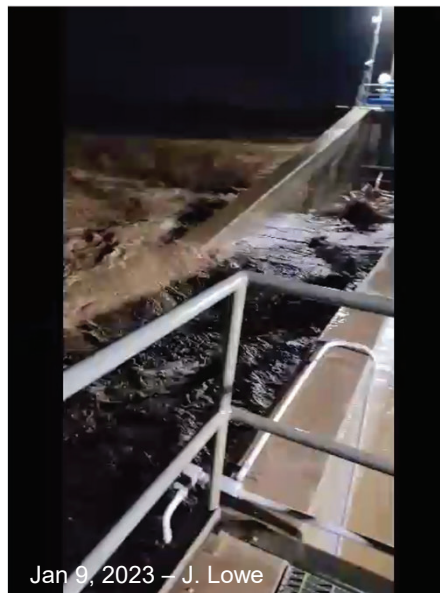
- 3 high speed digital network cameras
- Infrared beam trigger
- Network storage device -> cloud upload
- Daily system check (trigger test)
- Daily footage review

2025 Video Clips

bird	102
splashing water	96
IR beam test	84
bug	59
no noticeable trigger	48
falling debris	7
fish	7
survey team	6
frog	3
turtle	1
Grand Total	413



Fish Ladder Monitoring Results 2023



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Fish Ladder Monitoring Results 2023

2023 Results

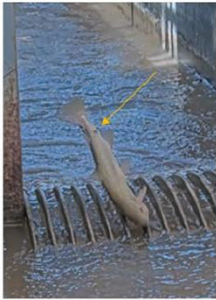
- Inundated fish ladder and cameras
- 25 individual clips of *O. mykiss*
- 3rd party footage review
- 2 fish took multiple trips
- Not likely any anadromous individuals



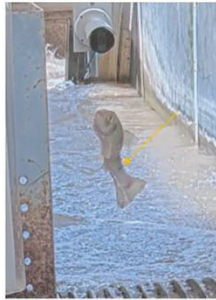
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Video Monitoring Results Review

Observation 10



Observation 11



Observation 12



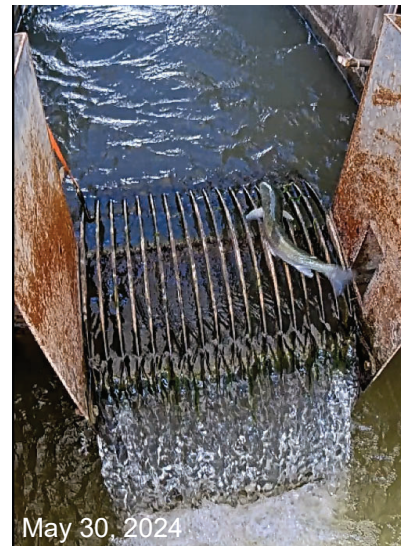
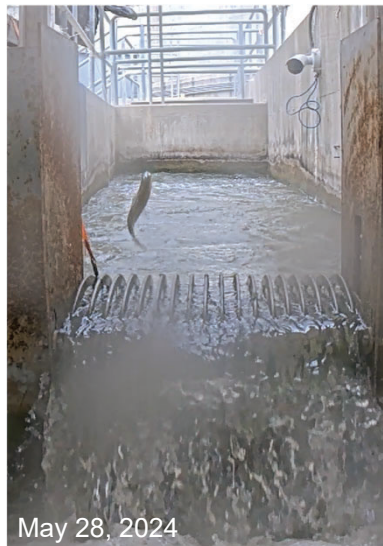
Cramer Fish Sciences



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Fish Ladder Monitoring Results 2024

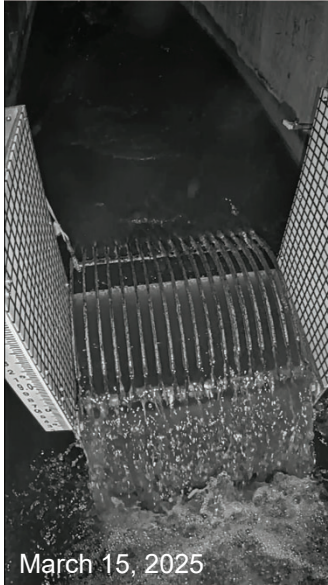
- Four video clips
- Four individual fish



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Fish Ladder Monitoring Results 2025

- Seven video clips
- Six individual fish
 - One fish two trips



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Fish Ladder Monitoring Results 2025

- Seven video clips
- Six individual fish
 - One fish two trips



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Pacific Lamprey History



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Improving Lamprey Passage at the Freeman



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Pacific Lamprey at the Freeman

2024

- 24 adults
 - 7 through tube
 - 4 juveniles

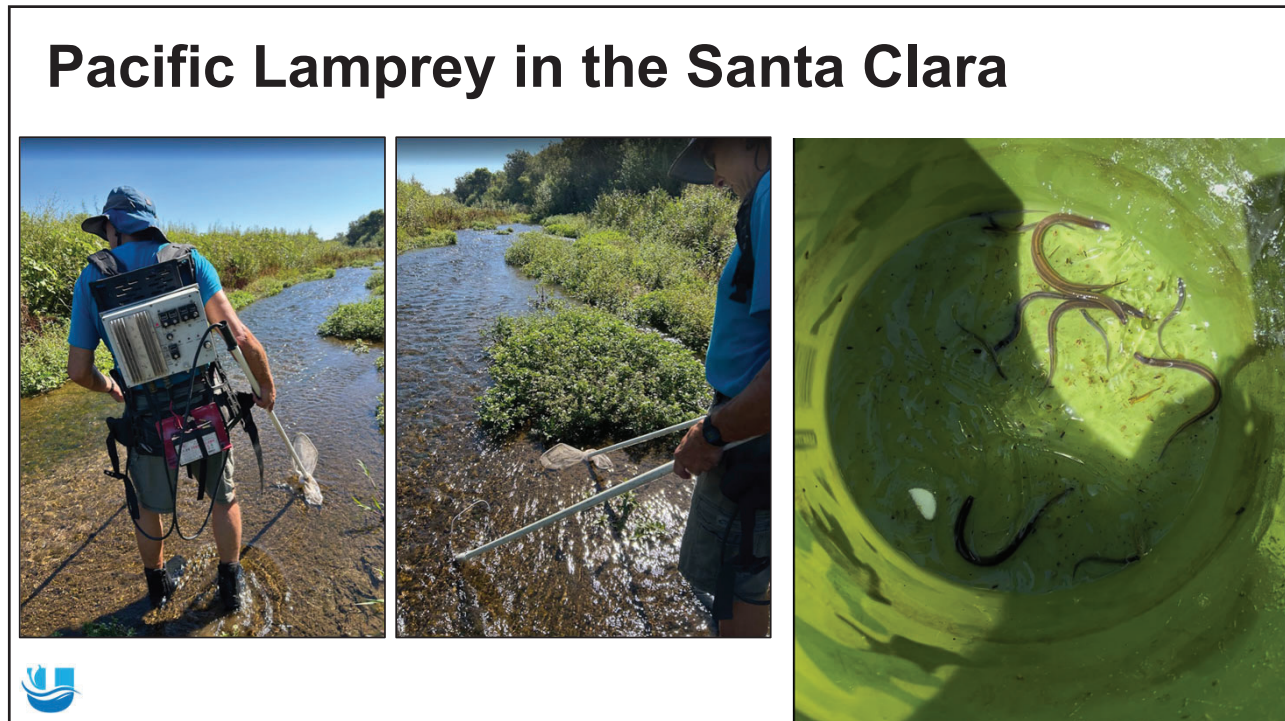
2025

- 17 adults
 - 14 through tube
 - 110 juveniles





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Thank You!



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OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

October 2, 2025



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Santa Felicia Dam and Lake Piru

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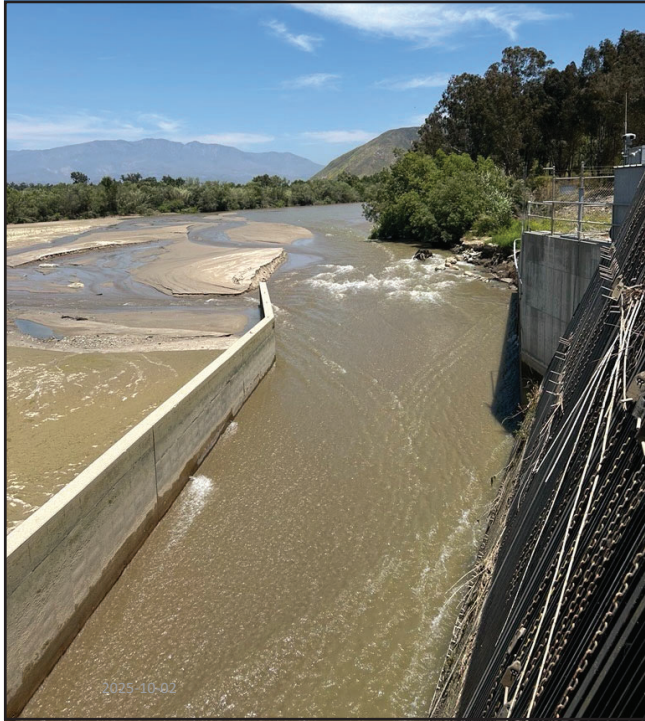
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Freeman Diversion and Saticoy

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Saticoy Grounds



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El Rio

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El Rio Storage Shed/Analyzer Room

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Iron and Manganese Filter Pumps



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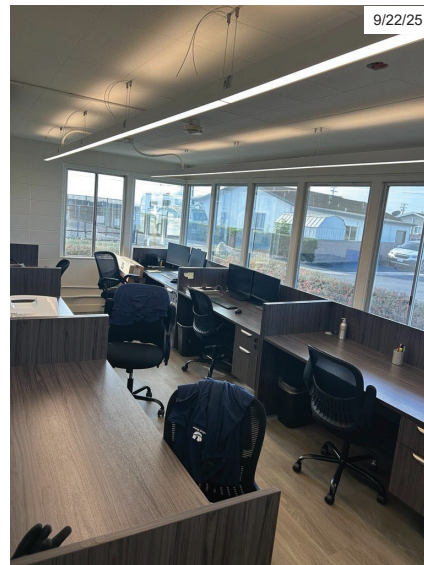
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El Rio Workstation Rehab



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PV Pipeline Shutdown



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PTP Turnout 145



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Questions?



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