



NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING
 January 6, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
 District Headquarters
 999 Rush Creek Place
 Novato, California

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Est. Time	Item	Subject
7:00 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER	
	1.	APPROVE MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING , December 16, 2014
	2.	GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
	3.	OPEN TIME: (Please observe a three-minute time limit) This section of the agenda is provided so that the public may express comments on any issues not listed on the agenda that are of interest to the public and within the jurisdiction of the North Marin Water District. When comments are made about matters not on the agenda, Board members can ask questions for clarification, respond to statements or questions from members of the public, refer a matter to staff, or direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. The public may also express comments on agenda items at the time of Board consideration.
	4.	STAFF/DIRECTORS REPORTS
		CONSENT CALENDAR The General Manager has reviewed the following items. To his knowledge, there is no opposition to the action. The items can be acted on in one consolidated motion as recommended or may be removed from the Consent Calendar and separately considered at the request of any person.
	5.	Consent – Approve - Gallagher Well and Pipeline – Streambed Alteration Notification
		ACTION CALENDAR
	6.	Consider: Additional Bill Adjustment Request – Palace Market
7:30 p.m.	INFORMATION ITEMS	
	7.	Recycled Water Subcommittee Meeting Update – December 17, 2014
	8.	Olema General Obligation Bond Retirement
	9.	TAC Meeting – January 5, 2015
	10.	NBWA Meeting – January 9, 2015
	11.	MISCELLANEOUS Disbursements Meter Reading Accuracy Salinity Notice (12/16)

All times are approximate and for reference only.
 The Board of Directors may consider an item at a different time than set forth herein.

(Continued)

Est. Time	Item	Subject
		<u>News Articles:</u> PD Editorial: Bring better science to dam management Protection Sought for Scenic California Region Coastal protection, open space advocacy made Bill Kortum dean of local movement Myths about coho and Marin County's watershed Editor's note (Pt. Reyes Light)
8:00 p.m.	12.	ADJOURNMENT

1

DRAFT
NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 16, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President Baker called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 7:30 p.m. at the District headquarters and the agenda was accepted as presented. Present were Directors Jack Baker, Rick Fraites, Stephen Petterle, Dennis Rodoni and John Schoonover. Also present were General Manager Chris DeGabriele, District Secretary Katie Young, Auditor-Controller David Bentley and Chief Engineer Drew McIntyre.

Construction Manager, Ken Sinclair (Vali Cooper & Associates), District employees Robert Clark (Operations/Maintenance Superintendent) and Tony Arendell (Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) were in the audience.

MINUTES

On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Petterle and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes from the previous meeting as presented.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Recycled Water Subcommittee

Mr. DeGabriele reminded the Board of the Recycled Water Subcommittee meeting tomorrow, December 17th at 3 p.m. at Novato Sanitary District. He stated that President Baker and Director Schoonover would be attending as Recycled Water Committee Members.

Time change of Board Meetings

Mr. DeGabriele reminded the Board that the next Board meeting January 6, 2015 will start at the new time of 7:00 p.m. which was approved at the previous Board meeting.

Out of the Office

Mr. DeGabriele advised the Board that he will be out of the office for his knee replacement surgery on December 30th. He informed the Board that he anticipates to be out of the office for the month of January and David Bentley will be acting General Manager in his absence.

OPEN TIME

President Baker asked if anyone in the audience wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and there was no response.

1 **STAFF / DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

2 President Baker asked if staff or Directors wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and
3 the following item was discussed:

4 Robert Clark informed the Board that as of tonight Stafford Lake was one foot below
5 spilling and the lake should be filled by the morning.

6 **MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

7 Mr. DeGabriele provided the Board with the November Monthly Progress Report. He stated
8 that water production in Novato was down 25% for the month of November and 20% for the fiscal
9 year. He informed the Board that in West Marin water production was down 33% and down 17%
10 fiscal year to date. Mr. DeGabriele advised the Board that Stafford Treatment Plant was used in
11 November specifically for the transmission pipeline testing. He noted that through the month of
12 November there has only been 4" of rainfall and in the last two weeks Novato's total rainfall increase
13 to 18.3" through this morning. He stated that Stafford Lake has risen 18ft since the end of
14 November.

15 Mr. DeGabriele showed an elevation chart of Stafford Lake and informed the Board that the
16 lake will likely spill in the morning. He advised the Board that currently Lake Mendocino is at
17 46,000AF and is at 67% capacity. He noted that Lake Sonoma is at 174,000AF and has plenty of
18 room for storage.

19 Mr. DeGabriele advised the Board that the District is in better shape than last year but
20 believes that the State Board's drought restrictions will remain in place until the first part of May
21 2015.

22 Director Rodoni asked if Lake Pillsbury was full, what the impact/benefit would be on the
23 PG&E shut down. Mr. DeGabriele stated that the Lake Pillsbury is not full yet, but has reached
24 maximum water supply level per the flood control pool and is currently releasing water down the Eel
25 River.

26 Mr. DeGabriele stated that in Oceana Marin the storage and treatment ponds are in good
27 shape and that staff has gone 184 days without a lost time injury. He informed the Board that there
28 were 87 service disruptions in the month of November, mostly due to the PG&E incident on Center
29 Road. Mr. DeGabriele advised the Board that in the Summary of Complaints and Service Orders
30 there were four fire hydrant leaks, which is unusual, reported by consumers in the community that
31 were repaired. He stated that high bill complaints are down for the month, likely due to the wet
32 weather and less consumption.

1 Mr. Bentley provide the Monthly Report of Investments for November, stating that at the end
2 of the month the District had a cash balance of \$14M, which is unchanged from the prior month. He
3 stated that the average weighed portfolio return on investment is 0.52%.

4 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

5 On the motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Schoonover and unanimously
6 carried, the following items were approved on the consent calendar:

7 **NOVATO SHELL LOOPING PROJECT**

8 The Novato Shell Loop project – 1390 S. Novato Blvd., consists of demolition of the existing
9 car wash, convenience store and fueling facilities and construction of a new enlarged 2,800 sq. ft.
10 convenience store, car wash and new fueling facilities. New Zone 1 water facilities include 40 feet of
11 8-inch and 30 feet of 6-inch PVC main, one 2-inch domestic service, one commercial fire hydrant,
12 and a 6-inch fire service with 5/8-inch bypass meter. New reduced pressure backflow preventer
13 assemblies (RPPs) will be installed on each service. The property owner has been instructed to
14 make provisions for future recycled water connection for irrigation and car wash facilities.

15 Director Rodoni asked if there was a recycled water requirement with gas station car
16 washes. Mr. McIntyre stated that all of the car washes use onsite recycled systems with potable
17 water that is treated and recirculated. He advised the Board that there is a requirement to bring
18 recycled water in for outdoor landscaping and car washes.

19 Director Rodoni stated that he was surprised how much water the Shell Gas Station uses.
20 Mr. McIntyre stated that the new car wash system is projected to use less water.

21 The Board approved authorization of the agreement and Resolution No. 14-25 entitled:
22 "Authorization Of Execution Of Water Service Facilities Construction Agreement With Au Energy
23 Llc."

24 **AUTHORIZE 4X4 SKIP LOADER REPLACEMENT PURCHASE**

25 At the November 4, 2014 Board of Directors meeting, the Board authorized staff to solicit
26 bids for a replacement 4x4 Skip Loader. Staff has received and reviewed the bids for the
27 replacement equipment. The bidders were requested to submit their proposals based on a list of 39
28 minimum specifications. The Peterson Caterpillar, Volvo Tractor and Graton Tractor dealers did not
29 respond to the request as their equipment is larger than the District's needs, and therefore more
30 expensive.

31 After comparing the bid proposals, staff recommended John Deere based on the minimum
32 specifications, driving comfort, operators' familiarity with the controls, parts and service being readily
33 available in Rohnert Park, and the historical operation and maintenance of the District's current fleet

1 of John Deere backhoes, all of which have served the District well.

2 The Board authorized staff to award the purchase contract to Papé Machinery for the new
3 4x4 John Deere loader at a total cost of \$84,700.

4 **ACTION CALENDAR**

5 **APPROVE NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR GALLAGHER WELL PIPELINE PROJECT**

6 Mr. McIntyre reminded the Board of the final presentation for the Gallagher Well Pipeline
7 Project which Carmela Chandrasekera gave the Board at the last Board meeting. He stated that
8 Team Ghilotti has fulfilled their obligations under the contract and corrections of all work deficiencies
9 and the punch list items have been completed. He stated that the work was completed on
10 December 2nd.

11 Mr. McIntyre advised the Board that the next step is to file a Notice of Completion with the
12 County of Marin. He stated that the final payment in the amount of \$50,545.96 will be processed for
13 release on January 22nd, subject to absence of any claims filed during the 30-day notice period.

14 Mr. McIntyre advised the Board that all identified costs incurred during the year will be fully
15 funded by the grant and the District has had no problems with the state obtaining payments. He
16 stated that the grant will close at the end of December, so if miscellaneous expenses occur during
17 2015, they will not be reimbursable from the state.

18 On motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Fraites and unanimously carried, the
19 Board authorized the General Manager to execute and file a Notice of Completion for the Gallagher
20 Well Pipeline.

21 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

22 **AQUEDUCT ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT (REACH A-D) – PROGRESS REPORT NO. 2**
23 **(VALI COOPER & ASSOCIATES)**

24 Ken Sinclair, from Vali Cooper & Associates provided the Board with the second
25 construction management progress report for the Aqueduct Energy Efficiency Project. Mr. Sinclair's
26 presentation covered pipeline installation from Reaches A-D. He advised the Board that the project
27 is estimated to be 65% complete.

28 Mr. Sinclair advised the Board that at the MSN/B3 weekly meeting today, it was discussed
29 that the project may shut-down for the duration of December. He stated that since the beginning of
30 the month, the crew has been unable to work due to the weather.

31 Mr. Sinclair informed the Board of the completed pipe installation in Reach A and the jack
32 and bore crossings have all been completed in the San Antonio Creek vicinity. He stated that

1 pipeline installations were started in Reach B and that the project includes five directional drill
2 crossing under Highway 101.

3 Mr. McIntyre informed the Board that the directorial drilling is required so that the District can
4 continue to serve the customers on the westside of Highway 101.

5 Mr. Sinclair notified the Board that the District received a violation from the Regional Water
6 Quality Control Board on December 5th for sediment in the rainwater runoff. He stated that the
7 District responded to the violation and that the contractor has already taken steps to mitigate the
8 sediments leaving the site.

9 Director Rodoni asked if the violation would be the responsibility of the District or the
10 contractor. Mr. Sinclair responded the contractor should ultimately be responsible but the District
11 submitted the permit to the state, so the violation was issued to the District.

12 Mr. McIntyre stated that the fine for the violation will go to the District and it is not clear at
13 this point who would pay for the fine.

14 Director Schoonover asked how much the fine could be. Mr. McIntyre stated that it was to
15 early to determine whether there will be a fine or the amount.

16 President Baker asked the difference between a Field Order and a Change Order. Mr.
17 Sinclair responded that a Field Order is a directive from the District to the contractor to perform
18 designated work and Field Orders may or may not develop into a Change Order. He further stated
19 that a Change Order officially changes the contract duration and/or contract value and changes
20 could be additive or deductive.

21 Mr. Sinclair had a number of photographs to share with the Board documenting the work
22 progress. Director Fraites asked if the hydro seeding was done with native grasses. Mr. Sinclair
23 responded yes.

24 President Baker thanked Mr. Sinclair for his presentation on the AEEP Project.

25 **MISCELLANEOUS**

26 The Board received the following miscellaneous information: Disbursements, Annual Sick
27 Leave Buy-Back, NMWD Contract with McLellan for paving jobs, Recycled Water Subcommittee
28 Agenda – 12/17/14, Ltr. from Marshall Lytle re: U.S. Coast Guard Housing, The Making of Leaders –
29 Dominican Leadership Graduation, and Salinity Notices (11/25, 12/3).

30 The Board received the following news articles: Supervisors support negotiations to
31 purchase Coast Guard housing, California drought: S.F. gets smart water meters, Marc Levine

1 appointed chairman of Assembly's water and parks committee and Marin Voice: Local workers
2 priced out of our county.

3 The Board also received the following news articles at the meeting: Wayne Womack,
4 Novato's first mayor, dies at 85, Hidden Dragon owners outline plans, and Hidden Dragon plagued
5 by four issues and the following miscellaneous item: Water Education Foundation Website.

6 President Baker asked Mr. DeGabriele to explain the letter received by the District regarding
7 the U.S. Coast Guard housing. Mr. DeGabriele stated that the letter was good news and stated that
8 Congress is unable to pass a new Coast Guard Authorization Bill and that the Coast Guard will
9 cooperate with the County of Marin regarding the disposal of the property. He advised the Board that
10 he spoke with Congressman Huffman's office and asked to be included and stated that the property
11 will be sold at fair market value.

12 Director Baker congratulated Mr. McIntyre on his recent graduation from Dominican
13 University's leadership program.

14 Mr. McIntyre thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the leadership program at
15 Dominican University and said it was a great program with good speakers and well worth his time
16 and the District's expense. He stated that not only did he learn from the different instructors but from
17 his fellow classmates as well.

18 **ADJOURNMENT**

19 President Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

20 Submitted by
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22
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24 Katie Young
25 District Secretary

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MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

January 2, 2015

From: Chris DeGabriele, General Manager *CD*

Subj: Gallagher Well and Pipeline Project – Streambed Alteration Notification

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Increase Funding Authority for Gallagher Well and Pipeline Streambed Alteration Notification

FINANCIAL IMPACT: \$1,500 Consultant Costs

In February 2014, the Board accepted the PES Environmental Inc. Hydrologic Design Plan for the Gallagher Well and Pipeline Project and authorized staff to transmit the plan to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The Hydrologic Design Plan prepared by PES concluded that the USGS Pt. Reyes Gauge (the Gallagher Gauge) is well located to evaluate and monitor potential influences to Lagunitas Creek stream flow as result of ground water withdrawal from the Gallagher well.

District staff and PES met with CDFW in late April, 2014 to review the Hydrologic Design Plan to address the project's Mitigated Negative Declaration requirements, which states: "NMWD shall not divert water from the Gallagher Well to adversely affect fish and wildlife residing between the Gallagher Wells and Coast Guard Wells on Lagunitas Creek. To accomplish this NMWD advised CDFW that: 1) NMWD would rely on the existing USGS Pt. Reyes Gauge to monitor stream flow for Gallagher Well operation; 2) NMWD along with Marin Municipal Water District and the National Park Service have a Cooperative Agreement with USGS to continue operation of the Pt. Reyes Gauge; 3) NMWD has a long standing agreement with Marin Municipal enabling release of stored water from Kent Lake or Nicasico Lake to Lagunitas Creek when necessary; 4) NMWD will monitor the Pt. Reyes Gauge and Marin Municipal releases to Lagunitas Creek daily and will notify Marin Municipal and the State Water Resources Control Board when the Pt. Reyes Gauge indicates stream flows are below those required by Water Right Order 95-17; and 5) should additional stream flow be needed for diversion at the Gallagher Well, NMWD will request Marin Municipal to release water from Kent Lake or Nicasico Lake.

At the April 2014 meeting, CDFW staff did not object to the approach proposed and requested a Streambed Alteration Agreement be prepared to formally document the operational measures to monitor stream flow and Gallagher Well operation.

Approved by GM *CD*Date: *1/2/2015*

PES Environmental, Inc. prepared the CDFW Streambed Alteration Notification which was transmitted to CDFW on November 26, 2014. NMWD staff delayed the transmittal until the majority of the pipeline construction was completed.


The General Manager authorized PES to prepare the notification at a cost of \$4,750 with an additional \$500 contingency (\$5,250). Due to the submittal delay and additional document review by NMWD staff, the actual PES invoice amount totals \$5,557. Thus an additional \$307 is needed and staff recommends that authority be increased to \$1,500 to cover additional PES costs for future staff consultation and meetings with CDFW.

Recommendation:

Board authorize an additional \$1,500 funding for PES Environmental, Inc. to support the Gallagher Well and Pipeline Project CDFW Streambed Alteration Notification.

6

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: David L. Bentley, Auditor-Controller 
Subj: Additional Bill Adjustment Request - Palace Market
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January 2, 2015

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider Further Bill Adjustment**FINANCIAL IMPACT: Additional Cost up to \$6,923**

Michael Cohen, Director of the Palace Market, will attend the meeting to request an additional bill adjustment for the second of two leaks that occurred on his company's premises within a short period of time.

Background Information: In the course of reading meters on August 2, 2014, a large leak was discovered at the Palace Market, located in downtown Point Reyes Station. The water was turned off, a plumber called, and the leak repaired. Water use measured 1.1 million gallons, generating a \$12,525 water bill. This compares to a normal bill amount of \$658 based on water use for the same period the prior year. An adjustment credit of \$5,919 was granted under the District's Bill Adjustment Policy, which essentially splits the cost of the excess water use with the customer.

We read the meter again on September 18, twelve days prior to the regularly scheduled read date, to confirm "normal" use for the aforesaid bill adjustment. To our surprise and dismay, we discovered that another 1.1 million gallon leak was in progress. This generated a bill of \$14,361. The District's Bill Adjustment Policy states that:

Consideration of an adjustment pursuant to this policy shall be allowed only once in any consecutive 24-month period.

The policy language would presumably preclude consideration of an additional bill adjustment. However, given that it is not unusual that a leak is discovered through the District's normal meter reading process, and that thereby the leak extends across two billing periods, the policy also allows:

In the event the excess use encompasses two consecutive bimonthly billing periods, such bi-period rate adjustment will be separately applied to each such billing period provided the water use in each bimonthly period exceeds one and one-half times the normal seasonal bimonthly use for said period as determined by the District.

While the policy, as written, never envisioned two back-to-back leaks within two consecutive bimonthly billing periods, it could be interpreted to allow consideration of a further adjustment credit, which, if allowed, would calculate to \$6,923, leaving a balance due of \$7,439.

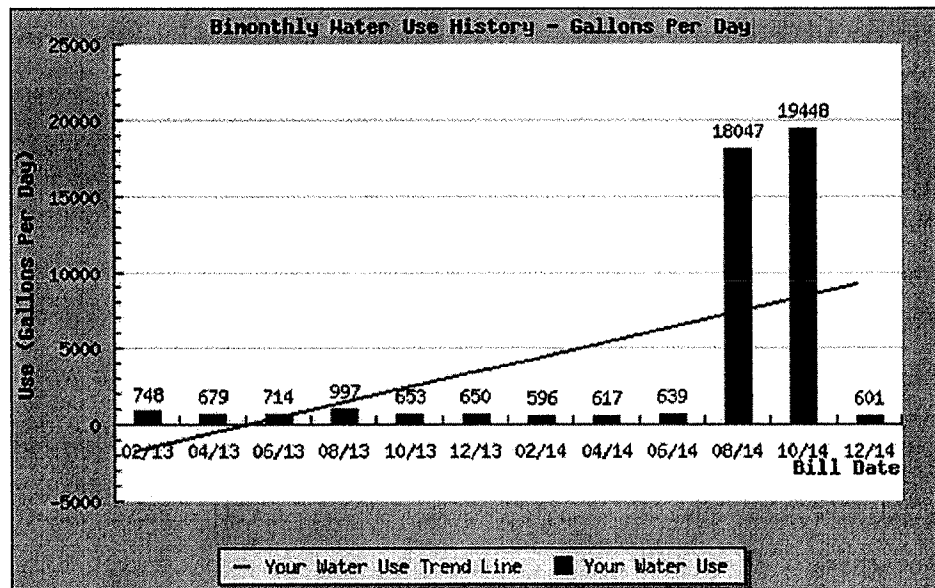
Staff is ambivalent as to the proper interpretation of the policy. If an additional adjustment is granted as though there had not been a first leak, the cumulative total adjustment (\$12,842) for the two billing periods would be the largest, by far, ever granted to a District customer, and would amount to \$16.50 for each West Marin Water customer. That being said, the Palace Market is a good customer that pays its water bills on time.

Staff proposes four options for Board consideration:

1. Deny any further adjustment;
2. Grant an additional adjustment of \$3,462, which is half of the calculated adjustment amount for the second leak;
3. Grant an additional adjustment of \$5,354¹, thereby reducing the bill amount to the normal charge plus the cost of water² for the excess use;
4. Grant an additional adjustment of \$6,923, as though there had not been a previous bill adjustment.

Staff Recommendation:

Option 2, grant an additional adjustment of \$3,462, and allow payment of the amount due in bimonthly installments over the next 12 months if requested by the customer to protect the financial stability of the business.



¹ Original Bill (\$14,361) - Normal Charge (\$516) - Excess Gallons at Cost (1,108,536 x \$7,660/MG=\$8,491) = \$5,354.

² Cost of water based on current fiscal year actual operating expense through November.

Michael Cohen



11300 State Highway 1 • Point Reyes Station, CA 94956 • Phone: 415.663.1016 • Fax: 415.663.1015
E-Mail: mcohen@palacemarket.com Web: www.palacemarket.com

RECEIVED

Date: 12/13/14

DEC 16 2014

David Bentley
North Marin Water District
PO Box 146
Novato, CA 94948

North Marin Water District

Dear Mr. Bentley:


I'm writing in reference to a past due bill at the Palace Market in Point Reyes Station. Our account number is 2006901. I would like to address the board on 1/6/15 if possible to discuss a potential adjustment to our bill. We have had the unfortunate experience of having two serious leaks within a short time frame in two different locations. I have enclosed a check for \$3590.36 which is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total amount that we currently owe. Paying the entire amount owed would put the store into a precarious financial situation. Please let me know if I can address the board on 1/6/15.

Sincerely,

Michael Cohen
Store Director - Palace Market

7

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: Drew McIntyre, Chief Engineer 
Subject: Recycled Water Subcommittee Meeting Update - December 17, 2014
File No. 810.7.3

Date: January 2, 2015

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information only

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time

On Wednesday, December 17, 2014, Directors John Schoonover and Jack Baker met with Chris DeGabriele and me along with representatives from Novato Sanitary District (NSD) including Directors Bill Long and Jean Mariani and Manager Sandeep Karkal. An agenda from the meeting is provided as Attachment 1. The purpose of the meeting was to update the subcommittee on the following current recycled water issues:

1. NBWRA Phase 1 Status Review

At this time the Recycled Water North and South Service Area Projects are 100% complete by both NMWD and NSD and the only remaining Phase I work relates to the Central Service Area Expansion. It was discussed that both NMWD and NSD will be submitting an application for Title XVI Grant monies around this time next year in anticipation of the final grant award in 2016. As shown in the tabulation provided in Attachment 2, NMWD has the potential to increase its grant allocation from \$1,262,835 upwards to \$2,750,000 in the event Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District (SVCSD) is not able to fully use their remaining Phase I fund allocation. The actual amount of NMWD's 2016 Title XVI's grant application will be determined through additional discussions with fellow NBWRA Phase 1 member agencies during the next 12 months.

2. Deer Island and Davidson Recycled Water Treatment Capacity/Reliability Study

Staff from both districts agree that it is prudent to move forward with hiring a consultant to prepare an evaluation at both the Deer Island and Davidson Recycled Water Treatment Facilities as it relates to expansion to serve the Central Service Area's increased demand. It is anticipated that this study will be completed over the next year and jointly funded by NMWD and NSD.

3. NMWD Central Service Area Expansion and Ignacio Area Extension

NSD recycled water subcommittee members were provided an overview of the current Central Service Area Expansion pipeline alignment and recent discussions with Marin County Club regarding an extension from the Central Service Area to extend recycled

water south to Ignacio Blvd. as well as connect to the out of service NMWD Norman Tank (for doubling recycled water storage in the North and Central Service Areas).

4. Inter-Agency Agreement – Capital Replacement and Expansion Funds

The NMWD-NSD Inter-Agency Recycled Water Agreement was reviewed with the recycled water subcommittee as it relates to the Capital Replacement and Expansion Fund. The reserve fund's current cash balance is below the target reserve balance at this point. It is hoped that in future years the recycled water operation will develop a stronger cash flow to allow funds to accrue for future beneficial use by both NMWD and NSD for ongoing repair/replacement expenditures.

5. NBWRA Phase 2 Update

A Phase 2 update was provided by NSD's Manager which included a review of NSD's current scoping study projects. Of key note is the potential loss of NSD's leased reclamation area and the option for a ten year extension from Marin County (when the lease expires in 2023).

NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT
RECYCLED WATER SUBCOMMITTEE

AGENDA

Novato Sanitary District
500 Davidson Street, Novato, CA
3 p.m.
December 17, 2014

1. NBWRA Phase 1 Status Review
2. Deer Island & Davidson RW Treatment Capacity/Reliability Study
3. NMWD Central Service Area Expansion & Ignacio Area Extension
4. RW InterAgency Agreements Capital Replacement & Expansion Fund
5. NBWRA Phase 2 Update

Sub-committee Members:

NMWD

Jack Baker

John Schoonover

NSD – Ad Hoc Recycled Water Committee

Bill Long

Jean Mariani

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North Bay Water Reuse Program Phase 1 Federal Funding Status and Summary - November 2014

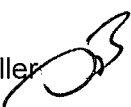
Member Agency	Phase 1 Authorized for \$25M in Federal Funding - Allocated to Members per 2010 MOU	Authorization after Reallocating Administration Charges	Obligated Federal Funding 2010-2014 (Title XVI ARRA & WaterSMART)	% of Allocation*	Remaining Funds under Phase 1 Authorization	Funds Released for Reallocation	Reallocation	2015 Title XVI WaterSMART Grant	2016 Title XVI WaterSMART Grant	2017 Title XVI WaterSMART Grant	Total at Completion with New Allocation
LGVS	\$1,222,475	\$1,206,092	\$1,181,875	4.89%	\$24,217	\$24,217					
NMWD - South, Central, North	\$4,689,500	\$4,626,665	\$3,139,500	18.76%	\$1,487,165		\$1,262,835		\$2,750,000		
Novato SD	\$1,679,900	\$1,657,382	\$1,346,500	6.72%	\$310,882		\$189,118		\$500,000		
Napa SD	\$9,441,000	\$9,314,487	\$8,876,264	37.76%	\$438,223		\$1,735,888	\$2,174,111			
SVCSD	\$7,967,125	\$7,860,374	\$3,451,750	31.87%	\$4,408,624	\$3,163,624		\$745,000	\$500,000		
ADMIN (SCWA & USBR)	\$0	\$335,000	\$243,736	0.00%	\$56,264			\$24,627.10	\$31,637		
Total	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$18,239,625	100%	\$6,725,375	\$3,187,841	\$3,187,841	\$2,943,738	\$3,781,637		

Notes:

1. Admin costs allocated based on funding % - not MOU percentage (SCWA & Napa Co don't have projects so no admin)
2. SVCSD and LGVS releasing funds; Napa San, NMWD, and Novato San taking additional funds
3. Admin costs for 2015 & 2016 are split proportionate to grant amount

8

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: David L. Bentley, Auditor-Controller 
Subj: Olema General Obligation Bond Retirement
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January 2, 2015

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None - Information Only**FINANCIAL IMPACT: \$70,000 Bond Now Fully Repaid**

In June 1973, after petition and creation of an improvement district (OL-1) for the investigation of water service to Olema and the Point Reyes National Seashore Headquarters, Olema voters, by a 92% "yes" vote (26 votes cast), approved formation of an improvement district (OL-2) and a bonded debt of \$70,000 to acquire and improve the Olema Water Company then owned by W. Robert Phillips and others and to service that area. The Farmers Home Administration purchased the 1975 bond issue in its entirety, with a term of 40 years and an interest rate set at 5%. Property owners within the Olema improvement district boundaries have seen a general obligation bond assessment on their annual property tax bill since 1975.

On June 1, 1991, at the demand of the FHA, the Novato Water District purchased the remaining \$56,760 balance of the Olema bond. The final payment to extinguish the bonded debt was made on January 1, 2015. As there was a small balance remaining in the Olema bond payment fund managed by the County of Marin, no assessment was levied on Olema property owners this fiscal year. Instead, the \$550 balance required to retire the final \$4,113 in bonded debt was paid into the bond payment fund from the West Marin Water fund in December 2014.

9

FOR ACCESSIBLE
MEETING INFORMATION
CALL: (707) 543-3350
ADD: (707) 543-3031



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2015

9:00AM

Utilities Field Operations Training Center
35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA

1. Check In
2. Public Comment
3. Recap from December 1, 2014 TAC Meeting and Approval of Minutes
4. SCWA Draft FY2015/16 Budget
5. Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order (including report on Water Conservation)
6. Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership Annual Report FY 2013/14
7. Biological Opinion Status Update
8. Items for next agenda
9. Check Out

Draft Minutes of Technical Advisory Committee
35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, California
December 1, 2014

Attendees: Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa
Rocky Vogler, City of Santa Rosa
Linda Hall, City of Santa Rosa
Garrett Broughton, Town of Windsor
Paul Piazza, Town of Windsor
Mary Grace Pawson, City of Rohnert Park
Mike Brett, City of Sonoma
Steve McCarthy, City of Sonoma
Dan Muelrath, Valley of the Moon Water District
Mike Healy, City of Petaluma
Dan St. John, City of Petaluma
Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District
Drew McIntyre, North Marin Water District
Mike Ban, Marin Municipal Water District
Grant Davis, SCWA
Pam Jeane, SCWA
Lynne Rosselli, SCWA
Carrie Pollard, SCWA
Ann DuBay, SCWA

Public Attendees: Brenda Adelman, RRWPC
David Keller, FOER
J. Dietrich Stroeh
Bob Anderson, United Winegrowers

1. Check-in

Chair Chris DeGabriele called the meeting to order at 9:06a.m.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order (including report on Water Conservation)

The regional water production comparison has been updated with October information and was distributed by Chris DeGabriele, NMWD. Conservation efforts continue with usage down 14.4% February through October 2014 compared to the same period last year. Chris commented on the changes made and continuing to be made to reconcile the numbers with SCWA data. The report will be reissued when corrections have been completed, and will include detailed information for each of the contractors.

Brenda Adelman commented on the differences between SCWA sales numbers and usage numbers for the contractors. Chris explained the information is compiled by the contractor and SCWA separately, using different time frames, which accounts for the difference. A rounding error was the other factor contributing to the difference. Brenda is looking for better clarification of the contractor statistics. Chris explained the reconciliation issue is being addressed. Grant Davis spoke to the conservation effort being made by everyone. No change will be made in the drought status at this time.

4. Biological Opinion Status Update

Pam Jeane, SCWA, reviewed the Biological Opinion Status Update sent via email to meeting attendees. She updated project status on the Dry Creek Habitat Enhancement and Demonstration Project. Miles two and three are being assessed to determine the work to be completed. The project is at 30% design completion. Fish monitoring is being done in the Russian River as required by the Temporary Urgency Change Order. The Estuary monitoring is mostly completed. No water releases from Lake Sonoma are planned to move the fish in the River. Fish screen and ladder work is ongoing through the winter for completion of the project in summer 2015. The mouth of the Russian River was breached on Tuesday. EIR work continues and a report will be released the summer of 2015. Field trips are planned in February to see the Dry Creek Project progress. Fish numbers and species are being recorded with the increased flows due to rain.

Brenda Adelman reported that North Salmon Creek Beach trails are being improved. Pam Jeane, SWCA, will request posting to the website of the work being done on the North Salmon Creek Beach trails.

Grant Davis asked for an extended WAC meeting this spring to discuss the SCWA strategic plan with his Board. Chris asked TAC members to speak with WAC members to get their feedback on having a meeting with SCWA after the WAC/TAC meets, likely in March or April at the time the SCWA budget is considered.

5. Items for Next Agenda

January 5 TAC Meeting

Draft SCWA budget

Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order

Biological Opinion Status Update

6. Check Out

Next TAC meeting is January 5, 2015

Next WAC/TAC meeting is February 2, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 9:27a.m.

REGIONAL WATER PRODUCTION COMPARISON
WATER CONTRACTORS & MMWD COMBINED

Month	2013 (data in acre-ft)			2014 (data in acre-ft)			% Potable Reduction 2014 vs 2013
	Delivered Agency Water	Total Local Supply	Total Potable	Delivered Agency Water	Total Local Supply	Total Potable	
Jan	3,533.9	1,345.8	4,879.7	3,643.4	1,452.2	5,095.5	4.42%
Feb	2,994.0	1,391.5	4,385.5	3,440.7	762.8	4,203.6	-4.15%
Mar	3,385.6	1,869.8	5,255.4	3,346.0	953.5	4,299.5	-18.19%
Apr	4,640.1	2,214.2	6,854.3	4,373.7	1,141.5	5,515.2	-19.54%
May	5,263.2	3,103.4	8,366.5	4,390.8	2,457.9	6,848.7	-18.14%
Jun	5,211.3	3,215.5	8,426.8	4,747.6	3,020.8	7,768.4	-7.81%
Jul	6,395.1	3,521.1	9,916.2	5,678.4	3,228.2	8,906.6	-10.18%
Aug	5,069.9	3,673.8	8,743.7	4,047.9	3,318.1	7,366.0	-15.76%
Sep	4,995.5	3,370.3	8,365.8	5,333.3	2,384.1	7,717.4	-7.75%
Oct	5,231.7	3,155.9	8,387.6	3,821.2	2,227.0	6,048.2	-27.89%
Nov	3,908.6	2,092.0	6,000.6	3,137.3	1,233.9	4,371.2	-27.15%
Dec	4,154.7	1,589.3	5,744.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Total Feb-Nov	47,095.0	27,607.4	74,702.4	42,317.0	20,727.8	63,044.8	-15.61%

12/19/2014



Russian River Biological Opinion Update – January 2015

The Sonoma County Water Agency is continually planning and implementing the Russian River Biological Opinion requirements. The following project updates provide a brief synopsis of current work. For more detailed information about these activities, please visit www.sonomacountywater.org.

Dry Creek Habitat Enhancement and Demonstration Project

- Construction is complete on the Dry Creek Demonstration Project, and the habitat enhancement projects withstood flows above 6,000 cfs resulting from the December 8 atmospheric river. Over the coming months, Water Agency crews will be revegetating the disturbed areas of the project site with thousands of native trees, shrubs and grasses.
- Site identification, outreach to landowners, preliminary environmental studies and topographic surveys are underway for the second and third miles of habitat enhancement. Two firms, Interfluvé and ESA PWA, are designing the second and third miles of habitat enhancement. Ten-percent designs have been completed and presented to the property owners for feedback. Each design consultant has been given over 1.25 miles of habitat enhancements to advance to 30% design.
- The Water Agency signed a memorandum of understanding with the US Army Corps of Engineers for a Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) project that should allow the Corps to contribute funding for a portion of the mile 2-3 phase of Dry Creek Habitat enhancement.

Fish Monitoring

It has been a challenging season to count the migrating adult salmon and steelhead. With the inflatable dam down during the Mirabel Fish Passage Improvement Project construction, adult fish were monitored in Dry Creek and at the Healdsburg Dam fish ladder using video and sonar technology. With the river mouth closed for most of October and November, returns were low, although several fish were counted following the November 17 estuary breaching. The Healdsburg camera and the sonar technology were removed before the December 8 storm, and turbid water quality has made it difficult to identify fish videoed at the Dry Creek location. The partial count total count to date from Dry Creek and Healdsburg stands at 1,333 Chinook salmon, 18 coho salmon, and 25 steelhead.

Mirabel Screen and Fish Ladder Replacement

Construction of the Mirabel Fish Passage Improvement Project stalled in early December, when a portion of the coffer dam surrounding the site failed. The contractor is waiting for the river level to drop before attempting to repair the cofferdam. Once a fix has been completed, the contractor will resume dewatering activities so that construction activities may resume. It is anticipated that construction will resume by mid-January.

Russian River Estuary Management Project

- The 2014 Lagoon Management Period ended on October 15. Between September 18, when the river mouth closed, and November 26, the mouth was open for only four days, when it was breached by the Water Agency. It has remained open since the November 26 breaching.

- Downstream migrant fish sampling is underway at Austin Creek and with an antenna at Duncans Mills that can read passive integrated transponders (PIT) tags. Monthly baseline monitoring of seals and other pinnipeds is ongoing.
- Field investigations of the jetty continue. In 2014, monitoring wells were installed and other tests were conducted. The purpose of the studies is to determine if and how the jetty impacts the formation of the barrier beach and lagoon water surface elevation.

Fish Flow Project

Work is occurring internally on the preparation of the draft Environmental Impact Report for the Fish Habitat Flows and Water Rights Project. The EIR is being prepared by Water Agency staff, with assistance from consultants on some areas of impact analysis. A draft EIR is anticipated to be released Summer 2015.

Interim Flow Changes

On August 25, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a new order, allowing minimum flows to be reduced to 50 cfs in the upper river and 60 cfs in the lower river (minimum flows are based on a five day running average) until water levels in Lake Mendocino reach 68,400 feet or 180 days (whichever is reached first). The Water Agency and the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District requested these changes to preserve water in Lake Mendocino for water supply and for the fall Chinook run. Due to the drought, this is the third TUC issued since December 2013.

Public Outreach, Reporting & Legislation

- Due to heavy rains in December, the Water Agency and contractors put a temporary hold on the Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership on an ad campaign messaging: There's a Drought on. Turn the Water Off.
- The annual meeting of the Public Policy Facilitating Committee to review progress on implementation of the Biological Opinion will be held 9-noon, Wednesday, January 28 at the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Chambers.
- Tours of the Dry Creek Habitat Enhancement project are scheduled for WAC/TAC members on February 5th (1:00--5:00 p.m.) and February 20 (8 a.m. – noon).



Backwater, Dry Creek Demonstration Project, December 8, 2014

2015 TAC - WAC / TAC MEETING SCHEDULE

35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, California

Month	Day	Body	Time
JANUARY	5	TAC	9:00a.m.
FEBRUARY	2	WAC / TAC	9:00a.m.
MARCH	2	TAC	9:00a.m.
APRIL	6	SPECIAL WAC/TAC	9:00a.m.
MAY	4	WAC / TAC	9:00a.m.
JUNE	1	TAC	9:00a.m.
JULY	6	TAC	9:00a.m.
AUGUST	3	WAC / TAC	9:00a.m.
SEPTEMBER	14	TAC	9:00a.m.
OCTOBER	5	TAC	9:00a.m.
NOVEMBER	2	WAC / TAC	9:00a.m.
DECEMBER	7	TAC	9:00a.m.

10

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF
NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association will be held as follows:

Date: Friday, January 9, 2015

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Marin Community Foundation
5 Hamilton Landing
Suite 200, Redwood Room
Novato, CA 94949

AGENDA

Item

Recommendation

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Call to Order (Jack Gibson, Chair) | |
| 2. Public Comment | |
| 3. Approval of the Agenda (1 min.) | Approve |
| 4. Approval of Minutes | Approve |
| 5. Treasurer's Report (1 min.) | Accept |
| 6. New Health Assessment and New Plan (30 min.)
for the San Francisco Bay Delta Estuary
Guest Speaker: Judy Kelly, Director SFEP | Information |
| 7. Untapped Potential of California's Water Supply (45 min.)
Guest Speaker: Heather Cooley, Pacific Institute | Information |
| 8. Prop 1 Update (20 min.)
Harry Seraydarian | Information |
| 9. Items of Interest | |
| 10. Items for Next Agenda | |

Next Meeting Information:

Next Meeting: February 6, 2015

Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Center
320 N. McDowell Boulevard
Conference Room 2
Petaluma, CA 94954

NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Minutes for the meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) Board of Directors.

Date: December 5, 2014
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Center
320 N. McDowell Boulevard, Conference Room 2
Petaluma, CA 94954

Directors Present: Directors present included:

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Agency/Organization</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Agency/Organization</u>
Carly Cabrera	Sonoma County and Sonoma County Water Agency	Mark Luce	Napa Sanitation District
Keith Caldwell	Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	Pamela Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District
Rick Fraites	North Marin Water District	Brant Miller	Novato Sanitary District
Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District	Chris Pegg	City of Sonoma and Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District
Kathy Hartzell	Central Marin Sanitation District	Judy Schriebman	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
		Pam Tuft	City of Petaluma

Directors present represented 13 out of the 16 agencies signatory to the Association MOU.

Board Actions:

1. **Call to Order.** Jack Gibson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** None.
3. **Approval of the Agenda.** (See Handout) The Board unanimously approved the agenda.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Board Meeting held November 7, 2014.** (See Handout) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on November 7, 2014 were unanimously approved with one abstention by Kathy Hartzell.
5. **Treasurer's Report.** (See Handout) The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by Harry Seraydarian.
6. **LandSmart for Kids Workshops Project Update.** Leigh Sharp, Napa County RCD, presented a PowerPoint and explained that Napa County RCD has been providing education for students for two decades and developed a new name recently – "LandSmart for Kids." Leigh described the objectives of the program – engaging students in ecological restoration and stewardship (improving stream habitat & water quality; providing hands-on integrated learning experience; fostering a connection to the environment; exposing students to resource management occupations; and demonstrating that working lands can exist as part of a healthy environment). She then highlighted program initiatives for 2014. The Clean Water Initiative had about 750 students participate in stormwater pollution prevention presentations and three stewardship projects (creek cleanup and stormwater stenciling). Acorns to Oaks included about 350 students in a class presentation and field trips. Youth Stewardship included about 80 high school students in field days and restoration work. Leigh also summarized the accomplishments at each site: Huichica Creek Vineyard with Vintage High School, Stanley Ranch – South Wetland with American Canyon High School, and Gamble Ranch with Justin Siena High School. Leigh then presented the Napa River Eco Reserve Field Trips which included about 176 students conducting water quality testing, BMI sampling and native plant identification. She also described the "Napa River Ecological Reserve – Do It Yourself Guide" developed for the Napa River available online – a collection of history, art and ecology lessons for grades K-12 available to teachers in 2014 and handed out on flash drives. Leigh ended by highlighting other deliverables (press release, article – "Napa RCD Connects Kids with Nature" and an accomplishments poster) and a summary of all funders. The NBWA Board Members had several questions. Was all the work on public lands? (No, some private.) How are tree plantings maintained? (New classes maintain or landowners.) How much did NBWA contribute? (\$20k.) Were private schools included? (Yes.)
7. **STRAW Restoration Project on MMWD Land.** John Parodi, Point Blue, presented a PowerPoint and noted that actual work on Pine Point at Bon Tempe Reservoir in Fairfax will start in a few weeks. John began with a history of STRAW (Students and Teachers Restoring A Watershed) and highlighted the accomplishments since 1992 with a number of pictures. He also explained their role in restoration and provided examples for rural and urban sites. John displayed examples of Biotechnical work and an example of monitoring data focusing on bird species. John then shifted to the

community engagement aspect of restoration and emphasized the importance of partners such as RCDs, County Public Works Departments, engineering firms and U.S. Fish & Wildlife staff. He also noted a number of educational efforts for teachers including Watershed Week and network events. John then described Climate-Smart Ecological Restoration and explained the difference in today's definition in contrast to past definitions – recovery to function – versus the new added phrase: "in a manner that prepares them for the consequences of a rapidly changing climate." John outlined the "Climate-Smart Principles" and gave some examples of the principles in action. He also presented a simple planting tool, a planning matrix that evaluates the environmental qualities of different plant species, and a planning matrix calendar that considers monthly flowering and seeding for plant species. John then displayed a chart comparing number of species and flowering for traditional design and climate-smart design by month and noted that climate-smart design typically has more species and higher density planting. Emily Allen, Point Blue, then presented facts on the Pine Point Restoration Project. She provided information on the Bon Tempe Reservoir and the local watershed. She noted that restoration days are planned for January 28 and 29, 2015 and identified species that will be planted and displayed charts showing their climate and wildlife resource characteristics. Emily ended with Next Steps: (1) Assess whether this initial planting palette achieves desired success criteria for both plant establishment and wildlife response; (2) Locate and grow additional species to increase redundancy, especially throughout the calendar year; (3) Collect same species from different microclimates to mix into plant palette; and (4) Apply this model to more projects and partnerships. The NBWA Board Members had several questions. What is the follow up with participating students? (Work with multiple grade levels – video on website tracked students from 1992.) How many students participate in one year? (4,500.) Do you monitor outside the planting area? (Track plants spreading anecdotally outside the planting area.) Do you look at fire burns and effects? (MMWD considered as part of larger plan.) What about planting bay trees? (Given concern about oak tree death have not planted bays in six-seven years.) Are any scientists at Point Blue looking at micro-remediation? (Working with Berkeley scientist on soil disturbance science.) What is NBWA contribution? (\$20k.) Any restrictions on plantings in wetland areas? (Hot topic now – relates to sea level rise.) What is NWF reference in Climate-Smart Principles? (National Wildlife Federation – broader document.)

8. **Items of Interest.**

- * 2015 Napa County Watershed Awareness Calendars available now.

9. **Items for Next Agenda.**

- * Untapped Potential of California's Water Supply – Heather Cooley, Pacific Institute
- * New Health Assessment and New Plan for the San Francisco Bay Delta Estuary – Judy Kelley, SFEP
- * Prop 1 Update – Harry Seraydarian, NBWA Executive Director

Jack Gibson, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL

Submitted By: Elizabeth O. Preim-Rohtla
Assistant to the Executive Director

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION:

January 9 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

February 6 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954-Conf. Rm. 2

The Marin Community Foundation - Map and Directions

Marin Community Foundation

5 Hamilton Landing
Suite 200
Novato, CA 94949

main phone: 415.464.2500

fax: 415.464.2555

Come through the courtyard between the two buildings (Hanger 5 and Hanger 6) and enter through the automatic door in the center of Hanger 5. There is an elevator or stairs to the second level. Our meeting room is called "The Redwood Room"

Going north:

a) Going north on Highway 101, take the Hamilton Field/Nave Dr. Exit. Veer right at the end of the exit ramp and follow Nave Drive going north, parallel to 101. Take a right at Main Gate Road, which leads into Hamilton. (At Crescent, Main Gate Road becomes Palm Drive.)

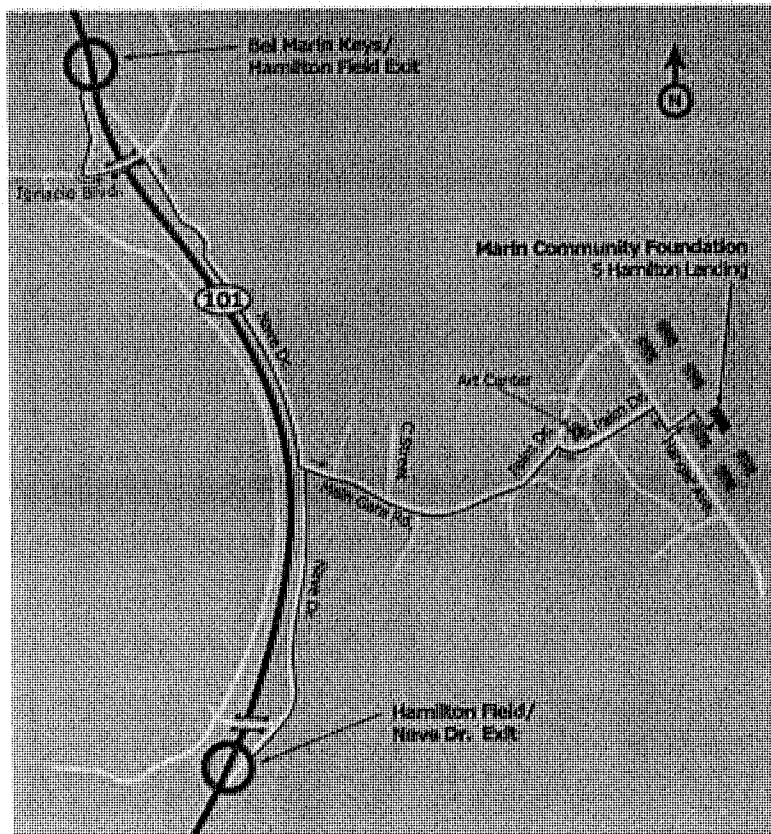
b) Continue until you reach the Arts Center, then bear right onto South Palm Drive. Take South Palm Drive to the end, turn right onto Hangar Avenue, and take an immediate left into the parking lot. MCF is in Hangar 5, at 5 Hamilton Landing. The entrance is down the pathway between Hangar 5 and Hangar 6.

Going south:

Going south on Highway 101, take the Bel Marin Keys/Hamilton Field Exit. At the end of the exit ramp, take a right onto Ignacio Blvd. After crossing the freeway, take an immediate right onto Nave Drive. Take a left onto Main Gate Road, which leads into Hamilton. (At Crescent, Main Gate Road becomes Palm Drive.) Then follow directions "b" above.

From the east bay:

Cross the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge and continue on 580 until it merges onto 101 North. Then follow the directions for "going north."



11

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Date Prepared: 12/30/14

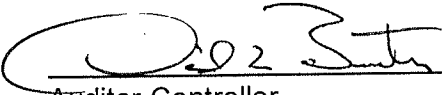
The following demands made against the District are listed for approval and authorization for payment in accordance with Section 31302 of the California Water Code, being a part of the California Water District Law:

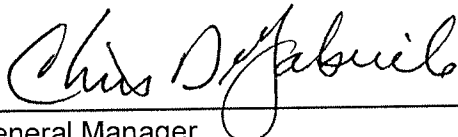
Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
1	American Family Life Ins	Dec Employee Contribution for Accident, Disability & Cancer Insurance	\$4,366.65
2	Automation Direct	Replacement RTU for Paradise Ranch Estates P/S (\$251) & Analog Input Cards (5) (\$415)	666.00
3	Backflow Distributors	Repair Parts for Backflow Devices	678.86
4	Bastogne	Refund Overpayment on Closed Account	36.42
5	Battery Systems	Batteries for Plum Street Tank Solar Power System (2)	163.85
6	Bena, Jessica	Exp Reimb: Extension Cords (2) (Lab)	43.58
7	Best Best & Krieger	SPG Solar Power Project Assignment to Spear Point Energy	396.00
8	Black Box	RTU Communication Modules (8) (Storm Damage)	1,201.00
9	Blastco	Atherton Tank Rehabilitation Project (Balance Remaining on Contract \$1,241,471)	27,435.05
10	Bold & Polisner	AEEP Caltrans Reimb B-1 (\$19), Drinking Water Discharges (\$35) & Public Records Act (\$637)	690.00
11	California State Disbursement	Wage Assignment Order	1018.5
12	Cascade Fire Equipment	Nipples (2)	207.58
13	Core Utilities	Consulting Services: November IT Support (\$5,000), Lift Station @ O.M. (\$500), Program New Radio Equipment-Telemetry Upgrade (\$1,850), Pre-Program P RTP PLC & Develop New Program for Gallagher Well PLC (\$1,450), Modified Core User Access to Enhance Security (\$375), Reminder Bill Revision (\$775) & Cyber Security Review (\$175)	10,125.00
14	Emedco	Nitrogen Sign (10" x 14") (STP)	49.84

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
15	Feldmeir, Matthew	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
16	Fisher Scientific	Reagents (2)	91.17
17	Golden Gate Petroleum	Gas (\$2.76/gal) & Diesel (\$2.96/gal)	2,964.77
18	Grainger	Safety Chain Couplers (4) (\$160), Thread Sealant (12-8oz \$159), Reciprocating Saw Blades (5), Hose to Pipe Adaptor (15) (\$61), Hose to Hose Adaptors (20) (\$99), Garden Hose Washers (40), Batteries 'D' & 'AA' (108) Fluorescent Light Bulbs (6) (\$101)	697.66
19		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	180.00
20	Jim-n-i Rentals	Shoring Pins (30) & Lifting Chain (\$383)	438.26
21		Vision (\$184) & Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	308.24
22	Lincoln Life	Deferred Compensation PPE 12/31/14	12,089.42
23	Maltby Electric	Electrical Supplies (\$778) & Conduit Elbows (6)	794.72
24	Martrel Business Printing	3-Part Billing Receipts (Front Counter) (1,000)	271.22
25	McMaster-Carr Supply	Screens for Air Release, Work Umbrella (\$233) (E/M Dept) & Air Valve Vent Screen (\$117)	444.13
26	Nationwide	Deferred Compensation PPE 12/31/14	1,300.00
27	New Pig	First Aid Kit & Oil Absorbent Mats (2) (\$237)	256.61
28	Pace Supply	Hymax Couplings (2)	694.33
29	Postmaster Novato	Semi-Annual P.O. Box Fee	203.00
30		Cafeteria Plan: Childcare Reimbursement (\$482) & Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	789.66
31	Sequoia Safety Supply	Sting Relief Wipes (50), Antibiotic Ointment (120), Burn Spray (12), Woven Bandages (200) & Ibuprofen (200)	73.87
32	Sonoma County Recorder	Official Copy of Record	6.25
33	Tamagno Green Products	GAC Removal (STP) (15 yds)	300.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
34	Team Ghilotti	Construct Gallagher Well Pipeline (Total Project Cost \$1,010,919.25)	141,041.09
35	White Cap Construction	Rice Straw (12 rolls)	325.92
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$210,398.65</u>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$210,398.65 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.


12/29/14
 Auditor-Controller Date


12/29/2014
 General Manager Date

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED DECEMBER 24, 2014

Date Prepared: 12/23/14

The following demands made against the District are listed for approval and authorization for payment in accordance with Section 31302 of the California Water Code, being a part of the California Water District Law:

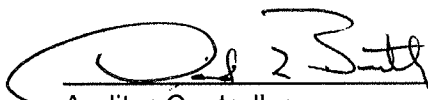
<u>Seq</u>	<u>Payable To</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>
P/R*	Employees	Net Payroll PPE 12/15/14	\$127,440.62
EFT*	US Bank	Federal & FICA Taxes PPE 12/15/4	51,724.09
EFT*	State of California	State Taxes & SDI PPE 12/15/4	9,818.37
EFT*	US Bank	December Bank Analysis Fees (Lockbox \$912, Credit Card Processing \$562 & Other \$550 - Less \$249 Interest Credit)	1,776.66
1	ADTS	Annual Drug & Alcohol Testing Compliance Program (Budget \$800)	912.00
2	All Star Rents	Compressor Rental (1 Day)	99.94
3	Anza-Borrego Desert State	Donation in Memory of George E. McDaniel, Jr. (Employee's Father)	50.00
4	A.S.T.I.	Fire Service Testing (17) (Balance Remaining on Contract \$6,695)	1,695.00
5	AT&T	Telephone Charges: Leased Lines	63.52
6	AT&T	Telephone Charges: Voice Lines	49.40
7	Automation Direct	Spare Analog Input Cards (5)	415.00
8	Bank of Marin	Bank of Marin Loan Principal & Interest (Pymt 38 of 240)	46,066.67
9	BarCode Giant	Replacement Handheld Barcode Reader (Warehouse)	2,042.85
10	Bentley, David L.	Exp Reimb for ACWA Conf: Mileage (\$45), Airfare (\$176), Meals (\$45), Transportation (\$29) Parking (\$36) & Hotel (\$639)	970.63
11	CalPERS	Pension Contribution PPE 12/15/14	43,610.63
12	The Climate Registry	Annual Membership (Clark) (1/15-12/15) (Budget \$770)	750.00

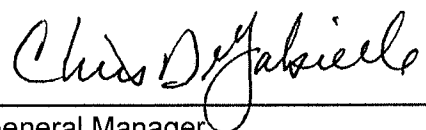
Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
13	Costco Membership	Annual Membership Dues (DeGabriele) (1/15-12/15) (Budget \$110)	110.00
14	Cotton, Frank Bradley	Novato "Cash for Grass" Program	380.00
15	CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering	NMWD Aqueduct Energy Efficiency Project (Balance Remaining on Contract \$171,748)	47,020.77
16		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	314.32
17	Design, Deanna	Novato "Cash for Grass" Program	360.00
18	Doyle, Sheriff Robert	Wage Assignment Order	473.61
19	Grainger	1/4" Hand Ratchet, Broom Handles (5), 'D' Batteries (24)	52.30
20		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	5.00
21	Gutermann	Leak Calculator w/ 12 Data Loggers (Budget \$12,000)	15,730.00
22	Home Depot	Grout, Tile, Tile Adhesive (Office Restroom) & 25' Tape Measures (10) (\$108)	158.69
23	HUB International Insurance	Insurance for District Holiday Party	128.04
24	Hunter, William	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	200.00
25	InfoSend	November Processing Fee for Water Bills (\$1,473) & Postage (\$4,204)	5,677.23
26		Vision (\$84) & Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement (\$192)	275.83
27	Kettell, Carolyn	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	100.00
28	Leighton Stone	Gas Valve for Mig Welder	44.47
29	Macdonald Architects	Engineering Services: Lynwood Pump Station (Balance Remaining on Contract \$14,173)	2,588.16
30	Marin County	Final Payment - 1975 Olema General Obligation Bond	550.41
31	MegaPath	December DSL Internet Service	142.88

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
32	Novato, City of	Street Excavation Moratorium Fee (S. Novato Blvd)	2,250.00
33	Origin Micro	Radio Expansion Telemetry Upgrades	3,518.90
34	Pace Supply	Coupling - Flange Adaptor (\$1,031), 4" Flange w/Bevel Gearing (2) (\$3,193), Flanged Setters (2) (\$504) & 4" Nipple	4,758.30
35	Pape Machinery	Rear Window Kit ('09 JD Backhoe)	741.74
36	ParcelQuest	Semi-Annual Update Parcel Data Information - Sonoma & Marin Counties (7/1/15-6/30/16) (41% Discount for Early Payment)	753.84
37	Parkinson Accounting Systems	November Accounting Support	195.00
38	Phillips, Tony	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	98.00
39	Pure Technologies U.S.	Inspection of STP 18" Transmission Main (Balance Remaining on Contract \$17,000)	103,000.00
40	Ray, Scott	Refund Overpayment on Closed Account	47.91
41	Sequoia Safety Supply	Rain jackets (4) (\$184) & Overalls (4) (\$88)	271.85
42	Sonoma County Water Agency	November Contract Water	299,248.81
43	SPG Solar	November Energy Delivered Under Solar Services Agreement	7,243.60
44	Staples	Annual Report Printing (20) (\$87) & Holiday Party Invites	122.48
45	State Water Resources Control	Exam Fee for Dist Oper Grade 1 (J. Lemos & Ochoa)	100.00
46	State Water Resources Control	Annual Clean Drinking Water Revolving Fund Loan Principal & Interest RW S - PH1B (\$166,575) & RW S - PH1A (\$65,598)	232,173.86
47	Stevens, Beverly	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
48	TelePacific Communications	November Telephone Charges (Voice)	448.38
49	Terasawa, Kiyoshi	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	100.00
50	Tisell, Rolf	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Ultra High Efficiency Program	150.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
51	Township Building Services	November Janitorial Services	1,588.84
52	Univar	Sodium Hypochlorite (PRTP)	359.00
53	USC Foundation	Annual Membership in USC's Foundation for Cross-Connection Control (1/15-12/15) (Budget \$0)	500.00
54	Vali Cooper & Associates	Construction Management Services for Aqueduct Relocation AEEP Reaches A-D/MSN B3 (Balance Remaining on Contract \$765,264)	79,982.95
55	Valim, Carlos	Refund Overpayment on Closed Account	15.10
56	Verizon California	Telephone Charges: Leased Lines	290.41
57	Water Education Foundation	Membership Dues (DeGabriele) (1/15-12/15) (Budget \$140)	140.00
58	Wiley Price & Radulovich	Harassment Training Prep (\$123) & Venegas Accommodation (\$338)	461.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			<u>\$1,100,407.06</u>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$1,100,407.06 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.


12/22/14
 Auditor-Controller Date


12/22/2014
 General Manager Date

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED DECEMBER 18, 2014

Date Prepared: 12/16/14

The following demands made against the District are listed for approval and authorization for payment in accordance with Section 31302 of the California Water Code, being a part of the California Water District Law:

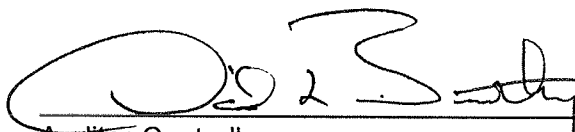
<u>Seq</u>	<u>Payable To</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	Allied Packing & Supply	Fire Service Check-Valve Gaskets for STP (54)	\$687.46
2	Alpha Analytical Labs	Lab Testing	325.00
3	Athens Administrators	Replenish Workers' Comp Account (Venegas)	4,667.03
4	Augusto Plumbing	Supply & Install 3 New Sensor ULFT Toilets (\$2,250) & Bowls in Office	3,187.50
5	Backflow Distributors	Large & Small Backflow Repair Parts	1,293.26
6	Bold & Polisner	AEEP Caltrans Reimb - B1 (\$18), AEEP Caltrans Reimb B-3 (\$212), Atherton Tank Recoat (\$185), Coast Guard Property (\$163), Employer Assist Housing (\$999), Marin CC Golf (\$91), Prevailing Wage (\$220), Stonetree Assignment (\$351) & Wild Horse Tank Admin Civil Liability Compliant (\$123)	2,363.50
7	Borges & Mahoney	Sensor Unit (STP)	398.87
8	California State Disbursement	Wage Assignment Order	1,018.50
9	Cascade Fire Equipment	Fire Hose Adaptors & Fittings	600.19
10	Cassidy, Maureen	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	100.00
11	Clipper Direct	Dec Commuter Benefit Program	186.00
12	Coast Counties Peterbilt	Fuel Filter, Air Filter (\$32), Oil Filter & Wiper Blades ('09 Peterbilt)	112.41
13	CWEA	Certification Renewal Lab Analyst Grade 2 (12/14-12/15) (Reischmann) (Budget \$0)	84.00
14	Diggs, James	Retiree Exp Reimb (December Health Ins)	1,017.68
15	Ehni, Jane	Novato "Cash for Grass" Program	400.00
16	ERS Industrial Services	Anthracite Coal for STP Filter Specification	3,840.75

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
17	Ghilotti Construction	Construct AEEP Reaches A-D/MSN B3 Pipeline Project (Balance Remaining on Contract \$6,900,781)	841,259.34
18	Golden Gate Petroleum	Gasoline (\$2.86/gal) & Diesel (\$3.14/gal)	3,778.07
19	Grainger	Trailer Tongue Jack (\$258) & Handle ('13 Vacuum Excavator Trailer)	288.36
20	InfoSend	Inserts Regarding Lead & Copper Education (Printing & Processing)	274.16
21	Jensen Instrument	Provide Flow Tube & Transmitter (Olema Pump Station)	3,284.64
22		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	60.00
23	Landeros, Dianne	Exp Reimb: Expenses for Baywork Luncheon & Meeting. Meals (\$25) & Mileage (\$17)	41.80
24	Lincoln Life	Deferred Compensation PPE 12/15/14	11,089.42
25	Marin County Tax Collector	Annual Permit Fee (Hazardous Material Inventory Permit) (4)	6,362.00
26	Marinscope	Subscription Renewal (DeGabriele) (9/14-8/15) (Budget \$50)	49.00
27	Marin County Ford	Windshield Washer Kit, Washer Hose Kit, Track Bar & Bar End Links ('99 F350) (\$232), Lower Seat Pad & Cover ('12 F150) (\$340) & Tail Gate Cover	655.60
28	Matchette, Tim	Retiree Exp Reimb (December Health Ins)	349.23
29	Drew McIntyre	July-November 2014 Mileage	413.84
30	McMaster-Carr Supply	Break-Away Locks for Fire Services (12)	90.06
31	Miller Pacific Engineering	Geotechnical Services: Ridge Road Pipe Break (Balance Remaining on Contract \$49,121)	1,931.50
32	Mitchell, Mike	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	200.00
33	Moore, Doug	Retiree Exp Reimb (December Health Ins)	943.40
34	Nationwide Retirement Solution	Deferred Compensation PPE 12/15/14	1,300.00
35	Nerviani's Backflow	Backflow Device Testing (6)	575.00


Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
36	NMWD Employee Assoc	Dues 10/15 Through 11/30/14	935.00
37	Office Depot	Desk Chair (\$288) (Clark), Legal Dividers (650) (\$145), Pens (12) & Binders (5) (\$33) (Less Credit of \$181 for Returned Item)	288.61
38	Pace Supply	Couplings (23) (\$704), Nipples (10), 2" Copper Pipe (180') (\$2,548)	3,303.73
39	Passos, Marx	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	200.00
40	Peterson Trucks	LED Wire Lights (4) (\$183), Grommets (4), Brackets (4) & Wire Plugs (4) ('09 Peterbilt)	213.72
41	NMWD Petty Cash	Holiday Party Decorations, Safety Snacks, Bridge Toll, Calendar, Harassment Training Snack & Safety Bucks	81.74
42	PG&E	Power: Bldgs/Yard (\$2,917), Rectifier/Controls (\$419), Pumping (\$18,514), Treatment (\$104) & Other (\$100)	22,055.23
43	Piazza Construction	Install 8" Casings @ 400 Bel Marin Keys	3,885.00
44	Pini Hardware	Break-Away Locks (14) (\$107), Pad Lock, 'O' Rings, Plugs, 3-Plug Outlet, Extension Cord (STP), Paint Trays (3), Rollers (4), Lamp Switch, All Purpose Cement, Chain Link, Bushing, Screwdrivers (2), Backflow Parts, Hardware, Motion Sensor Light (\$49), Adaptors (2), Soft Soap, Yardsticks (O.M.), Electrical Wire (\$62), Tape, Fly Catcher Ribbon, Shop Vac Filters & Wheels, Contact Cleaner, Hole Saw (\$46), Pipe Fittings, Valve for T.M. Cable Puller, Tile, Grout, Torch, Propane Tank, Roof Sealer (\$44), Phone Jack Crimper, Foam Sealant (3), Mouse Traps (2), Weather Proof Outlet Cover @ STP (\$45), Rivet Tool, Rivets, PVC Nipple, Dryer Vent & Duct	847.49
45	Point Reyes Light	Subscription Renewal (12/14-12/16) (Budget \$120)	119.00
46	Prunuske Chatham	Engineering Services: Leveroni Creek Monitoring (Balance Remaining on Contract	2,623.75
47		Cafeteria Plan: Childcare Reimbursement	208.33
48	Roberts, Renee	Retiree Exp Reimb (December Health Ins)	349.23

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
49		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	45.00
50	Schmidt, Robert	Novato "Cash for Grass" Program	200.00
51	Sequoia Safety Supply	Brief Relief Urine Bags (100)	231.08
52	Shirrell Consulting Services	Dec Dental Insurance Admin Fee	299.45
53	Shoemaker Structural	Welding Services (Balance Remaining on Contract \$2,050)	920.00
54	South Bay Foundry	5 1/2" Valve Caps (60)	1,128.75
55	United Parcel Service	Delivery Service: Sent Carbon Sample for Regenerating Testing (STP)	11.87
56	Water Components & Bldg Supply	Gravel Bags (12) & Drain Inlet Filters (8) (\$259)	469.09
57	White Cap Construction	Wattle Rice Straw & Silt Fence (Erosion Control for Gallagher Well Project)	690.15
58	Willoughby, Robert	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	100.00
59	Wilson, Scott	Refund Deposit - New Development Water Conservation Restriction	1,000.00
60		Cafeteria Plan: Childcare Reimbursement	416.66
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$933,850.45</u>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$933,850.45 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.


12/15/14

Auditor-Controller Date


12/15/2014

General Manager Date

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: Alicia Manzoni, Consumer Services Supervisor
Subject: Meter Reading Accuracy

January 2, 2015

\\nmwdsrv1\administration\cons srv\letters\dmc summary 2014.doc

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None - Information Only

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

North Marin Water District's Field Service Representatives read 128,642 meters from December 1, 2013 to November 30, 2014. When tallying misreads versus meters read over the past 12 months, we found that the reading error rate was 0.19% (241 misreads) or, stated positively, a 99.81% accuracy rate.

In comparison to other water utilities, East Bay Municipal Utility District claims their accuracy rate is 99.6%, San Jose Water reports 99.90% and MMWD reports 99.99%.

Our FSR's do make an effort to read each meter accurately. We strive to be accurate and our FSR's do a good job. With the ongoing absence of Field Service Rep Miguel Venegas due to an injury last May, we have utilized the services of two temp meter readers who have reduced the 2014 Accuracy Rate.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Meters Read ¹	129,363	126,626	128,890	128,642
Misreads	210	150	157	241
Accuracy Rate	99.84%	99.88%	99.88%	99.81%

¹ Meters read varies based on cycles included from year to year.

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(3/26)

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catherine@westmarinfund.org

(12/18, 12/24)

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INFORMATION:

Type of card (Visa or MC): _____

Zip: _____

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Huff, 110 Morning Sun Ave,
Mill Valley, CA 94941. This
statement was filed with
the County Clerk of Marin
County on December 9, 2014;
signed S. Olivia Deputy.
Published in the Point Reyes
Light December 18, 24, 31,
2014, January 8, 2015.

Fictitious Business Name
Statement: File No.
2014136154. The following
person(s) is (are) business
as: Equinicity Marin, 1760
Shoreline Hwy, Muir Beach,
CA 94965. This business is
conducted by an individual:
Jessica Bryant, 1480 Lincoln
Ave, #5, San Rafael, CA
94901. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of
Marin County on December
1, 2014; signed C. Sanchez,
Deputy. Published in the Point
Reyes Light December 24, 31,
2014, January 8, 15, 2015.

Fictitious Business Name
Statement: File No. 136220.

The following person(s) is
(are) business as: CGSMV,
21 Ridge Ave, Mill Valley,
CA 94941. This business is
conducted by an individual:
Christine Curtin, 21 Ridge
Ave, Mill Valley, CA 94941.
This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Marin
County on December 12,
2014; signed J. Mannion,
Deputy. Published in the Point
Reyes Light December 24, 31,
2014, January 8, 15, 2015.

Notice:

Salinity intrusion into the Point Reyes well supply
serving the West Marin communities of Point Reyes,
Olema, Inverness Park, and Paradise Ranch Estates
has occurred beginning on September 16, 2014 and
has caused sodium levels to increase from back-
ground levels of 15-30 milligrams per Liter (mg/L).
The table below lists the most recent concentrations
for sodium in the West Marin water supply:

Date	Chloride	Sodium	Units
12/16/14	180	66	mg/L
12/9/14	180	68	mg/L

*milligrams per liter

Chris DeGabriele, General Manager
North Marin Water District

Salinity
Notice
PT - Reyes
Light
(12/16/14)

PD Editorial: Bring better science to dam management

on December 18, 2014, 12:07AM12/18/2014

Is the drought over?

We won't match wits with meteorologists or second guess climate scientists. For now, we're just grateful to see Lake Pillsbury, Lake Mendocino and other reservoirs rising again after three exceedingly dry years.

Refreshed by 15 days of rain so far this month, Lake Sonoma's water supply pool has surpassed 70 percent of capacity for the first time in six months.

More striking is the change at Lake Mendocino — illustrated by Press Democrat photographer Kent Porter's photos on the front page of Tuesday's paper. The lake, which had fallen to about 40 percent of capacity, now stands at 66.6 percent.

If the lakes keep filling, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may be forced to open the spillways at Coyote Dam to fulfill flood-prevention mandates — even if weather forecasters say the storm window is closing.

Federal law doesn't leave any option.

Lake Mendocino management plan developed in the 1950s — before satellites and computer modeling — dictates maximum water levels on specific dates. If the lake rises beyond the designated point, water must be released, even if there isn't any expectation of rain.

That scenario played out in January, to the chagrin of local water managers facing a third drought year. Having no other legal option, the Corps drained 24,000 acre-feet of water — about 7.8 billion gallons — from Lake Mendocino, contributing to critical shortages this past spring in southern Mendocino and northern Sonoma counties.

The Bureau of Reclamation, the other major federal water management agency, has much more flexibility in managing its projects.

To better fulfill the dual mandates of preventing floods and supplying water, Lake Mendocino's managers need relief from a pre-Sputnik matrix that dictates water levels without regard to modern science.

Changing the management plan requires an act of Congress.

Legislation introduced by Rep. Jared Huffman of San Rafael and other Northern California Democrats would have, among other things, allowed local water purveyors to request a review by the Corps and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, with the goal of updating management plans to reflect the latest and best science.

Unfortunately, the drought relief bill passed by the House on Dec. 9 didn't address the issue. Instead, it sought to boost water deliveries to San Joaquin Valley growers by eliminating protection for endangered salmon. Fortunately for Indian tribes and coastal communities that rely on salmon fishing, that bill is DOA in the Senate.

Huffman plans to re-introduce his bill when the new Congress convenes in January. Enacting it would benefit communities across the country.

Over the past three years, many people sacrificed their lawns, drove dirty cars, took shorter showers — whatever they could manage to conserve water. Communities promoted purple-pipe recycling and rainwater capture systems. Voters approved billions of dollars to clean up contaminated groundwater and recharge aquifers.

Even if the drought is over, experts say it will take time, perhaps years, to replenish natural water stores. So conservation efforts should continue at all levels. And that means giving reservoir managers the tools they need to make wise choices about saving and releasing water.

Is the drought over?

We won't match wits with meteorologists or second guess climate scientists. For now, we're just grateful to see Lake Pillsbury, Lake Mendocino and other reservoirs rising again after three exceedingly dry years.

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LIVE REPORT: FBI LINKS NORTH KOREA TO SONY HACK



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Protection Sought for Scenic California Region

WASHINGTON — Dec 18, 2014, 7:22 PM ET

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

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A contingent of California environmental groups, business representatives and politicians will use a visit Friday from Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to push for permanent protection of some 350,000 acres of picturesque federal land near the state's famous wine country.

Congress declined this session to pass legislation from Democratic Rep. Mike Thompson that would have designated the land as a national conservation area, and companion legislation by U.S. Sen. **Barbara Boxer** also faltered. That prompted Thompson and other supporters to push the Obama administration to act on its own and designate it a national monument.

The difference revolves primarily around who does the authorizing. Congress approves new national conservation areas, while presidents can protect wildland and historical sites as national monuments.

Officials said the practical effect is the same — permanent protection of federal land that can lead to greater recreational opportunities but also restrictions on new mining and other commercial activities.

Three separate federal agencies currently manage land in the region that Thompson wants to set aside: the U.S. Forest Service; **Bureau of Land Management**; and Bureau of Reclamation.

Supporters said the myriad recreational activities now allowed, including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and mountain biking, would continue if the area were designated a national monument. Land already designated as wilderness would continue to be managed under the government's highest form of protection.

"Right now, you have all these different agencies that manage their specific parcels differently," said Matthew Kirby of the Sierra Club, which supports the heightened federal protections. "This allows for a more cohesive, unified vision for the entire monument."

The region lies generally to the east of the famous Napa-Sonoma wine country and stretches north from the area around Lake Berryessa, a major recreation reservoir, to just beyond the Mendocino National Forest's Snow Mountain Wilderness, which includes two 7,000-foot peaks.

The hilly region of rivers and scenic canyons is home to black bears, mountain lions, tule elk and several rare plants species. Areas now open for cattle grazing will remain that way, even with a national monument status, Thompson has said.

Lake Berryessa, already popular with water skiers, anglers and house boaters, would not be included in the national monument designation because it is not of historic or scientific value, an aide to Thompson said.

President Barack Obama already has shown his willingness to designate federal lands in California as national monuments when Congress declines to offer additional protections.

Two months ago, Obama designated a similarly sized swath of land near Los Angeles as San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. A spokesman for Jewell, Jessica Kershaw, said the secretary will underscore her support for Thompson's legislation and listen to the "community's

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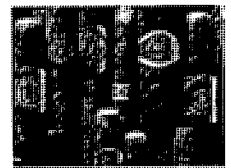


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vision for further protections, conservation and management."

Thompson testified in support of his bill during a subcommittee hearing over the summer.

"The real important thing is its proximity to population," he said. "... It's not property we're putting at arm's length from folks and disallowing their easy access."

The Friday afternoon hearing at Napa Valley College will include officials from the departments of Interior and Agriculture, as well as those from local interest groups.

Matt Rexroad, a Republican on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, voted against a resolution endorsing a national monument designation. He said the federal government already administers all the land, which makes it easy to stop any unwanted commercial development.

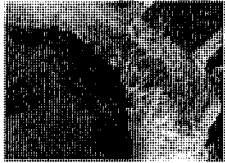
He said he has never seen proof the designation is necessary.

Like  39

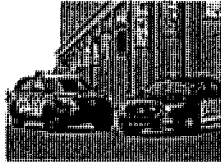


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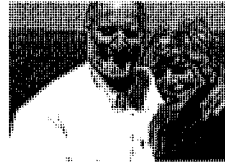
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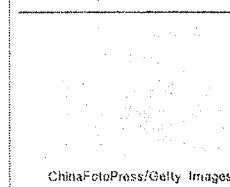
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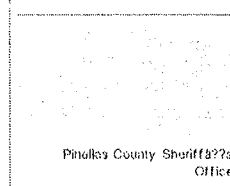
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George Clooney Blames Hollywood Amid Sony Hack Attack

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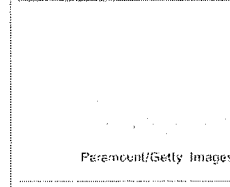
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Petr David Jozek/AP Photo



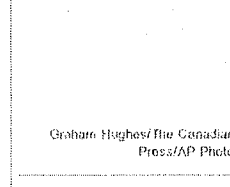
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Coastal protection, open space advocacy made Bill Kortum dean of local movement

BY GUY KOVNER THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on December 20, 2014, 1:11PM 12/20/2014

Bill Kortum, a veterinarian who helped lead the seminal battle to protect public access to the California coast and spent most of his life fighting to rein in sprawl and preserve open space in his native Sonoma County, died early Saturday at his Petaluma home. He was 87.

Soft-spoken and gentlemanly even in the political cauldron, Kortum's decades of relentless activism made him the dean of the local environmental movement — one he both led and helped conceive. He grew up on a chicken ranch outside Petaluma and became an early cautionary voice against the unchecked growth that marked much of his era. In countless public meetings, he challenged the bankers and builders who openly embraced the vision of replicating San Jose-style development in Sonoma County.

By his own reckoning, Kortum lost more battles than he won over six decades of activism. But through his efforts, including his election in 1974 to Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, he became one of the most influential figures in conservation on the North Coast.

"He's one of the grand old men of the environmental movement in California," said Sam Schuchat, executive officer of the Coastal Conservancy, a state agency that has funded more than \$1.5 billion in coastal protection projects since 1976. "It's hard to imagine a modern California environmental movement without him."

Kortum had battled prostate cancer for more than three years.

His activism underpinned environmental politics in the county from their very start — in a successful fight during the late 1950s and early 1960s against PG&E's planned nuclear power plant at Bodega Bay. He led ensuing campaigns that resulted in the voter-approved formation of the California Coastal Commission in 1972 and related legislation four years later that extended to the public unprecedented rights to access the state's 1,100 miles of shoreline and closely oversee its development.

"Anyone who's gone out and enjoyed the coast, pulled over and sat there and looked at the waves and the rocks, owes a debt of gratitude to Bill," said Mike Reilly, a former west county supervisor and Coastal Commission chairman.

The Kortum Trail, which runs from Blind Beach to Wright's Beach south of Jenner, was named in Kortum's honor in the 1990s.

A descendant of a Donner Party survivor and a child of the Great Depression, Kortum nevertheless saw his efforts as a sustained attempt to break away from the past — from values and policies that allowed rough treatment of land and resources — to shape a future that would preserve more than a little of the open landscape he knew from his youth.

As a young veterinarian based in Cotati, he made rounds to local dairy ranches that were falling steadily to development, part of the postwar growth spurt that quadrupled the county's population in the second half of the

20th century.

"I saw it absolutely being cut to ribbons by developers," Kortum said in an oral history video recorded in 2010 and archived at Sonoma State University. "I wanted to stop that."

And he did, to a considerable degree, with help from a burgeoning corps of environmentalists who transformed local politics and helped set aside more and more of the county's open space.

His master stroke in that effort was the establishment of Sonoma County Conservation Action in 1991, a canvassing organization that mobilized local voters in support of urban growth boundaries. The limits on sprawl now ring every city in Sonoma County — a first in the nation as of 2010, when Cloverdale, the last of the county's nine cities, approved restraints on leapfrog outward development.

Without such limits, Sonoma County "would look a lot more like San Mateo or Alameda County," said David Keller, a former Petaluma city councilman and chairman of Conservation Action, now the largest local environmental group.

"Bill's vision, insistence and strategic planning were critical for UGBs to take hold for voters in all nine cities," Keller said.

For much of Kortum's early life, Sonoma County was a Republican stronghold governed by businessmen, bankers, developers and their allies, who were riding the postwar boom of the 1950s and '60s during an era of minimal land use regulations. His family, however, were Democrats, and political activism ran deep in their ranks. His father, Max Kortum, fought off a proposal to push Highway 101 through the family ranch in the early 1940s, and the elder Kortum later ran unsuccessfully for Congress. Bill Kortum would make his own unsuccessful bid for Congress in 1970 and would have his tenure as supervisor cut short by a recall in 1976.

Karl Kortum, Bill's older brother, who founded the Maritime Museum in San Francisco, was one of the key leaders of the campaign against the PG&E nuclear plant at Bodega Bay. That victory is generally considered the birth of the anti-nuclear power movement in California.

"For me, it was a great lesson that you could take on a giant and win," Bill Kortum said in the 2010 oral history interview.

Thanks to Kortum, a sweetheart deal to seal off public access to 10 miles of the Sonoma Coast was stymied in the 1960s, leading to unprecedented protection for the entire California coast.

"He was an inspiration to all of us," said Peter Leveque, a retired Santa Rosa Junior College biology instructor and longtime friend. "A prince of a man," Leveque said, praising Kortum's gentle demeanor and ability to enlist others in important causes.

Kortum's forte, he said, was "to have a good idea, get people involved and move onto another project."

It was in Leveque's laboratory at SRJC in 1968 where Kortum and others formed a group with the unwieldy name Californians Organized to Acquire Access to State Tidelands, or COAAST. Their goal was to establish a coastal planning commission to regulate land use at a time when investors were buying large tracts of seaside land to build luxury subdivisions.

A subsidiary of Castle & Cooke, the Hawaiian development company, in 1963 bought a 5,000-acre spread south of Gualala on the Sonoma Coast and proposed building a 5,200-home project called The Sea Ranch. County supervisors, under questionable circumstances, accepted the developer's proposal to swap land for a 20-acre park at the mouth of the Gualala River in exchange for giving up public shoreline access through the subdivision.

Kortum and COAST objected, but lost a local ballot measure to thwart the deal in 1968, and the following June county planners approved the first maps for The Sea Ranch.

"The battle isn't over," Kortum declared at the time.

Taking the fight to Sacramento, Kortum found an ally in then-Assemblyman John Dunlap, a Napa Democrat. "It struck me as being for the birds," Dunlap said, referring to the no-access deal.

Dunlap's coastal public access bill, introduced in 1969, went nowhere in the face of opposition from utility companies, real estate interests and local government organizations: "All the big boys in Sacramento," Kortum said.

One of the power players, confident his side would prevail, suggested they put the measure on a statewide ballot. Kortum was at Dunlap's house in Napa when the concept for Proposition 20 — creating the state Coastal Commission and taking control of seaside development away from local government — was hatched for the 1972 ballot. With a boost from then-Secretary of State Jerry Brown, who highlighted the hefty special-interest donations to defeat the measure, Proposition 20 was approved by 55 percent of state voters.

It was the first law of its kind in the nation and it brought plans for subdivisions on dozens of sprawling coastal properties "to a grinding halt," said the late Peter Douglas, who served as chairman of the Coastal Commission for 25 years. The commission ultimately cut the number of Sea Ranch lots by more than half and mandated multiple public access points.

Reilly, who served on the Coastal Commission for 12 years ending in 2009, said it was the "world's largest planning commission" with jurisdiction "over the most expensive dirt on Earth." Absent that control, the Sonoma Coast "would look like Malibu," he said, lined with subdivisions from Jenner to Bodega Bay.

Kevin Starr, California's state librarian emeritus, said Kortum's success in protecting the coast was "an astonishing achievement."

At a 1996 meeting in Mendocino, Kortum told an audience why he fought so hard for coastal access. "Every community needs a commons," he said. "Without being able to share the coast, the only commons we have in California is the freeways."

Born on July 22, 1927, and raised at the edge of Petaluma, William M. Kortum and his siblings, including his brother, Karl, and sister, Maxine, grew up roaming the land, though they were warned by their father that such freedom would eventually disappear.

As a student in Petaluma High School's agriculture program, Kortum built his own tractor and a small milking barn, both of which remain at his Ely Road home, one he helped design and build, and where he tended an expansive vegetable and flower garden and made his own wine.

Kortum left high school during his senior year to serve in the Merchant Marines at the end of World War II. He attended Santa Rosa Junior College and graduated from veterinary school at UC Davis in 1953.

Kortum married Lucy Deam the same year. The couple had been introduced the previous summer on the family ranch by Kortum's brother and his wife, Jean, a friend of Lucy's. Their first dates consisted of ranch chores, including fence painting, Lucy Kortum recalled.

The couple raised their three children at the Ely Road home next to the family ranch.

After veterinary school, Kortum was drafted into the Army and assigned to the veterinary corps, stationed out of Oakland.

He returned to Sonoma County and started Cotati Veterinary Hospital in 1956.

Kortum joined the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee in 1957, and in the early 1960s, as president of the Cotati Chamber of Commerce, spearheaded Cotati's incorporation as a city and the campaign to secure a site along Petaluma Hill Road for Sonoma State College, which opened in 1961 and later became Sonoma State University.

His personal entry into politics in 1970 — the same year Earth Day was first celebrated — sprang directly from his environmental leanings, but he did not fare as well on the campaign trail or in office as he did in advocacy. Kortum lost that year by 46,000 votes to incumbent Republican Congressman Don Clausen, who held the North Coast seat for 20 years until 1982.

At the time, Sonoma County's population had surpassed 200,000, twice what it had been in 1950, and it would double again by the early 1990s. Urban growth during those postwar boom years was considered a sign of economic health and local government was dominated by business leaders and agriculture and development interests.

"I was fighting to preserve our environment when politicians weren't even aware that a problem existed," Kortum said in 2010.

In 1974, he challenged and beat conservative south county Supervisor Phil Joerger, a supporter of the Warm Springs Dam project that created Lake Sonoma. The reservoir west of Healdsburg would hold enough water to sustain the "growth of 600,000 more people," Kortum said at the time, voicing concerns about what he saw as unsustainable development.

He joined a Board of Supervisors with fellow environmentalist Chuck Hinkle, who two years earlier had upset Santa Rosa Mayor Jerry Poznanovich to win the central county supervisor's seat. Hinkle was a blunt and confrontational politician who riled critics, and having two green-minded members on the board rattled the business establishment to its core. Just nine months after the election, the Sonoma County Taxpayers' Association board voted 22-0 to seek the recall of Hinkle and Kortum.

The recall succeeded in June 1976, ending Kortum's 18-month term in office. He and Hinkle were replaced by more conservative politicians, both of whom lost in the general election, paving the way in 1977 for the board's first environmental majority — Helen Rudee, Brian Kahn and Eric Koenigshofer — and marking a historic shift in county politics.

Kortum took his recall in stride, Leveque said. "He still held his head high and worked for things that were dear to him," he said.

His subsequent campaigns — for growth boundaries around cities, open space protection and strong land-use planning — were among the most influential factors shaping the look of the county's landscape today, forestalling county projections that once envisioned the area as home to up to 1.5 million people by the end of this decade. About 490,000 people now reside in Sonoma County.

"I used to tease Bill years ago," said Koenigshofer, the former county supervisor. "Bill, why don't you just declare victory? You won."

Former Santa Rosa City Manager Ken Blackman, who sometimes found himself politically aligned against Kortum, praised the activist's dedication, depth of knowledge and professionalism.

"When he got up at meetings ... he spoke from a knowledgeable standpoint versus making accusations that were completely unfounded," Blackman said. "I don't believe the business community types of that day felt that Bill would manufacture facts to support his view, and this is what gave him credibility."

"I've never heard a harsh word about Bill Kortum," Blackman said. "His tenacity got to be a pain in the neck, at times, but it was not a mean-spirited tenacity."

In addition to his wife, Lucy, he is survived by daughter Julie Groves of Los Gatos; sons Frank Kortum of Glendale and Sam Kortum of New Haven, Conn.; and five grandchildren.

In recent years he campaigned for completion of the Sonoma-Marin commuter rail line and the California Coastal Trail, as well as for public access to Petaluma's Lafferty Ranch.

As close friends visited in recent weeks, some promising to bring food, Kortum had one last entreaty, according to Groves, his daughter. "He said, 'Skip the soup. Get Lafferty open.'"

He remained modest about his achievements and ever-aware of the fights he lost. "I win only 30 percent of them," he said in the oral history interview.

He ultimately credited the county's demographic transition over his lifetime, including an influx of more liberal voters, with the new outlook favoring a lighter hand on the environment.

"They came here many times because of its beauty, its attributes, and they saw the old-timers not realizing what a jewel they had," he said.

A memorial is planned for early next year. Donations may be made to Sonoma County Conservation Action, Coastwalk California or Lafferty Donations Room to Roam, attention Lafferty Park.

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Myths about coho and Marin County's watersheds

By Russell Chatham 12/24/2014

Well, son of a bitch and shiver me timbers. A report from one Eric Ettlinger, an "aquatic ecologist" with the Marin Municipal Water District, reports the sighting of 117 silver salmon (which in the last couple of decades have come to be identified as coho, the term given by the natives of southern British Columbia), 74 chinook and two chum salmon in the Lagunitas Creek watershed. With respect to these latter species, did Houdini come back from the grave, or can we thank California's uninformed and famously irresponsible Department of Fish and Wildlife?

To my knowledge, there are no native chum anywhere in California, or in Oregon, for that matter. In fact, I can't think of a sighting south of Washington State. In the same vein, chinook, also called king salmon, are not native to any coastal stream in California south of the Eel River, which enters the sea at Arcata. Yet here in West Marin, we have a report of a male chum trying to spawn with a female chinook while driving off rivals, finally biting and wounding her. Further, "These species can't hybridize, so hopefully the female chinook survived the encounter and eventually spawned with her own kind. Male coho have also been seen attempting to spawn with female chinook, maybe because these extra large females are simply irresistible." I'm pretty sure Walt Disney is dead, but wow, I'd like to know where she buys her makeup.

If, in fact, there are non-native salmon in Marin County's largest watershed, someone or some agency illegally put them there and should be prosecuted for a serious environmental crime.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has historically never given one long hoot about the silver salmon. They did not bother to collect reliable data, and never assembled one single meaningful statistic. They did not know, nor did they care to know, the size of the runs in rivers such as the San Lorenzo, Russian, Gualala, Garcia, Noyo, Albion, Navarro, Big, Mattole, Eel and Klamath, or in any of the creeks like the Waddell, Pescadero, Redwood, Bolinas, Papermill, Salmon, Alder and so on. I tried to construct a rough count a few years ago of the total silvers in California, but it was too complicated and too big. Fish and Wildlife has said it was 150,000. I gave up at 2 million, and that's just what I knew about.

The contention often made in recent years that the largest remaining population of silver salmon (that would be 117 fish at this writing) is in Lagunitas Creek is a complete fiction. At this point there is no person or entity that knows the truth. Along with the Coast Guard and other federal and state agencies, Fish and Wildlife turned a deaf ear to the complaints of commercial fishermen and ordinary citizens in the early 1980s about the piracy going on by foreign factory ships to within a mile of the coast under the cover of darkness. Residents of small communities like Point Arena, Mendocino and Fort Bragg reported being awakened by the throbbing of engines and looked out to see what looked like a town floating close to shore. As a result, the silver salmon, which live at the surface and travel in schools, were easily scooped up en masse during these protein sweeps; within only two or three years, the silvers were reduced to the brink of extinction simultaneously in every single stream in California, and southern Oregon as well. It would be bad enough if those fish were caught to feed people, but they were not. Instead, along with every other living thing the vast nets entrapped, they were processed into food for the fast-growing fish farming business.

So now, in some kind of twisted public relations ploy, Fish and Wildlife is planting silvers in Dry Creek on the Russian River near Healdsburg, where they were never present historically, and covertly in Walker Creek near Tomales, the single stream on the entire northern California coast that never supported a run in recorded history.

And for those who believe what they read in newspapers, there is no such thing as San Geronimo Creek, at least not until about 20 years ago, when it became the focus for the inane and shameless controversy that has been played out there. The branch from Shafter's up through Lagunitas, Forest Knolls, San Geronimo and finally Woodacre was always called Lagunitas Creek. Woodacre residents called the top end of it Woodacre Creek. In the days before the war, when Lagunitas was mostly summer homes, some called it Lagunitas all the way to Point Reyes Station. However, the main fork now blocked by Carson Dam was the site of a paper mill, and to most people the main stem was Papermill Creek. On the Green Bridge it's stenciled as Lagunitas Creek. The official signs went missing at about the same time unofficial signs were erected in Lagunitas where that creek flows under Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, declaring it to be San Geronimo Creek. Now who would have done such a thing, and why?

Clearly, you long-suffering, beleaguered residents of the San Geronimo Valley don't know that your little trickle never was and is not critical habitat for the silver salmon as has been claimed. In fact, it is one of the least important in the Lagunitas, Papermill, Nicasio and Olema watersheds. Steelhead, on the other hand, are a different story. Woodacre is an important spawning area for them. But of the perhaps 50,000 fish in the historic silver run, I can promise you not more than 300 used the beautifully designed Roy's fish ladder before it was senselessly destroyed as part of a despicable public relations scam. Lagunitas Creek always was in good shape, and as far as I can tell, still is. Either way, it had nothing whatsoever to do with the disappearance of the salmon, and no so-called improvements to it are going to assist in bringing them back.

My father brought me to Lagunitas Creek as a child on weekends right after the war ended in 1946. We swam, fished and netted crawfish by the bucketful in Samuel P. Taylor Park. In 1949 we moved to San Anselmo. I was obsessed with fish and fishing, and if anyone should be interested, I can take them by the hand and walk them to every single place in Marin County where steelhead and silver salmon spawned; a significant part of this area now lies at the bottom of Kent and Nicasio Lakes.

Some silvers, and steelhead too, spawned as low in the Papermill system as a mile upstream from Point Reyes Station. The bulk of the silvers, however, used the main creek from the mouth of Nicasio Creek, through the park, and on up past Carson Dam clear to the base of Alpine Dam. One of the most tragic sights I ever beheld was the year after Nicasio Dam blocked that critical watershed. An uncountable number of silvers, between 10,000 and 15,000, crowded into the mile from the gravel company to the base of the dam. They were so thick that many were forced out onto the banks, where they died without spawning.

When it was announced recently that the silver run in Redwood Creek was feared to be extinct, some spokesman for Fish and Wildlife assured us it was due to "environmental degradation." In Muir Woods? Really? The 3,000 salmon that used to run in that creek vanished at exactly the same time as the mega millions of others. Unfortunately, all silver salmon populations are now so drastically below critical mass that they can never be brought back unless we put in place an effective oceanic police force to protect the United States' territorial waters, and then spend billions of dollars over the coming 50 years to bring them back, rivulet by rivulet.

One last thing before I sign off on this rant. I would like to ask, or challenge if need be, reporters, whether they are local, state or national, to please honor the code under which they are supposed to be working: investigate, then check your facts.

From 1950 until their sudden disappearance in the early 1980s, Russell Chatham caught and released several thousand silver salmon in Marin County alone. He has fished every country in the world where all salmon and sea trout run, and in 1966 he caught the world record striped bass on a fly in San Francisco Bay. He is the author of several books about fly fishing, including "The Angler's Coast," considered the definitive work about northern California.

Editor's note

We were at first skeptical about a number of the points Russell Chatham raises on the opposing page. We know he has logged more hours on Marin waterways over the last several decades than almost anyone, that he is a keen observer (look at his paintings) and devoted to understanding fish (look at his books). He's spent a lifetime seeking out information from other fishermen and digging into historical accounts. But we did take his advice and, in the time permitted for this week's edition, we ran his reflections past a couple people we felt would have another valid perspective on the history of salmon in our watersheds.

We talked to Manfred Kittel, the coho recovery coordinator for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sure enough, one of Russ's fundamental points checked out: the agency doesn't have much data. When it comes to the historical population of the state's coho salmon, they only have a wild guess. (Wildly lower than Russ's own estimate.) According to Mr. Kittel, there are numerous monitoring projects now taking place statewide, funded by grants from Fish and Wildlife. The one overseen by Marin Municipal Water District is the oldest continuous program. But, he said, there are innumerable areas where no data is being collected. (The intensive monitoring in Lagunitas Creek made us wonder whether that monitoring itself has exaggerated the relative importance given to Marin's coho habitat.) Russ also says the oft-made claim that Lagunitas Creek supports the largest remaining population of coho is pure fiction; Mr. Kittel told us that's indeed the general belief about central California. The Eel River, further north, has a much larger run. It's a much larger watershed.

Rewinding to the start of Russ's column: It's true that neither chum nor Chinook are native to Marin's watersheds, though Chinook began appearing as far south as Sacramento decades ago, Mr. Kittel said. Whether the presence of these species in Lagunitas Creek indicates that someone dropped them there is debatable: a small amount of straying, the phenomenon by which an anadromous fish returns to a different stream to spawn than the one in which it was born, is a "normal part of a healthy population." But the 74 chinook seen in Lagunitas recently do seem like a large number to have strayed.

The two disagree on the importance of San Geronimo Creek: Russ claims this was never an important area for coho spawning, and he told us he's walked it a hundred times. Mr. Kittel called it a significant sub-watershed through which coho may pass on their journey to spawn.

This point is important because of the ongoing debate over development in the San Geronimo Valley, so we also reached out to Greg Andrew, Marin Municipal Water District's fishery program manager. Mr. Andrew called San Geronimo Creek "extremely important" for spawning coho, and said in some years the majority of the Lagunitas Creek run spawns there. It also serves as a rearing ground for young coho—and steelhead trout—in summer months.

Russ claims Fish and Wildlife is "covertly" planting coho in Walker Creek. It's true, they are—but it doesn't seem too covert. Mr. Kittel said releases started in 2004 and occur with the participation of Marin Municipal Water District, occasionally with landowners and even with the involvement of kids at Walker Creek Ranch, where the releases take place. ("We don't write newspaper articles when we plant coho," he quipped.) We think Russ's contention that Walker Creek never did support a coho run may very well be true; he has not

found a single account of a coho there, despite offering “huge rewards to historical societies” for evidence. Mr. Andrew cited anecdotal evidence of a population; when pressed for details he mentioned one nearby rancher's story of seeing fish in the creek so thick you could walk on them, and he sent a chronology that said in the 1930s one could drive a horse and buggy across the creek during spawning season. According to Mr. Kittel, despite the years of planting, there are still no fish to speak of in Walker Creek.

We value what folks who spend their lives on streams and rivers have to say; as a fisherman, Russ cares as much about the survival of salmon as does someone from an advocacy group. He's not beholden to a political agenda, he's not trying to acquire funding or influence policy. Still, we gather that there is a more unknown than is known about the history of salmon and the causes of their decline. As we've felt for years about the Bolinas fishing fleet, which is facing giant financial hurdles with increasing marine restrictions, we wish the people making the rules would spend a lot more time picking the brains of the people on the ground—or on the water—before making grand conclusions. And maybe some of you who are interested in the survival of salmon, that mystical fish, should take Russ up on his offer, and get a hand-held tour of Marin.