



NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT

NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING
 February 7, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Virtual Meeting
 Novato, California

Information about and copies of supporting materials on agenda items are available for public review at the District Office, at the Reception Desk, by calling the District Secretary at (415) 897-4133 or on our website at nmwd.com. A fee may be charged for copies. District facilities and meetings comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the District Secretary as soon as possible, but at least two days prior to the meeting.

ATTENTION: This will be a virtual meeting of the Board of Directors pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 issued by the Governor of the State of California.

There will not be a public location for participating in this meeting, but any interested member of the public can participate telephonically by utilizing the dial-in information printed on this agenda.

Video Zoom Method

CLICK ON LINK BELOW:

Go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191971947> OR

Password: 466521

SIGN IN TO ZOOM:

Meeting ID: 821 9197 1947

Password: 466521

Call in Method:

Dial: +1 669 900 9128
 +1 253 215 8782
 +1 346 248 7799
 +1 301 715 8592
 +1 312 626 6799
 +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 821 9197 1947#

Participant ID: #

Password: 466521#

For clarity of discussion, the Public is requested to MUTE except:

1. During Open Time for public expression item.
2. Public comment period on agenda items.

Please note: In the event of technical difficulties during the meeting, the District Secretary will adjourn the meeting and the remainder of the agenda will be rescheduled for a future special meeting which shall be open to the public and noticed pursuant to the Brown Act.

Est. Time	Item	Subject
6:00 p.m.		CALL TO ORDER
	1.	APPROVE MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING , January 17, 2023
	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: Re-Authorizing Meetings by Teleconference of Legislative Bodies of North Marin Water District Resolution 23-xx
		ACTION CALENDAR
		INFORMATION ITEMS
	6.	Potter Valley Project Update
	7.	Old Ranch Road Tank No. 2 Project – Final Project Update
	8.	FY 2022/23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Water Quality
	9.	FY 2022/23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Operations/Maintenance
	10.	FY 2022/23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Engineering
	11.	FY 2022/23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Water Conservation
	12.	NMWD Administration and Laboratory Upgrade Project Update
	13.	NBWA Meeting – February 3, 2023
	14.	MISCELLANEOUS Disbursements – Dated January 19, 2023 Disbursements – Dated January 26, 2023 Disbursements – Dated February 2, 2023 Information - FY23 2 ND Quarter Labor Cost Report NOAA Three-Month Outlook Precipitation Probability- January 19, 2023 U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook January 19, 2023 <u>News Articles:</u> Marin IJ – Is Drought Over? – MARIN'S WET WINTER Marin IJ – Inside California's wild weather from the sky – ABOVE THE PACIFIC Marin IJ – Retired civil engineer joins sewer board – IN YOUR TOWN Marin IJ – Plan allows thousands of homes - MARIN COUNTY Pt. Reyes Light – North Marin Water Appoints Coastal Director
7:30 p.m.	15.	ADJOURNMENT

All times are approximate and for reference only.

The Board of Directors may consider an item at a different time than set forth herein.

1

1 DRAFT
2 NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
3 MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
4 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
5 January 17, 2023

6 **CALL TO ORDER**

7 President Fraites announced that due to the Coronavirus outbreak and pursuant to the
8 Brown Act as modified by Assembly Bill 361, this was a virtual meeting. President Fraites called the
9 regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 6:04 p.m. and the
10 agenda was accepted as presented. President Fraites added that there was not a public location for
11 participating in this meeting, but any interested members of the public could participate remotely by
12 utilizing the video or phone conference dial-in method using information printed on the agenda.
13 President Fraites announced that in the event of technical difficulties during the meeting, the District
14 Secretary will adjourn the meeting and the remainder of the agenda will be rescheduled for a future
15 special meeting which shall be open to the public and noticed pursuant to the Brown Act.

16 President Fraites welcomed the public to participate in the remote meeting and asked that
17 they mute themselves, except during open time and while making comments on the agenda items.
18 President Fraites noted that that due to the virtual nature of the meeting he will request a roll call of
19 the Directors. A roll call was done, those in remote attendance established a quorum. Participating
20 remotely were Directors Jack Baker, Rick Fraites, Michael Joly and Stephen Petterle. Director Ken
21 Eichstaedt was absent.

22 President Fraites announced that all public attendees will be invited to speak and will need to
23 use the raised hand icon in Zoom or dial *9 to be called upon.

24 Mr. Williams performed a roll call of staff, participating remotely were; Tony Williams
25 (General Manager), Terrie Kehoe (Retiring District Secretary), Eileen Mulliner (Incoming District
26 Secretary), Eric Miller (Assistant GM/Chief Engineer), Julie Blue (Auditor Controller), Chris Kehoe
27 (Interim Construction/Maintenance Superintendent), and Rebecca Sylvester (Receptionist/Customer
28 Service Assistant).

29 President Fraites requested that for those joining the virtual meeting from the public to
30 identify themselves and there was no response.

31 President Fraites called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water
32 District to order at 6:04 p.m. at the District Headquarters and the agenda was accepted as
33 presented.

1 **MINUTES**

2 On motion of Director Joly seconded by Director Baker the Board approved the minutes from
3 the December 20, 2022 meeting as presented by the following vote:

4 AYES: Director(s) Baker, Fraitess, Joly and Petterle

5 NOES: None

6 ABSENT: Director Eichstaedt

7 ABSTAIN: None

8 On motion of Director Petterle seconded by Director Joly the Board approved the minutes
9 from the January 11, 2023 special meeting as presented by the following vote:

10 AYES: Director(s) Baker, Fraitess, Joly and Petterle

11 NOES: None

12 ABSENT: Director Eichstaedt

13 ABSTAIN: None

14 **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

15 During the General Manager's report, Mr. Williams apprised the Board that he had a meeting
16 on January 5, 2023 with Senator Mike McGuire to present some funding issues. Mr. Williams
17 wanted the Senator to be aware of how effective the Department of Water Resources' grant that the
18 District received, as well as an amendment to that grant for our Gallagher Well No. 2 project, which
19 is for our West Marin system and that we look forward to those types of grants for "small
20 communities" moving forward even outside of the drought scenario. Mr. Williams also mentioned
21 that Stafford Dam is in good shape and typically dam funding programs go towards dams that are
22 not in good shape, so Mr. Williams asked in the future if DWR could set aside funds for dam safety
23 for good dams that could be even better with technology, and finally, since the Senator was from
24 Sonoma County and was on the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, Mr. Williams mentioned that
25 any funding the State could provide through his abilities to SCWA indirectly benefits the District.

26 Mr. Williams additionally stated that the regional reservoir levels are high, including Stafford
27 Lake. Stafford began spilling on January 9, 2023 for the first time since 2019 and is currently spilling
28 due to residual runoff. Lake Mendocino reached water supply pool, which is approximately 80,000
29 acre-feet (af) on January 11 but is now approx. 90,000 af and is actually undergoing some releases
30 so the Army Corps of Engineers can manage the flood control of that storage. Lake Sonoma has
31 gone from 98,000 af just after Christmas to over 229,000 af as of January 17, which is about 92%

1 supply. In comparing Lake Sonoma to Stafford, while it was raining, the average increase of volume
2 in Lake Sonoma was equal to two Stafford Lakes worth of volume. Marin Municipal Water District
3 has reported that their Kent Lake rain gage hit the 28-inch threshold before April 1, 2023, which
4 determines if it is a dry year or normal year for Lagunitas Creek watershed. As of Jan 13, it had
5 exceeded 28 inches at Kent Lake so we will officially be in a normal year in the spring which dictates
6 how we deal with our customers from a water conservation standpoint and how MMWD manages
7 the dam as far as flows in Lagunitas Creek.

8 Director Petterle asked if we could possibly cut back on some of the customer drought
9 controls. Mr. Williams responded that we will be looking at which restrictions that be adjusted in the
10 future.

11 Director Joly inquired about Lake Sonoma, he mentioned that 245,000 af is the supply pool,
12 the lake's capacity is more than that. He asked how long that can supply us for and what kind of
13 storage does it afford the District. Mr. Williams responded that the volume above the supply pool is
14 maintained for flood control. He stated that Lake Sonoma likely provides several years of storage
15 for the water contractors but he wasn't able to answer that question exactly at this point in time.

16 **OPEN TIME**

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

19 **STAFF/DIRECTORS REPORTS**

20 President Fraitess asked if staff or Directors wished to bring up an item not on the agenda
21 and the following items were discussed:

22 Ms. Kehoe stated to the Board that after the approval of the Consent calendar, Eileen
23 Mulliner would be taking over the meeting as the newly appointed District Secretary.

24 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

25 On the motion of Director Petterle and seconded by Director Joly the Board approved the
26 following items on the consent calendar by the following vote:

27 AYES: Director(s) Baker, Fraitess, Joly and Petterle

28 NOES: None

29 ABSENT: Director Eichstaedt

30 ABSTAIN: None

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1 **RE-AUTHORIZING MEETINGS BY TELECONFERENCE OF LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF NORTH**
2 **MARIN WATER**

3 The Board approved Re-Authorizing Meetings by Teleconference of Legislative Bodies of
4 North Marin Water District. Resolution 23-01 will extend the continuation of teleconference
5 meetings effective January 17, 2023 through February 16, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

6 **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DISTRICT SECRETARY APPOINTMENT**

7 After the interview process to fill the Executive Assistant/District Secretary vacancy created
8 by Terrie Kehoe's retirement, the Board directed the General Manager to make an offer to the top
9 ranked candidate, Eileen Mulliner. An offer was made and accepted on December 9, 2022 with a
10 tentative start date effective January 1, 2023 to allow time to learn and transition the duties and
11 responsibilities of the position from Terrie Kehoe. It is now time to officially appoint Eileen Mulliner
12 as the Executive Assistant/District Secretary effective January 17, 2023.

13 The Board approved the appointment of Eileen Mulliner to the Executive Assistant / District
14 Secretary position.

15 **ACTION CALENDAR**

16 **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR STEVE RUPP**

17 Steve Rupp retired on December 30, 2022 after 30 years of employment with the North
18 Marin Water District. The Resolution of Appreciation conveys appreciation for Steve's many years of
19 dedicated service to the District.

20 President Fraites read Mr. Rupp's Resolution of Appreciation.

21 On the motion of Director Joly and seconded by Director Baker, the Board approved the
22 Resolution of Appreciation for Steve Rupp by the following vote:

23 AYES: Director(s) Baker, Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly and Petterle

24 NOES: None

25 ABSENT: Director Eichstaedt

26 ABSTAIN: None

27 **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR TERRIE KEHOE**

28 Terrie Kehoe is retiring on February 3, 2023 after over 35 years of employment with the
29 North Marin Water District. Terrie has served in multiple positions culminating with the appointment
30 by the Board as District Secretary in 2018. Terrie has carefully coordinated and prepared the
31 agendas for, participated in, and prepared minutes for over 130 Board meetings since becoming

1 District Secretary, and the January 17, 2023 meeting likely represents her last one. It is appropriate
2 to convey appreciation for Terrie’s service to the District and adopt the Resolution of Appreciation.

3 President Fraites read Ms. Kehoe’s Resolution of Appreciation.

4 The Board expressed their thanks to Terrie for all her hard work and how much they
5 appreciated her help with all their requests and that they enjoyed her sense of humor and wished
6 her a very happy retirement. Mr. Williams stated that she attended 130 Board meetings during her
7 time as District Secretary. He said how helpful she has been and that she is such a pleasure to
8 work with and that he is going to really miss her.

9 Ms. Kehoe thanked the Board for their kind words, thanked staff and the Board for all the
10 opportunities given to her over the years and expressed to the Board how much she enjoyed
11 working at the District and that she will greatly miss everyone but is looking forward to the next
12 chapter in her life.

13 On the motion of Director Petterle and seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved the
14 Resolution of Appreciation for Terrie Kehoe by the following vote:

15 AYES: Director(s) Baker, Fraites, Joly and Petterle

16 NOES: None

17 ABSENT: Director Eichstaedt

18 ABSTAIN: None

19 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

20 **ITEM PULLED OLD RANCH ROAD TANK NO. 2 PROJECT – FINAL PROJECT UPDATE**

21 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING FORMAT UPDATE**

22 Mr. Williams informed the Board that the District is approaching the end of virtual meetings
23 as all indication are that Governor Newsom will most likely lift the emergency order by the end of
24 February. The two upcoming February Board meetings will be virtual but we will be transitioning to
25 in-person meeting commencing with the first Board meeting in March, 2023. We can do hybrid
26 meetings, with the public attending virtually, but that can be discussed at a later date. Mr. Williams
27 also brought up the concept of an earlier start time for the Board meetings as previously mentioned
28 in December, but that can be brought to a future meeting to change.

29 Director Baker stated that he was looking at the proposed seating arrangement and asked if
30 we were trying to stay 6 feet apart, and said that he would prefer to have the Directors stay in a line
31 as they were in the past, when we were holding meetings in-person. Mr. Williams stated that we

1 could do the same set up as before, however Director Petterle asked if we could use a modified half
2 circle set up and Mr. Williams responded that this was possible. Director Petterle stated that
3 although he doesn't think they need to have 6 feet between each of them, that he would like more
4 distance between each of them than they did when last meeting was in person.

5 Director Joly asked if the Board was having less meetings during the year and Mr. Williams
6 responded that we are having the same number of meetings as in prior years however a couple of
7 the meetings are listed as tentative.

8 President Fraites stated that the first meeting in March will be in person. He also stated that
9 he is in agreement with a meeting start date for 4:00 pm as well.

10 **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 5, 2022**

11 Mr. Williams provided the draft minutes for the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting held
12 on December 5, 2022. He noted that regarding the Potter Valley project, the minutes mention a
13 special Water Advisory Committee (WAC) that Director Baker is a member of, and that a WAC
14 sponsored letter was sent to the Regulatory Committee regarding PGE's surrender. Mr. Williams
15 stated that he will bring more information actions the agency is taking in the future.

16 Director Baker asked if the General Manager could give an update at a future meeting, lake
17 by lake, in regards to lakes that benefit the District.

18 **MISCELLANEOUS**

19 The Board received the following miscellaneous items: Disbursements - Dated December
20 22, December 29, 2022, January 5, and January 12, 2023, Proof of Publication, and Notice of
21 Salinity Intrusion 12/22/22, Monthly Progress Report, U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook – Consistency
22 adjustment based on Monthly Drought Outlook for January 2023, Increase in Director's
23 Compensation, Annual Report on Board Compensation, Marin IJ – Willard H. Stanfield (Stan) –
24 Obituary.

25 The Board also received the following news articles: Revamped water board looks at supply
26 options – MARIN MUNICIPAL, Marin's housing mandate muddle – MAJOR RESERVATIONS, A
27 look back at notable local residents who died in 2022 – MARIN MEMORIAM, Increase in COVID
28 reported in Marin – HEALTH OFFICIALS, – West Marin – Water district to hold event on well project
29 – IN YOUR TOWN, Storms boost reservoir supply to near capacity – MARIN COUNTY, Emergency
30 declared for Marin over storms – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, NOAA: Ian, drought supercharged
31 US weather extremes in 2022 – CLIMATE.

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MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors February 7, 2023
 From: Tony Williams, General Manager *ABW*
 Subject: Re-Authorizing – Meetings by Teleconference of Legislative Bodies of North Marin Water District
(:\gm\bod misc 2023\board of directors meetings by teleconference 2.7.23 final.doc

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution No. 23-XX: "Resolution Finding Proclaimed State of Emergency, That Local Officials Continue to Recommend Physical Distancing, and that Meeting in Person Would Present Imminent Risks to the Health or Safety of Attendees; and Re-Authorizing Meetings by Teleconference of Legislative Bodies of North Marin Water District from February 17, 2023 through February 28, 2023 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions".

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

As authorized by the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, Board meetings have been held virtually since March 17, 2020 to protect attendees, including members of public, District employees, and Board members, from potential exposure to the novel coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19"). On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21 which rescinded these temporary modifications to the Brown Act, effective September 30, 2021. On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed Assembly Bill 361 (2021) ("AB 361") amending the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to continue to conduct meetings virtually under specified conditions and pursuant to special rules on notice, attendance, and other matters. AB 361 took full effect on October 1, 2021.

AB 361 authorizes the Board of Directors to meet virtually during declared states of emergency without noticing the location of individual Board Members or requiring such locations to be open to the public if certain findings are made and certain procedures are followed. Where a virtual meeting is held pursuant to AB 361, the members of the public must be able to observe and participate during the meeting.

The Governor's March 4, 2021 declaration of a State of Emergency remains in effect. On December 15, 2021, the State reinstated a universal masking requirement for all individuals while indoors to help combat the surge in COVID-19 cases due to the Omicron variant. On December 30, 2021, Marin County Health and Human Services issued new guidance changing the local rules on masking to align with the State mandate. On February 7, 2022, the State issued a new health order,

Approved by GM *ABW*
 Date *2/3/2023*

effective February 16, 2022, which limits indoor masking requirements to specified indoor settings and unvaccinated individuals. However, both the State and Marin County Health and Human Services continue to recommend wearing masks while indoors. CDC, OSHA, and Cal/OSHA continue to recommend mask wearing and physical distancing of at least six feet while indoors to protect against transmission of COVID-19. Therefore, the current circumstances support a determination by the Board that meeting in person would continue to present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees.

On October 5, 2021, the Board adopted Resolution 21-22, thereby finding a proclaimed state of emergency, that local officials continue to recommend physical distancing, and that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and authorizing meetings by teleconference of legislative bodies of North Marin Water District from October 5, 2021 through November 4, 2021 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

On November 2, 2021, November 16, 2021, December 7, December 21, 2021, January 18, 2022, February 15, 2022, March 15, 2022, April 5, 2022, May 3, 2022, May 17, 2022, June 7, 2022, June 21, 2022, July 19, 2022, August 16, 2022, September 6, 2022, October 4, 2022, November 1, 2022, November 15, 2022, December 6, 2022, December 20, 2022 and January 7, 2023, the Board adopted Resolutions 21-26, -27, -28, -30, 22-01, -04, -05, -06, -12, -15, -17, -20, -24, -26, -27, -28, -29, -30, -32, -34, and 23-01, respectively, thereby finding a proclaimed state of emergency, that local officials continue to recommend physical distancing, and that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and re-authorizing meetings by teleconference of legislative bodies of North Marin Water District for 12 days pursuant to the Brown Act provisions.

If adopted, Resolution No. 23-XX will allow the Board to continue to meet virtually for another Board meeting in February, after which the Board will need to meet in person.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolution No. 23-XX: "Resolution Finding Proclaimed State of Emergency, That Local Officials Continue to Recommend Physical Distancing, and that Meeting in Person Would Present Imminent Risks to the Health or Safety of Attendees; and Re-Authorizing Meetings by Teleconference of Legislative Bodies of North Marin Water District from February 17, 2023 through February 28, 2023 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions".

RESOLUTION NO. 23-XX

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
FINDING PROCLAIMED STATE OF EMERGENCY, THAT LOCAL OFFICIALS
CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND PHYSICAL DISTANCING, AND THAT MEETING IN
PERSON WOULD PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF
ATTENDEES; AND RE-AUTHORIZING MEETINGS BY TELECONFERENCE OF
LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT FROM FEBRUARY 17,
2023 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2023 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS**

WHEREAS, all meetings of the legislative bodies of the North Marin Water District (“District”) are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”), Government Code Section 54950, *et seq.*, and any member of the public may observe, attend, and participate in the business of such legislative bodies; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency as a result of the rapid spread of the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin ratified proclamations of health and local emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the City Council of the City of Novato ratified and confirmed a proclamation of local emergency due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Brown Act in order to allow local legislative bodies to conduct meetings telephonically or by other means, after which District staff implemented virtual meetings for all meetings of legislative bodies within the District; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which terminated the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 that allows local legislative bodies to conduct meetings telephonically or by other means effective September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (2021) (“AB 361”), which amended the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to continue to conduct meetings by teleconference under specified conditions and pursuant to special rules on notice, attendance, and other matters; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 took full effect on October 1, 2021, and makes provisions under Government Code section 54953(e) for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or, local officials have recommended, measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body must find that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2021, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 21-22, finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District (“District”) to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2021, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 21-26, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2021, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 21-27, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2021, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 21-28, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2021, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 21-30, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-01, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-04, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-05, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-06, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-12, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-15, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-17, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-20, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-24, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-26, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on September 6, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-27, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on October 4, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-28, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-29, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-30, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-32, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2022, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 22-34, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2023, the Board of Directors previously adopted Resolution No. 23-01, reaffirming the finding that the requisite conditions exist for the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District to continue to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of extending the use of the provisions found in section 54953 (e), the Board of Directors must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists in the District, and the Board of Directors has done so; and

WHEREAS, emergency conditions continue to persist in the District, specifically, the State of Emergency for the State of California declared by Governor Newsom as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC) recommends physical distancing of at least six feet from unvaccinated individuals while indoors; and

WHEREAS, “Protecting Workers: Guidance on Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace,” promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) under the United States Department of Labor, provides that “[m]aintaining physical distancing at the workplace for unvaccinated and at-risk workers is an important control to limit the spread of COVID-19” and recommends that employers train employees about the airborne nature of COVID-19 and importance of exercising multiple layers of safety measures, including physical distancing, and that employers implement “physical distancing in all communal work areas for unvaccinated and otherwise at-risk workers,” including physical distancing from members of the public, as a “key way to protect such workers”; and

WHEREAS, Title 8, Section 3205, subdivision (c)(5)(D) of the California Code of Regulations, promulgated by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health of the California Department of Industrial Relations (“Cal/OSHA”), requires employers to provide instruction to employees on using a combination of “physical distancing, face coverings, increased ventilation indoors, and respiratory protection” to decrease the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recognizes the recommendations by state and local officials to use physical distancing as a layer of protection against COVID-19 and desires to continue to provide a safe workplace for its employees and a safe environment for the open and public meetings of the District’s legislative bodies; and

WHEREAS, due to the continued threat of COVID-19, the District continues to implement multiple layers of protection against COVID-19, including physical distancing, for the safety of employees and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, while the District believes District work-related activities may be conducted safely in person through imposition of various safety protocols, Board meetings continue to present a unique challenge due to their being open to the public generally, with limited space in the boardroom, and no ability to verify vaccination status or to provide contact tracing for potentially exposed individual attendees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors hereby finds that the presence of COVID-19 and the increase of cases due to the Omicron variant has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of concern to the safety of certain persons within the District, including older and immunocompromised individuals that are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and, therefore, continues to present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, including members of the public and District employees, should meetings of the District's legislative bodies be held in person; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency persisting, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of North Marin Water District shall continue to conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall continue to comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, the District will continue to conduct meetings for all meetings of legislative bodies within the District virtually (i.e. through the use of Zoom, or similar virtual meeting provider) and/or telephonically, in conformance with requirements under the Brown Act.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the North Marin Water District as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct and hereby incorporated into this Resolution.
2. In compliance with the special teleconference rules of Section 54953 of the Government Code, as established by Assembly Bill 361 (2021), the Board of Directors hereby makes the following findings:
 - a. The Board of Directors has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and
 - b. The states of emergency, as declared by the Governor, continue to impact directly the ability of the District's legislative bodies, as well as staff and members of the public, to safely meet in person;
 - c. The CDC, and Cal/OSHA continue to recommend physical distancing of at least six feet to protect against transmission of COVID-19; and
 - d. Meeting in person would continue to present imminent risks to the health and safety of members of the public, members of the District's legislative bodies, and District employees due to the continued presence and threat of COVID-19.

3. The District's legislative bodies may continue to meet remotely from February 17, 2023 through February 28, 2023 in compliance with the special teleconference rules of Section 54953 of the Government Code, as amended by Assembly Bill 361 (2021), in order to protect the health and safety of the public.
4. The Board of Directors will review these findings and the need to conduct meetings by teleconference within thirty (30) days of adoption of this resolution.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 7th day of February 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

Eileen Mulliner,
District Secretary
North Marin Water District

6

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Board of Directors

February 7, 2023

From: Tony Williams, General Manager *AW*

Subj: Potter Valley Project Update

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept Potter Valley Project Update**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** None at this time**Background**

The Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project (Project), owned and operated by PG&E, is located along the Eel River and diverts water into the East Fork of the Russian River which flows into Lake Mendocino. Lake Mendocino, along with Lake Sonoma, are the two reservoirs that Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) controls and coordinates water supply releases in accordance with its water rights permits in the Russian River watershed. Sonoma Water is the "local sponsor" in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) which manages the flood protection function of the two reservoirs. The Project is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). In 2019, PG&E notified FERC that it would not relicense the Project. In February 2022, PG&E announced its plans to surrender the FERC license and decommission the Project. In July 2022, FERC accepted PG&E's proposed 30-month schedule to submit a license surrender application and decommissioning plan. The schedule has a January 2025 completion date at which point a decommissioning plan will be revealed.

The Project features include Lake Pillsbury, a 76,876 acre-feet storage reservoir impounded by Scott Dam; Van Arsdale Reservoir, a 700-acre feet storage reservoir impounded by the Cape Horn Diversion Dam which includes a fish ladder; and a tunnel and penstocks that divert Eel River water to the Project's powerhouse located in Potter Valley. From the powerhouse, the diverted water flows into the East Fork of the Russian River, where it continues into Lake Mendocino, just outside Ukiah. Releases from Lake Mendocino flow into the Upper Russian River and are highly regulated by the state. The Project currently diverts, on average, approximately 60,000 acre-feet of Eel River water into the Russian River per year. A map showing the Project and the Russian River watershed is provided as Attachment 1.

Sonoma Water, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, Humboldt County, California Trout, and the Round Valley Indian Tribes formed the Two Basin Partnership and subsequently executed a planning agreement to evaluate the feasibility of relicensing the

Project and pursuing a mutually beneficial project alternative. In 2020, the Two Basin Partnership developed a feasibility report that identified a preferred project alternative with estimated costs ranging from \$100M to \$400M for project modifications and relicensing cost estimates ranging from \$20M to \$30M. For a variety of reasons, the Two Basin Partnership determined it would not be able to raise the funding to complete the required studies while also meeting the required deadlines to submit a relicensing application. In September 2021, FERC denied a request by the Two Basin Partnership to extend the deadline to submit a relicensing application (April 2022), effectively ending the Two Basin Partnership's pursuit of relicensing the Project.

Sonoma Water's modeling forecasts that, if the current Project water diversions/transfers into Russian River cease, there will not be enough water supply to meet all the needs of businesses, cities, residents, and wildlife that depend on the Russian River in eight out of ten years. Additionally, in two out of these eight water-short years, there is predicted to be a 30,000 acre-feet shortage of water in the Russian River and that Lake Mendocino is predicted to go dry. These forecasts portend an uncertain future for Russian River water supplies given PG&E's plans for license surrender and decommissioning of the Project. One of the important outcomes/impacts of the planned PG&E surrender and decommissioning is that diversions would cease entirely.

The existing water supply from the Project is crucial to the economy and environment of the Russian River basin, including protection of threatened and endangered species of anadromous fish. Preliminary estimates suggest that the loss of Project water diverted into the Russian River could result in losses of up to \$40M per year to the economies of Mendocino and Sonoma County (It is not clear what the impact is on Marin County). It is important to note that even if current Project water transfers continue, additional water supply resiliency improvements are needed for the Russian River Basin.

Uncertainties related to the planned surrender and decommissioning process is directly concerning for those in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties that rely on the Russian River and the water flow from the Project. Additionally, there is general concern regarding the decommissioning and the impacts on the overall Sonoma Water managed water supply that the District relies on for approximately 80% of its needs (over 90% in dry years). Sonoma Water recently secured grant funding from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to initiate several studies that aim to accomplish the following:

- Investigate the acquisition of key components of the Project from PG&E and modify them to function as a water diversion-only facility, including estimating the cost of modifications to Project facilities and operations.

- Analyze and develop concepts for new projects necessary to improve water supply opportunities for Potter Valley specifically.
- Establish a Russian River Water Forum that aims to preserve the flow of water from the Project into the Russian River while also fostering collaboration to support water supply resiliency in the Russian River watershed.

The deliverables from these studies are critical to better understanding the potential future operating scenarios of the Project and the corresponding best options for securing water supplies in the future. Sonoma Water has retained the services of Kearns & West to establish and facilitate the Russian River Water Users Forum through an inclusive and transparent process. The primary focus of this Project update to the Board is the third item above, the Russian River Water Forum.

Russian River Water Forum

The District's Water Advisory Committee (WAC) member, Director Baker, and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) member, General Manager Tony Williams participated in an initial interview on October 17, 2022. The purpose of the interview was to provide input on the District's perspective on the future of the Project and its relationship to the District. The following input was provided during the interview:

- NMWD supports continued diversions of water from the Project into the Russian River to maintain water supply reliability and support the significant investments already made by Sonoma Water and the water contractors to restore endangered fish species in the Russian River.
- NMWD generally supports establishment of a Regional Entity to acquire elements of the Project and water rights necessary to continue such diversions.
- NMWD is receptive to continue to work with Sonoma Water when evaluating the merits of contributing funding to support continued diversions from the Project and a new Regional Entity as long as the funding is proportional to the benefit received by adding new water supply to Lake Sonoma.
- Ensure any decisions regarding the continued flow of water from the Project are consistent with the Restructured Agreement for Water Supply.

Other water contractors and regional stakeholders, who may become potential members of the Russian River Water Forum, also took part in the interviews. A total of 38 interviews with 73 individuals were conducted, including all of the water contractors that are dependent on

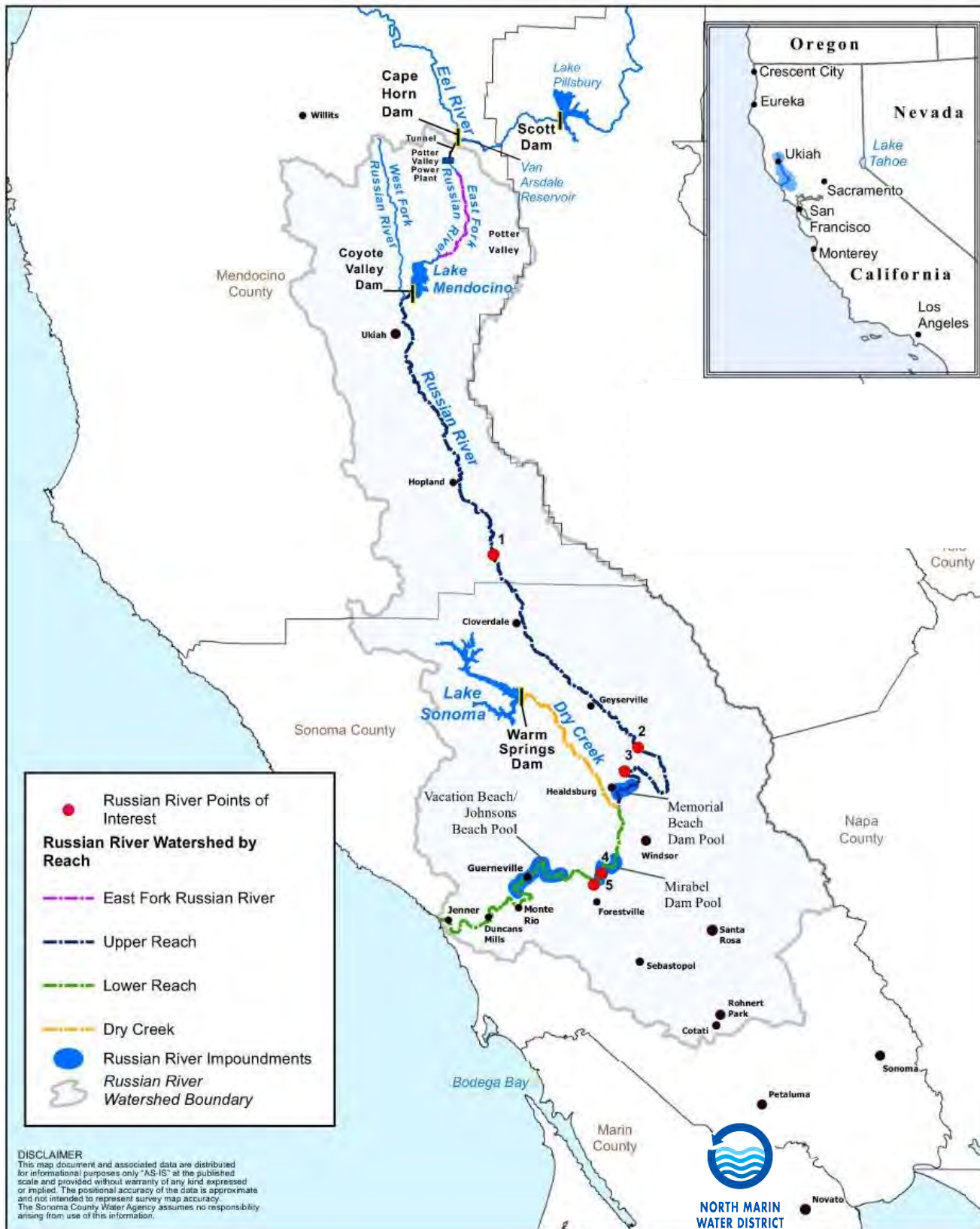
Russian River water supplied by Sonoma Water. A summary report prepared by Kearns & West, is provided as Attachment 2. The report indicates several overarching issues including that the interviewees understand the need for a forum and support moving forward with it. There is a recognition that the timeline is short, and a solution will need to be developed quickly. Financing of the needed work for continued Eel-Russian water diversions is contingent on the cost and reliability of the water and the availability and cost of alternative sources, as well as considerations of fairness for sharing the financial burdens. More details are provided in the report.

The General Manager will provide a brief presentation (Attachment 3) at the Board meeting regarding the topics discussed above.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Russian River Watershed and Potter Valley Project Map
2. Russian River Water Forum Summary of Interview Findings
3. Potter Valley Project Update Presentation

Russian River Watershed and Potter Valley Project



RUSSIAN RIVER WATER FORUM

Summary of Interview Findings

January 2023

Image credit: Erin Watt

Prepared by

KEARNS WEST

Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Budget Act of 2021 and through an agreement with the State Department of Water Resources.



ATTACHMENT 2

I. Background

This Summary of Interview Findings document presents overarching themes and key perspectives from interviews Kearns & West conducted with a broad cross-section of parties with an interest in Pacific Gas & Electric Company's Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project (PVP) and/or water supply or associated resources in the Russian River and Eel River basins.

For more than 100 years, the diversion of water from the Eel River to the Russian River via the PVP has provided an important source of water for the Russian River basin. PG&E plans to decommission the PVP, which could reduce or eliminate this water source. The Russian River Water Forum (Water Forum) is a new collaborative process initiated by Sonoma Water and a collection of regional partners with funding from a California Department of Water Resources grant. The Water Forum aims to preserve the flow of water from the Eel River via the PVP into the Russian River while also fostering collaboration to support water supply resiliency in the Russian River watershed.

Kearns & West has been engaged to help establish and facilitate the Water Forum through an inclusive, transparent process. The interviews for this report represent an initial step in that process, and the findings will help inform the governance structure and engagement approach of the Water Forum.

This document summarizes key views on the diversion from the Eel River and the Water Forum, including challenges to overcome, keys to success, and elements of potential solutions. The findings are intended solely to reflect input provided by interviewees, except where stated otherwise. Input from the interviews has been synthesized and aggregated to protect the confidentiality of the interview participants.

For questions about the Water Forum or this document, please contact Jim Downing, Kearns & West, jdowning@kearnswest.com.

II. Methodology

Kearns & West conducted 38 interviews with a total of 73 individuals, as listed in Appendix A. The interviewees represented county and city governments, water providers, agricultural interests, recreation interests, business groups, environmental groups, state and federal regulatory agencies, and resource conservation districts. A separate process for gathering input from Tribes in Sonoma and Mendocino counties is also underway.

Interviews were led by Kearns & West senior staff members Anna West, Jim Downing, Morgan Lommele, and Ben Gettleman.

The interviews had several objectives:

- Understand the interviewees' connection to the PVP and how the potential loss of the diversion to the Russian River could impact their organization;

- Understand their organization's interests as they relate to water supply or water resource issues;
- Provide an overview of the Water Forum concept and gather input on a proposed structure and how interviewees and their organizations might like to participate in the Water Forum;
- Gather recommendations for effective and inclusive engagement and how interviewees would like to stay updated; and
- Understand organizations' interest in contributing to the future operation of the Potter Valley Project (financially, politically, etc.)

The interview instrument is provided in Appendix B.

III. Overarching Findings

Several overarching findings emerged from the interviews:

- **Support for Concept** – Interviewees understand the need for the Water Forum – both to address the PVP diversion and broader water Russian River resiliency topics – and support moving forward with it.
- **Urgency** – There is a recognition that time is short, much is at stake, and a solution will need to be developed quickly.
- **Inclusion and Transparency** – Broad representation and a commitment to transparency will be critical to the success of the Water Forum. Interests from both the Russian and Eel River basins need to be at the table, and Tribes should be involved.
- **Financing** – Water users are generally willing to pay to support continued Eel-Russian water diversions, contingent on the cost and reliability of the water and the availability and cost of alternative sources. Non-water users are willing to contribute in other ways (supporting grant applications, advocating for state and federal funding, and providing political support).
- **Fairness** – Considerations of fairness should inform discussions on sharing burdens, including costs, water curtailments, and other impacts.
- **Technical Resources** – Interviewees cited a need for data, technical resources, and a menu of scenarios to inform discussions of the viability of the PVP vs. other water sources and future options for the PVP water source.
- **Education and Outreach** – Community awareness of the PVP and related issues is relatively low, even though impacts from the loss of the PVP water source could be significant. There is a need for broad education/outreach on the importance of the PVP and broader water resilience issues.

IV. Connection to and Awareness of the PVP

Note: Interviews included questions and discussion on awareness of the PVP and tracking of the decommissioning process, potential impacts of the loss of the PVP water source, past involvement in discussions on a local solution, and interest in participating in the Water Forum process. Responses on these topics were scored on a 1-5 scale; the responses are referenced in this document and tabulated in Appendix C.

- Overall, awareness of the PVP was very high across the participants interviewed (average score 4.5 out of 5). Most have been tracking the PVP decommissioning as well (average score 4.2). However, many noted that they are unclear on the status of the Two-Basin Solution discussions and would have liked that process to be more transparent and inclusive.
- Every category of interest perceived a high or very high impact on the loss of the diversion (3.9 to 5). Recreation and agricultural interests anticipate the greatest impact, followed by environmental NGOs, municipal water users, resource agencies, and county government.
- Interest in participating in the Water Forum among those interviewed was correlated most strongly with the perceived impact of the loss of the PVP as a source of water ($\rho = 0.49$), followed by past involvement in discussions about a local solution ($\rho = 0.39$).
- There is a recognition that many in the Russian River basin (including some water users) aren't aware of the full range of impacts of the loss of the diversion, such as the likelihood of broader water curtailments in the basin and effects on the recreation and tourism economies.

V. Priority Interests

- Interviewees identified a collection of interests that could serve as a starting point for discussions on the goals of the Water Forum. Each of these topics was referenced by multiple interviewees.
 - Water supply needs in the Russian River Basin
 - Fisheries and ecosystem health in the Russian River and Eel River basins
 - Recreational uses of the Russian River
 - Availability of water for aerial wildfire suppression needs in the region
 - The region's economy, especially the agriculture and recreation/tourism sectors
 - Tribal interests related to the Russian and Eel River basins

VI. Recommendations for Water Forum, Interest in Participation

Recommendations for the Water Forum

- **Broad representation in the Water Forum**, including Eel River Basin and Lake County interests, will be critical to success. Given that the geographic scope extends beyond the Russian River Basin, consider renaming/rebranding.
- **Have clearly stated goals** that resonate with the interests of participants. It should be clear what is negotiable and what is not, and how this effort differs from the Two-Basin Solution process.
- **Seek commitments to the Water Forum process** from participants. Strive to have participants commit that, within the group, they will commit to working together across interests. And outside the group, they will commit to not working at cross-purposes to Water Forum goals.
- **Transparency.** Nearly all respondents cited transparency as a critical factor for success. To the extent possible, membership, governance processes, and progress updates should be public and easily accessible. In particular, the role of Sonoma Water in the Water Forum should be clearly communicated to address the potential concerns that Sonoma Water could have too much influence over the Water Forum (note: at the same time, many appreciate Sonoma Water's leadership).
- **Seek to leverage existing groups working on related topics** and to extend the reach of education and outreach efforts. Relevant groups include the Russian River Confluence, the Russian River Watershed Association, the Upper Russian River Water Managers Group, and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies.

Technical/Supporting information is Needed to Inform Water Forum Discussions

- Technical information will be critical for identifying clear scenarios/options and for the group's deliberation. Information needs include:
 - Clear analysis of PVP project v. other water supply options
 - Clearly defined potential PVP options, with (to the extent possible) information on estimated costs, risks/liabilities, and water reliability
 - Timelines and milestones in the PG&E license surrender process
 - Water supply alternatives to continuing the PVP diversion, and associated costs
 - Clarification of water rights
 - Information on surface-groundwater interactions in key basins

Interest in Participating in the Water Forum

- Overall, interest in participating in the Water Forum was strong (average response 3.6 out of 5); even participants skeptical about prospects for a solution are interested in being at the table. Interest was generally highest among those who anticipate a large impact from changes to PVP water flows, including agricultural interests (average response 4.5), environmental NGOs (4.5), and water providers in the Upper Russian River Basin (4.3).
- Lower Russian River Basin and county elected officials notably reported lower interest in direct participation in the Water Forum (average responses 3.3 and 3.0, respectively). In general, these interviewees expected their involvement in the process would likely be through a representative. For example, Water Advisory Committee (WAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members could represent the nine Sonoma Water contractors, and county interests could be represented by a technical staff lead and one or two supervisors.

Recommendations for Resiliency Group to Facilitate Basin-wide Collaboration

- Most respondents saw a need for a forum for basin-wide collaboration beyond the PVP and are interested in participating. Recognized regional issues/needs include:
 - Future water supply resiliency given climate change
 - Regional cooperation on the development of new water supplies through water reuse and groundwater recharge
 - Cooperation on water demand management
 - Cooperation in pursuing state and federal funding
- Some believe that some regional planning on water supply options needs to occur before or in parallel with PVP discussions to understand whether the Eel-Russian water diversion is needed and economically competitive with alternative water supplies.
- Some also note the need to prioritize issues related to the water diversion in the near-term, given the PVP decommissioning timeline.

VII. Elements of a Potential Solution

Financing

- Willingness to Pay
 - Water users expressed willingness to pay for the continuation of the PVP water supply, pending information about the cost of water from this source compared to potential alternative sources or demand reduction. Other considerations include:
 - Which other participants or entities are contributing, and what external (state, federal, other) financial support is the project receiving (that is, how the costs are being shared).
 - Potential risks associated with not contributing financially and with the project not moving forward due to a lack of funding.
 - For agricultural users, the likely economic return (crop/livestock revenue) on the water.
 - For municipal water providers, whether customers support investing in this project and are willing to accept rate increases to do so.
- Fairness
 - Interviewees felt that contributions to PVP sequel project costs should be equitable, though the definition of “equitable” varied. Most stated that water users should have the primary financial responsibility, with costs proportional to use. Some noted that agricultural and municipal water could reasonably be valued differently when determining a fair allocation of costs.
 - The approach to allocating capital and unit costs used by the Sonoma Water contractors – the WAC and TAC members – was cited as a potential model.
 - Several suggested that costs should be shared more broadly, e.g. through county property tax assessments, bond measures, state and environmental funding, or grants. Such broader sharing would be justified because the impacts of the loss of the PVP water source would extend beyond water users. Other interviewees objected to this approach.

Scott Dam Removal

- Positions on Scott Dam removal are wide-ranging.
- Interviewees opposed to dam removal noted the following concerns:
 - Removal may not yield a significant recovery of Eel River fisheries, given other habitat and predator issues in the basin; the sediment behind the dam would damage downstream habitat and/or be very costly to manage.
 - Removal would hurt the Lake Pillsbury community and its recreation economy and would eliminate an important open water body that is used for aerial wildfire suppression in the region.
 - Removal would remove important water storage infrastructure, which is likely to be increasingly valuable as the climate continues to change.
- Those supporting dam removal cited the following reasons:
 - Removal will contribute meaningfully to fisheries recovery in the Eel River.
 - Continuation of Eel-Russian water diversions is not dependent on Scott Dam remaining; it is possible to meet Russian River Basin water needs without Scott Dam.
 - Practically speaking, Scott Dam removal is a precondition for Eel-Russian water diversions to continue because multiple critical interests would likely block an agreement that does not include dam removal.
- Some interviewees did not have a position on dam removal or felt they needed more information on potential scenarios and impacts. Key questions include:
 - Whether the sediment behind Scott Dam can be managed to avoid serious impacts on downstream habitat, at a practical cost.
 - Detailed information on infrastructure configurations that include Scott Dam removal and continued Eel-Russian diversions, including whether Cape Horn Dam would be removed or modified to improve fish passage.
 - How the diversion would be operated, given the anticipated effects of climate change on the Eel River Basin hydrograph, including the timing of flows, expected annual variability, and impacts of the operation of Lake Mendocino and flows downstream of Coyote Valley Dam.

Water Rights

- Several interviewees noted that water rights implications must be part of the discussions on the future of the PVP diversion. Changes in Lake Mendocino water levels would impact the exercise of existing water rights. A new water rights regime in the Russian River Basin may be needed regardless of the future of the PVP diversion. Changes in the timing and volume of flows in the Russian River will likely result in a need for increased water rights monitoring and enforcement, and capacity at oversight agencies is already a concern.

VIII. Communication and Engagement

Public Outreach and Education

- Public education is needed. The general public needs to better understand how the water system works and how these issues could affect them. Few know where the PVP is located or what it does. One interviewee suggested naming future diversion infrastructure in a way that makes clearer the connection to Russian River water supplies.
- The Water Forum should be a trusted source of information about the PVP and the water diversion. Public-facing materials should be simple and infographic-driven and should be objective (not advocacy-oriented). Use multiple channels, including print, video, web, and social media. The website should include both simple explanatory information and links to technical information for those interested in details and to promote transparency.
- In messaging, focus on potential successes, i.e., that maintaining this water diversion is a wise investment, not a financial penalty. Include information about economic benefits.
- Public workshops will be valuable.
- Consider language needs – materials in Spanish, interpreters at events

Appendix A: List of interviewees

Sector	#	Organization	Name	Title
Agriculture and RCDs	1	CA Land Stewardship Institute Mendocino County Farm Bureau	Laurel Marcus Devon Boer	Executive Director Director
	2	Sonoma County Farm Bureau	Dayna Ghirardelli Pat Burns	Executive Director Board Member
	3	Sonoma RCD Gold Ridge RCD	Valerie Quinto John Nagle Brittany Jensen Sierra Cantor	Executive Director Board Chair Executive Director Ecologist
	4	Mendocino RCD	Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra Joe Scriven Deborah Edelman	Executive Director Asst. Executive Director Project Manager
County Government	5	Sonoma Board of Supervisors	Susan Gorin Chris Coursey	District 1 Supervisor District 3 Supervisor
	6	Sonoma Board of Supervisors	David Rabbitt	District 2 Supervisor
	7	Sonoma Board of Supervisors	James Gore	District 4 Supervisor
	8	Sonoma Board of Supervisors	Lynda Hopkins	District 5 Supervisor
	9	Mendocino Board of Supervisors	Glenn McGourty Ted Williams	District 1 Supervisor District 5 Supervisor
	10	Mendocino Board of Supervisors Mendocino County	John Haschak Dan Gjerde Darcie Antle	District 3 Supervisor District 4 Supervisor CEO
	11	Lake Board of Supervisors Lake County	Bruno Sabatier Eddie Crandell Anita Grant	District 2 Supervisor District 3 Supervisor County Counsel
	12	Humboldt Board of Supervisors Humboldt County	Rex Bohn Hank Seeman	District 1 Supervisor Deputy Director of Environmental Services
	13	Sonoma County LAFCO	Mark Bramfitt	Executive Officer

RUSSIAN RIVER WATER FORUM
Summary of Interview Findings

Sector	#	Organization	Name	Title
Env. NGO	14	Trout Unlimited CalTrout	Matt Clifford Charlie Schneider Redgie Collins	Staff Attorney Lost Coast Coordinator Legal and Policy Director
	15	Russian Riverkeeper	Don McEnhill Jaime Neary	Executive Director Staff Attorney & Policy Director
	16	Russian River Watershed Protection Committee	Brenda Adelman	Board Chair
	17	American Rivers	Meghan Quinn	Associate Director, California River Restoration and Dam Removal
Recreation	18	River's Edge Kayak and Canoe SOAR Russian River Adventures	Kim Lockhart Larry Laba	Owner & Operator
State Agency	19	SWCRB, Division of Water Rights	Erik Ekdahl Sam Boland-Brien	Deputy Director Supervising Engineer
	20	North Coast RWQCB	Matt St. John	Executive Officer
Water Supplier - Lower Russian River	21	City of Cotati	Susan Harvey Craig Scott	Councilmember Public Works Director
	22	City of Petaluma	Mike Healy Dan Herrera	Councilmember Deputy Director of Public Works and Utilities
	23	City of Rohnert Park	Samantha Rodriguez Mary Grace Pawson	Vice Mayor City Engineer
	24	City of Santa Rosa	Natalie Rogers Jennifer Burke Peter Martin	Councilmember Water Director Deputy Director of Water Resources
	25	City of Sonoma	Jack Ding Mike Berger	Mayor Public Works Director
	26	Town of Windsor	Sam Salmon Cristina Goulart	Councilmember Environmental Program Manager
	27	Valley of the Moon Water District	Jon Foreman Matt Fullner	Board Member General Manager
	28	North Marin Water District	Jack Baker Tony Williams	Board Member General Manager
	29	Marin Municipal Water District	Jack Gibson Paul Sellier	Board of Directors Operations Director
	30	Sonoma County Alliance Water Supply Committee	Brian Ling	Water Committee Lead

RUSSIAN RIVER WATER FORUM
Summary of Interview Findings

Sector	#	Organization	Name	Title
Water Supplier - Upper Russian River	31	City of Cloverdale	Todd Lands David Kelley	Mayor City Manager
	32	City of Healdsburg	Terry Crowley	Utilities Director
	33	City of Ukiah	Jim Brown Sage Sangiacomo Sean White	Mayor City Manager Water & Sewer Director
	34	Willow County Water District Redwood Valley County Water District	Jared Walker Tom Schoenman	General Manager Board President
	35	Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District	CJ Watt John Reardon Elizabeth Salomone	Board Member Board Member General Manager
	36	Geyserville Alexander Valley Municipal Advisory Committee, Russian River Property Owners Association	Walter Kieser	Chair
	37	Potter Valley Irrigation District, Inland Water and Power Commission	Janet Pauli	Board Chair
Business/ Landowner	38	Russian River Property Owners Association	Brad Petersen	President

Appendix B: Interview Instrument

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW INSTRUMENT

Russian River Water Forum

Background and Introduction

- **Key background information:**
 - Mention that our team shared a background information document and that we can reference this during the discussion if helpful. We will be teeing up some of the information from that document during the interview.
- **Purpose of interviews.** These interviews/discussions have several key purposes:
 - Understand your connection to the Potter Valley Project, and how the potential loss of the diversion to the Russian River could impact your organization/agency;
 - Understand your organization/agency's interests as they relate to water supply or water resource issues;
 - Provide an overview of the Russian River Water Forum concept, and gather input on a proposed governance structure and how you might like to participate in the Forum;
 - Gather recommendations for effective and inclusive engagement, and how you would like to stay updated; and
 - Understand your organization/agency's interest in contributing to the future operation of the Potter Valley Project (financially, politically, etc.)
- **Note on confidentiality.** The interviews will be confidential to encourage an open exchange; the summary will characterize various sector/sub-sectors feedback but will not be specifically attributed to individuals.
- **Anticipated products:**
 - K&W will develop a summary report that captures key findings from these interviews. We will be looking for cross-cutting themes and areas of alignment; comments will not be attributed to any specific interviewees.
 - K&W will use the findings from the interviews to inform development of a Communications & Engagement Plan for the Water Users Forum. This will help guide collaboration and outreach efforts moving forward.

Do you have any questions before we proceed?

Interview Questions

Background and Connection to Potter Valley Project

1. To what extent are you aware of the Potter Valley Project owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)?
 - a. Invite open response first and then ask for level of awareness on scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not aware at all, 5 = highly aware).
2. To what extent you have been tracking PG&E's decommissioning of the Potter Valley Project and the potential loss of the diversion to the Russian River?
 - a. Invite open response first and then ask for level of awareness on scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not aware at all, 5 = highly aware).
3. How would the potential loss of the diversion impact your organization (and constituents, if relevant)?
 - a. What's the basis of your thinking? (probe to understand if there is a water right issue)
 - b. Ask follow-up question re: extent to which it would impact their organization on scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not all, 5 = highly).
4. To what extent have you been involved in or aware of the identification of a local solution to maintaining the water diversion related to PG&E's decommissioning of the Potter Valley Project?
 - a. Invite open response first and then ask for level of involvement on scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not involved at all, 5 = highly involved).
 - b. Probe to understand if they were involved in the Two Basin Solution, and if so what their take-aways are from the process. What went well, why it wasn't successful, etc.
5. There is discussion that a regional entity needs to be formed to own and operate a future water supply project for this water supply to the Russian River. Do you have any thoughts on how best to organize this?
 - a. Probe questions:
 - i. *Who should own and operate the project in the future?*
 - ii. *How would you suggest structuring the financing of its future operation?*
 - iii. *What do you see as your/your organization's role in that structure?*

Priority Interests

6. What are your organization's interests as they relate to water supply or water resource issues? Do you have a geographic region that you focus on?
7. Of the various water resource issues facing the Russian River basin, where does identifying a solution to the Potter Valley Project diversion rank in terms of your top priorities? Is it your top priority, or are there other areas that are of higher or equal importance associated with water resiliency in the Basin?
 - a. We can provide examples – water use efficiency, groundwater management, desal, FloodMAR, flood protection, etc.

Water Forum Structure

[Script for interviewer: I am going to share my screen showing a high-level visual of the [draft governance structure](#) for the Water Forum. Note that this is conceptual and nothing has been decided yet.]

8. What feedback do you have regarding the goals and current structure that we're discussing?
9. What are the keys to success for the Forum achieving these goals? What challenges do you anticipate and how can they be addressed?
 - a. If previously active in the Two Basin solution, probe on lessons learned from that effort that can be applied here.
10. Would you envision participating in the Forum, and if so which of these committees or groups would you be interested in participating in?
 - a. Invite open response first and then ask for overall level of interest in participating on scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not interested at all, 5 = highly interested).
11. Who do you see as the key organizations or thought leaders whose participation will be critical?
12. The Forum will need to balance the near-term need to develop a solution to maintain the Potter Valley diversion with the need to address a broader set of water resiliency issues in the Basin. What ideas do you have regarding how to achieve an appropriate balance?
 - a. Probe on whether interviewee thinks the Forum/Regional Entity will still have value even if maintaining the Potter Valley diversion doesn't work out.

Communication & Engagement Approach

13. K&W will be developing an approach for engaging a cross-section of interests (water users, Tribal and cultural interests, environmental interests, business interests, recreation interests) in the Russian River basin that is transparent, broad, and inclusive. What do you see as the keys to success for ensuring an effective, inclusive engagement approach?
14. What related efforts have you participated in (or are participating in now), and what successes or lessons learned apply to this effort in terms of effective engagement and transparency? Should any of these related efforts be coordinated with the Water Forum?
15. What is the most effective way to engage your organization and/or constituents in providing input or feedback on the development and deliberations of the Forum? How would you or representatives from your organization like to participate in planning this project?
16. How do you like to stay updated on initiatives or projects that are important to you?
 - a. Where do you get your information? What sources do you trust?

Next Steps and Other Comments, Questions, or Advice

17. Looking ahead, with PG&E decommissioning the PVP, those who benefit from the water in some manner (i.e., for water supply or beneficial uses like fish habitat flows, recreation, etc.) will need to contribute to its future operation. Are you aware of this? Might your organization be willing to contribute financially (or help seek funding) to cover these costs, understanding that the financing details haven't been determined yet?
 - a. Are you willing to support the diversion by helping to seek funding?
 - b. Are you willing to support the diversion publicly and politically?
 - c. What factors will inform your willingness to pay or support (water supply reliability, etc.)?
18. Do you have any other questions, comments, or advice for us?

Appendix C: Summary of 1-5 Scale Questions

	<i>n</i>	Awareness of PVP	Tracking Decommissioning	Impact of Loss of PVP	Previous Involvement in Local Solution	Interest in Participating in Water Forum
Agriculture and RCDs	7	4.1	3.8	4.6	2.7	4.5
County Government	13	4.7	4.6	3.9	2.8	3.3
Environmental NGO	5	5.0	4.0	4.4	2.2	4.4
Recreation	2	3.0	2.0	5.0	2.0	3.0
Resource Agency	2	4.8	4.0	4.0	3.0	4.0
Water Supplier – Lower Russian River	10	4.3	4.6	4.0	1.9	3.0
Water Supplier – Upper Russian River	7	4.6	4.1	4.4	2.9	4.3
Total/Averages	46*	4.5	4.2	4.2	2.5	3.7

Notes:

- Questions posed during the interviews relating to the above columns are as follows:
 - *Awareness of PVP*: To what extent are you aware of the Potter Valley Project owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)?
 - *Tracking Decommissioning*: To what extent you have been tracking PG&E's decommissioning of the Potter Valley Project and the potential loss of the diversion to the Russian River?
 - *Loss of Impact of PVP*: To what extent would the loss of the diversion impact your organization?
 - *Involvement in Local Solution*: To what extent have you been involved in or aware of the identification of a local solution to maintaining the water diversion related to PG&E's decommissioning of the Potter Valley Project?
 - *Interest in Participating in Water Forum*: What is your overall level of interest in participating in the Forum?
- * The team conducted 38 interviews with a total of 73 individuals. The total number of responses to the 1-5 scale questions is 46 because only one set of responses was recorded for each organization, except in the case of county supervisors. So, for example, the team recorded one set of responses from the interview with three officials from the City of Ukiah, and two sets of responses from the interview with

Mendocino County supervisors McGourty and Williams (one set of responses for each supervisor).

- The “Agriculture and RCDs” category includes agricultural interests, water suppliers that primarily serve agricultural water users, and resource conservation districts.
- The “Water Supplier” categories include water agencies, municipalities (interviewed in their capacity as water suppliers), and associations of water suppliers.
- The Lower Russian River and Upper Russian Rivers regions are defined as the Russian River Basin downstream and upstream, respectively, of the Dry Creek confluence.



Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Budget Act of 2021 and through an agreement with the State Department of Water Resources.



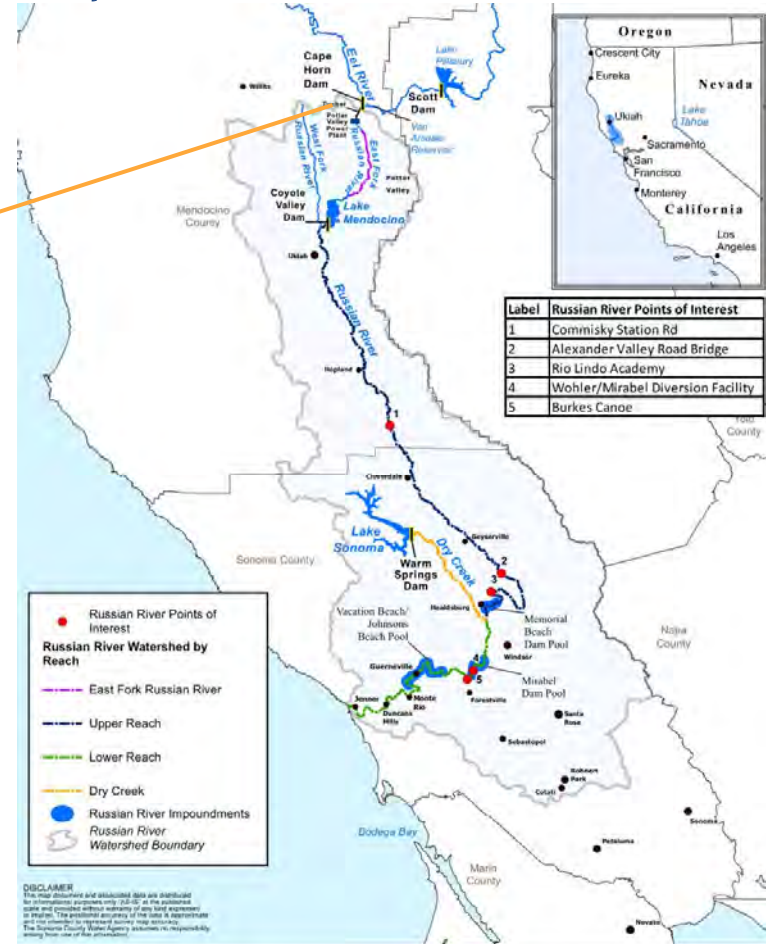
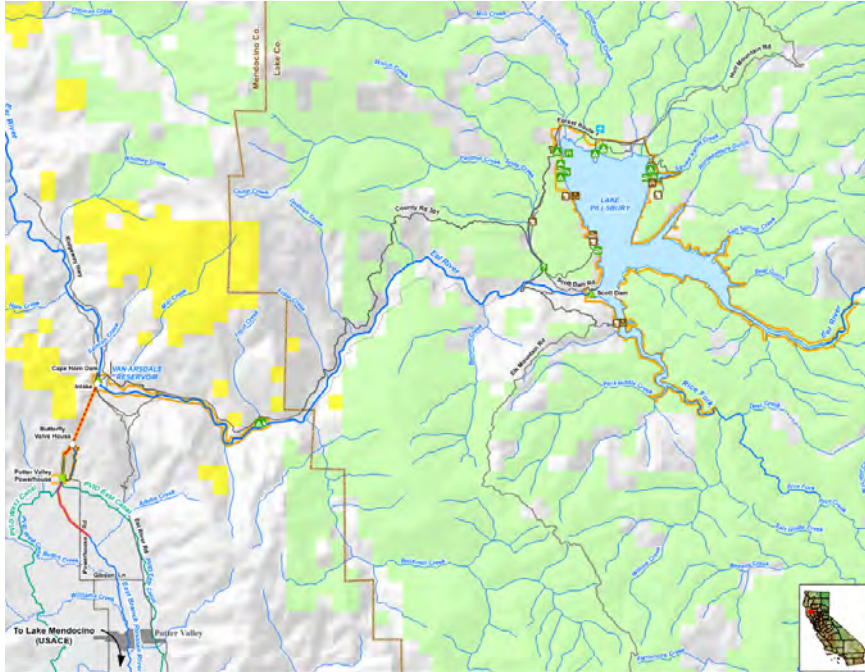
**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

Potter Valley Project Update

Board of Directors Meeting

February 7, 2023

PG&E's Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project



PG&E's Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project

- ~9.4 MW hydroelectric project owned and operated by PG&E
- In operation for more than 100 years
- On average, 60,000 acre-feet* of water transferred from Eel River into Upper Russian River watershed
- Transfers have reduced over time, but remain critical to the economies of the upper Russian River in Mendocino and Sonoma County

*prior to 2004, diversions were as high as 165,000 AF



Recent History of PVP FERC Licensing

- *PG&E's current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license expired in April 2022*
- 2017 – PG&E files notice of intent and initial documents to relicense the project
- 2019 – PG&E withdraws their intent to relicense the project
- 2019 – “Two Basin Solution Partnership” (Partnership) is formed
- 2019 - 2020 – Partnership submits notice of intent to relicense project and pursues pathway for license that is “mutually beneficial” to the Eel and Russian River basins needs



Two-Basin Solution Partnership

Partnership Members

- CalTrout
- County of Humboldt
- Mendocino Inland Power and Water Commission
- Round Valley Indian Tribes
- Sonoma Water



Partnership Activities

- Feasibility Study Completed in 2020
 - Preferred Project - Total Estimated Costs:
 - \$100M to \$400M (rounded)
 - Estimated Relicensing Costs: \$20M to \$30M
- Pursued funding to complete necessary studies to meet relicensing requirements by April 2022
- In early 2021, Partnership determines more \$ and time is needed to complete relicensing studies by April 2022 deadline and requests a time extension from FERC
- In Sept 2021, FERC denies the Partnership's request for extension

FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT ON
POTENTIAL LICENSING PROPOSAL FOR POTTER VALLEY PROJECT
(FERC P. 77-285)

Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission
Sonoma County Water Agency
California Trout, Inc.
Humboldt County
The Round Valley Indian Tribes

May 13, 2020



PG&E FERC License: Surrender + Decommissioning

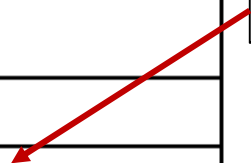
- February 2022 – PG&E notifies FERC of its intention to surrender the license and decommission the project
- May 2022 – FERC issues PG&E a request for plan and schedule for surrender application
- July 2022 – FERC accepts PG&E 's proposed plan and 30-month schedule for submitting the PVP surrender application and decommissioning plan
- November 2022 – FERC issues notice to consider reopening PG&E license to **solicit comments, motions, or protests** to intervene



PG&E Surrender-Decomm Schedule

Activity	Period Following FERC's Approval of PG&E Plan and Schedule (in Months)
Secure consultant support for the development of the surrender application and decommissioning plan	1-6
Conduct initial outreach to agencies and other stakeholders to solicit relevant information for the preparation of the surrender application and decommissioning plan	3-8
Prepare initial draft surrender application including decommissioning plan	6-16
Obtain input from agencies and other stakeholders regarding PG&E's initial draft surrender application and decommissioning plan	16-19
Address comments from agencies and other stakeholders and prepare final draft surrender application and decommissioning plan	19-22
Provide final draft surrender application and decommissioning plan to agencies and stakeholders for a 30-day review and comment period	22-23
Address comments from agencies and other stakeholders on final draft surrender application and decommissioning plan	24-28
Prepare and file final surrender application and decommissioning plan	28-30
TOTAL MONTHS AFTER APPROVAL	30

JANUARY 2025



Surrender and Decommissioning Issues

- Legal challenges re: Endangered Species Act (ESA) coverage for ongoing PVP operations
- NMFS Seeking Revised Ops Plan and Renewed ESA Consultation
- Fisheries groups seeking expedited surrender and decommissioning
- Round Valley Indian Tribes (RVIT) and Wiyot Tribe seeking private consultation with FERC
- Potential intervention by other interests (e.g. Lake County)
- Transformer failure and PG&E repair at hydroelectric facility
- Timely formation of a regional entity to negotiate and acquire necessary elements of the PVP to continue diversions



Impacts on Upper Russian River

Sonoma Water: without future PVP transfers to Russian River...

- In 8 out of 10 years there will not be enough water supply to meet all the needs of the upper Russian River region
- In 2 of those 8 years, predicted to be a 30,000 AF shortage and Lake Mendocino will go dry
- All supply scenarios with future climate change would be more constrained





Recent Actions by Sonoma Water and Partners

CA Department of Water Resources Grant

Sonoma Water has secured grant funding to:

- Study acquisition and potential mods of key components of the PVP Project for delivering water supplies
- Analyze and develop concepts to improve water supply reliability for Potter Valley
- Establish a Russian River Water Forum to preserve the flow of water from the Project into the Russian River + support water supply resiliency in the Russian River watershed



Russian River Water Forum Goals

- Develop a plan for strategic engagement
- Conduct outreach to and educate stakeholders
- Facilitate the creation of a leadership structure for water users
- Engage in solutions for the Russian River watershed on basin-wide scale



Russian River Water Forum Process

- Sonoma Water developed an Advisory Team and hired Kearns & West
- Identified and invited stakeholders to participate in interviews
- NMWD WAC member, Director Baker, and TAC member, GM Williams, participated in an interview on October 17th
- Summary of Interview Findings Report, January 2023



RRWF Interview Findings

- Support for Concept — Interviewees understand the need for the Water Forum –
- Urgency — There is a recognition that time is short, a solution needed quickly.
- Inclusion and Transparency — Broad representation and commitment to transparency
- Financing — Water users are generally willing to pay
- Fairness — Considerations of fairness - sharing burdens
- Technical Resources — need for data, technical resources, and scenarios
- Education and Outreach — need for broad education/outreach on the importance of PVP and broader water resilience issues.

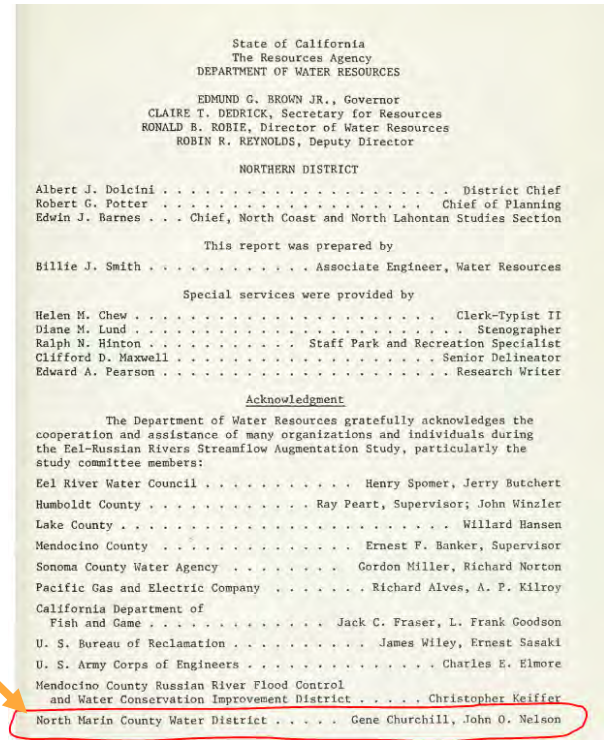
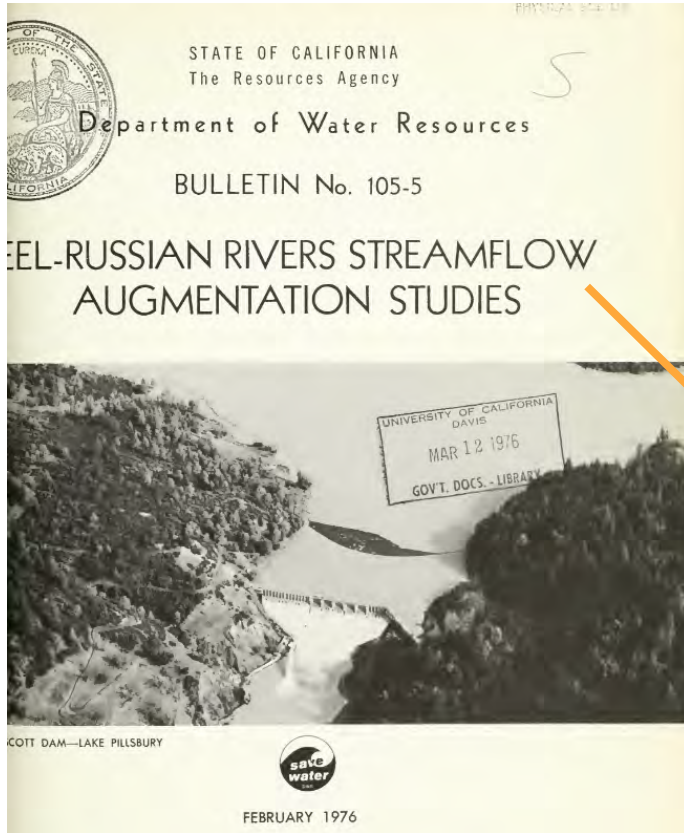


NMWD Principles for the RR Water Forum

- Support continued diversions of water from the Project into the Russian River
- Generally support establishment of a Regional Entity to acquire elements of the Project and water rights to maintain diversions
- Receptive to continuing to work with Sonoma Water when evaluating the merits of contributing funding **proportional** to the benefit received by adding new water to supply currently provided by Lake Sonoma
- Ensure any decisions regarding the continued flow of water from the Project are consistent with the Restructured Agreement for Water Supply
- Continue to seek opportunities for meaningful input on the Russian River Water Forum and water supply resiliency projects evaluation



Long History of NMWD Involvement





Questions?

7



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: Eric Miller, Assistant General Manager/Chief Engineer *EM*
Tim Fuelle, Senior Engineer *TF*
Subject: Old Ranch Road Tank No. 2 Project - Final Project Update
R:\Folders by Job No\6000 jobs\6207.20 Old Ranch Rd Tank Repl\7 BOD Memos\2023-02\6207.20 ORR project close bod memo.doc

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information Only
FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

Construction of the Old Ranch Road Tank No. 2 Project commenced in August 2021, and staff provided a project update at the December 7, 2021 Board of Directors meeting. The new tank was placed into service in July 2022 and the project Notice of Completion was filed with Marin County in December 2022.

Staff would like to take the opportunity to provide a final project update as part of the project closeout.

ATTACHMENT: 1. Presentation Slides dated February 7, 2023



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

OLD RANCH ROAD TANK NO. 2 PROJECT

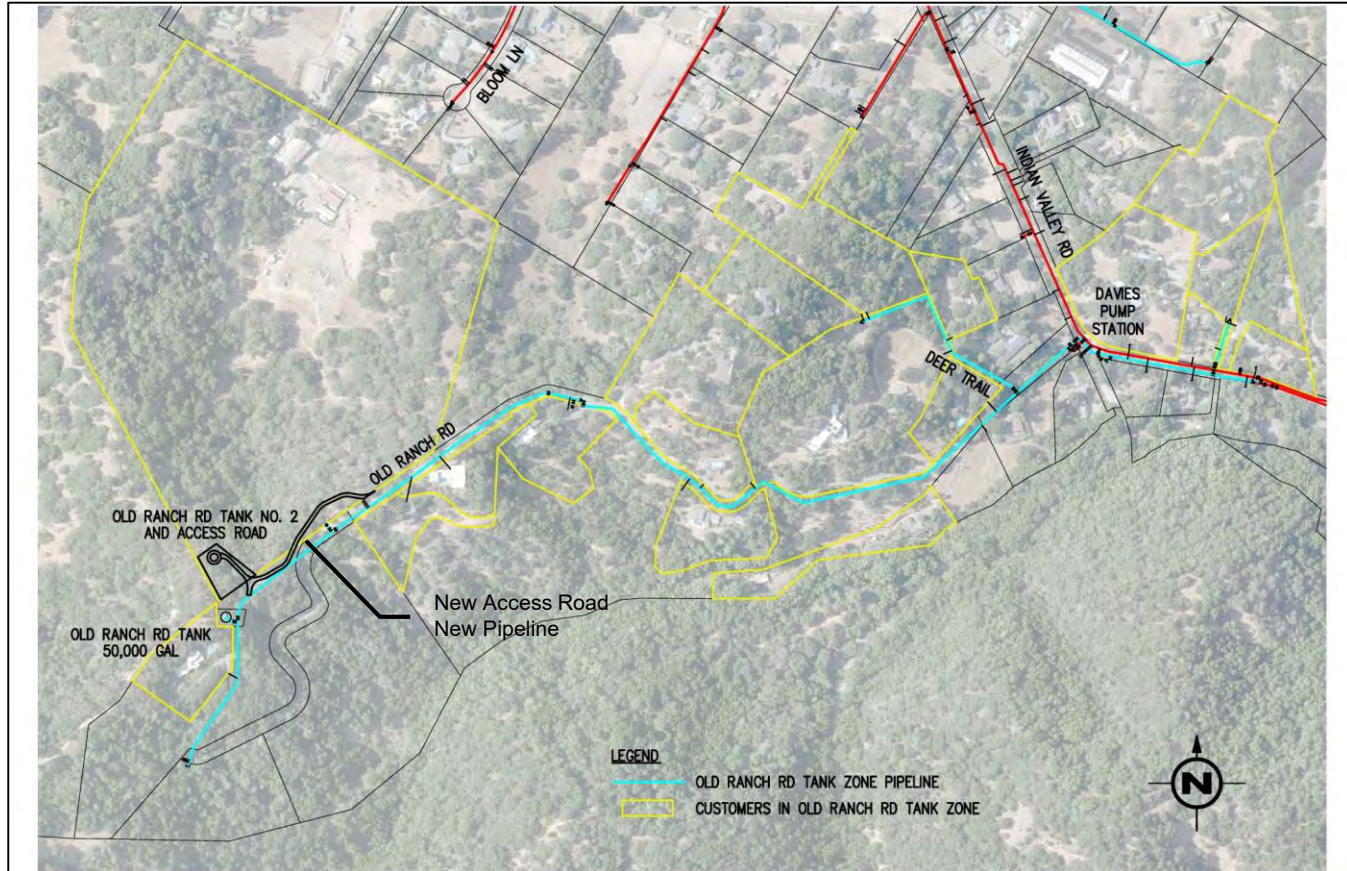
February 7, 2023

CONTENT

1. Background
2. Project Photos
3. Q&A



BACKGROUND - SITE MAP



BACKGROUND – MILESTONE DATES

- Jan 2020 - Approve the Mitigated Negative Declaration
- Apr 2021 - Construction Advertised on April 16, 2021
- Jun 2021 - Awarded (\$1.2M) plus (\$145k contingency)
- Aug 2021 - Notice to Proceed to Construction
- June 2022 - Substantial Completion
- July 2022 - Tank No. 2 Placed in Service
- Dec 2022 - Tank No. 1 Removed from Service



Photos Presented at the December 7, 2021 Board Meeting

- Tree Survey & Removal
- Equipment Mobilization
- Access Road Excavation – GPS Equipment, Keyway, Compaction, Subgrade
- Tank Pad
- Pipeline Installation
- Contract Changes



PROJECT PHOTOS

- Nov 2021 Deluge Rains
- Ring Footing
- Tank Pad
- Tank Floor
- Tank Shell
- Tank Anchor
- Scada and Electrical
- Access Road
- Tank No. 1
- Acknowledgement



November 2021 Deluge Rains - Impacts



Final Rough Grade Pre-Rain



Road Erosion due to Rains



Construction Waddles

Ring Footing, March 2022



Confirmation of Ring Footing,
March 2022

Ring Footing Excavation

Formwork

Cont'd Ring Footing, March 2021



Rebar Placement



Formwork and Concrete Pour



Concrete Finishing



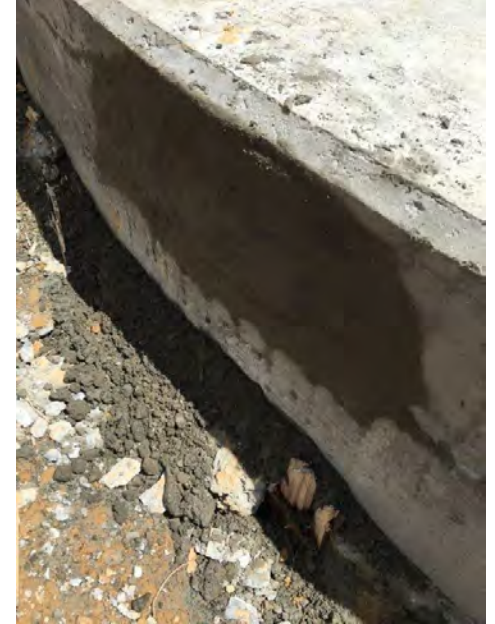
Cont'd Ring Footing



Completed Ring Footing



Honeycombing



Repair, April 2022

Tank Pad Preparation



Completed Ring Footing, Excavation for Tank Drain & Sand Fill,
May 2021

Tank Floor Installation, May 2022



Compaction Testing of
Sand Fill



Tank Shell Floor



Floor Plate Installation
with Sealant

Tank Shell Installation, May 2022



Upper Tank Courses



Roof Installation



Structural Roof Installation

Tank Shell Installation, May 2022



Installation of Appurtenances



Installation of Appurtenances



Hydraulic Jacking

Video of Tank Shell Jacking



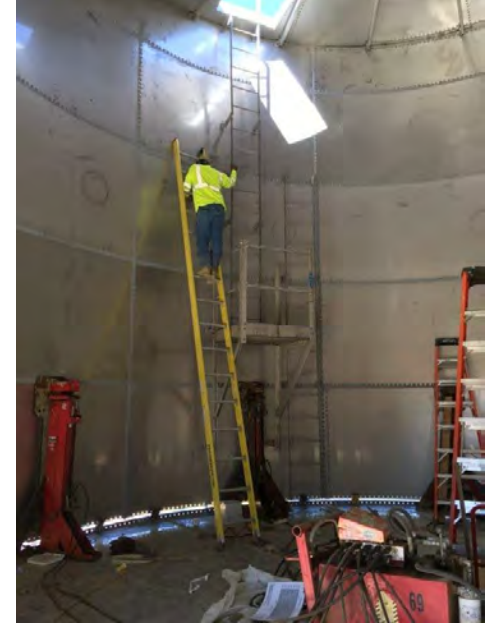
Tank Shell Installation, May 2022



Hydraulic Jacks



Final Course



Interior Appurtanances

Tank Anchor, June 2022



Anchor Chair



Epoxy Dowel Install



Completed Installation



Inspection

Tank Piping, June 2022



Tank Scada and Electrical, June 2022



Installation of Conduits



Concrete Pad for Cabinets



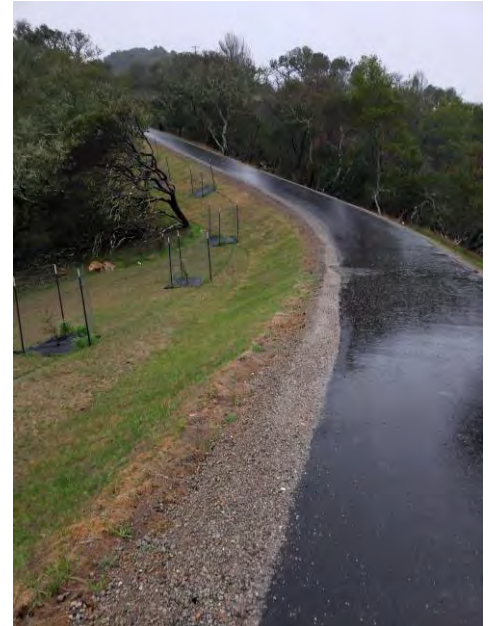
Access Road Base, June 2022



Road Base



Pavement



Access Road with
Landscaping, Jan 2023



Tank No. 1 Lean



Looking North



Looking South

Tank No. 1 Demolition, December 2022



Acknowledgement

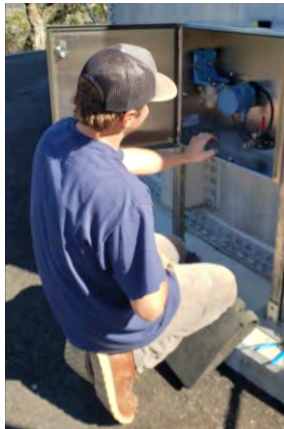
- **Maggiara Ghilotti – Contractor**

- U.S. Tanks
- Fowler Electric
- Neary Landscape
- Cinquini & Passarino
- Atlas Tree

- **GHD Consultants – Design**

- **Miller Pacific Eng. - Design**

- **Smith-Emery - Inspection**



- **District Staff**

- Engineering Lead
- Construction – Tank No. 1 Demo
- Water Quality
- Maintenance – Scada System build-out

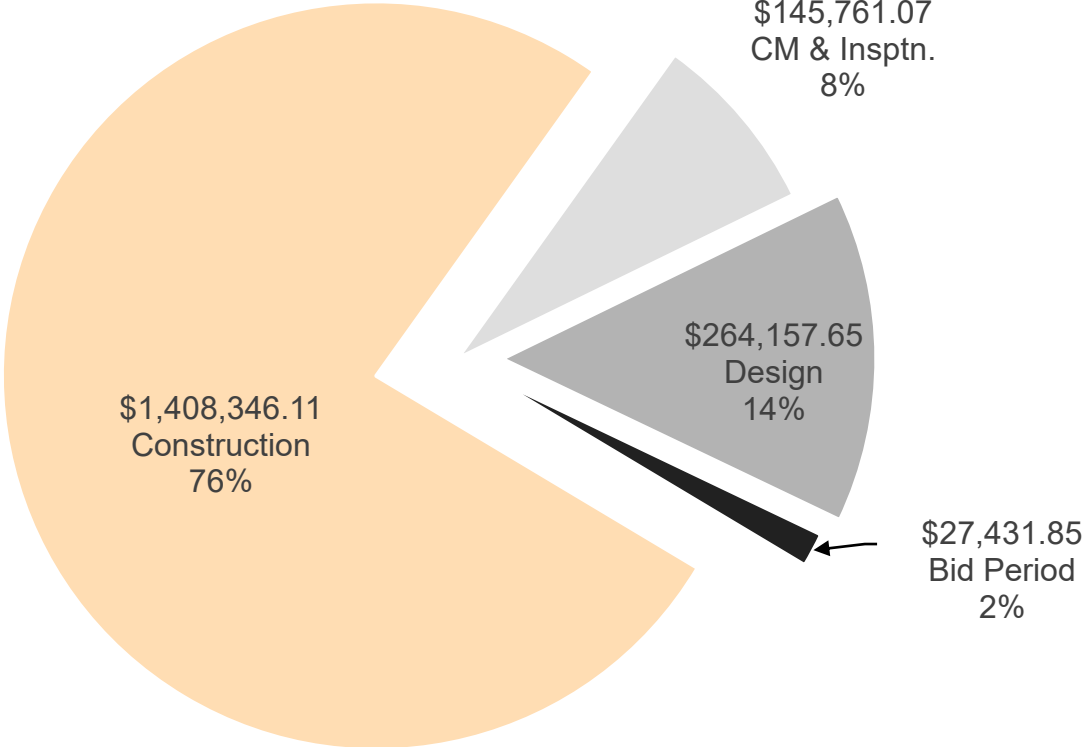


Questions & Answers

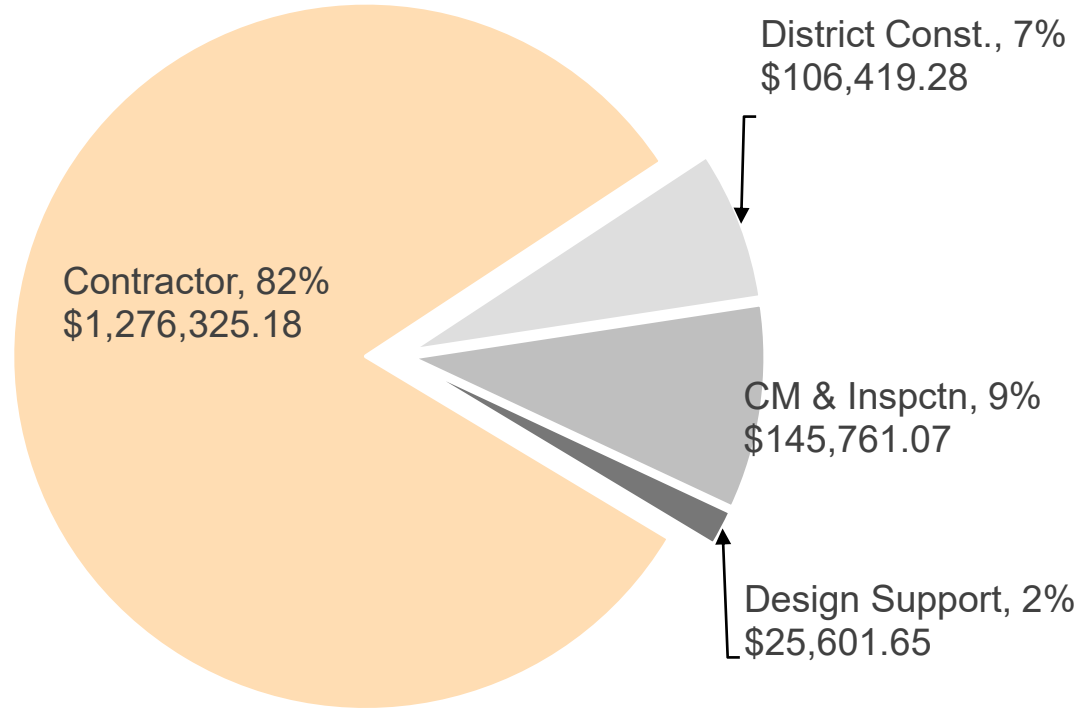


Hip Pocket Slides

Total Project Expenditure, \$1.85M



Total Construction Expenditure, \$1.6 M



Summary of Change Orders

CHANGE ORDER NO.	ACTIVITY	CONTRACT AMOUNT CHANGE	CONTRACT DURATION CHANGE
1	Additional Tree Removal	\$23,905	0 days
2	Install Subsurface Drainage	\$4,950	0 days
3	Grout Fill Abandoned Pipe	\$5,096	1 days
4	Access Road Grade Change	\$13,880	2 days
5	Contractor Substitution	\$30,000	21 days
6	Subsurface Drain & Increase AC thickness	\$11,000	1 day
7	Contract Close-out Agreement	\$0.00	23 days
	Summation	\$89,138	48 days



Substantial Completion

- Original Substantial Completion Date: May 11, 2022
- Final Substantial Completion Date: June 28, 2022
- In-Service Date: July 28, 2022
- Notice of Completion Date: December 21, 2022



Project Challenges

- Tank Subcontractor refusing to sign contract due to material price escalation unless granted a \$116K contract amount increase.
- Mar 2022 project restart: project delays due to due to rain and Covid-19.
- Resident(s) indignation over road access and repairs.



Project Success

- High quality workmanship and cooperation of Contractor
- Good quality design by GHD in an accelerated schedule, especially road cut/fill balance design
- NMWD staff very supportive and cooperative of project



8



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
 From: Pablo Ramudo, Water Quality Supervisor *PR*
 Subject: FY 2022-23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Water Quality
p:\lab\wq supv\wq reports\mid-year progressreport23 wq rpt.doc

February 7, 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

The water served to the communities of Novato and Point Reyes met federal and state primary and secondary water quality standards during the first half of fiscal year 2022-2023.

Following is a review of the activities and water quality issues in regards to:

- Source Water
- Treatment Performance
- Distribution System Water Quality
- Novato Recycled Water

NOVATO SYSTEM

Source Water: Stafford Lake

Stafford Lake water was used as a source of drinking water until November 17th. Water quality was monitored on a biweekly basis for chemical and mineral components as well as microbiological activity.

Algae were identified and enumerated monthly from the raw water from July through November. Their numbers were high during the summer months then fell to more moderate levels as temperature and photoperiod decreased. Likewise, there was moderately high diversity in first half of the period that decreased as overall productivity decreased. In all, 17 species of algae were recorded in large numbers, including 4 diatoms, and 4 green algae; although the majority of algae present were comprised of 7 species of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae). Some of these cyanobacteria are capable of producing certain toxins as well as compounds which can affect taste and odor.

Under guidance of the California Water Board's Harmful Algal Bloom program, weekly monitoring for algal toxins began on July 19th and continued until September 13th when cyanotoxin levels fell below the tier 1 notification level for recreational activities. Microcystins peaked on August 30th at 9.4 micrograms per liter at the lake's surface.

Treatment Performance: Stafford Treatment Plant

Total organic carbon (TOC) removal was excellent, well above the 30% requirement of the Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. Operators were able to achieve 76 – 86% TOC removal with a finished water TOC concentration of 1.6-2.4 mg/L - compared to the District's goal of a maximum 2.0 mg/L.

Cyanotoxins were not detectable in any samples taken from drinking water produced at the Stafford Lake Treatment Plant. Although the toxins are a concern from recreational exposure, the toxins are easily inactivated and removed by the treatment and filtration elements used by NMWD.

Distribution System: Novato

Of the 485 samples collected for compliance with the Total Coliform Rule, none were positive for coliform bacteria. Disinfection byproducts were low during the period and well within standards of the Stage 2 Disinfection By-Product Rule.

POINT REYES SYSTEM

Source Water: Coast Guard Wells

Raw water quality, by most measures, was good throughout the period, however water quality parameters affected by salt water were elevated. These peaked in August then fell slowly through the end of 2022. The sodium concentration ranged from 99 to 235 mg/L and chloride ranged from 82 to 670 mg/L. Bromide, the seawater constituent that has been responsible for short-term exceedances of trihalomethane (THMs) regulatory limits, ranged from 0.28 to 2.2 mg/L.

Source Water: Gallagher Wells

The new Gallagher Well #2 was completed and permitted during the second half of 2022. Gallagher Well #1 was used for production until #2 was first used as a source for drinking water on October 31st.

Raw water quality was good throughout the period. Water quality parameters affected by saltwater are very low from these wells and because they are not prone to seawater intrusion, concentrations of salts are very steady. The average concentration of sodium was 10-11 mg/L, chloride was 12 - 14 mg/L, and the bromide concentration was 0.06 – 0.07mg/L.

Treatment Performance: Point Reyes Treatment Plant

The Point Reyes Treatment Plant is designed to provide disinfection and to remove iron and manganese, the two primary groundwater contaminants in the area. Treatment in these respects was excellent, neither iron or manganese being detectable in finished water and all bacterial tests were clean.

Water was sourced from Gallagher Well #1 to the greatest extent possible until October 31st, but its declining production meant that around half of the water supply came from the Coast Guard wells. Water from the two sources is blended prior to treatment.

Beginning on October 31st Gallagher Well #2 supplied almost all the drinking water produced. The Coast Guard wells are still used when operational needs demand a greater instantaneous flowrate, (such as after a backwash) but this is less than half of one percent of the total water produced.

Distribution System: Point Reyes

There were 46 samples collected for routine monitoring and compliance with the total coliform rule, none tested positive for coliform bacteria. Chlorine residual concentrations throughout our distribution system were actively managed to provide adequate disinfection while keeping the potential for formation of disinfection by products as low as possible.

Disinfection byproducts were elevated during the period, with one of two samples collected at each of the sample having total trihalomethanes (THMs) above the value of the maximum contaminant limit. Since compliance with the Disinfection Byproduct Rule is based on a running annual average at each location, the exceedances did not result in violations of the rule. We have observed that when bromide concentrations are high due to salinity intrusion at the Coast Guard Wells, there will be a corresponding increase in trihalomethanes. The operational strategies developed in the previous three years were used to mitigate this potential and helped lower the concentration of trihalomethanes when the risk for their formation was the greatest. Now that Gallagher Well #2 can produce enough water for the system without the use of the Coast Guard wells, problems with elevated THMs is not seen as a continuing issue.

NOVATO RECYCLED WATER

Deer Island Recycled Water Facility

The Deer Island facility was not operated during the second half of 2022.

ATTACHMENTS: None

9



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
 From: Robert Clark, Operations / Maintenance Superintendent *RCC*
 Subject: FY 2022-23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Operations/Maintenance
X:\MAINT SUP\2023\BOD\1st half 21-23 O&M update.docx

February 7, 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

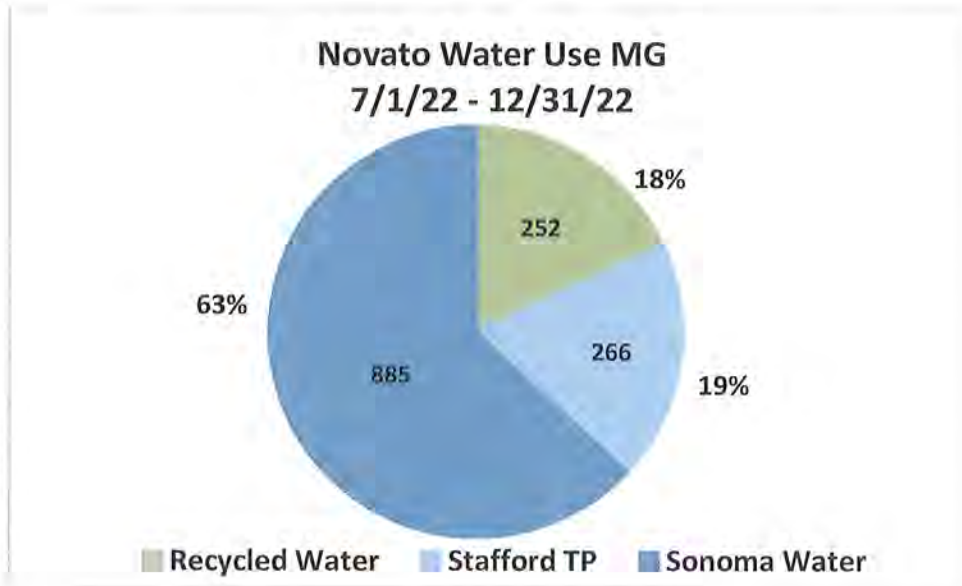
Projects

- New eyewash stations at STP, PRE-1 and OM ponds. These stations now provide heated water.
- New caustic line plumbed from tanks to pumps at STP.
- STP filter #3 underdrain repaired and media replaced.
- STP centrifuge disassembled sent back for rebuild and reassembled.
- Replacement of sodium chlorite tank.
- Rebuilt influent and effluent valves on STP filters.
- Added a new storage container at STP ponds for housing of pumps, hoses and other appurtenances for working at and cleaning recovery ponds.
- STP Flow Meter replacement:
 - GAC
 - Backwash
 - Filters 1, 2, & 3
- Meter Testing Shop Buildout.
- Old Ranch Road PLC and controls installation.
- PRE-2 Pump 1 replacement.
- OM Lift Station PLC replacement.
- OM Lift Station Pump 2 replacement.

Operations Summary

The Stafford Treatment Plant (STP) began the period under continuing drought water supply conditions producing 266 MG of water between July and December 2021 and shut down production activities on November 17th. Novato received 1,028 MG in total water produced with a peak day of 11.3 MG on August 26th. STP produced 19% of the Novato water supply during the period. During July through October, staff was required to utilize Stafford Lake storage to ensure SCWA supply did not exceed NMWD's reduced allotment (20% reduction). The continued reduced production volume has dropped the prior five-year rolling average from 307 MG to 286 MG due to limited rainfall. With the recent rain events, Stafford Lake is full and staff plans an early spring startup of STP, which will be able to produce 250 MG this spring to reach the FY 2022/23

target of 515 MG by the end of June. The following chart shows the breakdown of Novato water usage.



The recycled water facilities delivered 252 MG to our Novato customers and Deer Island produced 6.0 MG of water for the Stone Tree Golf Course. Staff also saw an increase in commercial truck hauling of recycled water as well as the residential recycled water fill station program. The recycled water system customer base is now 95 accounts with another four in the planning phase. Both Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District and Novato Sanitary District consistently produced recycled water throughout the first half of FY 2022/23.

The Point Reyes Treatment Plant produced 42.5 MG with a peak day of 346,620 gallons on September 26th. During the period, staff operated the system to minimize the use of the Coast Guard wells in order to limit the salinity intrusion from these wells until November when the new Gallagher Well No. 2 came on line. While salinity levels did exceed the 50 milligrams per liter (mg/l) local reporting level it, there was only a peak for one day in September at 116 mg/l, above the 115 mg/l level for dietary needs.

Wastewater volume in Oceana Marin was down 17% to 2.9 MG vs 3.5 MG in 2021 for the same period. Freeboard in the ponds at the end of December was 6.8 feet in the treatment pond and 9.8 in the storage pond.

Maintenance Summary

Staff stayed on schedule with routine maintenance tasks, completing planned maintenance work orders along with several unplanned work orders. With our NexGen Enterprise

Asset Management tracking system we are once again able to track our progress towards optimizing our preventative maintenance program. Overall Asset work order activities for the period included 290 work orders completed, 240 (81%) were planned and 45 (19%) unplanned. We are still working on departmental tracking of work orders for Engineering, Operations, Maintenance and Construction groups in the NexGen program. Operations (163 total work orders, 85% Planned, 15% Unplanned) and Maintenance (111 total work orders, 80% planned, 20% unplanned) data for the period is the majority of the work being recorded in the system. At the end of the year report we expect to have the Construction group using the program for more of their assigned work. Engineering is expected to come along in the next fiscal year. Overall, our goal is to have 80% of our maintenance time be planned work and 20% be unplanned. Because the Construction group performs more unplanned activities (11 total work orders, 4 planned, 7 unplanned), we expect their 60/40 ratio to fall more in line with 80/20 ratio goal when we have all of the maintenance activities tracked in the NexGen system.

Water Quality Summary

With the assistance of Operations' staff, Construction/Maintenance staff, and additional contract vendors, the District completed annual backflow testing. Concerns with our backflow program include device ownership and liability which are being addressed in a review of our Regulation 6 that will be presented to the Board in the coming months. Annual inspection of the waste discharge facilities at STP by the Novato Sanitary District staff resulted in satisfactory findings. Staff is working with a vendor to reduce the volume of the waste discharged to NSD in order to extend the operating period of the plant. Laboratory staff continued to monitor the Point Reyes Coast Guard well salinity intrusion levels and provide community updates. With Continued drought conservation measures in place, Operations has been able to avoid extended use of the Coast Guard well allowing for a low overall salinity in the system through the period.

ATTACHMENTS - None

10



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
 From: Eric Miller, Assistant General Manager / Chief Engineer 
 Subject: FY2022/23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Engineering Department
R:\CHIEF ENGMILLER\BUDGETS\FY22-23\Mid-Year BOD Update\FY22-23 mid year BOD.docx

Date: February 7, 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information Only

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

The primary purpose of this memorandum is to provide a mid-year status report to the Board on the District’s performance in completing budgeted FY2022/23 Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) in Novato and West Marin (including Oceana Marin) service territories, as well as an overview of Special Studies managed by the Engineering Department. The memorandum also provides a summary of the total Engineering labor hours expended for both CIP and Developer projects.

A summary of the District’s CIP expenditures for all service areas, including “placeholder” budget line items such as “Other Main/Pipeline Replacements” that are used as the need arises through the course of the fiscal year is provided in Table 1:

Table 1 – CIP Cost Summary

Service Area	CIP Project Costs (\$)		% Complete 1 st & 2 nd qtrs	
	Budget	Actual	Planned	Actual
Novato Water	16,527,000	3,624,741	35	20
Novato Recycled	350,000	0	35	0
West Marin (including OM)	2,237,000	366,310	35	35
Total	19,114,000	3,991,051	35	25

A significant number of developer projects are in various project stages throughout the first half of FY2022/23 which continues to have an overall impact on the District’s ability to execute the planned CIP projects. On average, the Department continues to receive approximately five planning-level or building permit referrals each week. During the first half of the fiscal year, the Engineering Department managed 13 different developer projects.

In addition to CIP and Developer projects, the Engineering Department work plan includes various Special Studies, summarized in Table 2. These studies require significant engineering staff time, use of outside consultants, as well as time and effort from key Operations and Construction staff.

Table 2 – Special Studies Cost Summary

Study Name	Study Costs (\$)		% Complete 1 st & 2 nd qtrs
	Budget	Actual	
Novato Water Master Plan Study	175,000	0	0
Connection Fee Studies (All Service Areas) *	30,000	41,282	100
Lynwood/San Marin Zone 2 Modification Study	30,000	0	0
Coast Guard Housing – PRTP Study	25,000	3,022	25

** connection fee studies were managed by the Auditor/Controller with assistance from Engineering staff*

In addition to the formal studies identified above, Engineering staff, as well as key staff from other Departments, are involved in significant projects led by external agencies such as both the City of Novato and Marin County-Wide Plan update to the Housing and Safety Elements, development of the former Coast Guard Housing site in Point Reyes Station and a wastewater treatment feasibility study for Dillon Beach (both County of Marin). These efforts are not currently established District projects under the CIP program but may result in future ones.

Performance Status for CIP

A total of twenty-seven (27) CIPs were originally budgeted in FY2022/23 for the Novato, West Marin Water and Oceana Marin (OM) service areas, but, through the first two quarters of the fiscal year, four (4) new projects have been added, and three (3) were carried over from the prior year, for a total of thirty-four (34) projects. Of these 34 projects, 28 are under the lead responsibility of the Engineering Department for completion (23 in Novato and 5 in West Marin). The remaining projects are under the responsibility of the other departments but in general there is continuous collaboration between the various departments. A summary and status of all 34 projects (25 Novato Potable, 1 Recycled Water and 8 West Marin), including annual “placeholder” contingency funds that may not currently be utilized, is provided in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3 – Novato Service Area

DESCRIPTION	Project Costs (\$)		% Complete 1 st & 2 nd qtrs
	Budget	Actual	
Novato Potable Water System			
Replace 12-inch pipe – S. Novato Blvd (785 lf)	50,000	0	0
Novato Blvd Widening – Diablo to Grant	1,000,000	6,211	5
<i>Replace Copper – Jamison Court</i>	0	22,700	100
George St. Main Replacement	0	3,631	10
San Mateo Tank Transmission Pipeline (1,500 lf) **	20,000	3,915	30
Loop Zone Mall Area Near Nave Ct & S. Novato	275,000	1,802	0
<i>Loop Dead End Mains – NMWD Yard</i>	0	107,577	85
Replace 8-inch pipe – Railroad Ave	0	29,020	15
MSN B2 Utility Agreement Costs	12,000	0	75
Detector Check Assembly Repair/Replace	100,000	33,938	50
Office and Laboratory Renovation	12,650,000	2,934,100	20
Repair Sludge Line from STP to Center Rd (4,400 lf)	25,000	11,184	25
Various Stafford Treatment Plant Improvements	150,000	3,902	5
Stafford Treatment Plant Corrosion Assessment	0	16,501	30
Water Supply Enhancements – Stafford Dam	50,000	3,219	5
Replace Pump Motor – High Service PS No. 3	0	53,313	100
Tank Replacement – Old Ranch Rd	100,000	301,714	100
Fire Flow Back Feed Valve – Nunes Tank	200,000	0	0
Recoating Tanks – Various Sites	170,000	0	0
Seismic Upgrade/Coating – Lynwood Tank No. 1	500,000	0	0
Seismic Upgrade/Coating – Lynwood Tank No. 2	500,000	0	0
Pump Station Replacement – Crest PS	10,000	13,315	30
Pump Station Replacement – Lynwood PS	40,000	44,253	10
<i>Mobile Pump Station for Tank Cleaning</i>	0	3,976	15
Hydropneumatic Tank Repairs	50,000	30,470	25
Novato Potable Water Contingency Funds	625,000	0	15
Novato Recycled Water System			
RW Replace CI on Atherton Ave (1,320 lf)	350,000	0	0
Total Novato Service Area	16,877,000	3,624,741	20

** design complete – staff is currently seeking grant funding for construction phase

Table 4 – West Marin Service Area

DESCRIPTION	Project Costs (\$)		% Complete 1 st & 2 nd qtrs
	Budget	Actual	
West Marin Water System			
New Gallagher Well No. 2	380,000	244,642	100
Gallagher Ranch Streambank Stabilization	5,000	3,690	100
Pipeline Replacement – Lagunitas Bridge	52,000	7,882	10
Replace Galv. Pipe – Balboa/Drakes/Baywood	45,000	58,922	25
Raise Valves for Hwy 1 Paving	15,000	805	15
West Marin Contingency Funds	150,000	0	0
Subtotal (West Marin System)	647,000	315,941	50
Oceana Marin Sewer System			
Infiltration Repair (Manhole Relining)	40,000	25,462	80
Treatment Pond Rehabilitation ***	1,210,000	14,499	30
Sewer Force Main Improvements – Phase FM 1A	125,000	21,558	15
Subtotal (Oceana Marin Sewer System)	1,590,000	50,369	25
Total West Marin Service Area	2,237,000	366,310	35

*** design complete – staff is currently seeking additional grant funding for construction phase

Notes for Tables 3 & 4

Carry forward projects from previous fiscal year *(indicated in italics)*
 New projects added throughout the fiscal year **(indicated in bold)**
 Placeholder contingency funds, total budget shown *(indicated in gray)*

Of the total twenty-six (26) Novato Service Area CIP's, fifteen (15) are currently active, including the Lynwood PS replacement project which is in the modeling phase to determine how to best address operational and maintenance concerns with one of the District's most important pump stations. Two other important projects are heading out to bid this year, construction of the new Crest Pump Station along Bahia Drive and repair of up to 4,400 feet of the sludge waste line at the Stafford Treatment Plant. Significant progress continues on the design phases of the hydropneumatic tank modifications at the location on Laguna Vista Drive, and on the Novato Blvd. Widening project which is being managed by City of Novato staff. The project includes 4,500 feet of 12-inch main replacement, 1,000 feet of side-street branch ties and 35 new services. Construction of the District's Office and Laboratory Renovation project began in July 2022 and is currently scheduled for completion/occupancy in December 2023.

Of the eleven (11) non-active projects, three (3) were already completed during the 2022/23 fiscal year, and the other eight (8) projects are currently on hold due to workload limitations and reprioritization. When new projects are added to the workplan throughout the fiscal year there are impacts to other budgeted projects, but District staff strives to work efficiently and reassess priorities throughout the year.

Of the total eight (8) West Marin CIP's, six (6) are currently active, including improvements to a segment of the sanitary sewer force main in Oceana Marin which is about 50% through the design phase. Design of the Oceana Marin Pond Rehabilitation project was completed last fiscal year and District staff has submitted a request to Cal OES and FEMA for additional grant funding for the construction phase. The other two (2) West Marin CIP's were completed earlier this fiscal year, including the new Gallagher Well No. 2 project which was put into operation in the beginning of November 2022. The new well allows the District to minimize reliance on the Coast Guard Wells which results in a dramatic improvement to the salinity levels in the West Marin water system.

Engineering Department Labor Hours

The Engineering Department provides various services across the District in support of the overall operation, maintenance and expansion of water facilities. The three major work classifications for the department are:

- 1) General Engineering,
- 2) Developer Projects, and
- 3) District Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects

There are approximately 18,090 engineering labor hours available annually. A comparison of budgeted labor hours vs. actual labor hours worked by the department is provided below in Table 5.

Table 5 – Engineering Labor Distribution

Work Classification	Annual Budget (hrs)	% of Total	1st & 2nd qtrs Actual (hrs)	% of 1st & 2nd qtrs
General Engineering	11,477	63	6,536	72
Developer Projects	2,290	13	582	7
District CIP Projects	4,323	24	1,927	21
Total	18,090	100	9,045	100

The Engineering Department continues to rely on outside consultants for assistance on many of the CIP projects throughout all service areas. Of the total CIP expenditure of \$3,991,051, approximately \$648,293 is consultant expense through the first half of the fiscal year (16% of total, compared to 49% through the first half of last FY). The majority of consultant time was used on one major project: The Office Building and Laboratory Renovation project.

ATTACHMENTS: None

11



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors February 7, 2023
 From: Ryan Grisso, Water Conservation Coordinator *RG*
 Subject: FY 2022-23 Mid-Year Progress Report – Water Conservation and Public Information
V:\Memos to Board\Quarterly Reports\Mid Year Reports\FY 2022-23 Second Quarter Progress Report – Water Conservation and Public Information.doc

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

Water Conservation

This memo provides an update on water conservation and public outreach activities implemented during the first half of Fiscal Year 2022/2023 (FY23). Water Conservation participation numbers for the first half of the current and previous two fiscal years are summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Water Conservation Program Participation (July through December)

Program	FY21	FY22	FY23
Water Smart Home Surveys	0	5	8
Water Smart Commercial Surveys	0	0	2
Toilet Replacements (Residential)	59	71	39
Toilet Replacements (Commercial)	3	2	2
Retrofit on Resale (Dwellings Certified)	121	78	44
High Efficiency Washing Machine Rebates	11	25	12
Cash for Grass Rebates	7	47	32 ¹
Water Smart Landscape Rebates	5	8	8
Smart Irrigation Controller Rebates	17	8	6
Pool Cover Rebates	1	41	16
Hot Water Recirculation Rebates	0	9	2

¹ Cash for Grass participants removed 23,324 square feet in FY23 compared to 29,298 square feet in FY22.

Water Conservation Programs

Water conservation participation has dropped slightly in the first half of this fiscal year compared to last, however participation remains consistent with historical levels. There was a big push in 2021 with the Board approved increase in rebate levels for most programs which accelerated participation the prior fiscal year. The notable participation this fiscal year continues to be in the Cash for Grass, High Efficiency Toilet, and Swimming Pool Cover Rebate Programs. The

Cash for Grass program rebated the removal of 23,324 square feet of turf this fiscal year so far (with an estimated savings of 600,000 gallons per year). Pool cover rebates, although down from last year, remain steady and show that customers are continuing to taking efforts to cover their pools when not in use. The Retrofit on Resale Program has declined slightly again this fiscal year suspected to be caused by lower inventory of homes being sold in the service area in the first half of the fiscal year. The Water Smart Home Survey (WSHS) Program, which was essentially put on hold (for in-person home visits) due to COVID-19, has resumed recently with the training of a new technician to perform these surveys and staff expects an increase in participation in the second half of the fiscal year. Staff does continue to offer water use consultations by phone (or Facetime) and site visits for brief leak or irrigation related issues.

Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance No. 41 has continued to remain in effect during the first half of the fiscal year and staff has continued to enforce the water use prohibitions. In Late summer and fall, compliance with the assigned watering days and irrigation runoff was the primary focus followed by the late fall and winter season when irrigating after measurable rainfall and ongoing leaks became the primary focus of enforcement. Staff continues to proactively work with customers to resolve any identified water use violations or issues identified.

Public Information

In the first half of FY23, the District continued working with Kiosk to implement the public communications plan (or public outreach plan) in response to a goal from the 2018 Strategic Plan. A major component of this was the enhanced social media campaign with twice weekly posts in Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. These posts include Board Meeting advertisements, historically significant events, drought information and water supply updates, conservation program information and many other information items, which are planned over the year. Additionally, specific posts on water use prohibitions and water conservation tips were created in response to the drought situation. The District continues to monitor and review the new website and make changes and updates as needed to keep it fresh and easily navigable, which included a complete re-design of the “Outdoor” water conservation page. In addition, website news stories are being updated regularly and the rotating news flash on the front page is adjusted for the most pertinent news stories for the given time period.

The WaterSmart AMI dashboard and customer portal continues to be used as a public outreach tool to help inform customers on water use patterns and leaks and has also used the group messenger function to deploy group emails to customers. The portal has been a useful tool to alert customers to turning off their irrigation during and after rainfall events and also to communicate with customers who may be irrigating on the wrong day of the week and remind customers to turn off

their irrigation system with incoming rain forecasted. It has also been used to communicate leaks to customers who may be experiencing them.

A Fall Waterline newsletter was developed and mailed to all customers in October and a Spring Waterline newsletter will be developed likely for May 2023. The newsletter facilitates communications for those customers who may not be technologically inclined. The topics for the fall newsletter included a General Manager message on the drought and water supply enhancement efforts, a summary of water use prohibitions, an update on the local water supply study, water conservation program advertisements, an invitation to the AMI portal and also information on the LIRA program for low income customers.

All of the outreach efforts (including social media, website, print-ads and newsletters) for the preceding month are provided to the Board in a report on the miscellaneous calendar typically at the second meeting of each month.

Budget and Staffing

Table 2 summarizes the first half expenditures between the three fiscal years for (July-September). FY23 expenditures continue to be higher due to increased rebate program participation (although slightly lower than last fiscal year due to the slight drop in Cash for Grass participation), and increased communication and public relations efforts during the current drought period.

Table 2: Water Conservation and Outreach Expenditures (July through December: FY 2021 - 2023)

	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23
Total Budget	\$390,000	\$377,000	\$462,000
July-December Actual	\$146,692	\$222,800	\$195,006

Staffing

Water Conservation continues to be staffed by one full time Water Conservation Coordinator and one part time Water Conservation Technician. The District also has a partnership with Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) through the Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership to implement and staff some of the District Water Conservation Programs including the WSHS program (estimated at 250 hours per quarter), however SCWA staff has had very limited involvement with the District programs during the COVID-19 period. SCWA has hired a new technician to perform the WSHS for the District and is in the process of training that new staff member.

ATTACHMENTS: None

12



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: Eric Miller, Assistant General Manager / Chief Engineer
Subject: Administration & Laboratory Upgrade Project – Construction Update

Date: February 7, 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "EM", is written over the name "Eric Miller" in the "From:" line.

r:\folders by job no\6000 jobs\6501.44 nmwd office_yard bldg renovation\bod memos\2022 0920 - project update ppt\9-20-22 bod memo bldg project update.docx

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information Only
FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time

On April 29, 2022 your Board approved award of a contract to D.L. Falk Construction Inc. for the construction phase of the Administration and Laboratory Upgrade Project. The project consists of a renovation of the District's existing nearly 60-year old office building and a new one-story addition to provide a new water quality laboratory and new staff lunchroom and lobby area.

The construction phase began with a pre-construction meeting on June 21, 2022. Since that meeting, District staff has been deeply involved in coordination with the design team, construction administrator and the contractor. The baseline schedule currently indicates project completion in December 2023.

District staff provided a project update at the September 20, 2022 Board meeting and plans to continue providing quarterly informational presentations to the Board with details regarding schedule updates, progress photos, unforeseen issues, and budget status.

ATTACHMENTS: Presentation slides dated February 7, 2023



**NORTH MARIN
WATER DISTRICT**

Administration & Laboratory Upgrade Project Construction Update

February 7, 2023

Contents

1. Progress Photos
2. Schedule Update
3. Budget Status
4. Unforeseen Issues



01/17/23



09/14/22



Progress Photos



Aerial Drone Photo

10/06/22



Progress Photos



10/10/22

Lab Footings



10/28/22

Electrical Conduit



Progress Photos



Utilities Installed

12/15/22



Ready for Rain

1/6/23



Progress Photos



Future Lunch Room

01/31/23



Prepping to Pour
the Lab Slab

01/31/23



Progress Photos



Soffit Framing Begins

01/20/23



Old Building Entrance

01/06/23



Progress Photos



02/01/23

Future Reception Area



01/06/23

Future Board Room



Progress Photos



02/01/23

Future Public Restrooms



01/27/23

Staff Office Framing



Project Schedule

Project Schedule

1st Day of Work	July 11, 2022
Time Elapsed	172 calendar days (41%)
Orig. Project Completion	September 4, 2023
Current Project Completion	December 1, 2023



3-Month Look Ahead Schedule

Item of Work	February				March				April			
Admin. – Electrical, (Rough In)	x	x	x	x								
Admin. – HVAC ducting, (Rough In)					x	x	x	x				
Admin. – Drywall and Insulation							x	x	x	x	x	x
Admin. – HVAC connections, (Rough In)									x	x	x	x
Lab. – Pour Bldg. Slab (+7 day cure)	x	x										
Lab. – Wall Layout & Framing			x	x	x	x	x					
Lab. – Roof Framing & Shear Paneling						x	x	x				
Lab. – Utilities, (Rough In)								x	x	x	x	x



Budget Status

Budget Status

*through Dec. 2022

DL Falk Contract	\$	11,614,000	
Billed to Date *	\$	2,176,207	18.7%
Contingency	\$	1,252,000	
CO Forecast **	\$	249,000	19.9%
Project Start		July 11, 2022	
Time Elapsed		172 days	41%



** includes bid add. for landscape - \$96k (7.7%)





Unforeseen Issues

Supply Chain Delays

Many of the materials critical to project delivery are currently long-lead items due to global supply chain delays.

Some items have lead times more than 3x pre-Covid conditions.

Materials Impacted

- Electrical Equipment 12 months
- Mechanical Equipment 3 months
- Glass / Storefronts 3 months
- Exterior Paneling 6 months
- Lab Equipment 4 months

202203.6 Long Lead Procurement Material	
A1750	Mechanical Equipment (Est.
A1760	Storefronts & Glazing (Est. F
A1770	Exterior Metal Paneling (Est
A1780	Lab Equipment (Est. Procur

Baseline Schedule



Wet Weather

September	3 days
November	3 days
December	9 days
January	11 days



01/04/23

Significant storms (atmospheric rivers) in December and January resulted in approx. 50% of days qualifying as non-workable





Questions?

13

North Bay Watershed Association Board Meeting - Agenda

February 3, 2023 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY VIA REMOTE CONFERENCING SERVICE—

NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81630673971?pwd=dm94TXJCRWMyWFBLc3U5V2pTSmNRZz09>

Webinar ID: 816 3067 3971 Password: 216460

Agenda and materials will be available the day of the meeting at:

www.nbwatershed.org

AGENDA

Time	Agenda Item	Proposed Action
9:30	Welcome and Call to Order – Roll Call and Introductions <i>Andy Rodgers, Executive Director</i>	<i>N/A</i>
9:35	Election of Board Officers <i>Andy Rodgers, Executive Director</i>	<i>N/A</i>
9:40	General Public Comments This time is reserved for the public to address the Committee about matters NOT on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Committee.	<i>N/A</i>
9:45	Agenda and Past Meeting Minutes Review <i>Chair</i> Treasure's Reports <i>Chair</i>	<i>Approve/ Review</i>
9:50	Guest Presentation: Sonoma Water Regional Water Supply Resiliency Study <i>Donald Seymour, Water Resources Manager, Sonoma Water and Armin Munévar, Global Water Resources, Jacobs</i> Donald and Armin will provide an overview of the on-going Regional Water Supply Resiliency Study and efforts to identify the key factors impacting regional water supply resiliency, evaluate the current levels of resiliency, and identify promising opportunities for Sonoma Water and its retail customers to improve regional resilience in the future.	<i>Presentation slides</i>

10:30	<p>Executive Director Report <i>Andy Rodgers, Executive Director</i></p> <p>Andy will provide updates on activities since the December 2 Board meeting, including active and developing projects, recent meetings, regional programs and initiatives, communications, and committees.</p> <p>Andy will outline ideas for next and future Board meeting topics and solicit feedback.</p>	<p><i>ED updates, Board questions, and input</i></p>
10:35	<p>Board Information Exchange and Drought Updates <i>Members</i></p> <p>Members will highlight issues and share items of interest.</p>	<p><i>N/A</i></p>
10:45	<p>Agenda Items for Future Meetings <i>Andy Rodgers, Executive Director</i></p> <p>Andy will outline ideas for next and future Board meeting topics and solicit feedback.</p>	<p><i>N/A</i></p>
11:30	<p>Announcements/Adjourn Next Board Meeting: March 3, 2023</p>	<p><i>N/A</i></p>

14

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED JANUARY 19, 2023

Date Prepared 1/17/23

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	Able Tire & Brake	Tires (9) ('15 John Deere Loader, '12 Ford F250, '19 Nissan Frontier-\$1,025, '12 Ford F250)	\$2,559.30
2	All Star Rents	Return Payment. Intended for MMWD	185.86
3	Alpha Analytical Labs	Lab Testing	557.50
4	Arendell, Tony	Retiree Exp Reimb (Jan Health Ins)	1,234.14
5	Athens Administrators	December Indemnity Review Fee	105.00
6	AWWA CA-NV SEC	Cross Connection Renewal (Kurfirfirst)	100.00
7	Bakalar, Michael	Retiree Exp Reimb (2023 Health Ins)	547.80
8	Borges & Mahoney	Rebuild Kits & Parts for STP Chlorine Systems	4,120.83
9	Boucher Law, PC	September Labor & Law Matters	159.00
10	Breit, Adam	Exp Reimb: D2 Renewal Fee	130.00
11	Building Supply Center	Adaptors (3) & Elbow	11.43
12	California Water Service	Water Service (O.M.)	32.12
13	Chandrasekera, Carmela	Retiree Exp Reimb (Jan Health Ins)	1,234.14
14	Cilia, Joseph	Retiree Exp Reimb (Jan Health Ins)	457.46
15	Comcast	January Internet (1250 Lynwood Dr & 100 Wood Hollow Dr)	566.10
16	Comcast	Ethernet Dedicated Internet 12/21-01/31 (999 Rush Creek Place)	2,117.50
17	Core & Main	Brass Unions (3), Valves (3) (\$5,380), Flange Spools (16) (\$8,943), Valve Setter, All Thread Rod, 1" PVC Pipe, & Ell	15,411.98
18	E & M	Replacement VFD for STP Raw Water Pump #1	3,712.98

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
19	Enterprise FM Trust	Monthly Leases for Chevy Colorado, Ford Ranger, F250's (2), Nissan Rogues (2), Nissan Frontiers (2), F150's (7) & Chevy Bolts (2)	8,916.69
20	Environmental Express	Break Caps & Glass Bottles (30)	198.28
21	Epsen, William	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	250.00
22	FedEx Freight	Holding Fee (Enclosures & Variable Frequency Drives for High Power Service Pumps @ STP)	166.00
23	Fisher Scientific	Endo Broth & Safety Gloves	217.23
24	Friedman's Home Improvement	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	553.98
25	Frontier Communications	Leased Lines	1,778.31
26	Frontier Communications	January Internet (STP)	654.07
27	Grainger	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	1,371.18
28	Hale, Larry	Retiree Exp Reimb (2023 Health Ins)	547.80
29	Heron Instruments, Inc.	Water Level Meter (STP)	581.70
30	Johnstone, Daniel	Retiree Exp Reimb (2023 Health Ins)	1,088.28
31	Kehoe, Theresa	Exp Reimb: Retirement Book (Kehoe)	83.93
32	Latanyszyn, Roman	Retiree Exp Reimb (Jan Health Ins)	457.46
33	Lemos, Kerry	Retiree Exp Reimb (Jan Health Ins)	1,234.14
34	Manzoni, Alicia	Retiree Exp Reimb (Jan Health Ins)	457.46
35	Marin County Ford	Service Parts ('15 F250 & '20 F250)	535.72
36	McLellan Co, WK	Misc Paving	7,433.24
37	McKinzie, Matthew	Novato "Cash for Grass" Rebate Program	800.00
38	Nave Motors	Towing Charge ('12 Ford F50) on 12/9/22	125.00
39	Nelson, John O.	Retiree Exp Reimb (2023 Health Ins)	1,088.28
40	Northbay Nissan	Assembly & Pulley Switch ('16 Nissan Frontier)	115.54
41	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	679.71
42	O'Reilly Auto Parts	Vehicle Cleaners, Wax & Batteries (2)	732.96

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
43	Pace Supply	Flange Adapter Couplings (2), 5 HP Motor (\$1,517) & Meter Idler (2)	2,676.32
44	Pacific Gas & Electric Co	Power: Bldgs/Yard (\$1,612), Other (\$136), Pumping (\$18,853), Rect/Cont (\$502) & Treatment (\$105)	21,208.93
45	Pini Hardware	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	739.61
46	Quadient, Inc.	Postal Meter Ink Cartridges (2) & February Postage Meter Rental	479.11
47	Roy's Sewer Service	Sewer Line Inspection @ Oceana Marin	25,461.75
48	Smalley, Gayle	Retiree Exp Reimb (2023 Health Ins)	547.80
49	SPG Solar Facility XII, LLC	December Energy Delivered Under Solar Services Agreement	5,947.89
50	Univar	Sodium Hypochlorite (200 gals)	292.80
51	USA BlueBook	Pressure Valve	381.36
52	US Bank	December Safekeeping Treasury Securities	215.50
53	Vasconcellos, Joan	Retiree Exp Reimb (2023 Health Ins)	547.80
54	VWR International LLC	Sterilization Wrap, Celite, Beaker, Phosphorus, Bottles, Standards & Aluminum Pans (100) (Lab)	553.65
55	Waste Management	Waste Disposal	207.33
56	West Yost Associates	Prog Pymt#10: Pipeline Condition Assessment (\$13,572) (Balance Remaining on Contract \$134,197), Prog Pymt#11: Recycled Water Reg 18 Update (\$931) (Balance Remaining on Contract \$133,265) & Prog Pymt#12: Pipeline Condition Assessment (\$19,531) (Balance Remaining on Contract \$113,734)	34,034.50

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
57	ZORO	Flood Lights (4)	153.85
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$157,398.30</u>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$157,398.30 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Julie Blue 01/17/23
 Auditor-Controller Date

[Signature] 01/17/2023
 General Manager Date

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED JANUARY 26, 2023

Date Prepared 1/23/23

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
P/R*	Employees	Net Payroll PPE 1/15/23	\$180,603.38
90557*	Internal Revenue Service	Federal & FICA Taxes PPE 1/15/23	82,507.64
90559*	State of California	State Taxes & SDI PPE 1/15/23	18,125.35
90558*	CalPERS	Pension Contribution PPE 1/15/23	44,715.01
EFT*	US Bank	December Bank Analysis Charge (Lockbox \$912 & Other \$465 Less Interest \$158)	1,219.59
90560*	US Bank Card	GFOA-Achievement Review Fee, Office of Water Programs-Course & Manual, AT&T-Internet for PRTP, Zoom for Board Meetings, Microsoft Monthly Subscription, Tommy Salsa's-Food for Holiday Party (\$1,668), Ubiquiti-IT Supplies, Supplies for Holiday Party, Breakfast Sandwiches for Retiring Employee, Costco-Retirement Book, Insurance for Pt Reyes Meeting, Posting for Cashier/Receptionist Position & 941 & DE9 Forms for 4th Quarter Filing.	3,932.80
1	100 Wood Hollow Drive Owner	February Wood Hollow Rent	28,294.75
2	All Star Rents	12' Lift Rental & Propane (9 gals)	200.89
3	Amazon/Genuine-Hardware	Miscellaneous Office Supplies, Trailer Hitch, Flush Mount Lights, Sealant (4), Battery Backups (4), Cordless Drill & Water Heater Connector	1,672.02
4	American Family Life Ins	AFLAC-January 2023 Employee Paid Benefit	3,619.92
5	AT&T	Leased Lines	68.08
6	Backflow Distributors	Disc Assemblies (2)	814.44
7	Badami, Jayasheela	Refund Over Payment on Closed Account	100.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
8	Bank of Marin	Bank of Marin Loan Principal & Interest (Pymt 135 of 240) Aqueduct Energy Efficiency Project	46,066.67
9	Bramante, Dominic	Refund Overpayment on Open Account	1,898.63
10	Buck Institute for Research on Aging	Quarterly Lease for Lab Department @ Buck Institute (2/16/23-5/15/23)	26,892.00
11	Burr, Jane	Refund Overpayment on Open Account	967.50
12	CA Dept of Tax & Fee Admin	Water Rights Fees (7/1/22-6/30/23)	2,946.39
13	Comcast	January Internet (Buck Institute)	356.55
14	Core & Main	Flange, Tapping Sleeve (\$1,242), Clamps (2), Ball Valves (30), Elbows (8), Nipples (8), Couplings (6) (\$1,396), Ring Gaskets (6) & Spray Lube (8)	4,205.70
15	D.L. Falk Construction, Inc.	Prog Pymt#6: Perform NMWD Admin & Lab Building Upgrades (Balance Remaining on Contract \$9,428,793)	165,211.32
16	D.L. Falk Construction Escrow Acct	5% Retainer: DL Falk Construction-CA Bank of Commerce-Admin Bldg & Lab Upgrade	8,695.33
17	Fisher Scientific	EC Broth (Lab)	107.64
18	Grainger	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	315.67
19	InfoSend, Inc.	December Processing Fee for Water Bills (\$1,312), Postage (\$3,868) & December Monthly Support Fee (\$1,061)	6,241.20
20	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan	DMV/DOT Physical Exams (LeBrun & Medeiros)	230.00
21		Vision Reimbursement	116.00
22	LGVSD	Recycled Water Deliveries (10/1/22-12/31/22)	4,930.73
23	Lincoln Life Employer Serv	Deferred Compensation 1/15/23	12,092.78
24	Maggiora & Ghilotti	Release of Retention Funds for the Old Ranch Road Tank No. 2 Project	62,807.50
25	Marin Harbor Village Inc	Return Payment-Not Our Customer	463.43

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
26	Miller Pacific Engineering	Prog Pymt #4: Geotechnical Services for Admin Building Renovation Project (Balance Remaining on Contract \$36,939)	5,894.90
27	Mutual of Omaha	February 2023-Mutual of Omaha Group Life Insurance Premium	1,159.73
28	Nationwide Retirement Solution	Deferred Compensation 1/15/23	2,035.00
29	Northen, Brian	Exp Reimb: D2 Certification Request	80.00
30	Pace Supply	Couplings (26) (\$1,004), Adaptors (4) (\$1,297) & Rubber Meter Gaskets (500)	2,540.76
31	Pacific Coast Petroleum, Inc	Grease & Oil (STP Maintenance)	334.79
32	Parkinson Accounting Systems	Accounting Software Support	97.50
33	Point Reyes Prop Mgmt Assn	January Property Management HOA Fees (25 Giacomini Rd)	75.05
34	Pollard Water	Nipples (6)	279.60
35	Ramiro, Anna	Refund-Double Payment Made on Open Account	233.56
36	Redwood Health Services, Inc.	December 2022 RHS Dental Claims & Fees Expense	4,930.55
37	Scott Technology Group	Monthly Maintenance on Engineering Copier & Contract Overage Charge	283.08
38	Soiland Co., Inc.	Asphalt Recycling (5 tons)	71.10
39	Sonoma County Water Agency	December Contract Water	324,833.17
40	State Water Resources Control	T3 Renewal Certification (Foster)	90.00
41	Tamagno Green Products	Sludge Removal From STP (60 yds)	2,520.00
42	Township Building Services	December Janitorial Services	367.86
43	USA BlueBook	Meter Idlers (13), Repair Kit for Griffco Valves (STP) & Hydrant Diffuser (\$1,350)	2,238.38
44	VWR International LLC	Nutrient Agar & Tryptic Soy Broth (Lab)	154.54
45	White & Prescott	Prog Pymt #20: High & Low Pressure Notices (Balance Remaining on Contract \$39,350)	4,185.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
46	Winzer Corporation	Miscellaneous Supplies for Auto Shop	136.50
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			<u>\$1,062,959.98</u>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$1,062,959.98 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Julie Blue 01/23/23
 Auditor-Controller Date

Ally Hill 1/23/2023
 General Manager Date

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Date Prepared 1/30/23

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
90561*	CA Dept of Tax & Fee Admin.	State Sales & Use Tax 1/22-12/22	\$2,369.00
1	All Star Rents	Propane (STP Forklift)	64.80
2	Bay Area Air Quality Mgmt Dist	Annual Permit Renewal Fees (Lanai & Tahiti Streets-Dillon Beach)	556.00
3	Beck, Raymond	Refund Overpayment on Open Account	407.86
4	Bold & Polisner	December Legal Fees General (\$3,135) & NMWD Portion-Potter Valley FERC	3,652.50
5	Boucher Law, PC	October Labor & Law Matters	2,570.50
6	Caltest	Lab Testing (O.M.)	105.80
7	Coast Counties Peterbilt	Starter ('09 Peterbilt)	503.43
8	Consolidated CM	Prog Pymt #20: Provide Construction Management Services for NMWD Admin Building Renovation (Balance Remaining on Contract \$572,085)	60,311.74
9	Core Utilities, Inc	Consulting Services: December IT Support (\$6,000), Labor for SCADA Support & CORE Billing Maintenance	7,000.00
10	Diesel Direct West	Diesel (382 gal) (\$1,855) & Gasoline (880 gal) (\$3,403)	5,258.01
11	Ferguson Waterworks	Bolt Nuts (70) (\$2,409) & Couplings (4) (\$1,463)	3,871.28
12	GHD Inc.	Prog Pymt#22: Old Ranch Road Tank No. 2 A/E Services (Balance Remaining on Contract \$10,426)	1,034.01
13	Grainger	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	1,375.84
14	HMS Software	Consulting Services for TimeControl Timesheet Software (33.5 hrs)	5,025.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
15	Home Depot	Miscellaneous Construction & Maintenance Supplies	1,053.38
16	Kane, Shawn	Exp Reimb: Renewal of D2 Certification	80.00
17	Kiosk Creative LLC	Marketing Communication & Outreach Services (Balance Remining on Contract \$36,292)	5,462.92
18	Martin, Christel	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	125.00
19	Noll & Tam Architects	Prog Pymt#19:(\$43,591) & Prog Pymt#20: (\$45,126) Consulting Services for NMWD Headquarters Upgrade A/E Service (Balance Remaining on Contract \$214,636)	88,717.50
20	Novato Sanitary District	October 2022-RW Operating Expense	45,588.51
21	Nute Engineering	Prog Pymt #5: Engineering Services for Oceana Marin Force Main 1 A (Balance Remaining on Contract \$75,780)	832.00
22	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	754.67
23	Pace Supply	Couplings (27)	4,086.27
24	Pipette	Lab Testing	39.00
25	Pollard Water	Nipples (6) & Pitot Kit (Const)	426.08
26	Preferred Alliance, Inc.	Pre-Employment Tests (2)	84.00
27	D Price-Jones	Refund Overpayment on Closed Account	70.55
28	Red Wing Business Advantage	Safety Boots (Roberto)	200.00
29	Soiland Co., Inc.	Replacement Payment-Original Check Lost in Mail - Rock (125 yds)	4,265.19
30	Sonoma County Water	Adjustment to December Contract Water	12,322.86
31	State Water Resources Control	Annual Permit Fees (Gallagher Ranch Streambank Stabilization Project & San Mateo Tank Water Transmission)	730.00
32	Stompe, Brad	Exp Reimb: Snack for STP Training (Oct-Jan)	363.56
33	Unicorn Group	Large Format Posters for Public Outreach Event (W.M.)	97.43

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
34	United Parcel Service	Delivery Services: Sent Pipettes for Calibration, Media Samples Tested for Cleaning & Parts Sent for Chlorine Feed System @ STP	96.36
35	USA BlueBook	Pressure Relief Valve (STP)	421.49
36	Vulcan Materials Company	EZ Street (4 yds)	818.44
37	VWR International LLC	Buffers (3), Oxalic Acid, Lamp Replacement Assembly, Solution & Bromide, (Lab)	473.70
38	Warren Glass ROAD	3/15 Share of Vineyard Road Repair	1,098.00
39	Waste Management	Storm Damage Debris	872.76
40	Zelnick, Walter	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	100.00
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$263,285.44</u>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$263,285.44 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Julie Blum 01/30/2023
Auditor-Controller Date

[Signature] 1/30/2023
General Manager Date



MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors
From: Nancy Williamson, Accounting Supervisor *NW*
Subj: Information – FY23 2nd Quarter Labor Cost Report
t:\acl\word\memo\23\2nd qtr labor cost rpt.doc

February 7, 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information Only
FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

Total labor cost increased \$473,064 (11.4%) from the prior fiscal year and is \$660,018 (12.5%) below the FY23 budget to-date. The number of FTE's increased from the prior year, due to vacant positions being filled in Engineering, Water Quality and Construction. Attached in graphical format is a five-year comparative summary of total labor cost (Attachment A), overtime cost (Attachment B) and temporary employee cost (Attachment C) expended during each fiscal year. Also attached is a summary of total labor cost vs. budget (Attachment D) through the end of the second quarter of the fiscal year.

Department	Increase / (Decrease) in Labor Cost vs prior FY		% Change
Administration	\$120,873		11.4%
Engineering	\$109,158		14.0%
Operations/Maint	\$230,245		15.2%
Construction/Maint	\$12,788		1.6%
Net Increase/(Decrease)	\$473,064		11.4%

Comment on Change from Prior Year

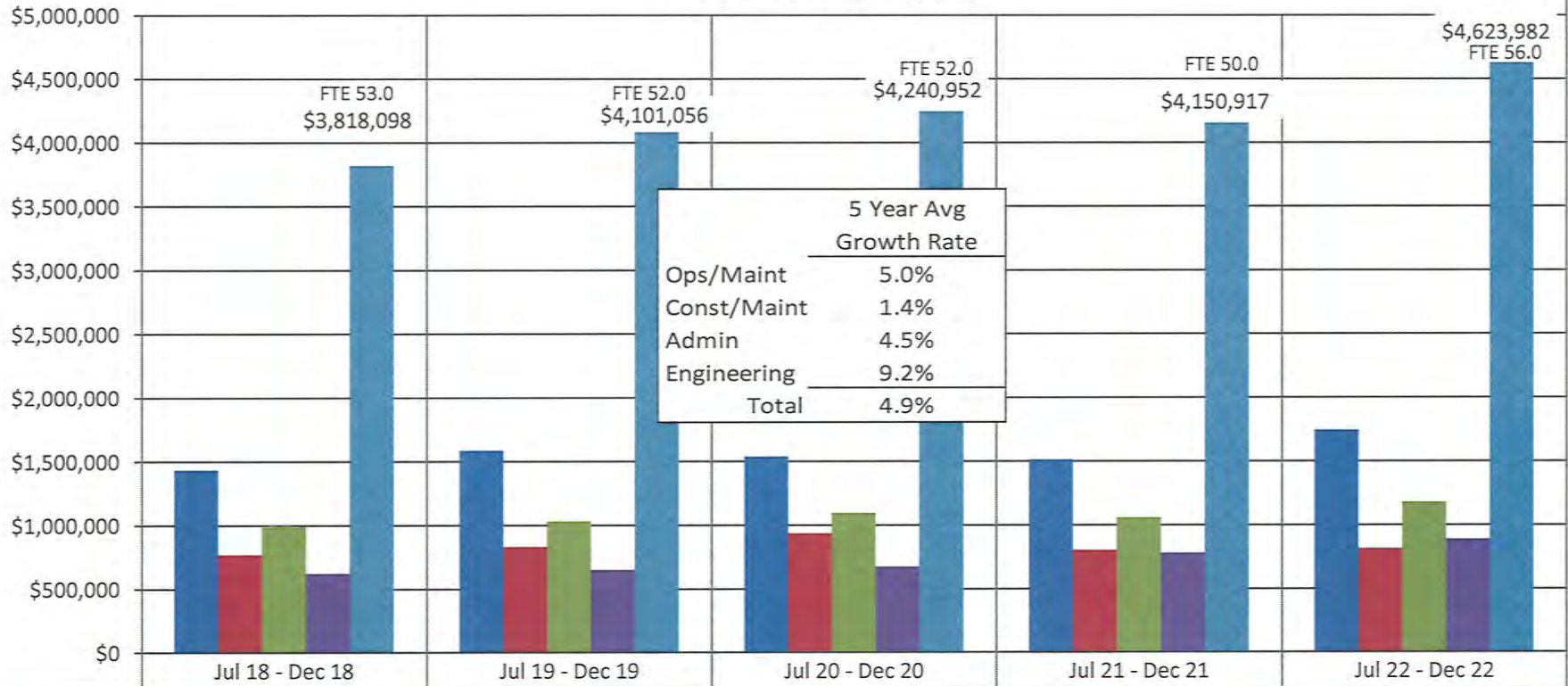
Administration: Labor Cost increased \$120,873, or 11.4%. The increase was due to eight 5% step increases, and to the 4.0% cost of living adjustment (COLA) effective October 1, of 2022.

Engineering: Labor Cost increased \$109,158, or 14.0%. The increase was due to five 5% step increases and to the October 2022 COLA.

Operations/Maintenance: Labor Cost increased \$230,245, or 15.2%. The increase was due the addition of a Lab Tech on July 1, 2022, to eleven 5% step increases, and to the October 2022 COLA.

Construction/Maintenance: Labor Cost increased \$12,788, or 1.6%. The increase was due to seven 5% step-increases and the October 2022 COLA. The increase was offset by less On-Call pay this year compared to last year

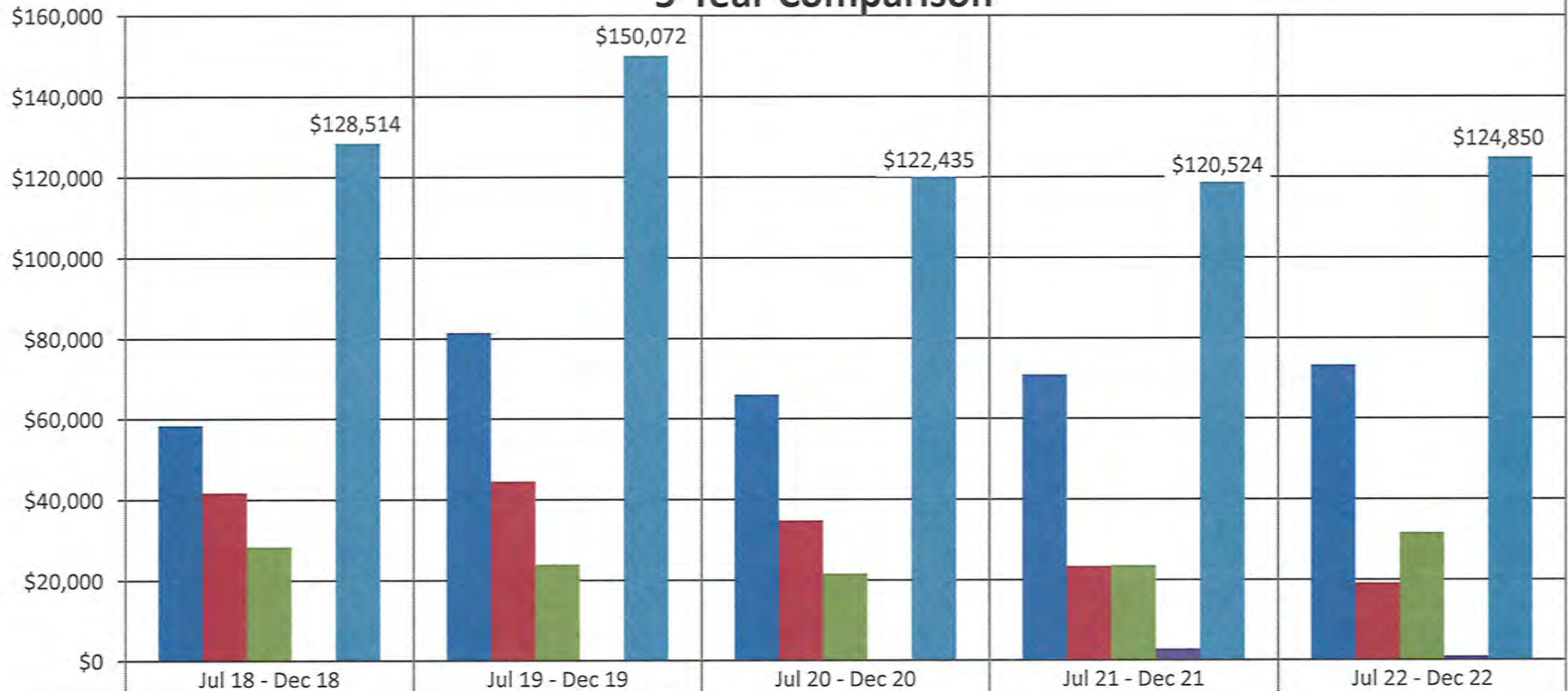
Total Labor Cost NMWD Fiscal Year through December 5-Year Comparison



	Jul 18 - Dec 18	Jul 19 - Dec 19	Jul 20 - Dec 20	Jul 21 - Dec 21	Jul 22 - Dec 22
Ops/Maint	\$1,435,346	\$1,587,025	\$1,537,648	\$1,513,235	\$1,743,481
Const/Maint	\$770,855	\$830,777	\$935,252	\$802,083	\$814,871
Admin	\$988,229	\$1,032,600	\$1,094,430	\$1,057,186	\$1,178,059
Eng	\$623,668	\$650,653	\$673,621	\$778,413	\$887,571
Total	\$3,818,098	\$4,101,056	\$4,240,952	\$4,150,917	\$4,623,982

■ Ops/Maint ■ Const/Maint ■ Admin ■ Eng ■ Total

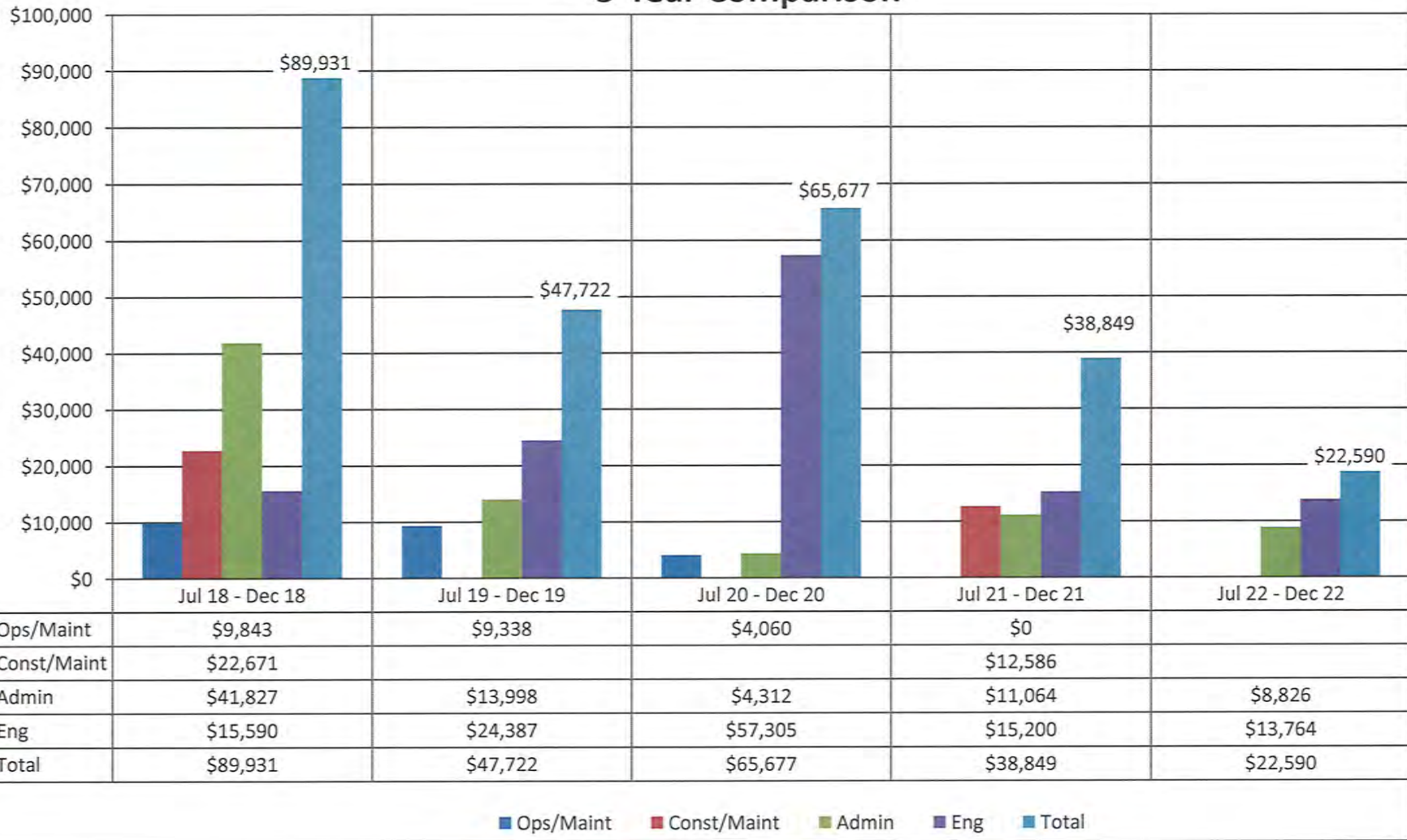
Overtime Cost NMWD Fiscal Year through December 5-Year Comparison



■ Ops/Maint	\$58,404	\$81,577	\$66,026	\$70,860	\$73,224
■ Const/Maint	\$41,754	\$44,480	\$34,773	\$23,430	\$19,151
■ Admin	\$28,356	\$24,015	\$21,637	\$23,565	\$31,606
■ Eng				\$2,670	\$869
■ Total	\$128,514	\$150,072	\$122,435	\$120,524	\$124,850

■ Ops/Maint ■ Const/Maint ■ Admin ■ Eng ■ Total

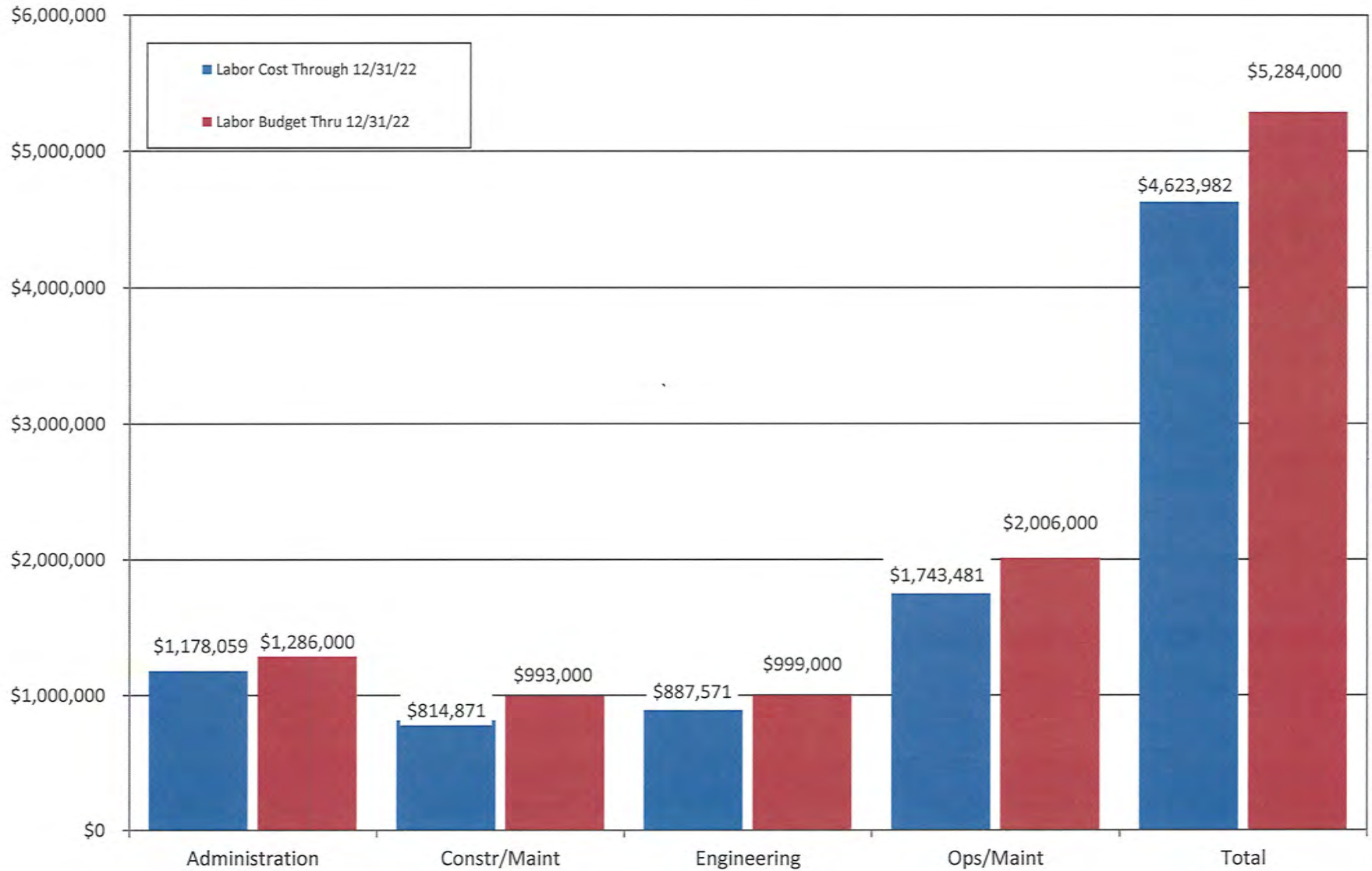
Temporary Employee Cost NMWD Fiscal Year through December 5-Year Comparison



1/31/23

\\finance\hrs\pt\labor cost compared to budget fy23\salary chart.xls

Total Labor Cost vs. Budget NMWD Fiscal Year through December

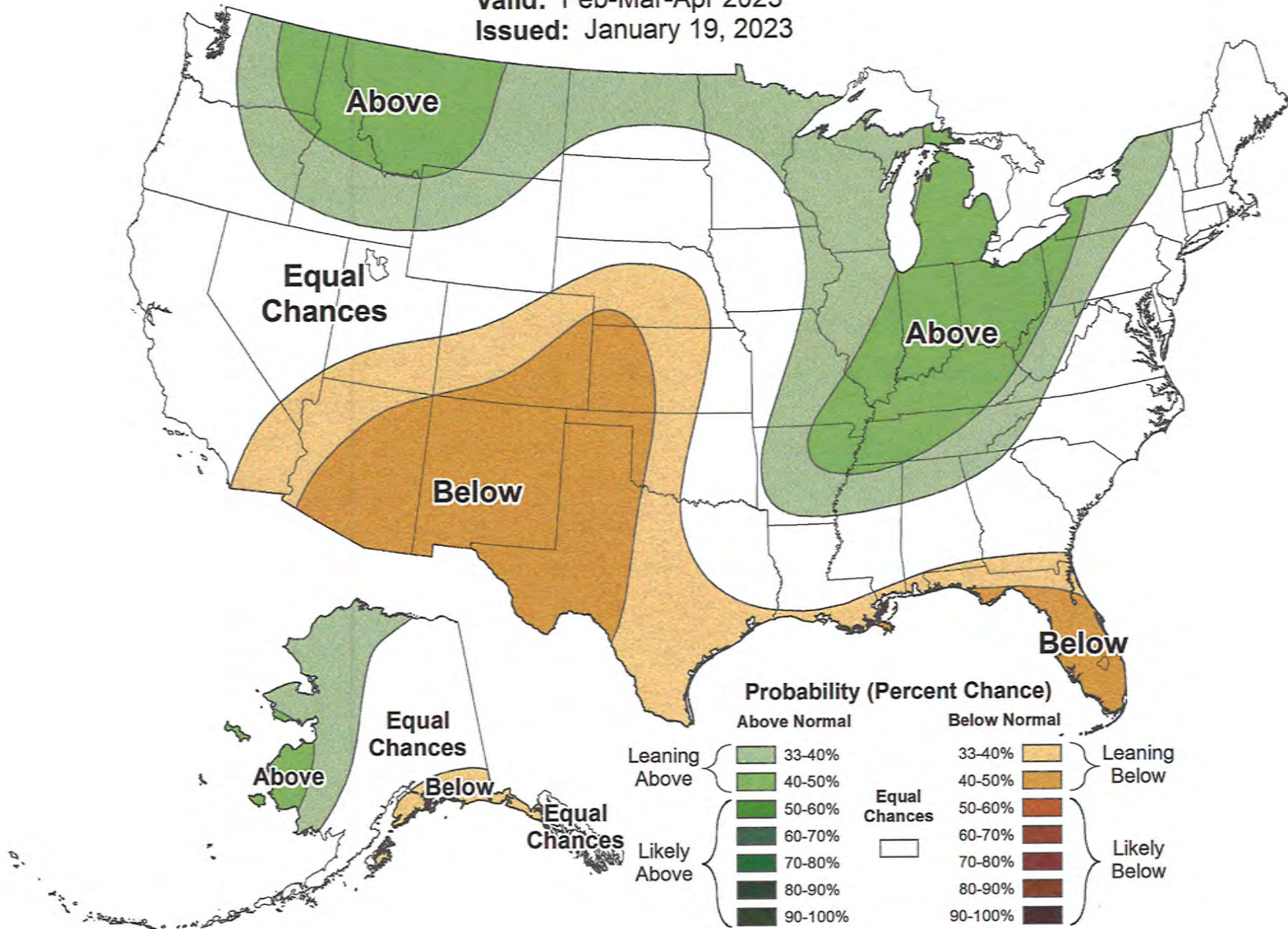




Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



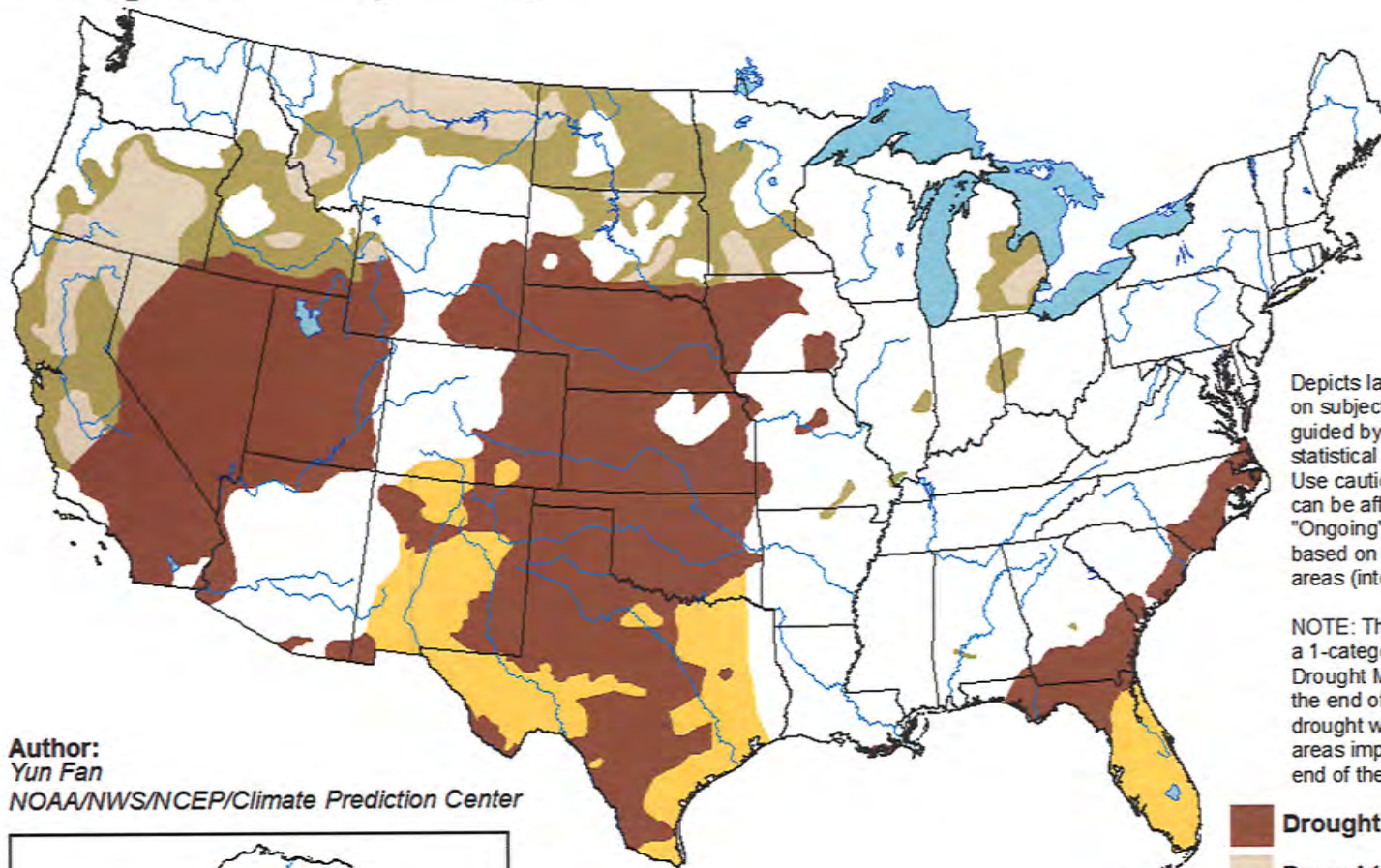
Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2023
Issued: January 19, 2023



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

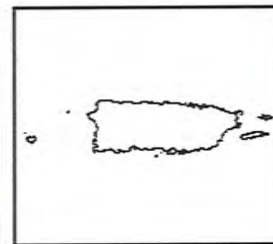
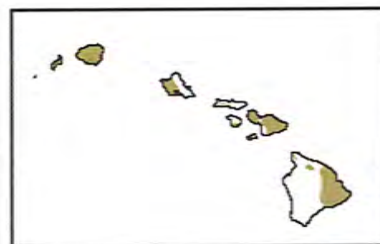
Valid for January 19 - April 30, 2023
Released January 19







Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

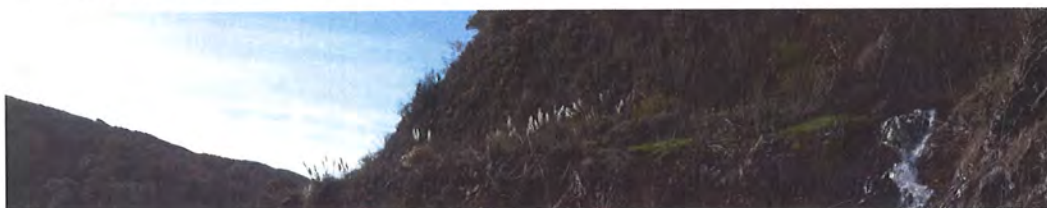
MARIN'S WET WINTER

IS DROUGHT OVER?

Storms refill reservoirs, but officials say water supply vulnerability still a concern



Hammocks and a barbecue grill are surrounded by water at Stafford Lake Park in Novato on Thursday. The reservoir reached capacity after recent storms. PHOTOS BY ALAN DEP — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL





A truck passes a waterfall along the Point Reyes-Petaluma Road near Nicasio on Thursday.

In terms of Marin's water supply, the answer from local water agencies and state water experts is yes — but residents should not get too comfortable.

“It’s usually over when you think you have enough water,” said Jay Lund of the Center for Watershed Sciences at the University of California, Davis. “If you are a farmer that relies on rain to provide enough water for your crops, then the drought is over when it rains. If you’re a reservoir operator, the drought is over when your reservoir is full and you’re having to spill water, which is probably the situation Marin is in right now.”

“And if you’re down in the San Joaquin Valley and rely on groundwater that has historically been overdrawn for many decades, maybe that drought never ends,” Lund said.

In contrast to larger state reservoirs that remain at below-average storage levels, Marin County’s eight main reservoirs were refilled this past week for the first time since the winter of 2018-2019 because of series of storms that began in late December. The sight of water gushing from dam spillways offered relief following a drought that at one time threatened to nearly deplete local reservoir supplies for 191,000 residents as soon as mid-2022.

The severity of the recent drought also demonstrated the vulnerabilities of Marin’s water supply, which primarily relies on

local reservoirs refilled by rainfall in addition to water imported from the Russian River.

In response, the county’s two largest water agencies — the Marin Municipal Water District and North Marin Water District — are exploring adding new sources of supply in order to weather what are expected to be worsening droughts because of climate change. Additionally, conservation measures that typically were only mandated during the drought, such as limiting outdoor sprinkler use and banning new ornamental turf at businesses, have been made permanent in some areas.

Reached Friday, officials at both agencies described their reinvigorated water supplies as being more of a temporary respite than an ending.

“For the short term, yes, we’re looking good with storage with the reservoirs at capacity,” said Paul Sellier, a Marin Municipal Water District official. “In the longer term, we still have a vulnerability to droughts which we know are going to continue to repeat, and climate change indicates those will be deeper and longer as we go into the future. We’re continuing our search and quest to make our water supply more resilient so we don’t experience what we did in 2020 and 2021.”

“I suspect that even though the drought might be over in the short span, there would probably be state-mandated if not local restrictions on water use,” said Tony Williams, general manager of the North Marin Water District.

While state water officials said rainfall statewide is above average for this time of year and reservoir storage is inching closer to average with each passing storm, they cautioned that one particularly wet period does not mean the drought is over.

“We really have to keep in mind that we should be thinking away from the concept that drought is just an occasional emergency that happens and goes away to recognizing that we are going to be living in a world with less water,” said Jeanine Jones, interstate

resources manager with the California Department of Water Resources.

A recent study led by the University of California, Los Angeles, said tree ring data showed that the last 22 years in California were the driest in 1,200 years. In addition to the current drought, California most recently experienced drought periods in 2001-2003, 2007-2009 and 2012-2016. Climate change has also resulted in hotter temperatures, which has exacerbated the dry periods.

By the federal government's definition, Marin County is still in a drought, but one that is easing with each subsequent storm.

The U.S. Drought Monitor — a weekly federal report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln — shows Marin County was downgraded between Jan. 3 and Jan. 10 from being in a severe drought to a moderate drought. Around California, 46% of the state remained in a severe drought as of Jan. 10, which is down from nearly 90% just over a month ago, according to the report.

Marin's water supplies from the Russian River are also showing significant improvement. Sonoma Water, which imports the water to Marin, reported that its larger reservoir, Lake Sonoma, was nearly 80% full as of Friday, which is just slightly below the average of about 84% for this time of year. The lake had reached its all-time lowest levels at around 40% in December. The smaller reservoir at Lake Mendocino has already reached its supply target and is being managed for flood control.

But even as water gushes out of dam spillways in Marin, residents are still subject to a statewide conservation order implemented last summer following a record-dry start to 2022. The order by Gov. Gavin Newsom requires major water suppliers to implement their stage 2 water conservation plans. In the greater Novato area, more than 60,000 residents are still under a mandate by North Marin Water District to cut back water use by 20% and limit outdoor watering to three days per week. The 191,000 central and southern

Marin residents served by the Marin Municipal Water District are being asked to voluntarily cut back water use by 20%.

Jones of the Department of Water Resources said the decision on whether to lift those restrictions in regions with ample water supply will be made by the governor's office and the state water board.

"That would more likely be later in the wet season where we see where we end up," Jones said.

While local water supplies are ample, some consequences of the drought will continue to linger for some time, particularly among Marin County ranchers and agricultural producers. The recent dry years have resulted in ranchers having to truck in water to replenish shrinking storage ponds for livestock. The lack of rain also led to poor local forage production, prompting ranchers to have to purchase and truck in feed at high prices and compete with other producers throughout the state who were in a similar bind.

Marin County Agricultural Commissioner Stefan Parnay said the hope is that rains and milder temperatures will continue into the coming months to allow for more local forage production.

"Long term, our ranchers and agricultural producers are in a deep hole with debt," Parnay said. "They have a long way to climb out and that's not going to happen in a year. That's going to happen over a few years. The hope is we can get out of this drought and hopefully have a few really good years of rainfall that will support the ag community."

Now with a few years of water supply in hand, Marin must decide how it will prepare for the next drought, Lund said.

"Make the system stronger while you have the time and opportunity to do that," Lund said, "so when the next drought comes — and it's going to come — you'll be better prepared for it."

ABOVE THE PACIFIC

Inside California's wild weather from the sky



Drivers navigate standing water on Highway 101 during a downpour, in San Francisco on Tuesday. Atmospheric rivers have caused weeks of flooding, power outages and evacuations up and down California. MIKE KAI CHEN — THE NEW YORK TIMES

BY RAYMOND ZHONG

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ABOARD A GULFSTREAM IV, over the Pacific >> The winter storms pounding California this month have often come into being thousands of miles to the west, in the moist air above the Pacific.

That has given a group of scientists and technicians a few days before one blows ashore to examine satellite readings, run computer models and plan crews and equipment, all of which culminates in a uniquely full-contact effort to understand these storms' inner workings: By dropping sensors into them from the sky.

This past week, aboard a Gulfstream IV jet that was streaking toward Alaska as a giant storm seethed miles below, an engineer gave a quick countdown: "Sonde's out in 5, 4, 3, 2 ..."

A hatch in the plane's belly sprang open. The sonde, a tube of instruments about the size of a model rocket, was sucked out into the frigid air and began plummeting toward the clouds, where it would investigate the storm's innards and transmit its findings to the world.

Atmospheric rivers have caused weeks of flooding, power outages and evacuations up and down California and killed at least 18 people. But the devastation would almost certainly be even greater were it not for the weather forecasts that roll in before each storm. Emergency responders, dam operators and farmers now have piles of rapidly updated information at their fingertips about where these storms are headed, how soon they might arrive, and how much rain and snow they could bring when they get there.

Assembling those predictions still begins, however, by getting close to the action. The West Coast's atmospheric rivers spend their early days over huge, empty expanses of the Pacific. No network of weather stations is collecting detailed information about their approach, as is possible for storms traveling over land. Clouds can obstruct satellite measurements, and drifting buoys mostly gauge conditions near the ocean's surface.

A program called Atmospheric River Reconnaissance, or AR Recon, is trying to plug this data void. It is led by scientists at the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes, part of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego.

AR Recon is partly a research initiative, but since 2019 it has also been part of the federal government’s winter meteorological operations, with support from the Air Force and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This winter, AR Recon started flying missions earlier than ever, in November, to sample more of the early-season storms that have caused devastating flooding on the Pacific Coast in recent years.

The data these planes gather is part of a series of advancements in weather forecasting and the computer models behind it.

Richard Henning, a NOAA flight meteorologist who serves as a flight director with AR Recon, has flown research missions with the agency and Air Force for nearly 30 years. He used an analogy to describe how well weather models predicted the future back then: If you asked them what an acorn would look like someday, their answer would essentially be “a much bigger acorn,” he said.

Today, they would show you an oak tree. “That’s literally the difference in the sophistication of the models.”

Each AR Recon flight begins with scientists and officials convening virtually and in a San Diego conference room to draw up a plan of attack. It was Wednesday. Another river of moisture was barreling toward California. A big one.

With only three aircraft at their disposal — the NOAA Gulfstream and two Air Force C-130s — mission planners have to be strategic. They conduct analyses to determine where extra data from inside an atmospheric river might be most useful for improving forecasts, then they chart flight paths to hit those spots economically.

With the forecasts before any storm, “very small errors have the potential to grow to make a precipitation forecast really off,” said Anna M. Wilson, a scientist at Scripps and AR Recon’s mission director for the past week.

Early the next morning, a small team from NOAA, plus a reporter, a photographer and another scientist from Scripps, set off in the

Gulfstream from Honolulu.

The mission: fly roughly 1,500 miles almost straight north, toward the Aleutian Islands in Alaska, before doubling back. This would allow the plane to cross two separate sections of the atmospheric river's moisture-laden core as it swept east. And flying at an altitude of 41,000 feet to 45,000 feet would let the plane sample both the storm itself and the jet stream, whose powerful winds help shape the system's course. Total flight time: about eight hours.

The NOAA Gulfstream, nicknamed "Gonzo," is mostly kitted out for science, with a few concessions to the needs of crews spending long hours in close quarters. There are jugs for water and coffee, plus an icebox. Snacks aren't provided, though the plane has a microwave for heating up food brought aboard. Squeezed into its rear is an even more cramped version of a commercial jet's lavatory.

Heavy racks of gear have been installed throughout the cabin with artful efficiency. A tail-mounted Doppler radar estimates how quickly the moisture is moving below. A GPS receiver measures how much satellite signals are refracted in the air to estimate the properties of the atmosphere around the sides of the plane.

Then there are the sondes, which cost NOAA about \$800 each. The crew dropped more than 30 of them during Thursday's flight, spacing them out to sample a wide section of the atmospheric river.

The data is transmitted to a global repository that feeds weather forecasts around the globe. But the first to see it are the onboard meteorologists, whose screens dance with colorful squiggles representing wind speed and direction, temperature and humidity — each sonde's proof of life during its unimaginably chaotic 15-minute dive toward the sea.

Information from the sondes has begun to prove its value for making atmospheric river forecasts more accurate. Scientists have used the same computer model to generate one forecast that

incorporates the data and another that does not, then compared both of them with a storm's real-world effects. In some cases, they have found improvements in forecasts of up to 25%.

“That is unheard-of,” said Vijay S. Tallapragada, a senior scientist with NOAA's Environmental Modeling Center who helps lead AR Recon. “If you look at the history of forecast improvements for precipitation, they were stagnant for the last 20 years.”

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023

In your town

SAN RAFAEL

Retired civil engineer joins sewer board

The Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Board of Directors has appointed Gary Robards to a vacant seat on the board following the death of board member Judy Schriebsman.

A retired civil engineer and 32-year district resident, Robards earned undergraduate degrees in biology and environmental studies and a master's degree in civil and sanitary engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.

He served as district engineer for the Richardson Bay Sanitary District for 30 years and has worked on projects with Las Gallinas and the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin.

Robards will serve through the end of the term in December 2024. The seat will appear on the November 2024 ballot.

Plan allows thousands of homes

Supervisors meet state mandate by permitting 5,197 residences

BY RICHARD HALSTEAD

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Marin County supervisors have approved zoning changes to allow 5,197 new residences on 148 sites in unincorporated areas by 2030.

The zoning changes are contained in an updated version of the countywide plan's housing element, which the Board of Supervisors adopted Tuesday following a seven-hour public meeting. The county is facing a state mandate to accommodate 3,569 more dwellings over the next eight years.

The housing element contains more sites than required to meet the state mandate in case some residences don't materialize. Nearly 1,300 of the homes could result from a state density bonus law that allows developers to exceed zoning limits if a certain number of their project's dwellings are affordable to low-income residents.

The supervisors approved the element without the support of the Marin County Planning Commission.

"On Jan. 5, the Planning Commission met and recommended that the board not adopt the draft housing element," Leelee Thomas, deputy director of the Marin County Community Development Agency, told supervisors.

"The role of the Planning Commission is to address planning issues," Thomas said. "However, the need for housing is more than a planning issue. You are balancing different needs and issues as well as planning issues."

Supervisors held no discussion about the list of reservations the Planning Commission sent them.

The housing element assigns a certain number of dwellings to each site, and in the case of 38 of the sites specifies a quantity of acreage available for upzoning. That amount of development may occur anywhere on the site.

For example, a developer seeking to build a project on the St. Vincent's School for Boys site in San Rafael would have the option of building 20 dwellings per acre on 34 acres of the parcel for a total of 680 residences.

The developer would have the option to build additional homes on the remainder of the parcel, but they would have to use the existing zoning, which allows far fewer dwellings per acre.

Under state law, areas designated for affordable housing must be zoned for a minimum density of 20 dwellings per acre, but the housing element changes the zoning to a minimum density of 30 dwellings per acre on some parcels.

This potential for even more development than planned for in the housing element was one of the concerns expressed by the Planning Commission. The commission also objected to the removal of density limits in baylands and ridge and upland greenbelt corridors.

All of the housing element sites will be developable with ministerial review, which means they will not be subject to the California Environmental Quality Act or review by local elected bodies.

The only requirement developers will face, beyond very basic safety and environmental regulations, is conformance with a new "form-based" code, also adopted by supervisors on Tuesday.

The form-based code won't limit the number of residences that can be built on parcels. However, it will, in some cases, require developers to place their residences in smaller buildings, instead of one or more massive structures.

Developers will be able to circumvent the code if they can demonstrate that compliance with the objective design standards contained in the regulations would render their projects financially infeasible.

The supervisors also approved an environmental impact report (EIR) prepared for the list of housing sites and a new safety element for the countywide plan linked to the housing element. The EIR, however, looked only at the cumulative impacts of developing all of the sites and did not delve into the specific limitations of any particular site.

The EIR identified 15 impacts that are significant and unavoidable, including negative effects on air quality; greenhouse gas emissions; transportation; visual character; water supply and wastewater treatment; noise; and tribal resources.

The EIR included two project alternatives that would have reduced the impacts. One alternative would have reduced air pollution by cutting the number of vehicle miles traveled. The other would have addressed the impacts on water and wastewater treatment in the districts of service providers that lack the ability to accommodate the amount of development proposed.

The supervisors were able to legally certify the EIR without adopting either alternative, however, by making a "statement of overriding considerations."

A number of the public comments at Tuesday's meeting came from people associated with the Miller Creek School District in San Rafael. They objected to the fact that the EIR found the impact on schools to be less than significant.

Becky Rosales, superintendent of the Miller Creek district, said "a reasonable person would agree" that an influx of hundreds of students from new housing would represent a significant impact. The EIR determined that cumulatively the housing proposed would add more than 1,000 new students to Marin schools.

Rosales estimates that her district would absorb about a quarter of that number. She said developers would be required to pay fees that would cover only about 10% of the cost for districts to absorb the students.

Public commenters also questioned why neither the EIR nor the safety element required any meaningful adjustments in the housing element to ensure that residents will be able to safely evacuate in case of a wildfire. A countywide fire evacuation study in the works won't be completed until next year.

Fire risk is one of the chief concerns of Lucas Valley for Responsible Growth, a group formed recently in reaction to the housing element.

Susan Morgan, one of the group's organizers, said Tuesday that 270 people have signed her group's petition stating that Lucas Valley can safely accommodate the 164 residences at three sites contained in the housing element and no more. The group is concerned that developers will make use of the density bonus to exceed that number.

Sharon Rushton, who heads Sustainable TamAlmonte, said, "Planning for the flawed, unrealistic and unnecessary number of housing units mandated by the state does not override or outweigh public health and safety and preserving Marin's treasured environment and wildlife."

Rushton said the housing element actually exceeds the state Department of Housing and Community Development's requests.

Planning staff, however, said that state housing law requires the county to do more than allow the number of homes assigned to it.

"One of the biggest changes in this cycle's housing element is the requirement that we affirmatively further fair housing," said Liz Darby, social equity programs and policy coordinator for the Marin County Community Development Agency.

"We must take deliberate action," Darby said, "to explicitly address and combat and relieve disparities resulting from past and current patterns of segregation and to foster and proactively encourage more inclusive communities."

A number of public commenters expressed their support for the housing element. Many of them mentioned they are members of a church or synagogue as well as the Marin Organizing Committee.

"My faith tradition teaches that the test of any public policy or action is whether it adds to or detracts from the common good," said Jeff Bialik, a committee volunteer. "The housing element is a path to meeting our housing needs. Clearly that is the common good."

But Terrie Harris-Green, a member of the Marin City Community Services District board, objected to Marin City being asked to accept any additional housing.

"The decisions being proposed are steeped in blatant systemic and structural racism," Harris-Green said. "Marin City must be deemed exempt and taken out of this housing element altogether."

In brief

North Marin Water appoints coastal director

By Sam Mondros

Olema resident Ken Eichstaedt will represent West Marin ratepayers on the board of the North Marin Water District. The two-year appointment comes after the death of former board member Jim Grossi, a Novato civil engineer, in November. Mr. Eichstaedt, also a civil engineer, said he had collaborated with Mr. Grossi in the past, and the district reached out to him about the opening. "This is not the way we like to get appointed to boards, but he was a gem of a guy," Mr. Eichstaedt said of his predecessor. Mr. Eichstaedt has spearheaded utility and water projects across the Bay Area. After a stint as general manager of the Inverness Public Utility District, he took a job as a traffic engineer for the City of Petaluma. He is excited to get back into utilities, and said he feels well acquainted with North Marin's unique well-water system and the challenges that come with it. "I find water systems fascinating—especially North Marin's system," he said. The district is divided into five areas, all with a population of roughly 12,000. Divisions 2 through 5 cover Novato, while Division 1 makes a crescent shape around the other divisions and includes parts of Point Reyes Station, Inverness and Inverness Park. North Marin also treats sewage for

areas of Dillon Beach. Tony Williams, the district's general manager, said that having a West Marin liaison is important, especially in emergencies. "With these recent storms, to have someone present out there is nice. To know if and when power's gone out," Mr. Williams said. For years, North Marin has struggled with saltwater intrusion at its two wells that provide drinking water for customers on the coast. This winter, the district started drawing from a second well on the Gallagher ranch, where it earlier dug a well that did not perform as expected. The new well increases the supply of high-quality groundwater and lowers demand on the district's problematic Coast Guard wells. Mr. Eichstaedt said he admired how the district handled the salinity issue and is looking forward to solving infrastructure problems. "In times of fire or earthquakes, we have got to have a system that can hold up to the force of nature," Mr. Eichstaedt said. "They've got two redwood tanks that need to be replaced and the Greenbridge water line that's rising. If these projects are shepherded right, they'll be very successful."