

NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT

AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING October 17, 2023– 4:00 p.m. Location: 100 Wood Hollow Dr., Suite 300 Novato, California

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Est. Subject Time Item 4:00 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

- 1. APPROVE MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING, October 3, 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

ACTION CALENDAR

- 5. *Approve:* Consulting Services Agreement for Novato Rate Study with Hildebrand Consulting
- 6. *Approve:* Letter of Support for the New Eel-Russian Facility to Replace the Potter Valley Project

INFORMATION ITEMS

- 7. FY 2022/23 Fourth Quarter Progress Report Operations/Maintenance
- 8. Overview of Natural and Human-made Hazards and the Potential Impacts on the District
- 9. NBWA Meeting October 6, 2023
- 10. TAC Meeting September 11, 2023 Minutes

11. MISCELLANEOUS

Disbursements – Dated October 5, 2023 Disbursements – Dated October 12, 2023 Auditor-Controller's Monthly Report of Investments for August 2023 Monthly Progress Report Local Underground Storage Tank Closures Comment Letter to State Water Resources Control Board Proposed Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation Comment Letter to State Water Resources Control Board

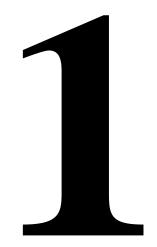
Est.		
Time	ltem	Subject

News Articles:

Marin IJ – Local water district rips state plan to cut use – NORTH MARIN Marin IJ – Water District defends rate hikes – MARIN MUNICIPAL Marin IJ – Wet winter welcome, but repeat has risks – FLOOD PERIL Maven's Notebook – California Water News Central - Making water conservation a "California way of life" Controversial state rules could cost \$13 billion Maven's Notebook – California Water News Central – Courthouse News Service: State Water Board urged to ditch reporting aspect of urban water conservation regulations

Social Media Posts: NMWD Web and Social Media Report – September 2023

5:30 p.m. 12. ADJOURNMENT



2NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRIC3MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETIN4OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTOR5October 3, 2023

6 CALL TO ORDER

President Fraites called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water
District to order at 4:02 p.m. at the District Headquarters and the agenda was accepted as
presented. Present were Directors Ken Eichstaedt, Rick Fraites, Michael Joly, and Stephen
Petterle. Director Jack Baker was absent. Also present were General Manager Tony Williams,
District Secretary Eileen Mulliner, Assistant General Manager/Chief Engineer Eric Miller, and
Auditor-Controller Julie Blue.

13 District employee Chris Kehoe, Construction Superintendent, was in attendance.

14 *MINUTES*

15 On motion of Director Petterle noting a small edit to the summary of Agenda Item 10, 16 seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved the minutes (with changes noted) from the 17 September 19, 2023 regular meeting as presented by the following vote:

- 18 AYES: Director(s) Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly and Petterle
- 19 NOES: None

20 ABSENT: Director Baker

- 21 ABSTAIN: None
- 22 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Tony Williams gave the Board a brief update on the Potter Valley Project. He said that the proponents of new Eel River facility are hoping to hear from PG&E before PG&E presents their surrender application to FERC for the facility. He said, so far, there are no updates but this will be an item at a future meeting including a letter of support to legislative interests, both federal and state.

28 Mr. Williams informed the Board that on September 27, 2023, he and Pablo Ramudo, District 29 Water Quality Supervisor, were on a call with representatives of the State Water Board and 30 Regional Water Board. The Water Board wants to close out a former underground gasoline tank 31 site on Nave Drive. Residual contamination was brought up as we have a potable water line in this 32 area. A formal letter has been presented to the Water Board and will be in the Miscellaneous 33 section of the agenda for the October 17, 2023 Board meeting. Mr. Williams said the he and Pablo 34 made it very clear that the District should be not responsible for any contamination encountered in 35 the future.

- 36
- 37

Mr. Williams noted that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) items are
 in the Miscellaneous section of the agenda packet again for updated seasonal precipitation
 forecasts and seasonal drought outlook and will continue through the upcoming months.

Mr. Williams reminded everyone at the meeting that the Emergency Broadcast System will
be doing a test alert on October 4, 2023.

6 Director Joly asked about an update on the aqueduct landslide. Mr. Williams said that we 7 have been coordinating with Caltrans and we plan to do a video inspection later in October which 8 will be aligned with Caltrans' dirt removal from the roadway. He said the temporary bike path will be 9 moved off the top of the aqueduct. The results of the video inspection will show us if the pipe got 10 any worse during Caltrans' work. If it hasn't, we will do some long-term monitoring over time. 11 Director Joly asked if there had been any more ground movement and Mr. Williams said that we are 12 not aware of any. Director Fraites asked when the frontage road (Redwood Blvd) will be reopened 13 and Eric Miller said that Caltrans had indicated it will be most likely in late October.

14 **OPEN TIME**

15 President Fraites asked if anyone in the audience wished to bring up an item not on the 16 agenda and there was no response.

17 STAFF/DIRECTORS REPORTS

President Fraites asked if staff or Directors wished to bring up an item not on the agenda.
 Eric Miller informed the Board that the expiration date for the Oceana Marin Treatment Pond
 FEMA grant has been extended by one year to January 2025. Bids for the project will be opened on
 Thursday, October 5, and he will bring the results to the next Board meeting.

Director Petterle said that he visited the Admin and Lab building construction site with Eric Miller. He said that he didn't realize how big the overall size of the building actually was until seeing it with the new entrance configurations. He thanked staff for the work they've been doing. Director Fraites noted that the overhang around the outside of the building looks as though it comes out further than before but Mr. Williams said that the roof line has not been changed. Director Fraites also said that he likes the new window design. Director Joly agreed with Director Petterle and said the project is coming along nicely.

Director Fraites noted that he will likely not attend the North Bay Watershed Association
 (NBWA) wetlands restoration field trip in Solano County.

31 CONSENT CALENDAR

32 On the motion of Director Joly, and seconded by Director Eichstaedt, the Board approved 33 the following items on the consent calendar by the following vote:

- 34 AYES: Director(s) Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly and Petterle
- 35 NOES: None

NMWD Draft Minutes

1 ABSENT: Director Baker

2 ABSTAIN: None

3 AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY

The Auditor-Controller's Statement of Investment Policy was approved by the Board. The Investment Policy contains a list of statements identifying how money can be maintained and invested. It also outlines who has the authority to sign on investment accounts in the Auditor-Controller's absence.

8 <u>BAHIA HYDROPNEUMATIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT – DESIGN SERVICES</u> 9 <u>CONTRACT AMENDMENT</u>

10 The Board approved an Agreement with Freyer & Laureta, Inc. (F&L) for engineering and 11 design services related to the District's seven hydropneumatic pressure stations on September 3. 12 2021 in the amount of \$98,600. F&L's scope of work included optional services for the design 13 phase of the priority site identified in the previous tasks in the scope. The Bahia hydropneumatic system was selected as the highest priority site for replacement and subsequently the Board 14 15 approved Amendment 1 for \$61,200 to F&L's contract on October 10, 2022. As design progressed, 16 District staff identified additional scope that would improve efficiency at the future site and requested 17 F&L to provide a proposal which increased the design cost therefore District staff is requesting a 18 second amendment to F&L's agreement in the amount of \$28,900.

19 ACTION CALENDAR

20 AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO SEND A COMMENT LETTER TO STATE WATER

21 <u>RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD REGARDING PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON WATER</u> 22 CONSERVATION

23 Tony Williams told the Board that there has been a lot of activity concerning this regulation 24 throughout California. The water contractors are concerned because there will be a great deal of 25 additional data collection and reporting involved. If it goes through, we may have to increase our 26 staff in order to comply with the new regulations. He said there will be a challenge for additional 27 data collection and the reporting in consideration of other water quality regulations that require data 28 collection by our lab staff. He said that he would like the flexibility to adjust the letter a little as more 29 discussions occur with other water providers. He also said that once we see the final rules he will 30 bring this issue back to the Board for an overview. Director Joly commented that it's a very 31 concerning proposal by the State from an economic standpoint. Director Petterle asked if the non-32 functional turf was for residential properties and Mr. Williams said it does apply to HOA-managed 33 common areas. He noted the regulation only affects urban use and not agriculture.

34 Director Petterle mentioned the former Star restaurant in Novato and that new turf was 35 installed and should be removed. Eric Miller said that we informed the owners that they were to 1 submit landscape plans when they applied to the City for a permit but we never received them. Mr.

Williams said we have a good relationship with the City of Novato and that we contacted them to let
them know this and in worst cases we can put a hold on the final occupancy.

Director Eichstaedt asked who was in the Sonoma Marin Partnership and Mr. Williams said it
was all the water contractors: City of Petaluma, NMWD, City of Cotati, City of Rohnert Park, City of
Santa Rosa, Valley of the Moon Water District, City of Sonoma, Town of Windsor. There are others
in addition to the water contractors such as Cloverdale and Healdsburg.

8 On the motion of Director Petterle, with the recognition that the General Manager has the 9 latitude to change the letter as necessary, and seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved by 10 the following vote:

- 11 AYES: Director(s) Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly and Petterle
- 12 NOES: None
- 13 ABSENT: Director Baker
- 14 ABSTAIN: None

15 FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE 1985 AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT

16 AND MARIN COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON 17 STAFFORD DAM

18 Tony Williams explained to the Board that the Water District entered into an agreement with 19 the Marin County Flood Control District & Water Conservation District (Flood District) in 1985 to 20 jointly fund improvements to Stafford Dam, including a new spillway that can help reduce potential 21 flooding impacts downstream within Novato Creek. In 2022, the adjustable spillway gate was 22 identified as a potential viable alternative for increasing local water supply. The proposed adjustable 23 spillway gate project would modify the original spillway therefore modifying the 1985 agreement 24 necessitating an amendment. Mr. Williams said that the original agreement was very explicit that the 25 Water District will not change or modify the dam or the spillway. The proposed amendment is to 26 recognize the need to change the spillway by adding a gate. He said we have had very detailed 27 conversations with the Flood District on developing an engineering scope to evaluate these 28 changes. We have also had one of our consultants, Genterra, review the proposed changes to the 29 spillway from a geotechnical standpoint. ESA has provided the scope for the work and will be a 30 consultant directly to the Flood District.

Director Joly asked how the hydraulics could affect the dam. Mr. Williams said that Genterra is reviewing how the hydraulic pressure from the additional stored water will affect the dam. He said that ESA will be looking at what the flows are over the spillway and how larger flows could affect the freeboard of the dam. He said we will also be looking at hydraulic impacts both upstream and downstream of the dam. Director Eichstaedt asked what Roger Leventhal's (Flood District) involvement will be and Mr. Williams said that he will be overseeing the work by ESA. Director
Eichstaedt also asked if we will get operational information and Mr. Williams noted that we typically
operate the dam passively but ESA will model the 30-inch outlet as well in a high rainfall event.
Director Petterle mentioned the 1982 rain deluge and how Novato had less flooding than southern
Marin. Director Fraites said he is concerned with future weather events and that if we get too many
atmospheric rivers, can the dam deal with that. Mr. Williams said that is what will be modeled and
that it is an evolving science but the scope is considering climate change.

8 On the motion of Director Petterle, and seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved by9 the following vote:

- 10 AYES: Director(s) Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly and Petterle
- 11 NOES: None
- 12 ABSENT: Director Baker
- 13 ABSTAIN: None

14 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

15 FY 2022/23 END OF YEAR PROGRESS REPORT - ENGINEERING

16 Eric Miller gave a brief overview of the Engineering End of Year Progress Report to the 17 Board. He said that we spent approximately 52% of the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budget, 18 most of that being for the Admin & Lab Upgrade project, about 33%. He said that the next fiscal year 19 will show higher spending because more of the upgrade project will have occurred during the next 20 fiscal year. Mr. Miller said that due to special studies, an unplanned chlorine code compliance that 21 had to be done, were some of the variables that affected how much of the CIP was able to be 22 completed. Some of the highlights from the past fiscal year were the Lynwood Pump Station 23 Alternative analysis, the Crest Pump Station project, that has been in the budget for many years 24 finally going forward, the sludge line project at Stafford Treatment Plant, Gallagher Well No. 2, 25 working on the Gallagher Well No. 1 Rehabilitation, and the Oceana Marin Treatment Plant project. 26 Director Fraites asked about the Ammo Hill Tank fence and where the project actually is. Tony 27 Williams said that it is around a valve pit. Director Eichstaedt asked about Gallagher Well No. 1 and 28 its cost. Mr. Miller said the costs shown in the report are through June 2023 and that the 29 rehabilitation is scheduled for this fiscal year so the bulk of the costs will show in the next fiscal year, 30 and that \$85,000 is budgeted. Director Eichstaedt also asked about the Oceana Marin budget and 31 Mr. Miller said it will be split between the 2022/23 fiscal year and 2023/24 fiscal year. Director Joly 32 asked if some of the Oceana Marin budget was grant money and Mr. Miller said it was 33 approximately 75%. Director Petterle asked about the roadway at Indian Valley Golf Course and Mr. 34 Miller said the plan is to build a retaining wall that can be extended.

35

1 **MISCELLANEOUS**

2 The Board received the following miscellaneous items: Disbursements dated September 21, 3 and September 28, 2023, Auditor-Controller's Monthly Report of Investments for July 2023, NOAA 4 Seasonal Outlook Drought Probability, and NOAA Three-Month Outlook Precipitation Probability. 5 The Board also received the following news articles: Marin IJ - Wary of Weather: Bay Area 6 forecasts show El Nino conditions, increasing global temperatures and the possibility of a wetter-7 than-average season - WET WINTER?, and Marin IJ - Newsom mulls water ban on some 8 decorative lawns - PERMANENT PROHIBITION. 9 **ADJOURNMENT**

10	President Fraites adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.					
11		Submitted by				
12						
13						
14		Eileen Mulliner				
15		District Secretary				
16						











MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

Date: October 17, 2023

From: Julie Blue, Auditor/Controller

Subject: Consulting Services Agreement for Novato Rate Study with Hildebrand Consulting T:\AC\Board Reports\Board Memos\2023\Novato Rate Study\Novato Rate Study.docx

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the General Manager to execute an agreement with Hildebrand Consulting to conduct a Rate Study

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$60,000 (with contingency as included in the FY 23/24 Budget)

Background

In 2020, the water rates and related rate structures for the Novato Water and Recycled Water Service areas were reviewed and updated, with the Board approved 2020 Rate Study. This study, accepted by the Board of Directors early that year, was initially set to expire by the end of the fiscal year (FY) 24/25. However, during the approval of the FY 23/24 Budget, the assumptions used in the 2020 Rate Study were reexamined.

The FY 23/24 Budget included a five-year financial plan that deviated from the 2020 Rate Study, mainly due to significant assumption changes. These included an increase in the cost of water from Sonoma Water, a notable decrease in water rate revenue resulting from reduced water sales volume, and rising operating expenses. Given these updated assumptions, it was recommended that the Rate Study be revised in FY 23/24, a year earlier than its originally planned expiration date.

Objective

The objective of the Water Rate Study is to develop water rates that are fair and equitable and to ensure that the District's water rates comply with California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6 (commonly referred to as Proposition 218). In order to maintain compliance, the rate structure should generate revenue from each class of customers in proportion to the cost to serve each customer.

Consultant Selection

Hildebrand Consulting has provided water rate setting and related services to public agencies throughout Northern California. Mark Hildebrand, the sole proprietor of Hildebrand Consulting, most recently provided professional expertise for the District's Facility Reserve Charge Study (2022) and Drought Surcharge Review (2022), and previously provided water rate

studies for the Novato Water (2020), Recycled Water (2020), and West Marin Water (2021) Service Areas. Throughout each study he communicated clearly with Staff, the Board, and members of the public and provided thorough and substantive reports.

Scope of Work

Hildebrand's proposal and scope of work is included as Attachment 1. The scope of work is divided into the four tasks listed below:

- 1. Rate Study kickoff meeting data collection and review.
- 2. Financial Plan update the financial management plan and model.
- 3. Review of cost of service analysis and rate design.
- 4. Final deliverables and presentations present draft and finalize study.

The combined cost for these tasks is projected to be a maximum of \$55,000. Staff suggests allocating an additional \$5,000 as a contingency, making the total not to exceed \$60,000 (accounted for in the FY 23/24 budget).

<u>Schedule</u>

The tentative schedule is included on page 4 of the attachment. To ensure the Board's timely and targeted input, staff recommends the utilization of the *Water Management* Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of Director Joly and Director Petterle. This committee would be convened as necessary to facilitate discussions pertaining to the water rate study.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to execute an agreement with Hildebrand Consulting to conduct a Rate Study for the Novato Potable Water and Recycled Water Systems.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Hildebrand Consulting, Scope of Work for the 2024 Novato Water and Recycled Water Rate Study

ATTACHMENT 1



October 5, 2023

Julie Blue, Auditor-Controller North Marin Water District 999 Rush Creek Place Novato, CA 94945

Subject: Scope of Work for the 2024 Novato and Recycled Water Rate Study

Dear Ms. Blue,

Per your request, Hildebrand Consulting, LLC. is pleased to submit the following scope of work to the North Marin Water District (NMWD or District) to conduct a Water and Recycled Water Rate Study for the Novato Water Service Area. The Study described herein will develop equitable water rates to achieve full cost recovery of annual water system expenses associated with the District's operations. The financial plan will identify annual water rate revenue needs with consideration of operating and maintenance costs, debt service obligations, capital program needs, and financial reserve policies. The proposed rate structure will be based on a clear and equitable cost allocation methodology with a cost basis that meets both the requirements of California state law (namely Proposition 218) and NMWD policy objectives.

The following scope of work is based on our understanding of the NMWD's needs and our experience in conducting similar studies. Hildebrand Consulting will prepare new 10-year financial plans for the Novato service area and Recycled Water enterprises which will yield recommendations for rates over the next 5 years.

Task 1. Study Kickoff

To initialize the study, we will submit a data request to the NMWD. Once all data has been received, we will review it in detail. This will include (but is not limited to) a review of historical Financial Statements, water purchase costs, capital spending forecasts for each system, historical statements of revenue and expense, current year budgets, customer counts and classes, and historical usage data. Our review of the data will be done to develop a strong understanding of any specific regulatory requirements facing the NMWD, any existing financial requirements (such as bond covenants), any other contractual requirements, and operational/capital improvement drivers.

Shortly thereafter, we will conduct a Project Kickoff Meeting with staff to:

- ✓ Discuss key issues, roles and responsibilities.
- ✓ Confirm study objectives and further explore project drivers such as revenue stability.
- ✓ Confirm data requirements and discuss the data already received.
- ✓ Finalize the project schedule, including key milestone dates and deliverables.

Follow-up calls or visits with staff will be made to ensure full understanding of all data received.

Task 1 Meeting:Kickoff MeetingTask 1 Deliverable:Data request list

Task 2. Financial Plan

In this task, Hildebrand Consulting will use a revenue sufficiency and financial planning model to develop a financial management plan for the Novato enterprise and Recycled Water enterprise. The models will be used to develop 10-year financial management plans and be used to develop recommendations for (up to) a 5-year rate schedule (starting in FY 2024/25).

Our financial planning model will be tailored to directly load NMWD's budgets (for seamless updates) and project annual revenue and fee adjustments requirements. The financial plan will consider projected changes to operating expenses, alternative spending levels, operating reserves targets, debt service coverage ratios and other financial policies/goals that affect the revenue requirements of the funds. It will also consider historical operating expenses, growth projections and other trends that paint a complete financial picture and provide informed decision-making.

Our team will work directly with NMWD staff to understand the drivers for the Financial Plan and consider uncertainties, such as future water purchase costs and water supply/demand trends. We will work collaboratively with the NMWD engineering resources on capital and operational budgetary expenditures for financial model inputs.

If warranted, we will examine the NMWD's use of debt financing for capital improvements and assess the impact of current levels of debt financing, as well as building a financing scenario to support the NMWD in maintaining a proper balance for debt coverage and rate stabilization over the study period.

Closely related to this analysis is the examination of cash reserve policies. Adequate reserves are fundamental to achieving financial stability and can help in the avoidance of sudden or disruptive fee adjustments in the face of changes to operating or capital needs. We will forecast the NMWD's fund balances and incorporate these balances and alternative reserve policies into the interactive planning discussions regarding financial risk and sustainability.

Task 2 Meetings:	Financial Planning Workshop
Task 2 Deliverable:	Presentation materials

Task 3. Cost-of-Service Analysis

The cost-of-service analysis allows for all the costs for the District as a whole to be functionalized and distributed to each enterprise and customer class. The District's costs are functionalized to defined segments, which are then allocated to each class of customer based upon the characteristics or units of service for each respective class of customer.

Using our existing model, we update the District's current cost-of-service inputs with the best available data in order to remain compliant with Prop 218. We will work with District staff to determine whether any changes to the cost-of-service methodology are warranted. Our analysis will include an evaluation of customer class data.

We will conduct a survey of local and regional water rates that are charged utilities that are similar in size and scope as the NMWD. Such surveys provide important context during workshops and during NMWD Board presentations.

Hildebrand Consulting will review the design of existing water rates to help confirm that they remain compliant with Proposition 218. It is important to conduct periodic reviews of the cost nexus for utility rates, particularly within the context of ever-changing California case law. The rate structure will be evaluated in the context of fiscal stability, administrative ease, and/or public policy objectives relating to fixed cost recovery, economic development, and affordability, while ensuring a fair and equitable distribution of costs, and conformance to accepted industry

practice, legal precedent, and terms of any service agreements. As part of this effort, we will be evaluating the distribution of costs between the fixed and variable components of the rate structure and will make recommendations that are consistent with the District's cost recovery objectives.

Task 3 Meeting:	Cost of Service and Rate Design Staff Meetings with Staff
Task 3 Deliverables:	Presentation materials
	Rate survey of regional utilities

Task 4. Final Deliverables and Presentations

During the development of the rates our preliminary findings will be presented to the Board's Water Management Subcommittee over the course of two workshops. These workshops are intended to engage District staff and Board members in the development of the study recommendations and in preparation for the presentation to the full Board.

Hildebrand Consulting will present draft and final study recommendations to the NMWD Board to consider the proposed financial strategy and associated water and recycled water rate schedules. We are proposing three NMWD Board meetings because we typically need one meeting to receive feedback on draft recommendations, then a second meeting to present the final recommendations and obtain direction for NMWD staff to mail the Proposition 218 notification and then a final meeting for the Public Hearing.

Draft recommendations on the water and recycled water rates will be documented in an administrative draft report. The administrative draft report will be discussed with staff and legal counsel (as necessary). The rate study report will include:

- a. A brief physical description of the Novato and Recycled Water service areas.
- b. Overview of recent financial operations.
- c. A forecast of the necessary capital improvement program needs within the Novato and Recycled Water service areas during the planning period.
- d. The proposed financial strategy and financial policy recommendations.
- e. A transparent explanation of the basis for cost allocation to the respective customer classes.
- f. A clear explanation of the cost-basis for the rate structures.
- g. A 5-year schedule of proposed rates.
- h. Assumptions and data behind the recommendations.

We will provide guidance and advice to NMWD staff to ensure compliance with the Proposition 218 notification process. We will provide rate schedule information that will be needed for inclusion in the notification letter for property owners, which will need to be finalized and mailed by NMWD staff at least 45 days prior to a public hearing.

Task 4 Meetings:	Two (2) Cost of Service and Rate Design Subcommittee Workshops (remote)
	Three (3) NMWD Board Meetings (including the Public Hearing)
Task 4 Deliverables:	Draft and Final Report

The following schedule meets the timeline proposed by NMWD assuming that the necessary financial data is available and meetings can be scheduled.

Tasks		2023		2024						
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July
1. Data Collection and	l Kickoff	•		te Novemb ect KO Me						
2. Financial Plan										
3. Cost of Service & Ro	ate Design				Bo	rd Tuesday bard Presen hal recomm	tation #2		July 1, Rate Ef	
4. Presentations and Deliverables	Mid Meeting #1 w	January: vith Subcor	nmittee	-• /	•	•	45 Day Notifica Perio	ition		
		arty Februa #2 with Su		,	Board I	sday of Feb Presentatior commendo	n#1	Thi	rd Tuesda Public He	• •

The following table estimates the amount of time that will be spent for each task. Please note that Hildebrand Consulting does not charge for any direct or travel costs.

	Hildebrand Consulting \$250	Cost by Task		
Task 1 Study Kickoff	14	\$3,500		
Task 2 Financial Plan	62	\$15,500		
Task 3 Cost of Service & Rate Design Analysis	74	\$18,500		
Task 4 Final Deliverables and Presentations	70	\$17,500		
Total Hours:	220			
Direct & Tro	Direct & Travel Expenses:			
	Proposed Fee:			

Mark Hildebrand brings over 22 years of broad experience in California as a utility rate and management consultant to municipal utilities. He has performed hundreds of studies covering a diverse range of rate setting, cost allocation, and financial planning to more than 50 clients. As an independent consultant, Mark Hildebrand offers a distinctive value proposition: he will personally be directly engaged in all facets of the project, including all meetings, communications, financial models, and deliverables.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this proposal. I appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the NMWD for this study.

Sincerely,

Mark Hildebrand Hildebrand Consulting, LLC. <u>mhildebrand@hildco.com</u> 510.316.0621 (m)





MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

October 17, 2023

From: Tony Williams, General Manager

Subj: Letter of Support for the New Eel-Russian Facility as Part of the Potter Valley Project Decommissioning t/gm/bod memos 2023/10-17-23 meeting/pvp letter of support/10-17-23 bod support of nerf.docx

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Use of the North Marin Water District Logo on a Regional Letter of Support for the New Eel-Russian Facility None at this time

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Background

The Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project (Potter Valley Project), owned and operated by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), is located along the Eel River and diverts water into the East Fork of the Russian River which flows into Lake Mendocino. The Potter Valley 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 powerhouse located in Potter Valley, and ultimately water flows into Lake Mendocino. Releases from Lake Mendocino flow into the Upper Russian River and are highly regulated by the state. The Potter Valley Project currently diverts, on average, approximately 60,000 acre-feet of Eel River water into the Russian River per year. The Project is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

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 final surrender application and decommissioning plan will be revealed. However, PG&E plans to release an initial draft surrender application in late November 2023 as well as a final draft in May 2024 for public input ahead of the January 2025 deadline to FERC. PG&E has said that its application would propose to remove Scott and Cape Horn Dams and end any operations, including water diversions to the Russian River, unless it received a complete and credible proposal in July 2023.

New Eel-Russian Facility

Sonoma Water is not only responsible for providing water to several retail water suppliers under contract, but also to manage the water supply pools in Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma and associated dam releases to maintain required flows in the upper and lower portions of the river system. Therefore, the PVP diversions are an important input into this system. Given the timeline of PG&E's planned surrender and decommissioning process and the overall reliance of the PVP diversions on the Russian River system, the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission (MCIWPC), the Round Valley Indian Tribes (RVIT), and Sonoma Water (collectively known as the "Proponents") submitted a proposal to PG&E on July 31, 2023 (updated on August 3, 2023) to express interest in certain PVP facilities for preserving diversion to and flows in the Russian River and improving Eel River fisheries. The proposal was submitted to PG&E in response to its requirement to receive a proposal by the end of July 2023, ahead of their November initial draft surrender application milestone. Without such a proposal, PG&E's decommissioning plan would likely include complete removal of all PVP facilities including those that allow for water diversions to the Russian River. The "New Eel-Russian Facility" proposal submitted to PG&E would provide for the creation of a regional entity that has the legal and financial capacity to own, construct and operate a new water diversion facility near PG&E's existing Cape Horn Dam on the Eel River.

On October 4, 2023, the Proponents received notice from PG&E about the New Eel-Russian Facility proposal. Specifically, this is what PG&E said:

"PG&E has made a non-binding acceptance in concept of the Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, and Round Valley Indian Tribes proposal and agrees to include it in our November 15th 2023 Initial draft Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan."

Given the significance of the future New Eel-Russian Facility on the Russian River, the various water suppliers in Mendocino, Sonoma and Marin counties, including Sonoma Water's water contractors, that rely on the Russian River for water supply have drafted a letter of support (Attachment 1). The draft letter is addressed to all the key Federal and State legislators that represent those suppliers and associated water customers. The addition of logos of each water supplier that supports the letter is the next step before sending it to the legislators listed.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the use of the North Marin Water District logo (75th Anniversary version) on the attached letter of support to state and federal legislators for the New Eel-Russian Facility.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Regional Letter of Support

NOTE: LOGOS OF ALL AGENCIES THAT SIGN-ON WILL BE INCLUDED AT THE TOP OF THE LETTER

<mark>Date</mark>

The Honorable FIRST & LAST NAME

Address

Subject: Water Suppliers' Support for New Eel-Russian Facility

Dear TITLE LAST NAME,

Water suppliers in Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin counties strongly support the Proposal submitted to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) by the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, Round Valley Indian Tribes, and the Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water), which advances a regional solution for preserving flows and fisheries in the Russian River and improving Eel River fisheries.

PG&E plans to decommission its Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project, and in the absence of a proposal, end water diversions from the Eel River into the Russian River. The Proposal seeks to maintain these diversions while not delaying PG&E's plans to remove Scott Dam and Cape Horn Dam. The proposed New Eel-Russian Facility would provide for effective and timely fish migration past the new diversion facilities while allowing water to be transferred to the Russian River when flows are high enough in the Eel River. These diversions are critical to the health of the Russian River watershed, to ongoing water supply for numerous communities in Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin counties, and to Russian River fisheries. Based on records from 1911-2017, without the Potter Valley Diversion, Lake Mendocino would have gone dry 56 out of 108 years (unless intervening measures were taken).

Russian River water users have made significant strides in reducing water use, improving water use efficiency, and developing alternative supplies (for example, Sonoma Water and its retail water customers take nearly 40 percent less water from the Russian River than they did 20 years ago, despite a growing population). However, halting the diversions, even temporarily, would directly threaten the drinking water supply for more than 97,000 people living in Russian River communities -- and would make the drinking water supply for 600,000 additional people less reliable.

The lack of diverted water would cause tens of millions of dollars of economic damage per year, result in drastic conservation measures and increased water rates, curtail needed new housing, and increase the region's vulnerability to droughts, wildfires and climate change.

For these reasons, Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin county water suppliers hope that we can count on your support of the Proposal now, through the regulatory process, and as the Proposal proponents seek state and federal funding for completing the project design, environmental review and, ultimately, construction.

Thank you for your consideration,

Federal and State Legislative Representatives

The Honorable Mike Thompson United States House of Representatives 2300 County Center Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Dear Mr. Thompson

The Honorable Jared Huffman United State House of Representatives 999 Fifth Ave. San Rafael, CA 95901 Dear Mr. Huffman

The Honorable Mike McGuire 50 D Street, Suite 120A Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Dear Senator McGuire

The Honorable Bill Dodd 50 D Street, Suite 300 Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Dear Senator Dodd

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry 2721 Napa Valley Corporate Drive Napa, CA 94558 Dear Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry

The Honorable Jim Wood 50 D Street, Suite 450 Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Dear Assemblymember Wood

The Honorable Damon Connolly 50 D Street, Suite 301 Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Dear Assemblymember Connolly





MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

From: Robert Clark, Operations / Maintenance Superintendent

Subject: FY 2022/23 End of Year Progress Report – Operations/Maintenance X:\MAINT SUP\2023\BOD\Q4 22-23 O&M Update a.docx

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

Operations Summary

Operations activities and accomplishments during FY2022/23 (FY23) included completion of three capital improvement projects: Bulk Chemical Tank 2 replacement; chemical storage area double containment recoating; and the chlorine dioxide generator refurbishment. Operations staff also completed just over 300 routine maintenance tasks during the year with just 16% unplanned tasks. An EPA inspection of the chlorine system at Stafford Treatment Plant (STP) resulted in many hours of document review and program updates for our chlorine risk management plan.

STP produced water through November 17, 2022, with a total fall production of 266 million gallons (MG). After heavy winter storms, the plant was started on March 16, 2023, producing 371 MG through June, with a total FY production of 637 MG. With the early start up of the plant, staff were able to respond to the Redwood Blvd. landslide that forced the temporary shutdown of the North Marin Aqueduct. Stafford Lake was filled to capacity by January 9, 2023 and continued spilling through April 26, 2023, overflowing approximately two lake volumes or 2,900 MG (9,000 AF).

The Stafford Dam-Novato Creek Emergency Response and Flood Inundation Plan was presented to the City of Novato and Marin County Office of Emergency Services groups during a table top exercise held in October 2022. This was a state requirement under the dam's new Emergency Action Plan (EAP).

Novato Water System

- Novato production was up 18% in FY23 compared to the previous year; average daily production was 5.6 MGD, with a peak day demand of 11.31 MGD on August 26, 2022.
- Purchased recycled water for the period was 207 MG, down 22% from last year. This decreased volume was due to primarily cooler weather this year.

West Marin Water System

• West Marin water demand was down 12% for the period of January – June and average daily production was 150,030 gallons per day, with a peak day demand of 281,850 gallons.

Nu

October 17, 2023

This represents approximately 21,000 gallons below last year's peak demand. While conservation carryover accounts for the continued overall demand reduction, the peak day is more of a result in an effort to reduce the energy time of use costs. We still have more work to do in reducing our energy costs now that the PG&E time of use is a year-round program.

- A by-pass valve was placed on the discharge side of the Point Reyes Treatment Plant to allow staff to perform a more thorough flushing of the Gallagher Well pipeline.
- Gallagher Well #2 was completed at the end of October 2022, resulting in a major reduction of the use of the Coast Guard Wells during high salinity periods.
- Due to lack of vendor support of the copper telephone lines used for operational communications at all West Marin facility sites, we converted to cell modem with direct internet services, resulting in increased up time for our SCADA systems.

Oceana Marin Wastewater System

- During the period January June, force main pump flow averaged 25,317 gallons per day with a peak day of 88,963 gallons. The significant winter storms were the primary driver for the significant increase (41%) from the prior year. As a result of our continued infiltration and intrusion efforts, the peak day was 36% lower than the last significant winter storm year. Limited discharge to the irrigation field occurred and pond freeboard was 10.3 feet in the storage pond and 5.8 feet in the treatment pond at the end of June.
- The force main lift station four-year pump replacement occurred almost a year sooner than expected due to increased winter flows. It is significant to point out that the cost of these pumps has increased nearly 56% over a two-year period.

Water Quality Summary

Staff completed the application for an Aquatic Pesticide permit to allow the use of approved algicides to control algae in Stafford Lake. This past year the lake water quality did not reach a point that we considered the use of any algicide products.

Maintenance Summary

Accomplishments during period January – June included 36 facility improvement projects and 317 routine maintenance tasks. A new meter maintenance test bench and shop area was constructed. Work was completed on the STP High Service Pump replacement. The Admin building renovation and new laboratory continues to require much staff time including Districtsupplied systems for security, audio-visual, and data support. Two additional electric vehicles have been added to the fleet bringing the total to three, or just over 10% of the fleet.

Cross-Connection Control (CCC)

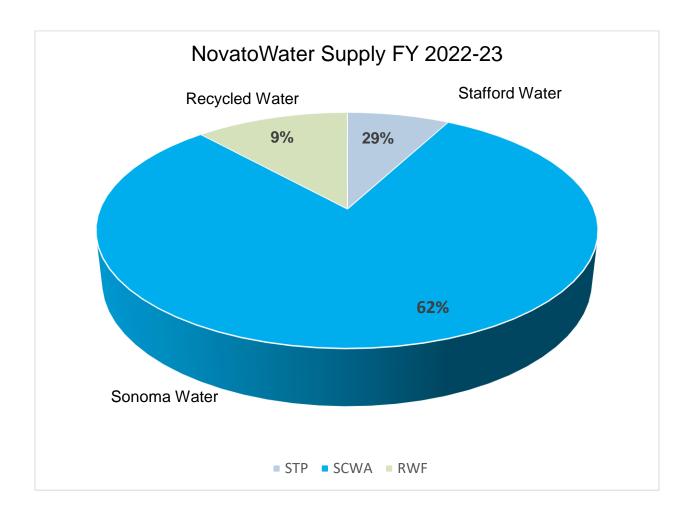
- The District currently has 2,195 backflow devices with a goal to complete annual tests each year. The current number of backflow devices represent a 154% increase in the number of devices in the past ten years. For various reasons, 65 tests were not completed this year, or just 3% of the total number of devices. This is the best performance we have ever seen.
- Recycled water service inspection and testing was conducted by CCC staff for 25 percent of the Novato Recycled Water accounts. This includes a site review of recycled water use, overspray and leaks, and a shutdown of both the potable and recycled water services to verify that neither of the services supply water to the other. No cross connections issues were found. Each test takes approximately 3 - 4 hours to perform following a custom test procedure for each site.

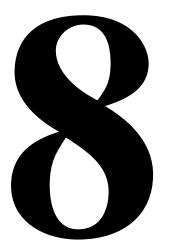
Asset Management

- Nexgen has been in a fairly steady state for the last year, the Maintenance group is utilizing it heavily for preventative maintenance (PM) tasks and tracking of corrective work orders.
 STP has a good deal of their PM's running through Nexgen, further training is still needed to ensure data is being captured completely on all PM's and repairs.
- There are two areas of focus: 1) in order to get real and useful cost data and meaningful comparisons of Preventative vs Corrective work orders, every work order needs to track time; and 2) Mapping the physical locations of the work. Engineering is in the initial stages of migrating our geographical information system (GIS) from Open Spatial to ESRI, which will simplify the way we interface mapping within Nexgen, which uses ESRI.
- The Overall maintenance tracking for all staff for the FY indicates that we still need some work around completing periodic maintenance on time as identified with the 132 canceled work orders. Our ratio of corrective to preventative work orders are at 20% which is at the high side of the 15-20% range that we set as the goal.

Building and Grounds

 Spring weed control program was completed and we continue to see more tree issues at various facility sites. This required our staff, along with contractors, to perform additional tree work than was anticipated. Graffiti at various tank sites increased this past year with 6 tanks in Novato requiring attention. The Novato Police Department has been made aware of a particular issue at the Dickson Tank at Karla Court.







MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

October 17, 2023

From: Tony Williams, General Manager Eric Miller, Assistant GM/Chief Engineer

Subj: Overview of Natural and Human-made Hazards and the Potential Impacts on the District t\gm\bod memos 2023\10-17-23 meeting\hazards and risks\10-17-23 bod memo hazards and risks.docx

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

There are two main categories of hazards that can and do occur within the North Marin Water District's (District) service territories: Natural Hazards and Human-made or "Anthropogenic" Hazards. Natural hazards can be further categorized as geologic hazards, atmospheric hazards and "other" natural hazards. Natural hazards can have devastating consequences to huge numbers of people, or even have a worldwide effect, but typically only have a small chance of occurring. Some natural hazards have a rapid onset, such as earthquakes, flash floods, landslides, severe thunderstorms, and wildfires, which develop with little warning and strike rapidly. Slow onset hazards, like drought or sea level rise, may take years to develop. However, climate change is proving to alter the prior understandings of some rapid and slow onset hazards.

It is interesting to note that there is another emerging category of hazards referred to as "Natech" hazards. Natech stands for "<u>Nat</u>ural Hazards Triggering <u>Tech</u>nological Disasters. A very relevant example of a Natech hazard that could impact the District is an intense wildfire that is so severe that the burning and heating of the ground causes degradation of the buried plastic (PVC) water pipes, resulting in contamination of the conveyed drinking water. This potential outcome has been documented in some several of the recent wildfire events (Tubbs Fire, 2017, Camp Fire, 2018).

The attached presentation (Attachment 1) provides a high-level overview of the various types of hazards that the District is vulnerable to and the apparent risks of impacts from those hazards. In addition, the presentation provides a brief review of the various emergency preparation and mitigation actions that the District employs to minimize the impacts of hazards and disasters on the operations and infrastructure.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Hazards and Risks Presentation





Hazards: Risks and Vulnerabilities

Board of Directors Presentation Oct 17, 2023

Contents

- 1. Overview of Hazard Types
- 2. Risk of Occurrence and Consequences
- 3. Infrastructure Vulnerabilities
- 4. Focus Stafford Dam
- 5. Climate Change
- 6. Preparedness & Mitigation
- 7. Questions



Hazard Types

Natural Hazards

- Geologic
- Atmospheric
- Other

Human-made (anthropogenic)

- Terrorist Acts
- PSPS
- Chemical Spills/Releases

Climate Change

- Episodic
- Long-term



January 2023 Flooding at Gallagher Wells



Natural Hazards

Geologic Hazards

- Earthquakes
- Landslides: Hydrologically triggered; Seismically triggered
- Flooding: shoreline; run-off; dam inundation; levee failure
- Tsunami

Atmospheric

- Severe Storms
- Drought

Other

- Wildfire
- Pandemics



Human-made Hazards

Terrorist Attacks

- Cyber Threats/Attacks: administrative networks; SCADA
- Sabotage
- Pandemics

Chemical Spills/Releases

- Chlorine Gas
- Supply contamination

Other

• Power Outages – PG&E PSPS





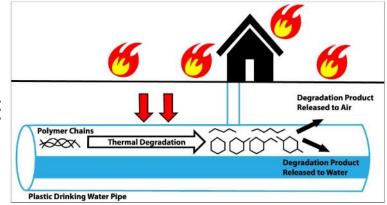
"NATECH" Hazards

 An emerging hazard category of "Natech" Natural Disasters Triggering Technological Disasters (Cutter, <u>2018</u>).

Examples:

- Intense Wildfires causing thermal degradation of plastic pipelines: causing contamination of water
- Redwood Blvd Landslide and PG&E transmission pipelines









Infrastructure Risks and Consequences

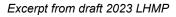
Likelihood and Consequences

Risk Management Matrix		Impact					
		Negligible	Marginal	Moderate	Critical	Catastrophic	
	Almost Certain	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Extreme Risk	Extreme Risk	
Probability	Likely	Minimum Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Extreme Risk	
	Possible	Minimum Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	High Risk	
	Unlikely	Minimum Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	
	Rare	Minimum Risk	Minimum Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	



Hazards and Risk Score

	Probability/ Likelihood of Future Events	Geographic Extent	Magnitude/ Severity	Climate Change Influence	Significance	
	Occasional: 2 Likely: 3	None: 0 Negligible: 1 Limited: 2 Significant: 3 Extensive: 4	Weak: 1 Moderate: 2 Severe: 3	None: 0 Low: 1 Medium: 2 High: 3	None: 0 Low: 1 Medium: 2 High: 3	RISK SCORE
Debris Flow, Erosion, Landslide, Post-Fire Debris Flow	2	3	2	1	2	10.00
Drought	2	4	3	3	2	14.00
Earthquake	2	4	4	1	2	13.00
Flooding	2	3	3	3	2	13.00
Land Subsidence (Sinkhole)	2	1	2	2	0	7.00
Sea Level Rise	2	2	2	3	2	11.00
Severe Weather – Wind, Hail, Lightning	3	4	1	2	2	12.00
Wildfire	2	3	4	2	2	13.00
Tsunami	1	1	4	1	1	8.00





Natural Hazards and Infrastructure

	Natural Hazard Potential						
Infrastructure	Earthquake	Landslide	Flooding	Severe Storms ^{1.}	Wildfire		
Stafford Dam	Х	Х	*	*			
Transmission Pipelines	Х	Х	Х				
Distribution Pipelines	Х	Х	Х		Х		
Pump Stations	Х		Х	Х	Х		
Storage Tanks	Х	Х			Х		
Treatment Plants	Х	Х	Х		Х		
Headquarters	Х		Х	Х	X		

*Not a current risk, re-evaluation of hydrology is planned; 1. Includes resulting impacts such as power loss, etc.

Infrastructure Hazard - Landslides



3/26/2023, 3:44:45 PM US_Landslide_point_v2

- Likely landslide at or near this location (3)
- US_Landslide_poly_v2
 - Likely landslide at or near this location (3)

Possible landslide in the area (1)

1:36,112 0 0.33 0.65 1.3 mi 0 0.5 1 2 km



County of Marin. California State Parks, Esrl, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METUNASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, Pictometry, The County of Napa, Maxiar



Hazard Vulnerabilities

- •Seismic
- Severe Storm Event

Failure Modes

- •Hydraulic
 - Overtopping
 - ➤ Erosion
- •Seepage
 - ➤ "Piping"
- Structural
 - Stability



Overtopping

"...Considering the 5-feet of freeboard during the PMF, it is highly unlikely that failure due to overtopping would occur."...

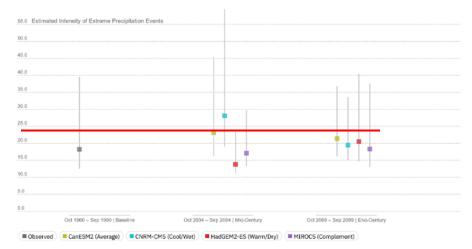
Summary of Hydrology Studies for Novato Creek Dam

FLOOD HYDROLOGY HMR 36 HMR 49 Flood Type PMF PMF l. Storm Precip.-In. 23.05 6.94** Precip. Dur.-Hr. 72 K(J) Std. Dev. Ъ. Risk Level с. Peak Inflow-cfs 12305 12153 4. 1424 Peak Inflow-csm 1406 5. -----* * 7877 Runoff - AF б. 17.31 5.88** Runoff - In. 7. 0.75 ** Runoff Coeff. 8. _ Div. Inflow-cfs 9. YES YES 10. Routed? 4344 Peak Outflow-cfs 6700 11.

Novato, California

Projected changes in Estimated Intensity of Extreme Precipitation Events which are exceeded on average once every 100 years under a Medium Emissions (RCP 4.5) Scenario.

Extreme Precipitation events are successive days in which the **3-day** rainfall total is above an extreme threshold of **2.77 inch**.



Source: Cal-Adapt. Data: LOCA Downscaled CMIP5 Climate Projections (Scripps Institution of Oceanography), Gridded Observed Meteorological Data (University of Colorado Boulder), LOCA Derived Products (Geospatial Innovation Facility).



FY24 Planned Assessments for Adjustable Spillway Gate (ASG) Project

- Dam Stability
- Embankment Seepage
- Advanced H&H Modeling/Analysis
 - Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)
 - Using HMR No. 59
 - Extreme Precipitation Events
 - Years 2050 and 2100 with future climate conditions



August 10, 2023

P2770-399-NMW

Mr. Eric Miller, PE Chief Engineer/Assistant General Manager North Marin Water District 999 Rush Creek Place, P.O. Box 146 Novato, CA 94948

ESA

180 Grand Avenue Suite 1050 Oakland, CA 94612 510.839.5096 ohor 510 839 5825 (**

Scope & Cost Proposal

- date July 28, 2023
- to Tony Williams North Marin Water District (NMWD)
- CC Roger Leventhal Marin County Flood Control District
- from James Gregory P.E., ESA
- subject Stafford Lake and Novato Creek Hydrologic and Hydraulic Evaluation





Climate Change

Climate Change

- Climate change is having an effect on existing natural hazards such as severe weather;
- Recognizing and understanding what the impacts are on those hazards and how to mitigate their effects is critical.

A collage of typical climate and weather-related events: floods, heatwaves, drought, hurricanes, wildfires and loss of glacial ice. (Image credit: NOAA)

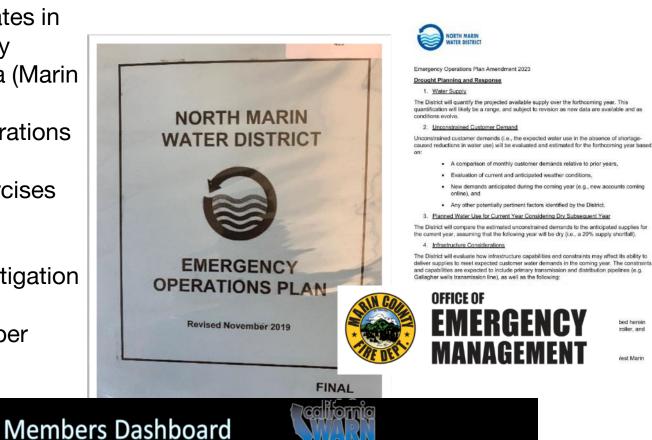
ROAD





Preparedness and Mitigation

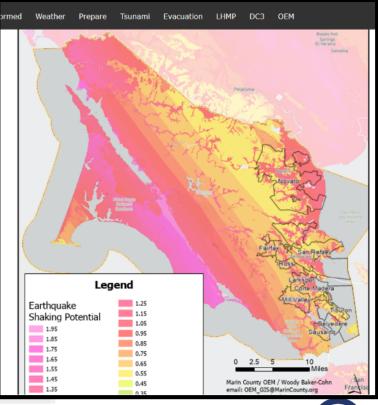
- NMWD participates in the Marin County Operational Area (Marin OA) Partnership
- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
- Emergency Exercises (Table-top and Functional)
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)
- CalWARN member





- Access to County's Emergency Portal
- Use of WebEOC Portal (used by Marin Operating Area Partners)

	2 🛞 https://www.marinea.marinsh	eriff.org/eoc7/controlpanel.aspx					ŵ
WebECC Iwitians@nmwd.com	MRN-OA EOC AREP NMWD+		n and Statewide)+ Log Out 🔀 🔮)			
	ignificant Events - Countywide 14	+ Emergency Portal Public Incl	dents 🕷 Marin Op Area SilRep	Marin Op Area SiRep M C	ritical Infrastructure Status 🛛 🛪		
	al Infrastructure - All T	ypes (other than School	s, Shelters)				FILT
Unknown	0	Not Normal	•	Major Impact		Closed	
4			4	0			0
Statu	8	s	tatus	Status			Status
ype 0	Name 0	Address 0	Status 0	Agency Responsbile	Jurisdictional Location	Last Updated 0	
esidential Care Facility / RCF	A Loving Touch II	310 Golden Hinde Passage 94925	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	Fairfax	06/15/2023 18:12:13	
itermediate Care aciity/Developmentally Disabled - iabilitative	Able	25 De Anza Way 94903	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	San Rafael	06/15/2023 18:12:12	
leed Control Facility	Adrian Pump Station	601 Adrian Way, San Rafael, CA 94903	NORMAL OPERATIONS	LGVSD	San Rafael	06/15/2023 18:12:07	
itermediate Care aciity/Developmentally Disabled - Iabilitative	Adrian Way Home	306 Adrian Way 94903	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	San Rafael	06/15/2023 18:12:12	
killed Nursing Facility / SNF	Aegis Living Corte Madera	5555 PARADISE DRIVE, Corte Maciera, CA 94925	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	Corte Madera	06/15/2023 18:12:12	
Residential Care Facility / RCF	Aldersly (AL) (RCFF Unit)	326 Mission Ave 94901	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	San Rafael	06/15/2023 18:12:05	
dependent Living Facility	Aldersly (IL Unit)	326 Mission Ave 94901	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	San Rafael	06/15/2023 18:12:05	
tesidential Care Facility / RCF	ALMAVIA OF SAN RAFAEL	515 NORTHGATE DRIVE, San Rafael, CA 94903	NORMAL OPERATIONS	HHS	San Rafael	06/15/2023 18:12:12	
		450 Swoamore Ave. Mill Valley					





NMWD Participates in the Following:

- Association of State Dam Safety Officials
- National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine
- Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment
- Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes



NATIONAL ACADEMIES Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

AT UC SAN DIEGO

Climate at the National Academies

From more extreme weather to rising seas, the climate is changing in ways that pose increasing risks to people and ecosystems. Building on decades of work, the National Academies continue to provide objective advice from top experts to help the nation better understand, prepare for, and limit future climate change.

About U





Human-made Threats

- Physical Security/Access Control
- Cyber Security Risk Mitigation Plan
- Separation of IT from OT
 - Information Technology
 - Operational Technology (SCADA)
- CISA Updates



ShieldsUp

Prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the impact of cyberattacks.

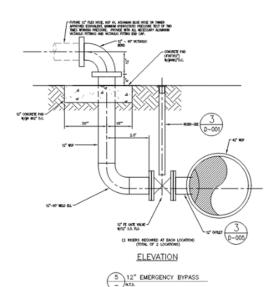




Infrastructure Hazard Mitigation

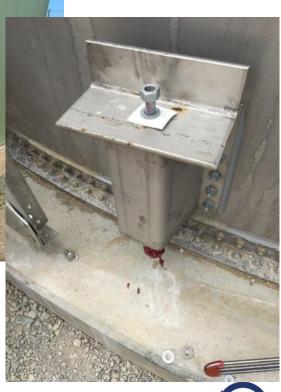
Seismic Resiliency

- •Anchoring
- Flexible Joints





Fault & Creek CrossingsBypass Capability





Marin County Multi-jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

- NMWD adopted the 2018 Marin County LHMP
 - Appendix S NMWD
- 2023 LHMP Update in
 - Progress
 - December 2023 BOD Adoption

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

We are asking the community to provide input on our mitigation plan through Town Hall meetings and a Survey (see below)

Marin County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Update

The various communities and service providers within Marin County are working together to update our Marin County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan will describe the natural hazards our community faces and our priorities for mitigating those hazards.

As part of this update process, we are asking for community insight and input.







Questions?

si.



Q

TOUR OF MONTEZUMA WETLANDS PROJECT

North Bay Watershed Association c/o Marin Municipal Water District 220 Nellen Ave Corte Madera, CA 94925

Executive Director:

Andy Rodgers | northbaywa@gmail.com Recieve our quarterly newsletter:

Your email (require

SUBSCRIBE



October 2, 2023 TAC Meeting Agenda Item 3

ITEM #10

DRAFT MINUTES OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE Utilities Field Operations Training Center 35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA September 11, 2023

- Attendees:Matt Fullner, Valley of The Moon Water District
Peter Martin, City of Santa Rosa
Tony Williams, North Marin Water District
Pam Jeane, Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA)
Craig Scott, City of Cotati
Matt Wargula, City of Sonoma
Mike Berger, City of Sonoma
Christina Goulart, Town of Windsor
Shannon Cotulla, Town of Windsor
Lucy Croy, Marin Municipal Water District
Michelle Montoya, City of Santa Rosa
- Staff/Alternates: Mike Thompson, SCWA Andrea Rodriguez, SCWA Don Seymour, SCWA Paul Piazza, SCWA Kent Gylfe, SCWA Lynne Rosselli, SCWA Daniella Favela, City of Petaluma

Public: Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection

- <u>Check In</u> Matt Fullner, TAC Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- 2. <u>Public Comment</u> None.
- 3. <u>Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order</u> Don Seymour, SCWA, presented. Both reservoirs are still very full for this time of year and heading into the new water year with a lot of carry over storage. Lake Mendocino is just under 82,000 acre-feet (AF) and Lake Sonoma is just over 236,000 AF. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has not yet responded to PG&E's temporary variance request for the Potter Valley Project, which has resulted in higher inflows than anticipated into Lake Mendocino. If FERC had issued that order, it would have reduced the inflows into Lake Mendocino by 110 to 140 AF per day. Regarding the temporary urgency change order, Sonoma Water is continuing to make releases to meet the minimum stream flow requirements which were approved back in May. This reduced the minimum stream flow requirements on the upper Russian River

from 150 cubic feet per second (CFS) to 125 CFS and from 125 CFS to 70 CFS on the lower Russian River. The existing order expires October 15, and Sonoma Water is preparing new petitions for this fall and will be requesting that the minimum stream flow requirements be based on storage at Lake Mendocino instead of Lake Pillsbury and that the changes take effect beginning January 1, 2024.

No public comment.

- 4. Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership
 - a. <u>2023 Water Production Relative to 2013 Benchmark</u> Matt Fullner, Valley of the Moon Water District, presented. For July, the Partnership achieved 27% savings below the 2013 benchmark and a cumulative 29% year to date.
 - b. Water Use Efficiency Messaging

Andrea Rodriguez, SCWA, presented. The last summer campaign outreach item will be the promotion of the water smart plant labels program. SCWA is working with KBBF to do one hour radio shows that provides information to the Spanish language audience. Paul Piazza was recently interviewed for the Nuestra Tierra Program which is hosted by Hugo Mata. The interview can be found on Sonoma County's website. The Partnership attended the Fiesta de Independencia at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts. The event had a great turn out.

c. <u>State Water Board Draft Regulation For Making Conservation a California</u> <u>Way of Life</u>

Paul Piazza, SCWA, presented.

On August 18, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) initiated the formal rulemaking for "Making Conservation a California Way of Life" (Regulation). As part of the rulemaking, the State Board released draft regulations intended to implement AB 1668 and SB 606 with the initial public comment period going through October 17. The Urban Water Use Objective is a total water budget made up of indoor residential water budgets, outdoor residential water budgets, CII-DIM outdoor water budgets, an urban water loss objective, and variances if applicable. Each suppliers' Urban Water Use Objective will be determined using statewide efficiency standards for the urban water uses, as well as unique local service area characteristics. Urban Retail Water Suppliers would need to meet an Agency-Specific Urban Water Use Objective beginning in 2025 and would also need to implement CII performance measures. There will be annual reporting requirements starting January 1, 2024, and must be completed by January 1 every year thereafter. The State Board has acknowledged that the regulation will not be finalized by January 1, 2024 (likely spring 2024) and has verbally indicated that enforcement will not take place until the regulation has been finalized. There will be a modified reporting template for 2024.

Peter Martin, Santa Rosa Water, asked if more details on the metrics to be incorporated into the report will be provided.

Paul Piazza, SCWA, answered that there is a draft reporting template that included easy to fill out information about each retail water agency and a lot of the reporting metrics are highlighted in that. Anticipates more guidance will become available. Craig Scott, City of Cotati, asked if the public water systems definition was 3000 connections.

Paul Piazza answered that, by definition, it is urban water retailers that provide 3000 acre-ft or greater.

No public comment.

5. Biological Opinion Status Update

Pam Jeane, SCWA, presented.

<u>Fish Flow Project</u> – No change right now. Continuing to work on the draft Environmental Impact Report in anticipation of recirculation.

<u>Dry Creek Project</u> – Construction is underway for Phase IV and Phase V. Right-ofway staff is continuing to work with property owners in Dry Creek as part of Phase VI, tentatively planned for construction in 2024 and 2025.

<u>Habitat Monitoring and Maintenance –</u> Post-construction monitoring has been completed and information is being collected to determine when maintenance activities can take place.

<u>Fish Monitoring – Last week a video monitoring camera was setup at Mirabel. This will mainly be used to monitor Chinook but will also record coho and steelhead as they move upstream past the dam. Provided statistics and average returns for Chinook since monitoring began at Mirabel Dam in 2000.</u>

<u>Russian River Estuary Management Project –</u> The mouth of the Russian River is open, and the lagoon management season is scheduled to end on October 15th. Biological and water quality monitoring for the season is already underway. <u>Biological Assessment for New Biological Opinion –</u> The Biological Assessment has been submitted to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. All of the comments that both agencies made to the draft version were addressed.

No public comment.

6. Potter Valley Project Update

Pam Jeane, SCWA, presented.

PG&E let the stakeholders know that if they (meaning stakeholders) had an interest submitting a proposal regarding the Potter Valley Project license surrender process, to let them know by end of July. Sonoma Water, Mendocino Inland Water and Power Commission, and the Round Valley Indian Tribes did submit a proposal to PG&E. The purpose of the proposal was to keep the opportunity of the diversion of the Eel River to the Russian River alive. The proposal included a timeline and milestones. There has been no response from PG&E at this point. The Department of Water Resources grant work for the Cape Horn Dam facilities assessment is underway. The consultants are evaluating three diversion scenarios as part of the facilities assessment. A meeting with a technical advisory group (fisheries biologists) that is evaluating the scenarios is taking place next.

No public comment.

7. Russian River Water Forum Update

Mike Thompson, SCWA, presented.

A lot has happened with the Russian River Water Forum (RRWF). The Planning group meeting was held on August 17 and then the Steering Committee met the next day, August 18. Planning group meeting discussed the proponents, which consists of the Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino Inland Water and Power Commission and the Round Valley Indian Tribe submitted a proposal to PG&E by the July 31 deadline. A presentation to the Planning Group was made by representatives of the three proponents and covered timelines and answered questions. There was an emphasis that the proposal was meant to reflect co-equal objectives of fish passage and on-going water supply reliability. Some of the responses heard were surrounding consensus and support. There were concerns expressed that this proposal may slow down dam removal. The biggest comment heard had to do with transparency as some were shocked about the proposal, while others expressed relief and understanding. The question has turned to how the RRWF will be involved in the proponent's process to announce the proposal with PG&E. There was supposed to be a meeting last week for the RRWF, but there had not been enough progress to report out on. The proponents are working on two critical timelines. First, is the creation of the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) which needs to be completed by the end of this calendar year. Second, convening a table to negotiate a settlement agreement on the new Eel - Russian River facility by October 21. There have been several conversations with Lake County regarding saving Lake Pillsbury and how the decommissioning process may address their concerns. The four working group are in various stages of convening. There is a lot of work happening with DWR regarding the Potter Valley facilities, the fish passage alternatives, and Potter Valley hydrogeologic investigations and storage. The water supply and fishery working group is on hold until the technical work and the DWR study completed. The governance group is also on hold, as an interim JPA is being worked on. The water rights group has met, and their main charge is to focus on education of water users and water rights holders. The development of that information ties into the finance group. The finance group has not scheduled a meeting, but the plan is to have two separate groups. One to look at capital projects or capital funding, and the second smaller group would consist of Russian River water users and beneficiaries who would help work out the ongoing operation and maintenance of the facility. The first draft of a potential budget has been put together. No public comment.

- 8. <u>Community and Government Affairs Update</u> Brad Sherwood, SCWA, was not present. This item was not presented.
- 9. <u>Items for Next Agenda</u> None.

10. <u>Check Out</u> Matt Fullner, TAC Vice Chair, adjourned the meeting at 9:44 a.m.



DISBURSEMENTS - DATED OCTOBER 5, 2023

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
90632*	Amazon	Auto Shop, Computer (\$485), Office & Kitchen Supplies	\$1,057.76
1	Alameda Electrical Distributors	Conduit	62.77
2	All Star Rents	Propane (16 gals)	79.41
3	A.S.T.I.	 3rd Quarter Inspection of Automatic Fire Sprinkler System (STP) 	215.00
4	AT&T	Telephone, Fax, Leased Lines & Data	511.91
5	Backflow Distributors	Replacement Parts for NMWD Owned Double Check Assemblies	4,775.62
6	Bearings & Hydraulics	Split Insert Sleeve	44.46
7	Bold & Polisner	August Legal Fees - General (\$1,080), & NMWD Portion Potter Valley FERC (\$1,733)	2,812.50
8	Buck's Saw Service	Starter Rope for Yard Tools	77.02
9	CDW-Government, Inc.	Backup Disks (6)	422.57
10	Consolidated CM	Prog Pymt#28: Provide Construction Management Services for NMWD Admin Renovation Project (Balance Remaining on \$366,847)	59,742.38
11	Ditch Witch West	Nozzles (2)	487.70
12	Grainger	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	1,860.36
13	Green Point Nursery	Tree for Palmer Tank Site	335.58
14	Hach Co.	Chlorine Sealing Hub (2) & Sensor Holders (2) (STP)	239.33
15	Hasa, Inc.	Sodium Hypochlorite for PRTP (400 gal) (\$1,248) & Deer Island (1,000 gal) (\$3,119)	4,367.66

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
16	Home Depot	Hex Key Sets (2), Enclosure Box for Telemetering Equipment (12" x 12") & Kitchen Faucet	471.83
17	Kiosk Creative LLC	August Marketing Communication & Outreach Services (Balance Remaining on Contract \$57,265)	4,464.05
18		Vision Reimbursement	366.60
19	Miller Pacific Engineering	Prog Pymt#1: Geotechnical & Consultation Services for Landslide Damage Project (Balance Remaining on Contract \$11,210)	8,790.40
20	Noll & Tam Architects	Prog Pymt#28: Consulting Services for NMWD Headquarters Upgrade (Balance Remaining on Contract \$136,326)	45,266.25
21	NSI Solutions, Inc.	QC Sample (Lab)	207.00
22	Nute Engineering	Prog Pymt# 8: Engineering Services for Oceana Marin Pond Rehab Project (Balance Remaining on Contract \$60,906)	111.00
23	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	49.89
24	O'Reilly Auto Parts	Car Detailing Supplies	19.18
25	Pace Supply	Hydrant Bury (4) (\$2,212) & Replacement Centrate Pump @ STP (\$2,336)	4,548.00
26	Pollard Water	2" Pipe Cutter Heads (2)	1,002.21
27	Roberto, Richard	Exp Reimb: Lodging While at Neptune Conference (9/11-9/14/23)	674.61
28	Soiland Co., Inc.	Rock (16 yds) & Asphalt Recycling (8 yds)	793.20
29	Sonoma County Tree Experts Inc	. Tree Trimming & Removal on Road to STP	5,750.00
30	TPC Training Inc	Electrical Troubleshooting & Preventative Maintenance Training (Davenport & Lemos)	2,590.00
31	USA BlueBook	Ammonium Hydroxide & Blue-White Tube Assembly for Pumps (2) (STP)	261.79
32	VWR International LLC	Pump Tubing, Pipette Tips (1,000), Labeling Tape & Phosphate Buffers (50)	454.80

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
33	Waste Management	Waste Disposal	138.05
35	Wood Rodgers, Inc.	Prog Pymt#9: Gallagher Well#1 Assessment/Rehab (Balance Remaining on Contract \$7,520)	120.00
36	ZORO	Foam Hand Soap Cartridge (2), Wall Mount Enclosure, Cordless Impact Wrench, Blacktop Filler & Backup Power Supply (\$384) TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	933.38 \$154,104.27

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$154,104.27 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Blue

Auditor-Controller

General Manager

10/03/2023 Date 10/3/2023

DISBURSEMENTS - DATED OCTOBER 12, 2023

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 9/30/23	\$181,647.17
90634*	Internal Revenue Service	Federal & FICA Taxes PPE 9/30/23	74,571.41
90635*	State of California	State Taxes & SDI PPE 9/30/23	16,467.07
90936*	CalPERS	Pension Contribution PPE 9/30/23	47,470.48
1	Able Tire & Brake	Tires (4) & Alignment ('21 Nissan Rogue)	945.41
2	All Star Rents	Propane (STP)	95.47
3	Alpha Analytical Labs	Lab Testing (W.M.)	2,125.00
4	Automation Direct	Ethernet Port for Telemetering Equipment	329.84
5	Backflow Distributors	Replacement Backflow Assemblies for Cross Connection Control Program	8,144.88
6	Benjamin Franklin Plumbing	Toilet Repair - Rush Creek Place	216.00
7.	Building Supply Center	Miscellaneous Hardware	132.96
8	Caltest Analytical Laboratory	Lab Testing (Oceana Marin)	105.80
9	Chun, Gloria	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	125.00
10	C.J. Brown & Company CPAs	September Progress Billing Financial Statement Audit FY22-23 (Balance Remaining on Contract \$3,949)	9,448.00
11	Cole-Parmer Instrument	Filters (100) (Lab)	225.53
12	Comcast	Internet Services (1250 Lynwood Dr & 100 Wood Hollow Dr)	566.10
13	Comcast	Oct Phone Services (Wood Hollow, Buck Inst., Yard & STP)	1,515.44
14	Comcast	Internet Services (999 Rush Creek Place)	1,562.93
15	Core & Main	6" Grooved Couplings (4)	1,236.90

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
16	DataTree	September Subscription to Parcel Data Info	100.00
17	Diesel Direct West	Diesel (225 gal) (\$1,361) & Gasoline (659 gal) (\$3,716)	5,076.46
18	Digi-Key	Cell Modems for SCADA Pump Stations & Tank Sites	516.87
19	Bill Dimitracopoulos	Novato "Cash for Grass" Rebate Program	800.00
20	Direct Line Inc	September Telephone Answering Service	244.77
21	Zack Fagan	Novato "Cash for Grass" Rebate Program	400.00
22	Fishman Supply Co	Safety Supplies	726.48
23	Grainger	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	631.91
24	Gronski, Judy	Refund Overpayment on Closed Account	172.06
25	Hach Co.	O' Rings (4), Lab Turbidimeter Sample Cells (3) & Split Rings (2)	394.51
26	LeBrun, Kent	Exp Reimb: Tinting on District Vehicle for Better Visibility	97.85
27	Lincoln Life Employer Serv	Deferred Compensation 9/30/23	9,299.81
28	Marin County Ford	Service Parts ('12 F250 & '22 Ford Ranger)	181.66
29	McLeilan Co, WK	Misc Paving	19,154.80
30	Nationwide Retirement Solution	Deferred Compensation 9/30/23	3,397.50
31	Nave Motors	Smog Checks ('12 F250 & '10 F150)	120.00
32	NEXGEN	Asset Management Software Annual Subscription (7/1/23-6/30/24)	27,825.00
33	North Marin Auto Parts	Service Parts ('16 Nissan Frontier, '19 Nissan Rogue, '15 Int'l Dump Truck, '14 Light Tower), 5 Gal Buckets (18), Terry Rags (10 lbs), Wash & Wax for Fleet	738.20
34	North Bay Gas	Carbon Dioxide, Nitrogen & Breathing Air (STP)	179.44
35	Novato Builders Supply	Lumber	6.56
36	Novato Chamber of Commerce	Membership Dues (11/23-10/24)	965.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
37	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	Misc Office Supplies	83.49
38	Open Spatial Americas Inc.	Open Spatial Standard Edition Annual License (\$10,678) & Support (\$1,700)	12,378.00
39	Patricia Owens	Novato "Toilet Rebate-Ultra High Efficiency" Program	795.00
40	Pace Supply	Studs (4), Washers (8), Nuts (8), Bell Restrainers (2) & Elbow	372.15
41	Parkinson Accounting Systems	September Accounting Software Support	97.50
42	Pacific Gas & Electric Co	Power: Bldgs/Yard (\$3,058), Other (\$63), Pumping (\$61,034), Rect/Cont (\$125) & Treatment (\$8,809)	73,090.40
43	Pini Hardware	Miscellaneous Maintenance Tools & Supplies	617.23
44	Recology Sonoma Marin	September Trash Services	618.51
45	RoadSafe Traffic Systems, Inc.	Traffic Cones (30)	748.65
46	Nicholas Saribalis	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	375.00
47	Staples Business Credit	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	70.76
48	State Water Resources Control	D3 Certification Test Fee (Fike)	100.00
49	Underground Service Alert	Regulatory Cost for 2022 California Underground Service Alert Tags (2,942)	5,384.39
50	United Parcel Service	Delivery Services: Sent Media & Material for Hi- Temp Calibration	68.83
51	Univar	Caustic Soda (13 Dry Tons) (STP)	10,086.91
52	USA BlueBook	Valve Repair Kits (4)	478.72
53	Verizon Wireless	Cellular Charges: Data (\$1,252), Airtime & iPads for Asset Management	1,500.85
54	Verizon Wireless	SCADA & AMI Collectors	1,047.12

Seq	Payable To

55 **VWR International LLC** Autoclave Tape & Sulfate Standard (Lab) TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

77.19 \$525,950.97

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$525,950.97 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Blue

10/10

ditor-Controller

<u>IU/10/2023</u> Date <u>Io/Io/2023</u> Date

General Manager



MEMORANDUM

To:	Board of Directors	Date: October 17, 2023
From:	Julie Blue, Auditor/Controller JB Nancy Williamson, Accounting Supervisor Nw	
Subject:	Auditor-Controller's Monthly Report of Investments for T:\AC\Board Reports\Investments\Investment Report 08.2023.docx	August 2023

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time, information only

At month end the District's Investment Portfolio had an amortized cost value (i.e., cash balance) of \$34,758,441 and a market value of \$34,563,833. During August the cash balance decreased by \$840,862. The market value of securities held decreased \$827,966 during the month. The total unrestricted cash balance at month end was \$918,936 and 92.1% of the Target Reserves are funded.

At August 31, 2023, 51% of the District's Portfolio was invested in California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), 20% in Time Certificates of Deposit, 23% in a Treasury Bill, 3% in the Marin County Treasury, and 3% retained locally for operating purposes. The weighted average maturity of the portfolio was 79 days, compared to 90 days at the end of July. The LAIF interest rate for the month was 3.43%, compared to 3.31% the previous month. The weighted average Portfolio rate was 4.87%, compared to 4.77% for the prior month.

Investment Transactions for the month of August are listed below:

8/3/2023 LAIF	US Bank	\$200,000.00	Trsf from LAIF account
8/11/2023 Sallie Mae I	Bank US Bank	\$249,000.00	CD Maturity
8/16/2023 US Bank	LAIF	\$450,000.00	Trsf to LAIF account
8/24/2023 LAIF	US Bank	\$1,100,000.00	Trsf from LAIF account

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Monthly Report of Investments - August 2023

NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S MONTHLY REPORT OF INVESTMENTS August 31, 2023

				August 51,	2023			
		S&P	Purchase	Maturity	Cost	8/31/2023		% of
Туре	Description	Rating	Date	Date	Basis ¹	Market Value	Yield ²	Portfolio
LAIF	State of CA Treasury	AA-	Various	Open	\$17,749,313	\$17,480,030	3.43% ³	51%
Time	Certificate of Deposit							
TCD	Enerbank	n/a	9/25/20	9/25/24	249,000	249,000	0.45%	1%
TCD	UBS Bank	n/a	9/9/21	9/11/23	249,000	249,000	0.35%	1%
TCD	BMW Bank	n/a	8/20/21	2/20/24	249,000	249,000	0.45%	1%
TCD	Goldman Sachs Bank	n/a	1/19/22	1/19/24	249,000	249,000	0.75%	1%
TCD	Ally Bank	n/a	2/24/22	2/23/24	248,000	248,000	1.30%	1%
TCD	Greenstate Credit Union	n/a	3/15/22	3/15/24	249,000	249,000	1.60%	1%
TCD	Capital One Bank	n/a	4/7/22	4/8/24	247,000	247,000	2.20%	1%
TCD	Capital One Bank, N.A.	n/a	4/20/22	4/22/24	247,000	247,000	2.35%	1%
TCD	American Express Natl Bank	n/a	5/4/22	5/6/24	246,000	246,000	2.60%	1%
TCD	BMO Harris Bank	n/a	6/10/22	6/10/24	246,000	246,000	2.80%	1%
TCD	GE Credit Union	n/a	6/29/22	6/28/24	249,000	249,000	3.25%	1%
TCD	Beal Bank	n/a	7/13/22	7/10/24	246,000	246,000	3.05%	1%
TCD	Synchrony Bank	n/a	8/5/22	8/5/24	245,000	245,000	3.30%	1%
TCD	Discover Bank	n/a	9/13/22	9/13/24	245,000	245,000	3.40%	1%
TCD	Sharonview Credit Union	n/a	10/17/22	10/17/24	249,000	249,000	4.35%	1%
TCD	Popular Bank	n/a	11/9/22	11/7/24	247,000	247,000	4.75%	1%
TCD	Dannemora Fed Credit Union	n/a	11/10/22	11/10/23	249,000	249,000	4.70%	1%
TCD	Greenwood Credit Union	n/a	11/21/22	11/21/23	248,000	248,000	4.85%	1%
TCD	Alabama Credit Union	n/a	11/22/22	11/22/24	248,000	248,000	4.90%	1%
TCD	Community West Credit Union	n/a	12/19/22	12/19/24	249,000	249,000	4.78%	1%
TCD	Connexus Credit Union	n/a	12/20/22	12/20/23	248,000	248,000	5.00%	1%
TCD	Austin Telco Fed Credit Union	n/a	1/27/23	1/27/25	248,000	248,000	4.90%	1%
TCD	First Tech Fed Credit Union	n/a	2/17/23	2/18/25	249,000	249,000	4.85%	1%
TCD	Keybank National Assoc	n/a	3/15/23	3/17/25	243,000	243,000	5.00%	1%
TCD	Morgan Stanley Bnk NA	n/a	4/6/23	4/7/25	244,000	244,000	4.90%	1%
TCD	Morgan Stanley Private Bnk	n/a	4/6/23	4/7/25	244,000	244,000	4.90%	1%
TCD	Raiz Federal Credit Union	n/a	5/11/23	5/12/25	248,000	248,000	4.85%	1%
TCD	Hughes Federal Credit Union	n/a	6/29/23	6/30/25	248,000	248,000	5.25%	1%
				-	\$6,926,000	\$6,926,000	3.23%	20%
	easury Bills							
Treas	Treasury Bill	n/a	5/23/23	10/19/23	\$7,997,714	\$8,072,389	5.23%	23%
Other								
Agenc	y Marin Co Treasury	AAA	Various	Open	\$1,051,860	\$1,051,860	0.67%	3%
	Various	n/a	Various	Open	1,033,554	1,033,554	0.10%	3%
		тс	OTAL IN PO	ORTFOLIO	\$34,758,441	\$34,563,833	4.87%	100%
				=				

Weighted Average Maturity = 79 Days

LAIF: State of California Local Agency Investment Fund.

TCD: Time Certificate of Deposit.

Treas: US Treasury Notes with maturity of 5 years or less.

Agency: STP State Revolving Fund Loan Reserve.

Other: Comprised of 5 accounts used for operating purposes. US Bank Operating Account, US Bank STP SRF Loan

Account, US Bank FSA Payments Account, Bank of Marin AEEP Checking Account & NMWD Petty Cash Fund.

1 Original cost less repayment of principal and amortization of premium or discount

2 Yield defined to be annualized interest earnings to maturity as a percentage of invested funds

3 Earnings are calculated daily - this represents the average yield for the month ending August 31, 2023 Maturity Original Principal Interest Loan Interest Bearing Loans Date Date Loan Amount Outstanding Rate Marin Country Club Loan 1.00% 1/1/18 11/1/47 \$1,265,295 \$1,054,415 Marin Municipal Water - AEEP 7/1/14 7/1/32 \$3,600,000 \$1,620,203 2.71% 250,000 3/30/15 3/30/30 Employee Housing Loan (1) 250,000 Contingent TOTAL INTEREST BEARING LOANS \$5,115,295 \$2,924,618

The District has the ability to meet the next six months of cash flow requirements.

NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023 October 17, 2023

1.

Novato Potable Water Prod - RR & STP Combined - in Million Gallons - FYTD							
Month	FY23/24	FY22/23	FY21/22	FY20/21	FY19/20	24 vs 23 %	
July	218.6	224.5	282.9	341.7	317.7	-3%	
August	230.9	235.9	212.4	290.1	287.1	-2%	
September	212.4	203.5	214.5	225.6	280.5	4%	
FYTD Total	662.0	663.9	709.7	857.3	885.3	0%	

West Marin Potable Water Production - in Million Gallons - FY to Date

- - -

		-				
Month	FY23/24	FY22/23	FY21/22	FY20/21	FY19/20	24 vs 23 %
July	7.1	6.3	6.0	8.2	8.9	13%
August	7.5	6.8	5.7	9.2	8.4	9%
September	6.7	6.3	5.9	7.9	7.8	6%
FYTD Total	21.3	19.5	17.6	25.3	25.0	9%

Stafford Treatment Plant Production - in Million Gallons - FY to Date

Month	FY23/24	FY22/23	FY21/22	FY20/21	FY19/20	24 vs 23 %
July	67.0	56.3	67.0	105.8	68.2	19%
August	98.3	67.9	31.3	81.1	103.8	45%
September	112.6	57.8	41.7	16.1	115.0	95%
FYTD Total	277.9	182.0	139.9	203.0	286.9	53%

Recycled Water Production* - in Million Gallons - FY to Date

Month	FY23/24	FY22/23	FY21/22	FY20/21	FY19/20	24 vs 23 %
July	31.0	43.1	42.9	39.0	36.5	-28%
August	34.8	41.6	41.4	43.2	33.3	-16%
September	26.1	29.2	39.6	29.5	29.7	-11%
FYTD Total*	91.9	113.9	123.9	111.6	99.5	-19%

*Excludes potable water input to the RW system: FY24 =2.84MG, FY23= 10.8 MG FY22=10 MG; FY21=24.7 MG; FY20=16.7

2. Regional and Local Water Supply

Lake Sonoma

	Current		2022	
Lake Storage*	75,311	MG	35,854	MG
Supply Capacity	91	%	45	%

*Normal capacity =-245,000 AF (79,833.5 MG); deviation storage pool of 264,000 AF *86,025 MG)

Lake Mendocino

	Current	2022
Lake Storage *	25,011 MG	13,247 MG
Supply Capacity	71 %	64 %

*Normal capacity = 70,000-110,000 AF (22,800-35,840MG); flood control pool at 80,000 AF (26,000 MG)

3. Stafford Lake Data

	September A	verage	Septem	ber 2023	Septe	ember 2022
Rainfall this month	0.23 Inc	ches	0.00	Inches	0.76	Inches
Rainfall this FY to date	0.29 Inc	ches	0.00	Inches	0.76	Inches
Lake elevation*	182.8 Fe	et	184.4	Feet	184.5	Feet
Lake storage**	583 MO	G	660	MG	665	MG
Supply Capacity	42 %		46	%	48	%

* Spillway elevation is 196.0 feet

** Lake storage less 390 MG = quantity available for normal delivery

Temperature (in degrees)

	Minimum	<u>Maximum</u>	Average
September 2023 (Novato)	49	71	65
September 2022 (Novato)	49	113	71

4. Number of Services

	Novato Water			Rec	ycled \	cled Water Wes			West Marin Water			Oceana Marin Swr		
September 30	FY24	FY23	Incr %	FY24	FY23	Incr %	FY24	FY23	Incr %	FY24	FY23	Incr %		
Total meters installed	20,986	20,888	0.5%	102	102	0.0%	800	801	-0.1%	-	-	-		
Total meters active	20,836	20,740	0.5%	100	99	1.0%	793	790	0.4%	-	-	-		
Active dwelling units	24,097	24,099	0.0%	-	-	-	838	838	0.0%	236	235	0.4%		

5. Oceana Marin Monthly Status Report (September)

Description	September 2023	September 2022
Effluent Flow Volume (MG)	0.396	0.440
Irrigation Field Discharge (MG)	0.636	0.000
Treatment Pond Freeboard (ft)	7.0	5.5
Storage Pond Freeboard (ft)	10.7	12.0

6. Safety/Liability

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	Ind	ustrial Injury v	Liability Claims Paid				
	Lost Days	OH Cost of Lost Days (\$)	No. of Emp. Involved	No. of Incidents	Incurred (FYTD)	Paid (FYTD) (\$)	
FY 24 through Sept	1	\$368	1	1	0	\$0	
FY 23 through Sept	86	\$50,176	2	2	1	\$36,498	*
Days since lost time accident through	23	74	Days			-	

* (1) Claim settlement for drivew ay and concrete repair due to water damage to a property on Bugeia Lane

7. Energy Cost

		September		Fiscal Year-to	-Date thru	September
FYE	kWh	¢/kWh	Cost/Day	kWh	¢/kWh	Cost/Day
2024 Stafford TP	99,833	21.9¢	\$728	242,803	23.2¢	\$461
Pumping	147,581	34.7¢	\$1,706	455,194	34.6¢	\$1,730
Other ¹	34,878	37.5¢	\$436	105,506	39.8¢	\$612
	282,291	31.8¢	\$2,870	803,502	31.8¢	\$2,804
2023 Stafford TP	62,560	20.9¢	\$421	204,708	21.8¢	\$485
Pumping	141,447	29.1¢	\$1,370	440,763	29.0¢	\$1,391
Other ¹	37,085	34.6¢	\$427	119,289	34.4¢	\$446
	241,092	27.8¢	\$2,218	764,760	27.9¢	\$2,322
2022 Stafford TP	60,501	21.9¢	\$441	128,074	21.7¢	\$302
Pumping	132,983	27.7¢	\$1,228	425,067	27.6¢	\$1,275
Other ¹	39,761	31.6¢	\$418	121,782	31.4¢	\$415
	233,245	27.6¢	\$2,087	674,923	27.2¢	\$1,992

¹Other includes West Marin Facilities

\\nmwdfileserver\administration\AC\Board Reports\PGE\PG&E Usage\FY 23.24\[PGE Usage 09.2023.xlsx]mo rpt

8. <u>Water Conservation Update</u>

	Month of September 2023	Fiscal Year to Date	Program Total to Date
High Efficiency Toilet (HET) Rebates	1	11	4,492
Retrofit Certificates Filed	7	18	6,815
Cash for Grass Rebates	2	6	1,069
Washing Machine Rebates	4	12	6,905
Water Smart Home Survey	2	5	3,926

9. Utility Performance Metric

SERVICE DISRUPTIONS (No. of Customers Impacted)	September 2023	September 2022	Fiscal Year to Date 2024	Fiscal Year to Date 2023
PLANNED				
Duration Between 0.5 and 4 hours	7	5	62	37
Duration Between 4 and 12 hours	0	0	0	0
Duration Greater than 12 hours	0	0	0	0
UNPLANNED				
Duration Between 0.5 and 4 hours	0	0	30	90
Duration Between 4 and 12 hours	0	0	78	0
Duration Greater than 12 hours	0	0	0	0
SERVICE LINES REPLACED				
Polybutylene	5	4	21	19
Copper Replaced or Repaired)	2	1	12	2

September 2023 Service Disruptions

Planned:

For the month of September, we had 7 planned service disruptions:

Plastic: We had 5 plastic service leaks on: Sunset Parkway, Chase St, Cambridge St, Lotus Ct., and Galli Dr.

Copper: There were 2 copper service leaks on: Los Cedros Dr and Diablo Ave.

Unplanned:

There were no unplanned service disruptions for the month of September.

NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT Summary of Complaints & Service Orders September 2023 Tag Breakdown: Total: 210 Consumer: 70 Office: 140 Added Notes Туре Sep-23 Sep-22 Billing High Bill 2 1 Total 2 1 **Meter Replacement** 38 23 Total 38 23 Need Read 0 11 Total 0 11 No-Water 1 4 Total 1 4 Leak Consumer 262 119 District 18 5 Total 137 267 Water Quality Other 1 0 Total 1 0 Check Pressure 0 2 Total 0 2 Turn Off / On 17 27 Total 17 27 <u>Other</u> 14 24 14 Total 24 TOTAL FOR MONTH: 359 -42% 210 **Bill Adjustments Under Board Policy:** September 23 vs. September 22 Sep-23 14 \$4,817 Sep-22 13 \$4,444 Fiscal Year vs Prior FY FY 23/24 38 \$11,857 FY 22/23 44 \$9,720

Customer Service Questionnaire Quarterly Report		
Quarter Ending : 9/30/2023		
Customer Comments	Staff Response to Negative Comments	Issues NMWD Should Address In The Future
PRESSURE		
Thank you for the help.		
BILLING		
Still trying to figure out the reason for significant increased water usage. Travis was greatand very thorough!		
The technician who came out was very helpful.		
LEAK Although worker called in sick the office staff hustled to get someone to		
come by. Thanks for going the extra mile!		
Service was prompt, courteous and efficient. I am completely satisfied, thanks.		
Still have a leak water pressure on irrigation system 90-95, no pressure.	Confirmed in WaterSmart that leak has stopped.	
Great Technician, really informative.		
My only Issue, Travis was wonderful . Why did the tech who left the door		Check your own equipment for leaks if homeowners
tag two times in January and June not check the meter himself to see if the leak originated there. Tons of water could have been saved.	Leak was on customer's line.	bill reflects possible leak.
Follow up was terrific & we were able to stop the leak the day before the		
4th of July weekend with the prompt & efficient service. It saved us and Marin alot of water.		
Note left at door, there wasa small pinhole leak but where? I had to call.		
Turns out the issue was my neighbor running his irrigation for 24 hrs. flooded the yard.		
Found and fixed the leak.		
The gentleman that came out was wonderful. You should be proud of him.		
Thanks bunches!		
Darrell came out to help us find our water leak and he was so kind and helpful! We will ask for him anytime we have a problem! Great employee!		
Thank you, He came quickly and fixed the problem fast and waved good bye so I knew he was done. Great Service!		
Called in a leak in the main water line under the street and the crew responded quickly and patched a leak but not the one I reported. However i appears that you are aware of this and are investigating further.	t	
Response time was prompt and I was informed of the plan. The workers were polite.		
Jenny was most helpful & courteous.		
Took over a month to find out I could have used a dye tab to check for leak.	No leak shown in WaterSmart.	
I called in Jan to report a leak and was told it would be looked at. Never heard back. And it continued to leak. Called again months later and it was repairs. Gentleman on the phone was short with me and kept putting me of but overall satisfactory.		
James on call and rich on Friday were both super helpful! They told us where to check for the leak and James stopped by to help read the meter and to make sure we had really stopped the leak. Big Thank you!		
Called in the morning about a leak in my meter box and all fixed by mid afternoon. Terrific! Travis was especially competent and pleasant.		
Man who came was wonderfully helpful and curteous.		
They fixed the leak!		
Now I know which valve to turn off. Thank you.		
Rich was so helpful in this year long leak ordeal. Thank you. Your representative was very nice and communicative . Thank you!		
r con representative was very nice and communicative . Induk you!		
OTHER		
Thank you for your service! Curteous and prompt.		
Prompt, Pleasant & Polite.		
I really appreciated help since visitors were here & I was in Southern CA. They were concerned to break the main valve to the house.		I wish there could have been advice on previous visit that my main to the house was old and could have been replaced.
I appreciate the prompt attention to my email & how quickly it took to fix the issue.		I don't really like the frequent rate and service change increases.
The person who came out was courteous and efficient.		Stop raising the rates.
A1 Service		



999 Rush Creek Place P.O. Box 146 Novato, CA 94948-0146

 PHONE
 EMAIL

 415-897-4133
 info@ni

EMAIL WEB info@nmwd.com www.nmwd.com

October 2, 2023

State Water Resources Control Board Underground Storage Tank Program, 15th Floor P.O. Box 2231 Sacramento, CA 95814 Attention: Dayna Cordano *Sent via email*: <u>USTClosuresComments@waterboard.ca.gov</u>, <u>Dayna.Cordano@waterboards.ca.gov</u>, Laurent.Meillier@waterboards.ca.gov

RE: Case Number 21-0030 Chevron 5810 Nave Drive, Novato, Marin County

Dear Dayna Cordano and Laurent Meillier:

The North Marin Water District (NMWD) has received the Public Notice for the referenced Site, reviewed the Case Closure Summary and the Draft Order, and conducted limited review of the documents available in the GeoTracker data management system. Based on that review, NMWD is providing important background information and comments for consideration by the Water Board.

Background Information

- 1. NMWD provides potable and recycled water to the greater Novato area, including the location of the former Chevron facility (opened in 1963 and closed in 1983) and the surrounding development. A 12-inch diameter potable water main pipeline is located in Nave Drive and the adjoining Roblar Drive. In addition, several water services and appurtenances (e.g. fire hydrants) are connected to the water main as shown on the attached Exhibit A. Note that a 30-inch transmission main, owned and operated by Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) is also located in this area as shown in the exhibit.
- 2. The existing 12-inch water main described above is asbestos cement pipe and was originally installed in 1962. As part of the NMWD Water Master Plan¹, as well as NMWD engineering procedures for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), replacement of this pipeline will be performed sometime in the next 10 to 15 years due to overall age and material type. The pipeline was installed at a depth of approximately 5 feet (measured from the bottom of the pipe).
- 3. Since the 12-inch water main is located within public right of way, NMWD would apply for a project-specific encroachment permit from the City of Novato (City) prior to any excavation associated with a pipeline replacement or major repair. However, each year, NMWD secures an "annual utility encroachment permit" from the City for use in emergencies or minor maintenance work. Based on prior experience, asbestos cement pipe of the age of this pipeline is subject to unplanned breakage or leakage prior to full planned replacement.
- 4. NMWD is subject to numerous state and federal regulations, engineering and operational standards, and general and specific best practices regarding its potable water distribution system. These include Section 64572 of CCR Title 22 (California

DIRECTORS: JACK BAKER · KEN EICHSTAEDT · RICK FRAITES · MICHAEL JOLY · STEPHEN PETTERLE OFFICERS: ANTHONY WILLIAMS, General Manager · EILEEN MULLINER, District Secretary · JULIE BLUE, Auditor-Controller · ERIC MILLER, Asst. GM/Chief Engineer

¹ https://nmwd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2018WMP.pdf

"Waterworks Standards") which requires not only specific pipeline materials, design, and construction standards, but most importantly, physical separation of water mains from certain hazards, such as a "...sanitary landfill, wastewater disposal pond, or <u>hazardous</u> <u>waste disposal site</u>..." as well as an "...<u>underground hazardous material storage tank,..."</u> (see Section 64572(42), underlining for emphasis). In addition, NMWD's engineering standards comply with or are based on various American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards and practices that assume that all water pipeline bedding or trench material are free of contamination.

Comments

NMWD's concerns with the planned closure of the referenced Site has two basic elements: 1) the health and safety of our construction and maintenance crews (as well as contracted construction firms) working on the pipelines and appurtenances within or near the Site; and 2) impacts to the nearby water distribution system (see Exhibit A) and overall compliance with state requirements for separation and protection of the pipelines from various hazards. Due to documented past contamination events at sites similar to the referenced Site, it is assumed that there is a risk of contaminants in the groundwater and soils surrounding drinking water distribution and transmission mains entering those pipelines. As previous described above, this concern is generally reflected in state regulations which require minimum separation distances, specific pipe materials, design standards, and construction standards for drinking water mains in relation to sources of contaminants in their vicinities. Additional requirements exist for backflow protection due to the tendency of pipelines to draw in foreign fluids that results from changes in pressures which can create negative pressure (vacuum conditions).

Given the overall concerns described above and based on NMWD's limited review of the prior soil and groundwater sampling and site characterization of the contamination at the referenced Site, the following specific comments are provided:

- NMWD is concerned that under certain circumstances, the existing potable distribution system would be a possible sensitive receptor of any residual contamination. These conditions exist when there is a depressurization of the pipeline due to system pressure fluctuations or loss, a pipeline breakage, or other circumstances which are not necessarily unusual or extreme. As previously described, these conditions could create a negative pressure or vacuum conditions that could draw contamination into NMWD's pipelines from surrounding groundwater.
- 2. NMWD feels that additional soil and groundwater characterization by the Responsible Party is needed within our pipeline alignment to gauge if additional protective provisions are needed in the Soil and Groundwater Management Plan ahead of a planned or, more importantly, an unplanned excavation for pipe maintenance or repair.
- 3. NMWD is concerned that the planned or unplanned future excavation of its water facilities is this area (within or near the Site) could directly encounter contamination (either soil or shallow groundwater). Please clarify that the Chevron Environmental Management Company (CEMC) or its successor or replacement entity must be available and responsible for profiling of the encountered soil or groundwater within the trench excavation.
- 4. Please clarify that CEMC (or its successor or replacement entity) will be responsible for the handling and disposal of any subsequently confirmed contaminated soil or groundwater encountered during NMWD's excavation activities associated with water facilities repair or replacement activities within or near the Site, including the cost of such handling and disposal.

State Water Quality Control Board October 2, 2023 Page 3 of 3

> Soil and Groundwater Management Plan notifications: In addition to notifying the City of Novato, please also notify NMWD if CEMC is replaced by a successor or some other entity:

> > North Marin Water District Attention: Engineering Department P.O. Box 146 Novato, CA 94948

Thank you for consideration of these comments. At NMWD, the safety of our staff is paramount. Our overall mission is to provide high quality potable water to our customers at reasonable rates. Maintaining and upgrading the above and below ground water distribution system is a critical element of that mission, including assurances that our delivery systems are protected from negative environmental or anthropogenic impacts as well as compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations.

If you have any questions please contact me at 415-897-4133 or twilliams@nmwd.com.

Sincerely,

Pablo Ramudo Water Quality Supervisor

Sincerely,

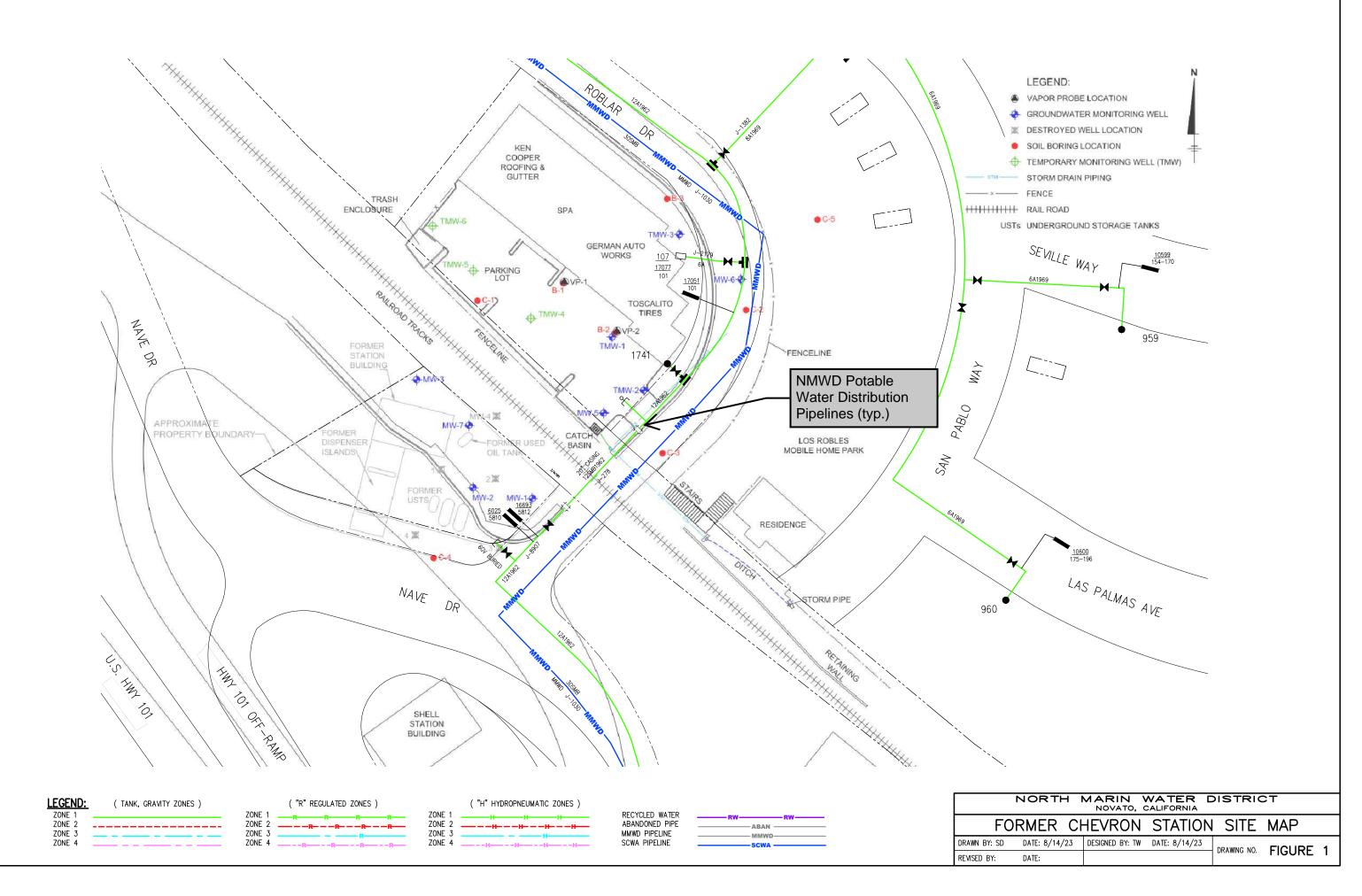
The

Anthony Williams, P.E., QSD General Manager

Attachment: Exhibit A (Site Plan)

c: Elena Joy Pelen, Marin District Division of Drinking Water Craig Judson, Bold Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson (NMWD Counsel) Paul Sellier, Marin Municipal Water District Chris DeGabriele, Interim Public Works Director, City of Novato David Dammuller, Engineering Services Manager, City of Novato

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October 13, 2023

State Water Resources Control Board P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 Attention: Honorable E. Joaquin Esquivel via Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board Emailed to: <u>commentletters@waterboard.ca.gov</u>

Subject: Comment Letter – Proposed Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation

Dear Chair Esquivel:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and as allowed in the Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action, the North Marin Water District (NMWD) is submitting these written comments in response to the proposed regulatory action related to California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 3.5, article 1, sections 965-975 and 978 ("Making Conservation a California Way of Life").

As a member agency of the Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership (Partnership), we have been on the leading edge of water use efficiency (WUE) program implementation over the last 25 years, achieving a 43 percent reduction in regional per capita water use in that time. During this 25-year period, the consideration of WUE programs to implement has been coordinated regionally to inform the best options for our agency and other Partnership agencies based on cost-effectiveness and the likelihood of their success to achieve our agency's demand reduction goals considering staff and financial resources available and a ready market for the programs. The programs we choose to implement may not exactly match the programs of another Partnership agency that has its own unique considerations. Each agency of the Partnership also contributes funding proportionally for separately run regional outreach programs by our wholesaler, Sonoma Water (Sonoma County Water Agency). This proportionality reflects the diversity of water provider sizes in the Partnership and ability to pay, from very small (< 3,000 connections and < 1 FTE position in conservation) to medium (> 61,000 connections for the largest utility and 7 FTEs), giving each agency an opportunity to contribute to and benefit from a broader regional approach to efficiency messaging in support of retailer run programs. Note that NMWD has one FTE and one part-time position to handle all WUE programs (as well as all public communications and information).

Regarding the proposed regulation and our shared goal of continued efficiency gains, the most suitable outcome would enable us to continue to utilize local decision-making for costeffective and achievable programs, as was done over these last 25 years through the Partnership and back to 1989 for NMWD directly when we implemented the very first lawn removal incentive program called "Cash for Grass" (a program now widely implemented by many other water providers). It is our belief that the goals of the 2018 legislation can be achieved using the above time-tested approach, but to do so the proposed regulation should reconsider included mandates for new programs and associated work that does not provide proven customer water savings and cost-effectiveness. The regulation must also reconsider setting outdoor efficiency standards that have an unsound basis for achievability and that do not recognize the limitations of agencies to rapidly and affordably affect consumer choice and behavior to retrofit existing landscapes, including water features such as pools. It is imperative that we be able to maintain the viability of urban landscapes and their benefits simultaneously with continued efficiency gains.

We are also concerned that the proposed regulation focuses too much of our efficiency efforts to fill state data gaps, which adds costs and takes time away from our focus on programs

SWRCB Proposed Regulations Comment Letter October 13, 2023 Page 2 of 2

that save water, not to mention a strain on our limited staff resources. The proposed regulation should recognize and remove reporting tasks that are duplicative and that put the burden on water providers to differently parse, aggregate, and disseminate water use information already provided to our customers during billing or included in numerous required reports to state agencies.

Lastly, we are concerned that the proposed regulation undermines the legislative intent to provide variances that recognize the unique characteristics of water service areas or long-term investments in recycled water for potable offset and direct potable reuse. Although it is understandable for a regulation to require agencies requesting variances to demonstrate validity, the proposed regulation effectively removes variances as viable options for many agencies by adding on secondary and unrelated tasks to qualification, and by requiring annual reporting and substantiation of characteristics that do not significantly change from year to year. Our service area characteristics are lasting and real; our long-term investments and diversification of water supplies are lasting and real, and so should be our options to set an Urban Water Use Objective that takes into consideration the challenges we face, and that provides credit for forward-thinking development of recycled water for potable offset and reuse. The variances should be accessible to all regulated water providers, not simply to those with the greatest resources.

We are and will continue to be strong proponents of Making Conservation a California Way of Life and wish to contribute to a successful outcome as the legislation envisioned and as was negotiated over the last several years. We consequently request that State Water Board staff work closely with us to better understand our challenges, to minimize efforts without clear attainment of water savings, to balance state needs against the creation of adverse financial consequences to our customers, and to adhere to the legislated goals and State Water Board authority provided. This is a very important in light of other new water quality regulations and the additional cost and staff resources needed to comply with them.

After careful review of the proposed regulation language, we request the State Water Board consider the following changes that have a specific impact on NMWD:

- 1. Keep "Irrigable Not Irrigated (INI) square footage value in the calculations permanently;
- 2. Remove the "effective rainfall" from the water budget calculation;
- Keep the standard for efficient residential outdoor use (S_{outdoor}) at 0.63 for years 2035 and beyond;
- 4. Permanently recognize recycled water use square footage rather than a yearly variance submittal, review and approval process;
- 5. Remove the CII best management practices data collection actions in proposed Section 974(a) and (b);
- 6. Move the compliance and reporting deadlines at least two years later.

Further, we request that the State Water Board direct staff to consider improvements and modifications to the proposed regulation based on the recommendations submitted by the Association of California Water Agencies, which provides more details on the specifics of our concerns and issues to each part of the proposed regulations, including those summarized in this letter. In doing so, we can continue to make rapid progress in reducing urban water demands while prioritizing continued water affordability and the health of our urban landscapes.

Sincerely,

Anthony Williams, P.E. General Manager

Local water district rips state plan to cut use

Officials say conservation targets would be hardship

BY WILL HOUSTON

WHOUSTON@MARINIJ.COM

The North Marin Water District is pushing back on the state's proposal for permanent water conservation measures regardless of drought conditions.

The proposal, known as "Making Conservation a California Way of Life," would require hundreds of large urban water suppliers to set and meet new conservation targets beginning in 2025. Agencies also would be required to submit more detailed information to the state on how their water is being used.

The State Water Resources Control Board is set to hold a workshop on the proposed rules on Wednesday.

Tony Williams, the general manager of the North Marin Water District, said the rules would place onerous requirements on local agencies that have already been successful in reducing water use.

"Just the reporting alone and the way that we have to gather different data now is an impact," Williams said. "I get it if we weren't achieving a reduction in water use or always exceeding some other type of threshold, but that's not the case for most of the agencies in Marin and Sonoma counties."

"It just feels like a penalizing type of regulation," Williams said.

The district's board was set to vote on Tuesday evening on whether to send a letter to the state outlining the agency's concerns. Under the rules, water agencies would be required to create water-use budgets to achieve conservation goals set by the state. Agencies that do not create the budgets can face daily fines of up to \$1,000, or up to \$10,000 during declared drought emergencies. The rules are required by two bills approved by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2018 in the aftermath of a five-year drought.

Marin's two main suppliers — the North Marin Water District and the larger Marin Municipal Water District — have already worked to reduce water use and would not be required to make reductions until 2035. And those reductions would only range from 1% to 2%.

Williams said the biggest impact for his district, which serves the greater Novato area and parts of West Marin, is the effect on staff resources rather than the ability to achieve the proposed water use reductions.

"We're not too concerned about achieving these thresholds, especially on the residential side," Williams said.

The district has only one full-time staff member who works on the agency's water conservation program and all public outreach related to it.

"We're trying to stay kind of an efficient district with staffing, but it just seems like every year more and more burden is put on us to chop up our water use in different categories and ways," Williams said.

A collective of Marin and Sonoma water agencies, known as the Sonoma Marin Water Saving Partnership, says it has worked to reduce per capita water use in the region by 43% compared to 25 years ago. The North Marin district reported that water use so far this year is 31% lower than in 2013, which is the benchmark year set by the state for reporting.

Marin Municipal Water District spokesperson Adriane Mertens said the district did not have a comment on the proposal at this time, but said it "continues to monitor the state's rulemaking on the conservation regs."

Sonoma Water, the wholesaler that provides water to both Marin water agencies, is not affected by the rules and does not have a position on them, according to spokesperson Ann DuBay.

Kimery Wiltshire, president of Confluence West, a Sausalito nonprofit organization that works on water issues in the western U.S., said that while the state may alter the proposed rules in response to concerns raised by water agencies, the rules are appropriate given the significant droughts the state has experienced and will face.

"I salute the state for really taking, I think, a really determined run at this," Wiltshire said. "Of course, there are going to be concerns up and down the state because it is a diverse state, but we're running out of water. We have got to do some drastic things."

More information about the state's proposal can be found at <u>shorturl.at/fgkwE</u>.

MARIN MUNICIPAL

Water district defends rate hikes

Some residents say percentage of jump too high



The Marin Municipal Water District had faced the possibility of depleting its local reservoir supplies during drought years.

BY WILL HOUSTON

WHOUSTON@MARINIJ.COM

The first water bills since the Marin Municipal Water District's historic rate increases are causing sticker shock for some residents.

The county's largest water supplier significantly overhauled its rates in July as it works to increase water supplies at a level not seen in decades and to recover financial losses from the recent drought.

Prior to the rate increase, the district told ratepayers that the median single-family home would likely have a 20% increase in the bimonthly water bill during the first year of the four-year rate plan.

But some residents state their September and October bills say otherwise.

"It's just not the reality," Kentfield resident Topher Gaylord said. "I think what they are going to find and what they are already finding is most of my neighbors and most of the people I see on message boards are shocked and frustrated with the percentage increase of their bills on the new rate structure."

Tim Peterson of San Anselmo wrote in an email that his bill doubled, even though he decreased his water use by 35% compared to a year ago.

"This is an outrage," Peterson said. "On what planet does MMWD think this is going to fly? I think the new tier system is a scam to punish anyone who does not live in a desert landscape or an apartment with no yard."

District staff, governing board members and supporters of the rate plan said the changes were necessary to make the investments needed for a secure water supply. In 2021, the district was the only Bay Area water agency that faced the possibility of depleting its local reservoir supplies as soon as mid-2022.

The district plans to invest nearly \$35 million in new water supply projects during the next four years. The potential projects include enlarged reservoirs, a brackish desalination plant, new pipelines to connect to the Russian River and improvements to the existing water supply system.

"We were elected into office to help solve a crisis that we were handed by drought and by a lack of supply," said district board member Jed Smith, who was elected in late 2022. "We are still in a massive crisis in Marin. We are highly focused on solving that and it's going to take a lot of capital to do so."

District spokesperson Adriane Mertens said rate revenues so far have remained consistent with what was budgeted.

"Water demand remains low and so it is fortunate that the board used conservative revenue estimates when establishing the new rate structure that is contributing to the increase on customer bills," Mertens wrote in an email. "The district is just over halfway through the first billing cycle where the new rates are reflected, but revenues received thus far are generally consistent with what was forecasted."

The district also said the rate revenue can be used to leverage more grant funding for maintenance projects, fill staff vacancies and increase funding for wildfire prevention in the 22,000 acres of land the agency manages in the Mount Tamalpais watershed.

Additionally, the district said it was close to depleting its emergency reserve funds during the 2020-2022 drought, having lost \$1 million per month because of lower water sales and increased purchasing of imported Russian River water.

Smith said that while he has heard constituents talk about higher water costs, he said there hasn't been shock or surprise. Instead, he said, residents have told him they will hold the district and its board members accountable for living up to their promises.

"This is a highly thought-through process to respond to what our community was saying," Smith said, "and what our customers were saying was that it was really dire that we almost ran out of water in 2021."

Smith said the new rate structure rewards conservation, with lower water users getting smaller increases in their water bills. Additionally, he said the district has a robust low-income program that can help reduce bills.

Several residents spoke out against the rate proposal before its adoption at a May board meeting, with many ratepayers citing concerns about affordability. Larry Russell was the only board member to vote against the rate plan, saying it did not address his concerns about affordability and equity. Russell was unavailable for comment on Thursday.

The four-year rate hike plan marked a major shift from how the district previously charged.

The district charges rates based on how much water a customer uses. Residential customers are placed into one of three tiers depending on their water consumption. Tier 1 charges the lowest rate for those who conserve, and tier 3 charges the highest rates for those who use more water.

Under the new rate plan, the district lowered the water use threshold between the tiers, meaning that customers who once were in the lowest-rate tier now find themselves paying much more for their water. Additionally, the district removed a seasonal adjustment to rates that allowed residents to use more water during the summer without being penalized with a higher-rate tier.

Prior to this rate plan, tier 1 ratepayers were paying about \$4.73 per 100 cubic feet of water, which is written as "ccf" on water bills. One ccf is about 748 gallons. Customers could use between 21 and 26 ccf in a billing period, depending on the season, without being placed in a higher-rate tier.

The new plan charges tier 1 customers \$7.67 per ccf but only allows customers to use up to 15 ccf before being placed into tier 2. If they use more than the tier 1 maximum, these customers will be paying \$10.02 per ccf, which is about a 111% increase compared to what residents paid under the previous tier 1 rate before the rate changes.

Gaylord said he and other ratepayers understand the need for the district to increase local water supplies, but he said the cost increases under the new rate structure are too much, too soon.

"I think everyone recognizes that we need to invest in water infrastructure for the future and the sustainability of the watershed," Gaylord said. "But it feels a lot like, at the moment, what the board and ultimately what the water district represented as a rate increase is just not materializing."

Other residents support of the rate changes, saying the investments in water supply are long overdue.

Steve Isaacs of the Marin Coalition for Water Solutions said that while he understands the concerns about the rate hikes, the challenges the district faces cannot be wished away.

"It's comparable to a rent increase. If you haven't had a rent increase in years then catching up is going to be painful," Isaacs said. "That's really what they're doing, unfortunately, is they need to catch up after the previous boards refused to do anything about increasing the fees."

In the years since 1992, there were 16 years when rates were held flat and three years when rates spiked by more than 10%, according to figures provided by Bret Uppendahl, the district finance director.

In 1993, the district reduced rates by 25%, and rates held flat for 11 of the 14 following years. The board adopted larger rate increases in 2016 and added a new capital maintenance fee charged to customers beginning in 2019 to raise funds for its maintenance backlog and fire prevention work.

Kimery Wiltshire of Confluence West, a Sausalito organization that focuses on western water issues, supports the rate increase, stating the board "had the political courage to do what was needed."

"So, in other words, if the MMWD's previous Board had, like almost every other California water agency, raised rates incrementally over the past decade, there wouldn't be this hard-to-swallow sticker shock," Wiltshire wrote in an email.

The Coalition of Sensible Taxpayers, a Marin nonprofit watchdog group, also supported the rate changes, stating they were fairer than the previous plan, especially in how the district charges certain fixed fees.

The group's president, Mimi Willard, said that while the district reported the median single-family customer would see a 20% increase on the bill, she said many customers don't fit the definition of median.

"This could have been better communicated. That said, for those customers who were paying attention, there was a rate calculator on their website," Willard wrote in an email. "It was very useful for modeling what would happen to an individual customer's bill."

More information on the rate plan and a link to the rate calculator is online at <u>marinwater.org/2023RateSetting</u>.

FLOOD PERIL

Wet winter welcome, but repeat has risks

BY HAYLEY SMITH

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The typically parched, brown hills above Los Angeles are a vibrant shade of green a rarity for early October.

In state parks, waterfalls and rivers that were vastly reduced are now gushing with water.

And in Lake Oroville, boats float on deep blue water that only a year ago was shrinking toward record lows.

The transformed landscape is the result of a remarkable California water year that saw 141% of average rainfall statewide, officials announced this week. The state received 33.56 inches of rain nearly twice the amount of rain recorded during the previous water year and nearly three times the amount from the year prior. The water year runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

"This was as close to a miracle year as you can get following the intensity of drought conditions," said Karla Nemeth, director of the Department of Water Resources, during a briefing Tuesday. The three previous years were California's driest on record.

But with abundance comes risk: Forecasters are warning of another potentially wet winter fueled by El Niño, which could bring levee breaches and flooding to the state once again.

"Mother Nature really helped us out, and she did help us out in a really, really big way in certain parts of the state," Nemeth said. "But there are always ways in which Mother Nature can throw us a curve ball, and we shouldn't expect that necessarily again. There's a lot of work to continue to be done particularly when it comes to flooding and protecting our communities."

This year's soggy conditions were due primarily to 31 atmospheric river storms that unleashed torrents on the Golden State this winter and spring, as well as a very wet August marked by the rare arrival of Tropical Storm Hilary.

The deluge replenished major reservoirs that only a year ago were dangerously low. State reservoirs are now holding about 27.4 million acre-feet in storage, or 128% of normal. That includes California's two largest reservoirs, Lake Shasta and Lake Oroville, which are both at 73% capacity. At the same time last year, they were at 33% and 35% capacity, respectively.

Oroville's increase was particularly dramatic, said Ted Craddock, the DWR's deputy director of the State Water Project. Between December and the end of the snowmelt period this spring, the reservoir gained more than 240 feet in elevation "the largest increase we've seen in Oroville storage in a season ... since the lake was built in the 1960s."

The difference between now and a year ago is "like night and day," said Jay Lund, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at UC Davis.

"This year was a good reminder that we do have this tremendous variability in water availability in California," he said.

Many parts of Central and Southern California saw essentially "two seasons in one," or more than 200% of normal, according to the National Weather Service.

For example, a weather station at USC in Los Angeles recorded 31.07 inches more than twice the area's normal rainfall of 14.25 inches a year, the agency said. Ontario and Fullerton each saw about 25 inches compared with their normal 12 inches.

The water year also saw record snow. At its peak on April 1, snowpack measured 237% of normal the deepest ever recorded since the state established a network of snow sensors in the mid-1980s.

Water was so plentiful that officials with the Metropolitan Water District were able to refill Southern California's largest reservoir, Diamond Valley Lake, for the first time in several years, with General Manager Adel Hagekhalil exclaiming at the time that "nature gave us a lifeline."

But while California has been known to swing from wet to dry, climate change is making both conditions more extreme. So-called "average" years are also likely to become less frequent, Lund said.

"Our discussions about water tend to be a little fickle," he said. "If it's a dry year, we'll talk about drought, or if it's a wet year, we have these problems with floods. But really, we need to worry about both in any year and every year."

Indeed, after the state's three driest years on record, officials this year scrambled to keep up with all the rain. As storms hammered California, multiple levees breached and sent water rushing into towns and communities, including the small migrant community of Pajaro. Thousands of homes were flooded, and by the time the storms dissipated, at least 22 people had died across the state.

In the San Joaquin Valley, the long-dry Tulare Lake reemerged for the first time since 1997, leaving low-lying fields buried under deep and stagnant water.

State officials on Tuesday said the events were a wake-up call to the challenges of forecasting in a rapidly changing climate, and the need for greater preparation for both wet and dry conditions.

"We've always had intense variability in California, but the suddenness of the shift from 'very extreme dry' to 'very extreme wet' is something that we think needs additional research to understand how changes in the climate may have played a factor, or not, in that extreme shift," Nemeth said.

Adding to the challenge is the possibility of a strong El Niño event this winter. The climate pattern is often associated with wetter conditions in Southern California, but is less informative about Northern California, which is where most of the state's water supply comes from.

Still, the possibility of more storms particularly along the coast is cause for concern, officials said. Storms coming straight off the Pacific could equate to more coastal impacts like those seen in Pajaro.

"The coast was particularly hit hard, and that keeps me awake a little bit at night with going into an El Niño year," said Gary Lippner, DWR's deputy director of flood management and dam safety. "I think there is potential for a lot of strong storms to come into California and have coastal issues. And we just do not have extensive flood systems on the coast of California, so that's an area that we're paying particular attention to going into this year."

Among the state's preparations are \$52 million in funding to assist with local flood projects and critical levee repairs. The state is also readying more flood control material than last year, including more "muscle wall" or material to help shore up levees and contain water and 2.4 million additional sandbags, officials said.

"We really are going to focus this year on the timing, the pace and the scale of the storms when that storm door is open," said state climatologist Mike Anderson.

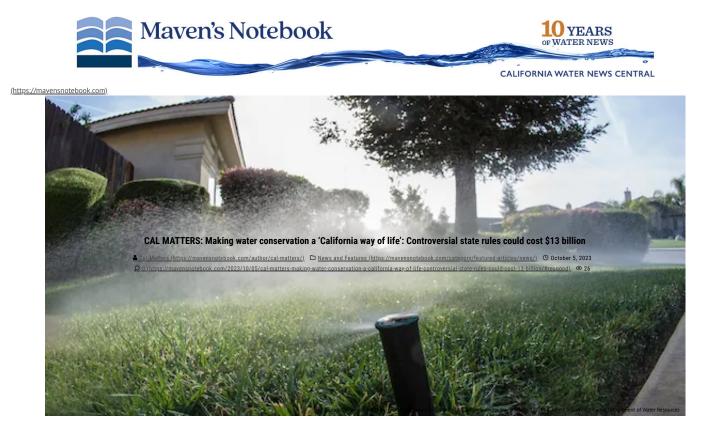
He noted that the state and federal officials are also employing new technology, including atmospheric river reconnaissance flights, which collect storm data and help improve forecasting, and laser spectrometry to help measure snowpack and better predict runoff.

In addition to flood threats, the abundance of water this year also led many to question whether the state was doing enough to capture all of that water including some lawmakers who called for officials to relax environmental pumping restrictions that limited the amount of water that could be captured from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta during the storms.

In March, the State Water Resources Control Board approved a plan to divert some floodwaters from the San Joaquin River to replenish aquifers that had been depleted by agricultural pumping and years of drought. Nearly 400,000 acrefeet was diverted from the river and sent to areas where it could spread out and percolate down into the ground, with an additional 1.2 million acrefeet in temporary permits issued by state agencies.

But while groundwater storage saw a boost this year, it will take more than one wet season to replenish supplies that have been sapped by years of overuse and drought. Aquifers in some parts of the state particularly heavily agricultural regions of the Central Valley remain much below normal, state data show.

"It will likely require several more years in addition to what happened this past year and more focused efforts on groundwater recharge and reduced demand," said Paul Gosselin, DWR's deputy director of sustainable groundwater management.



Water providers say rebates for residential areas are costly and residents may refuse to remove their lawns. The rules aim to save enough water for more than a million households a year.

By Rachel Becker, Cal Matters

Stay up-to-date with free briefings on topics that matter to all Californians. Subscribe to CalMatters (https://calmatters.org/subscribe-to-calmatters/) today for nonprofit news in your inbox.

(https://i0.wp.com/mavensnotebook.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Cal-Matters-Logo.jpg?ssl=1)Saying the targets to cut water use in cities and towns will be costly and difficult to achieve, water agencies throughout California have raised concerns about an ambitious state proposal that would require more water conservation statewide beginning in 2025.

The State Water Resources Control Board's proposed regulations would mandate conservation measures by more than 400 cities and water agencies that serve about 95% of Californians. The measure could wave about 413,000 acre-feet a year by 2030, enough to serve about 1.2 million households per year.



During the last three-year severe drought, which ended this year (https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA), the Newsom administration set voluntary conservation goals that were largely ineffective. Californians used <u>only about 6% (https://calmatters.org/environment/2023/03/california-lifts-target-water-conservation/</u>) less water from July 2021 through the end of last year compared to 2020, far less than Gov. Gavin Newsom's 15% goal.

The new rules are mandated <u>by a package of laws (https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Make-Water-Conservation-A-California-Way-of-Life/Files/PDFs/Final-WCL-Primer.pdf?la=en&hash=B442FD7A34349FA91DA5CDEFC47134EA38ABF209) – enacted in 2018 by the Legislature and former Gov. Jerry Brown – that aim to make "water conservation a California way of life," not simply an emergency drought measure.</u>

Water providers from the Mojave Desert to Sonoma County and beyond warned at a board workshop on Wednesday that the regulations would be a challenge, particularly because many would have to make steep cuts to outdoor water use. About 80 people, mostly representing water agencies, spoke during the meeting, which lasted longer than eight hours.

The regulation would cost water suppliers about \$13.5 billion from 2025 to 2040 – more than 40% of which would fund rebate programs and other efforts to cut residential water use, according to the water board. But the benefits are anticipated to reach <u>about \$15.6 billion between 2025 and 2040 (https://dof.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/352/2023/03/SRIA-MakingWate-ConservationaCaliforniaWayofLife.pdf?emrc=56e5b1)</u>, largely from reduced water purchases by both suppliers and customers.

"It's awkward, because we are committed to water use efficiency," said Ryan Ojakian, government relations manager for the Regional Water Authority, which represents Sacramento-area providers. "It really comes down to, are the regulations feasible? Are the costs worth the benefits? And what are the consequences in achieving the regulations?"

The water board is expected to vote by next summer on the rules, which could go into effect next fall.

"Even if we had all the money, we would not be able to convince our customer base to participate at the rates we need them to. We can build it, but they don't necessarily come."

Joe Berg, Municipal Water District of Orange County

Water suppliers, not individual customers, would have to meet the targets – and each supplier would need to figure out its own strategy. These could include rebates that encourage customers to swap out thirsty lawns for more drought-proof landscapes or rate structures that penalize heavy water users.

Water providers said it will be difficult to squeeze more conservation out of their customers.

"They want us to save water at such an accelerated rate, that even if we had all the money, we would not be able to convince our customer base to participate at the rates we need them to," said Joe Berg, director of water use efficiency at the Municipal Water District of Orange County. "We can build it, but they don't necessarily come."

The state agency's formula sets targets for each water agency based on goals for indoor and outdoor residential water use, business landscapes with dedicated irrigation meters, losses like leaks and other variables, such as the presence of livestock in a region.

In the rules, the state's targets for indoor and outdoor water use in residential areas ratchet down, beginning in 2030 and then again in 2035.

Suppliers that fail to live within their prescribed water budget (https://mavensnotebook.com/glossary/water-budget/) could face escalating consequences that could eventually lead to fines of \$1,000 a day starting in 2027 or \$10,000 a day during droughts.

Tracy Quinn, CEO of the environmental group Heal the Bay, told the board that water conservation measures are critical as California stares down a water-scarce future.

Between the declining snowpack (https://calmatters.org/environment/2022/02/california-water-climate-change_snowpack/), ongoing haggling over Colorado River water, groundwater regulations and projections that climate change could dry up 10% of the state's water supply.(https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Initiatives/Water-Resilience/CA-Water-Supply-Strategy,pdf), "there is an incredible need for us to do a rulemaking that's going to require the efficient use of water," she said.

About 231 agencies serving nearly 27 million Californians are already on track to meet the 2025 objectives without reducing their water use, mostly in the San Francisco Bay Area and Southern California. And 71 agencies serving 8.5 million Californians are expected to meet the 2035 standards as well, including the city of San Diego, the San Jose Water Company, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the Irvine Ranch Water District and city of Santa Ana.

Cumulatively, the rules are expected to save about 6.3 million acre-feet between 2025 and 2040, mostly from residential measures.

"There is an incredible need for us to do a rulemaking that's going to require the efficient use of water."

Tracy Quinn, Heal the Bay

Berg said the regulations could cost Orange County water agencies more than \$707 million over 11 years to implement. But more than that, he said, he's concerned that the standards for outdoor water conservation accelerate too quickly.

"If an agency were to look at the cost to comply and compare that to the cost of the fines, it wouldn't surprise me if an agency just says, 'Okay, we'll just take fines,'" Berg said.

Claire Nordlie, water use efficiency supervisor for the city of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County, echoed those concerns during the workshop.

"I really want to emphasize that sustained water savings are difficult to achieve. It takes decades of time, and a significant investment of resources, as well as a population and a culture within your service area that want to participate," she said.

Nordlie said fewer and fewer people are participating in the city's rebate program for removing lawns, which offers \$1 for every square foot of grass removed. Customers surveyed say that it costs about \$7 a square foot to tear out their lawns. That cost, Nordlie said, is a major barrier.

"If customers don't want to participate, we can't force them to," she said.

Jay Lund, director of the Center for Watershed (https://mavensnotebook.com/glossary/watershed/) Sciences at the University of California, Davis, told the board he's concerned that the regulations could affect public trust.

"Certainly some aspects of our society are really upset every time you come in there with a new regulation, and so I think we have to bear that in mind," Lund said. "Because that blowback can be very bad for a lot of more important things than this."

Smaller water agencies, especially in inland regions, will be the hardest hit. Ten suppliers serving about 200,000 Californians are expected to face cuts upwards of 30% in 2025, but the number increases to 84 suppliers serving 3.7 million Californians in 2035. Included are the cities of Atwater and Kingsburg, the Oildale Mutual Water Company and the West Kern Water District, according to state data.

"There's not a lot of opportunities for savings in our community, because we've done so much already. A lot of folks don't even irrigate their homes."

ennifer Cusack, Hi-Desert WAter district

Jennifer Cusack, director public and government affairs with the Hi-Desert Water District in Yucca Valley on the edge of Joshua Tree National Park, said the water agency has long struggled with its water supply and there's little room for additional conservation. Many ornamental lawns are already gone and indoor water fixtures have been improved.

"There's not a lot of opportunities for savings in our community, because we've done so much already," she said. "A lot of folks don't even irrigate their homes. They have dirt lots or maybe some trees."

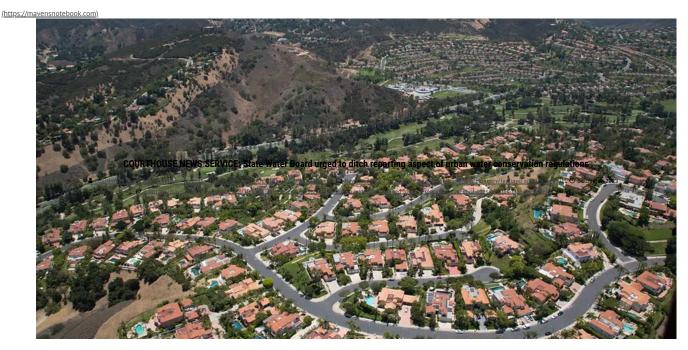
Even so, the desert water supplier is expected to be out of compliance with the 2030 and 2035 targets, which, she said, "just raises a red flag."

In response to earlier calls for increased flexibility, state regulators offered an alternative pathway that would give some providers, such as those serving disadvantaged communities, extra time to meet a 2035 outdoor water-use target, provided they meet certain criteria.





CALIFORNIA WATER NEWS CENTRAL



One water district official called the mandated annual conservation progress report "ridiculous."

By Alan Riquelmy, Courthouse News Service

(https://i0.wp.com/mavensnotebook.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Courthouse-News-Service.png? ssl=1)Several speakers pleaded with the State Water Resources Control Board on Wednesday to rethink proposed regulations intended to reduce Californians' water use in the face of climate change.



"Making Conservation a California Way of Life" (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/conservation/regs/docs/conservation-a-way-of-life.pdf) is a series of proposed regulations that stems from two laws passed in 2018. Those laws require the state water board to implement efficiency standards and performance levels for local agencies' water use. They would affect over 400 agencies across the state, public and private, that deliver water to 95% of state residents.

The plan has four main goals: use water more wisely, end water waste, improve local drought defenses, and improve efficiency and drought planning for <u>agricultural water use</u> (https://mavensnotebook.com/glossary/agricultural-water-use/). Annual reporting requirements are currently part of the proposal.

Those reporting requirements drew the ire of a handful of speakers at Wednesday's state water board meeting.

Sandra Rose, president of the Monte Vista Water District, said her staff is committed to conservation. However, she has concerns over the amount of reporting needed under the proposed regulations. She said it would add to her district's expenses.

"The reporting requirements of the regulations are ridiculous," Rose said.

Edward Jackson – president of Liberty Utilities, California, and the current president of the California Water Association – said the reporting requirements won't help customers, who will feel the brunt in increased costs with disadvantaged communities hurt the most.

The proposed regulations, tentatively set for a summer 2024 adoption and October 2024 implementation, would impact what the state water board calls Urban Retail Water Suppliers, not homes or businesses.

The reduction goals would be individualized for each agency. Collectively, they're expected to drop urban water use by over 400,000 acre-feet and help the state deal with changing water supply issues due to climate change.

An acre-foot is a common measurement used by water agencies. One acre-foot is the amount of water on an acre if it were filled with a foot of water, or about 325,900 gallons.

Water agencies could face fines for violations. However, current proposals call for no fines before Nov. 1, 2027. Some agencies already are hitting their goals.

"Once variances, special landscape areas, provisions, and other regulatory tools are applied, it's likely the estimated savings/required reductions will decrease considerably," said Charlotte Ely, climate and strategy advisor with the Office of Research and Planning, in an email.

One proposed fine is targeted at agricultural water suppliers that fail to submit their Agricultural Water Management Plan. The state Department of Water Resources would work with a qualified person or group to prepare that plan for the water supplier, and the supplier would pay for it. If the supplier failed to provide the needed data, it could face a \$1,000 a day fine, capped at \$25,000, until it provides the data.

Other fine structures for different violations exist, though Ely said she had nothing specific to add at this time.

The state water board's enforcement policy is discretionary, and it works with agencies before issuing fines, Ely said.

The reductions in water use span a range of categories, including indoor and outdoor residential water use and commercial, industrial and institutional landscapes with dedicated irrigation meters. However, variances are included in the proposal, as are alternative ways to compliance.

Water agencies have several methods to meet their goals, including rate reform, leak detection, incentives to plant climate-ready landscapes, and rebates for the replacement of inefficient appliances.

Several representatives of water agencies and industries spoke at Wednesday's meeting, detailing steps they've already taken and offering recommendations in some cases.

Claire Nordlie, water use efficiency coordinator with Santa Rosa, said her city has invested over \$30 million over the year to improve efficiency. One successful program, Cash for Grass, provides rebates to people who remove their lawns.

Jennifer Cusack, director of public and government affairs with the Hi-Desert Water District in Yucca Valley, said her district has a tiered water rate.

"We did have a lot of voluntary reduction in use because of that," Cusack said.

Replacing toilets with more efficient models has also helped.

"Our water use has dropped and it's expected to stay pretty level," she added.

Cusack asked that the state water board simplify the proposed variance process, adding that money spent complying with a mandate could instead be spent on water-saving efforts.

Shelly Thomsen, director of public and legislative affairs with the South Tahoe Public Utility District, recommended a streamlined method for the required annual reporting. Her district has much of that information in other reports, and she asked for a method to pull that existing data instead of creating a new report.

This article was first published at the Courthouse News Service (https://www.courthousenews.com/california-water-board-urged-to-ditch-reporting-aspect-of-conservation-plan/).



(http://eepurl.com/gvxBef)

#Making conservation a CA way of life (https://mavensnotebook.com/tag/making-conservation-a-ca-way-of-life/) #Policy - state and federal (https://mavensnotebook.com/tag/policy-state-and-federal/) #regulations (https://mavensnotebook.com/tag/regulations/) #State Water Resources Control Board (https://mavensnotebook.com/tag/state-water-resources-control-board/) #urban water conservation/use (https://mavensnotebook.com/tag/urban-water-conservation/)

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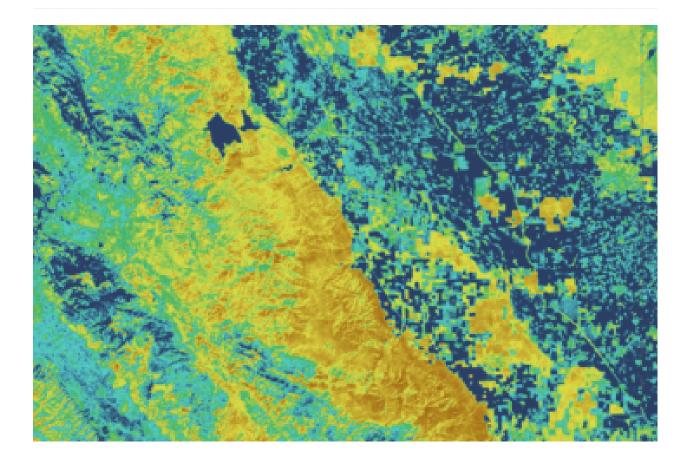
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Courthouse News Service (https://mavensnotebook.com/author/courthouse-news-service/).







Web & Social Media Report

September 2023

Website Statistics

			NORTH MARI WATER DISTR	N	Hon	ne Account	Your Water	Save Water	Contact About Nev		
						P ^r					
	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023
2022/ 23 Visitors	5,526	6,823	12,873	6,576	8,631	5,410	5,733	5,711	6,140	5,956	5,920
		Wes	inances remain in st Marin Service a o date information Read More	reas for 2022. F	or the most						

Social Media Followers

	Nov-2022	Dec-2022	Jan-2023	Feb-2023	Mar-2023	Apr-2023	May-2023	Jun-2023	Jul-2023	Aug-2023	Sep-2023
Facebook Followers	2,042	2,095	2,172	2,202	2,243	2,300	2,322	2,363	2,390	2,416	2,436
X (Twitter) Followers	71	76	110	112	113	120	121	122	122	122	123
lnstagram Followers	722	735	748	759	774	794	808	822	835	841	844



NMWD Most Visited Pages

Pages	Views
Home	3,473
Online Billing	2,482
My Water Usage (WaterSmart Portal)	1,162
What Is An Acre Foot?	281
Employment Opportunities	240
Meetings 2023	225
Contact	202
Human Resources	167
About NMWD	161





North Marin Water District 6

Published by Hootsuite @ - 5 September at 19:01 - 🕤

If your irrigation system uses a clock timer, consider upgrading to a WaterSense labeled smart controller that acts like a thermostat for your lawn. It uses local weather data to determine when and how much to water and can reduce irrigation use by 15%, saving nearly 8,800 gallons of water per year. Check for available rebates at nmwd.com. #waterwise #irrigation #watersense



258 people reached | 10 engagements



Published by Hootsuite 2 · 9 September at 18:00 · 3

Today we celebrate Avram Pearlman, who joined our Engineering team in 2019 - four years ago today! We appreciate everything you do for the North Marin Water District, Avram. #waterindustry #nmwd #waterprofessional

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359 people reached | 38 engagements





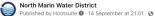
North Marin Water District

Published by Hootsuite 🛛 · 12 September at 23:30 · 🚱

Did you know that in Novato, StoneTree Golf Course currently uses approximately 60 million gallons of high quality recycled water each year? Our recycled water system serves the North, Central, and South Service Areas of Novato. For more information about the recycled water program visit: https://onwd.com/your-water/recycled-water/#recycled-wate



108 people reached | 3 engagements



Give your herbs the attention they deserve like water and sunshine! In general, you should

over your herbs the attention they deserve like water and sunsinier in general, you should water your herbs two to three times a week. Herbs such as basil, cilantro, mint and parsley require a lot more watering. To be water-wise, remember the best time to water outdoors is before sunrise and/or after sunset. #waterwise #herbs #herbgarden #gardeningtips



253 people reached | 17 engagements





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North Marin Water District Published by Hootsuite 2 · 16 September at 02:00 · 3

Customers are welcome and encouraged to attend North Marin Water District's board meeting next Tuesday. See the agenda here: nmwd.com/meetings



101 people reached | 0 engagements



Published by Hootsuite 2 · 18 September at 23:01 · 3

Today is World Water Monitoring Day! Here at North Marin Water District, our #waterprofessionals constantly monitor the quality of your water from source to faucet to make sure it is safe to drink and free of pathogens, bacteria and viruses. Learn more at nmwd.com/water-quality #worldwatermonitoringday #water #waterquality

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65 people reached | 2 engagements





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North Marin Water District Published by Hootsuite **0** · 19 September at 18:01 · 🚱

This week is #ConstructionAppreciationWeek, and we are celebrating our own construction team here at NMWD! We are proud to have such a strong team of hard-working, dedicated staff. #teamwork #construction #wedigyou



328 people reached | 32 engagements

North Marin Water District

Published by Hootsuite @ • 21 September at 21:01 · 🚱

Our staff continues to transform plans into reality. NMWD's recent project to rebuild the Old Ranch Road tank is now complete.

The new 100,000-gallon tank is 28 feet in diameter, 26 feet tall, and made of bolted stainless steel. It replaced an aging 50,000 gallon redwood tank.

Thank you team! #ConstructionAppreciationWeek #rebuild #constructionproject #conservemorewater



378 people reached | 38 engagements





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North Marin Water District Published by Hootsuite 2 · 22 September at 17:02 · 3

From building pipelines to treatment plants, our construction crew ensures we have access to clean water every day. Thank you for your vital role in our community! #ConstructionAppreciationWeek #thankyou #constructionteam



90 people reached | 10 engagements



Published by Hootsuite O · 6 days ago · S

Sebastian Rubio-Gomez is celebrating his one-year anniversary at North Marin Water District as a Junior Engineer. Here's to many more milestones together! #waterindustry #nmwd #waterprofessional

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260 people reached | 17 engagements



Engagements include likes, reactions, clicks and comments



September Social Media Highlights | Facebook



75 people reached | 4 engagements



136 people reached | 8 engagements





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North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 5 If your irrigation system uses a clock timer, consider upgrading to a WaterSense labeled smart controller for your lawn. Check for available rebates at nmwd.com. #waterwise #irrigation #watersense





North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 9 ··· Today we celebrate Avram Pearlman, who joined our Engineering team in 2019 - four years ago today! We appreciate everything you do for the North Marin Water District, Avram. #waterindustry #nmwd #waterprofessional







North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 12 ···· Did you know that in Novato, StoneTree Golf Course currently uses approximately 60 million gallons of high quality recycled water each year? For more information about the recycled water program visit: nmwd.com/your-water/rec... #recycledwater #waterwise





North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 14 ... Give your herbs the attention they deserve like water and sunshine! In general, you should water your herbs two to three times a week. Herbs require a lot more watering. Remember the best time to water outdoors is before sunrise and/or after sunset. #waterwise #herbs #herbgarden











North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 18 Today is #WorldWaterMonitoringDay! Here at NMWD, our #waterprofessionals constantly monitor the quality of your water from source to faucet to make sure it is safe to drink and free of pathogens, bacteria and viruses. Learn more at nmwd.com/water-quality #water #waterquality





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North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 19 ···· This week is #ConstructionAppreciationWeek, and we are celebrating our own construction team here at NMWD! We are proud to have such a strong team of hard-working, dedicated staff. #teamwork #construction #wedigyou





North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 21 ···· Our staff continues to transform plans into reality. NMWD's recent project to rebuild the Old Ranch Road tank is now complete. The new 100,000gallon tank is 28 feet in diameter, 26 feet tall, and made of welded steel. Thank you team! #ConstructionAppreciationWeek #rebuild







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North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 22 ···· From building pipelines to treatment plants, our construction crew ensures we have access to clean water every day. Thank you for your vital role in our community! #ConstructionAppreciationWeek #thankyou #constructionteam





North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 26 ···· Sebastian Rubio-Gomez is celebrating his one-year anniversary at North Marin Water District as a Junior Engineer. Here's to many more milestones together! #waterindustry #nmwd #waterprofessional







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North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 27 ···· Look for the Water Smart Plant label when shopping for new plants! These labels highlight low water use plants, helping you create a water smart landscape that conserves water in Sonoma and Marin counties. savingwaterpartnership.org/programs_list/... #waterwise #plants





North Marin Water District @NorthMarinWater · Sep 30 Customers are welcome and encouraged to attend North Marin Water District's board meeting next Tuesday. See the agenda here: nmwd.com/meetings





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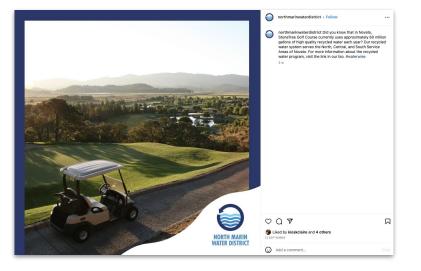




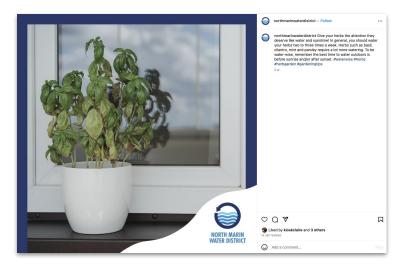


















1 like



















11 likes







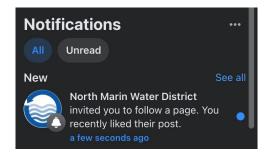




Facebook Likes Campaign - September Report



We are running an evergreen ad which encourages customers in the NMWD service areas to 'like' (follow) the NMWD Facebook page.



Spend in September 2023	Reach (Number of people who saw the ad)	Impressions	Results (New Page Likes)	Cost Per New Page Like
\$44.76	2,839	5,165	20	\$2.36

This month, we were able to reach over **2,839** people with the Likes Campaign



Novato Fall Waterline

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Low Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) Program PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID INICORN GROUF Save up to his program is available to eligible low-income customers and \$90 a year. provides a credit on a two-month billing cycle of \$15 per bill or \$90 A direct water customer who has a single-family residential account POSTAL CUSTOMER and is eligible for PG&E's income-based CARE program is eligible or the District's LIRA Program. Once approved the discount would apply to your next billing cycle. To request an application or for further tion call our billing department at 415-897-4133 or visit the vebsite at nmwd.com/lira Read Our Annual Report Visit nmwd.com/about/documer Have you signed up yet to access your water use? Rox Cox We encourage you to sign up and log in on the AMI system Watersmart portal to get acquainted with the system and learn more about your water use. The portal gives customers access to bourly water use data and the ability to set up alerts for high use and leak events. Please visit the District's website at nmwd com to learn more about 75 NORTH MARIN For more info visit nmwd.com (75) **The Waterline** Novato Service Area Newsletter | Issue 51 NORTH MARIN WATER DESTRICT Being Prepared and Planning Ahead Tony Williams, General Manager

In March of this year, a major landslide occurred on the east side of Mount Burdell damaging portions of Redwood Boulevard south of Olompali State Park. The District's North Marin Aqueduct, a 30-inch to 42-inch diameter pipeline that delivers Russian River water from Sonoma Water, extends from Petaluma to the north end of Novato generally alongside Highway 101 and portions are within Redwood Boulevard where the slide occurred. Thanks to the prior training and awareness of staff and execution of the District's Emergency Operations Plan, as well as the skill and leadership of local responders, especially the Novato Fire District and the North Bay Incident Management Team, a swift and comprehensive response and recovery minimized impacts to the delivery of water. A final engineering assessment is planned for late September and if needed, we are prepared to replace a segment of the pipe.

The landslide incident illustrates the importance of water supply and the vulnerabilities associated with transmitting, storing, and distributing that water. Fortunately, the Novato area has a local water supply, Stafford Lake, However, as early as the 1950s soon after Stafford Dam was built. additional sources of supply were being explored. Because of this, North Marin Water District developed a partnership with Sonoma Water and has been importing Russian River water since the North Marin Aquertuct opened in 1961. Our recent Local Water Supply Enhancement Study determined that other local supply options are limited, however, we are conducting engineering and environmental evaluations for the Stafford Dam Adjustable Spillway Gate project which could add 725 acre-feet (or

236 million gallons) to Stafford Lake's storage. We hope to determine the final feasibility in early 2024.

Sonoma Water is entering the second phase of a Water Supply Resiliency Study looking closely at risks and vulnerabilities from another natural hazard: an earthquake event. Last year they completed a drought resiliency component which identified alternatives to drawing water from the Russian River as well as management strategies for Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma. The Eel River may seem far removed from Marin County but water transfers into the Russian River via PG&E's Potter Valley Project (PVP) have been an important part of the overall water balance. In early August, Sonoma Water, in partnership with the Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission and the Bound Valley Indian Tribes, announced a proposal to retain key elements of the PVP in light of PG&F's plans to decommission it after approval of a formal plan to be submitted in January 2025. We will continue to monitor and participate in this process over the next two years.

Lastly, we want to thank our customers again for conserving water during the previous drought and continuing to use water efficiently in 2023 following the end of the drought, even though formal water use prohibitions ended in early 2023. Please consider participating in our customer survey to help guide understanding of our customer's needs in regard to water supply, future water conservation programs, customer communications, and thoughts on other District operations and functions.

North Marin Water District **Outdoor Conservation Programs**





The incentive is still at the increased level and we will now pay area if you replace it with qualified low water use planting on drip \$100 for townhouses or condominiums (common area), and \$50 for apartments (common area). Pre-qualification and re-landscaping plan Be Gone' sheet mulching program - visit nmwd.com for details

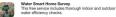


be rebated at 50% of the cost of approved mulch materials up to \$200 (continuing for now at the increased drought level). Please call 415-761-8944 or email waterconserve@nmwd.com for details on participation. Please remember to follow the Novato Fire Department's guide for mulci



Water Smart Savings Program

North Marin Water District wants to help customers use water efficiently. That's why we've put all of our water saving promotions under one umbrelia. The Water Smart Savings Program encompasses all you need to get started on saving water and saving money



Pool Cover Rebate Rebate available for installing a new solar or safety pool cover with non-netted material only.

Residential Washing Machine Rebate North Marin Water District offers a rebate to customers when they purchase a qualifying high-efficiency clothes

Rainwater Catchment Rebate Rebate available for collection and storage of rainwater.

High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate Customers who replace an old water-guzzling toilet with a high-efficiency toilet may be eligible for a rebate.

Weather-Based Irrigation Controller Rebate Rebate for qualified controllers that use weather data and site information such as plant type and sprinkler system output to automatically adjust watering times and

Kiosk designed the Fall Waterline, which highlights the 2023 Customer Survey. The Waterline is due to be sent to customers on 10/10/23.

What's Next?

- The 2023 Customer Survey questionnaire is now live at nmwd.com/2023survey and will be promoted during October
- Kiosk is working on redesigning and digitizing Rebate Application forms
- Kiosk will update the Spanish versions of the Water Quality Report for Novato and West Marin
- Social posts will highlight the 2023 Customer Survey, as well as continuing to highlight employees on their work anniversaries and feature a 'plant of the month' in partnership with Home Ground Habitats
- Kiosk to continue working with staff to get photos of construction and maintenance projects throughout Novato and West Marin



Thank You