2025

San Benito Urban Area Urban Water Management Plan

June 2026



TODD GROUNDWATER

June 2026

SAN BENITO URBAN AREA

2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Date Plan Submitted to the Department of Water Resources: _____

San Benito County Water District
Sunnyslope County Water District
City of Hollister
City of San Juan Bautista

Todd Groundwater

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CONTACT SHEET

SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Name of Primary Contact Person: **Dana Jacobson, General Manager**

Phone: **(831) 637-8218**

Email address: **djacobson@sbcwd.ca.gov**

The water supplier is a: **Water district and water wholesaler**

Utility services provided by the water supplier include: **Water service**

Is this agency a Bureau of Reclamation Contractor? **Yes**

Is this agency a State Water Project Contractor? **No**

SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Name of Primary Contact Person: **Drew Lander, General Manager**

Phone: **(831) 637-4670**

Email address: **drew@sunnyslopewater.org**

The water supplier is a: **Water district and water retailer**

Utility services provided by the water supplier include: **Water and sewer service**

Is this agency a Bureau of Reclamation Contractor? **No**

Is this agency a State Water Project Contractor? **No**

CITY OF HOLLISTER

Name of Primary Contact Person: **Javier Hernandez**

Phone: **(831) 636-4377**

Email address: **javier.hernandez@hollister.ca.gov**

The water supplier is a: **City water department and water retailer**

Utility services provided by the water supplier include: **Water and sewer service**

Is this agency a Bureau of Reclamation Contractor? **No**

Is this agency a State Water Project Contractor? **No**

CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA

Name of Primary Contact Person: **Ashley Collick**

Phone: **(831) 623-4661**Email address: **citymanager@san-juan-bautista.ca.us**

The water supplier is a: **City water department and water retailer**

Utility services provided by the water supplier include: **Water and sewer service**

Is this agency a Bureau of Reclamation Contractor? **No**

Is this agency a State Water Project Contractor? **No**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The 2025 San Benito Urban Areas (SBUA) Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) had been prepared as a collaborative effort among the San Benito County Water District (District or SBCWD), Sunnyslope County Water District (Sunnyslope or SSCWD), City of Hollister (Hollister), and City of San Juan Bautista (SJB). The plan has been prepared in accordance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act and guidelines prepared by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The 2025 SBUA UWMP is intended to help guide the area's future water management efforts.

This 2025 UWMP Plan builds on and updates the 2020 UWMP, accounting for changes in the California Water Code and local planning and water management efforts. Updates include the Drought Reliability Assessment, quantification of demand reduction in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, and detailed consideration of supply reliability by source. Since the previous update, changes have occurred to the Hollister Urban Area (HUA), specifically the extension to include the City of San Juan Bautista (SJB), which is expected to occur in the next two years. Because SJB has fewer than 3,000 connections, SJB has had no requirement to prepare a UWMP in the past. The 2025 UWMP encompasses the combined service areas, which will hereafter be referred to as the San Benito Urban Areas (SBUA).

The SBUA agencies have provided agency coordination and community participation in their urban water management planning efforts. Much of the coordination and community participation regarding water conservation within the SBUA is undertaken by the agency members of the Water Resources Association (WRA) of San Benito County. The WRA serves water customers of Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District. The WRA has played an integral role in the preparation of this UWMP.

This UWMP presents the following elements relating to water supply and demand in the SBUA:

1. A description of the SBUA service area, which is a regional partnership consisting of the District, Sunnyslope, Hollister, and SJB.
- Past and current water demand as reported by the agencies in the SBUA.
- Water Loss Audit consistent with AWWA methodology.
- Baseline daily per capita water demand, as required by Senate Bill 7.
- Projected water demand based on estimated population and per capita daily demand reductions as required by Senate Bill 7.
- A summary of sources of water supply and plans for future water supply facilities.
- Discussion of water supply reliability and comparison of supply and demand, including the effects of drought and emergencies on water supply availability, and the contingency plans in place to manage shortages.
- Details of the demand management measures employed within the SBUA.

FINDINGS

In 2023, the area used in the 2010, 2015 and 2020 UWMPs was updated in the San Benito Urban Area Water Supply and Treatment Master Plan Update (Master Plan). The new study area, used in this 2025 UWMP, includes the original Hollister Urban Area boundary and has incorporated the City of San Juan Bautista. There are three municipal water purveyors within the SBUA: the City of Hollister, Sunnyslope County Water District, and the City of San Juan Bautista. These water purveyors provide water supply to their individual service areas from sources described in Section 6 of this report. The District has the responsibility and authority to manage groundwater in San Benito County, which includes managing groundwater and surface water supplies. In addition, the District holds the contract for water through the Central Valley Project (CVP) and is the imported water wholesaler from the CVP to Zone 6, which includes most of the SBUA. Current and projected population and potable water demand values for the SBUA are shown in **Table ES-1** below. The Water Supply Reliability and Drought Risk Assessment, in Section 7, concludes that the SBUA has supply to meet demand in most years. However, additional conservation or supply may be required in dry conditions in 2045. The agencies are currently involved in several projects to increase supply reliability (Section 6.2.10) and decrease demand (Section 9).

Table ES-1
Population and Water Demand— Current and Projected

	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Total SBUA Population	54,217	64,393	76,478	90,832	107,880
Potable Water Demand (acre-feet per year, AFY)	6,488	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,504
Potable Water Supply - Normal Water Year (AFY)	6,488	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,504
Potable Water Supply - Single Dry Water Year (AFY)	6,488	7,673	9,028	10,623	10,780
Required Conservation	0%	0%	0%	0%	13%

POPULATION

The annual estimates for the population of the SBUA (where water is supplied by Sunnyslope, Hollister, and SJB) were updated through 2025. The 2025 population is based on data from the Department of Drinking Water (DDW) and the forecasted population estimates are from the 2023 SBUA Water and Wastewater Master Plan (Master Plan).

Population for the SBUA was also estimated through 2045 in five-year intervals. Future population was estimated as part of the Master Plan through examination of general development plans for the City of Hollister and San Benito County, and the addition of SJB. These population growth estimates were based on the Master Plan (which utilizes a population growth rate of 3.5%), as described in Section 4.2.5.1.

BASELINE AND FUTURE WATER DEMAND

Historical population was combined with measured water use to calculate baseline per capita daily demand for the SBUA, in accordance with DWR guidelines and Senate Bill 7.

Hollister and Sunnyslope met the 2020 demand reduction targets. SJB was not included in the 2020 UWMP and therefore did not set a 2020 demand reduction target. Discussions of the target water demands are presented in Section 5.

Future water demands have been calculated based on the target water use values and the population projections summarized above and described in detail in the relevant sections. The resulting annual water demands are summarized in Table ES-1. As indicated, water supply is projected to meet water demand in all normal years and in all single dry years until 2045 when a 13% shortfall is projected. At that time, the SBUA may need to develop additional water supplies or enact its Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) to reduce water demand.

WATER SUPPLY

The SBUA relies on local groundwater, imported water from the CVP, and recycled water for municipal water supply. The District manages all CVP imports for both agricultural and municipal and industrial (M&I) water deliveries. The District also manages the groundwater resources of the County, particularly the highly developed basins in the northern county, where District activities include managed aquifer recharge, monitoring groundwater levels and water quality, and annual reporting. The North San Benito Groundwater Basin is subject to the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which required the development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by 2022. The North San Benito GSP was submitted in January 2022 and approved by DWR in July 2023.

Since the initiation of CVP importation and the construction and expansion of surface water treatment plants (WTPs, including Lessalt and West Hills), the use of groundwater for M&I supply has declined. However, the basin provides significant storage, and groundwater remains a major source of supply, particularly during droughts. In the last drought (2021 through 2023), groundwater accounted for approximately 60 percent of the total water supplied by Hollister and Sunnyslope. The City of San Juan Bautista relied 100 percent on groundwater for their supply during this time. In the future, SJB will be part of the CVP system, and will receive imported water. However, they are anticipated to use groundwater to supplement supply, especially during drought. The District's management has resulted in a reliable and sustainable groundwater resource, although groundwater quality is recognized as lower quality than CVP in terms of salinity, hardness, and other constituents as documented in the GSP. In 2024, a normal year, groundwater was 30 percent of supply.

Blending groundwater with CVP imported water helps the SBUA address various water quality issues. The quality of groundwater has been described as highly mineralized and of marginal quality for drinking and agricultural purposes. Because of this less-than-desirable water quality, groundwater has been blended with CVP supply since construction of the WTPs; the Master Plan recommends that groundwater be less

than a third of supply. This goal is to achieve better water quality for supply and wastewater but this recommendation may be temporarily relaxed during drought conditions. The District's contract for M&I CVP deliveries with the United Stated Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) is 8,250 AFY, including users outside of the SBUA. While municipal WTP capacity has been expanded to allow increased M&I use of CVP supplies, future CVP supply will continue to be constrained by USBR allocations. Simulated future M&I allocations (through 2050) could be reduced to as much as 33 percent in dry years, based on observed conditions.

WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY

Multiple factors could result in shortages and inconsistency of supply, including legal, environmental, water quality, climatic, or a combination of these. Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District are preparing for these threats to water supply by expanding their portfolio of supplies, improving facilities (e.g., treatment plant expansion and aquifer storage recharge (ASR)), and supporting demand management. Section 7 presents a detailed discussion of the factors affecting water supply, the steps taken by the SBUA agencies to address these factors, and a comparison of supply and demand during water shortages caused by drought. The Drought Reliability Assessment (DRA) tool provided by DWR additionally quantifies the expected demand and supply for the near future.

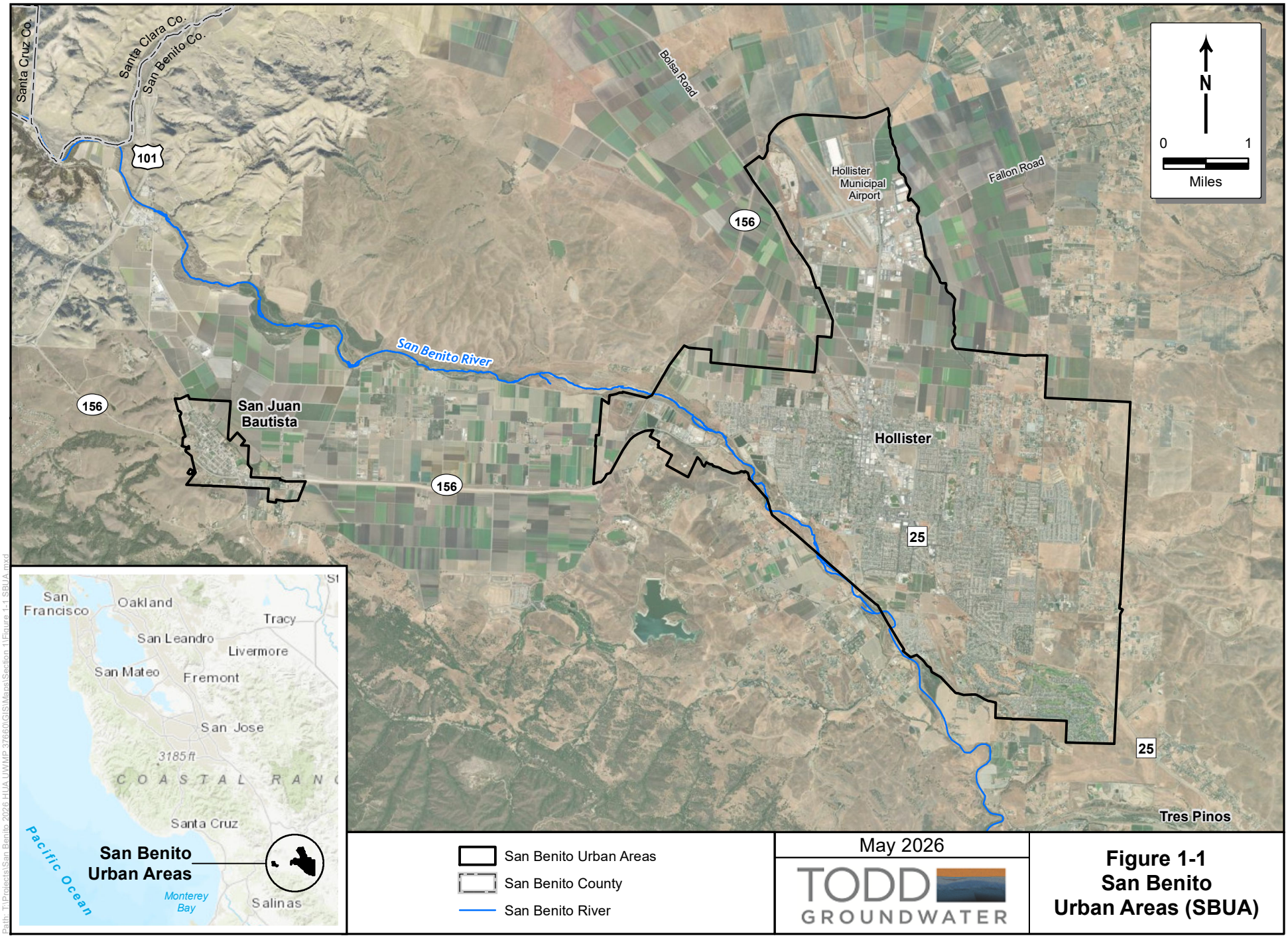
WATER CONSERVATION

The SBUA agencies developed a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) as part of the 2015 UWMP. In response to new requirements, the ability of the SBUA to reduce demand when faced with water shortages is described in Section 8 with further detail and quantification. In addition to shortage-related prohibitions, the agencies have many ongoing programs to encourage water conservation. These programs, discussed in depth in Section 9, were successful in reducing water demand by more than 25 percent to meet the state mandated water use reduction in the 2014-2016 drought. To meet the future water use per capita demand targets, the SBUA and WRA, through their water conservation coordinator, plan to focus their efforts on several demand management measures (DMMs) including public outreach, rebates, and turf removal programs. These specific DMMs are targeted as opportunities for maximum water savings.

1. INTRODUCTION

This Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP or Plan) has been prepared for the San Benito Urban Areas (SBUA) to help guide the area's water management efforts beyond the year 2025. The SBUA covers all of the City of Hollister, all of the City of San Juan Bautista, and some of the unincorporated areas beyond each of the city limits. The San Benito Urban Areas UWMP is a collaborative effort among the City of Hollister (Hollister), Sunnyslope County Water District (Sunnyslope), the City of San Juan Bautista (SJB) and San Benito County Water District (District). The Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Division 6 Part 2.6 of the Water Code §§10610 – 10656). The location of the SBUA is shown in **Figure 1-1**.

This Plan builds on and updates the 2020 UWMP, accounting for changes in the California Water Code and local planning and water management efforts. Major changes include the addition of SJB to the plan area, expanded discussion of water loss, and individual agency tables uploaded to the DWR WUE portal. A complete review of the changes for the 2020 UWMP is included in the DWR UWMP Guidelines in **Appendix B**.


Santa Cruz Co.
Santa Clara Co.
San Benito Co.
101
Bolsa Road
Hollister Municipal Airport
Fallon Road
156
San Benito River
San Juan Bautista
Hollister
156
156
25
25
Tres Pinos
N
0
1
Miles
San Francisco
Oakland
Tracy
San Leandro
Livermore
San Mateo
Fremont
San Jose
3185 ft
COASTAL RANGE
Santa Cruz
Pacific Ocean
Monterey Bay
Salinas
San Benito Urban Areas
San Benito Urban Areas
San Benito County
San Benito River
May 2026
TODD GROUNDWATER
Figure 1-1
San Benito
Urban Areas (SBUA)

2. PLAN PREPARATION

2.1 PLAN PREPARATION AND ADOPTION

This Plan documents sources of water supply for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB, defines water demands, presents a water shortage contingency plan, describes implementation of water demand management measures, and projects water supply and demand to the year 2045. The plan describes ongoing work by the District to ensure and expand water supply in the area. The three water systems, their connections, and 2025 water supply are documented in **Table 2-1**.

As indicated in **Table 2-2**, the SBUA represents a regional alliance, as defined by Water Code sections 10608.20(a)(1) and 10608.28. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB choose to plan, comply, and report on a regional basis. Where possible, information for each entity is displayed individually in addition to the regional totals for the entire SBUA.

The SBUA regional alliance is made up of the three retailers (Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB) and a wholesaler (the District), which is indicated in **Table 2-3** as required. Where applicable, the requirements for retailers and wholesalers are addressed. Because the four agencies work together in preparation of future water demands and supply, **Tables 2-4 R** and **2-4 W** have been updated to reflect that they are aware of each other's planning process. (Note that R indicates Retailer and W indicates Wholesaler.)

Throughout the 2025 UWMP, units are in acre-feet and data are presented in calendar years, unless otherwise stated (**Table 2-3**). Water volumes and other data are shown to the nearest acre-foot (AF). These values are accurate to one to three significant digits, depending on the measurement. Values in the text may show more significant digits than are warranted to maintain as much precision as possible during subsequent calculations; however, results of calculations have been rounded to the appropriate number of significant digits.

In accordance with section 10642 of the Water Code and section 6066 of the Government Code, each agency held a public hearing prior to adoption of the Plan. A public notice was posted before the public hearing and included in **Appendix A**. The Final Plan will be adopted by Hollister on June 15, 2026, SJB on June 16, 2026, Sunnyslope on June 23, 2026, and the District on June 24, 2026.

The resolutions to adopt the Plan are included in **Appendix A**. The adopted Plan has been filed with the Office of Conservation in the Department of Water Resources and California State Library, as required by law. California regulations require Urban Water Management Plans to be updated at least once every five years, in years ending in five and zero. However, DWR extended the deadline for the 2025 UWMP to July 1, 2026.

2.2 AGENCY COORDINATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The SBUA agencies have provided for agency coordination and community participation in their urban water management planning efforts. A Draft Plan was made available to the public in June 2026 for comment with public presentations to the Hollister City Council on June 15, 2026, SJB City Council on June 16, 2026, Sunnyslope Board of Directors on June 23, 2026, and the District Board of Directors on June 24, 2026.

The Water Resources Association of San Benito County (WRA) is an ongoing means for agency coordination and public participation, focused on water conservation. The WRA serves water customers of the following agencies: City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, Sunnyslope County Water District, and San Benito County Water District. The WRA coordinates and conducts water conservation programs for its participating member agencies and maintains an active website, www.wrasbc.org.

The Draft Plan was sent to local organizations with a request to provide comments, including San Benito County. Final Plan copies are available at Hollister City Hall, San Juan Bautista City Hall, and the City of Hollister Library. An electronic version is available on the websites of all four agencies (Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB and the District).

2.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Plan was prepared by Iris Priestaf, Maureen Reilly, Arden Wells, Nicole Grimm and Edward Potts of Todd Groundwater. We appreciate the considerable assistance provided by District, Hollister, SJB, and Sunnyslope staff. This Plan was prepared using the checklists and worksheets provided by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) from their Guidebook to *Assist Urban Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2020 Urban Water Management Plan* (DWR, 2016d) and its later supplemental update, *Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook* (DWR, 2025), and their website,

https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Use-Efficiency/Urban-Water-Management-Plans.

Submittal Table 2-1 Retail: Public Water Systems			
Public Water System Number	Public Water System Name	Number of Municipal Connections 2025	Volume of Water Supplied 2025 (AF)
Add additional rows as needed			
3510001	City of Hollister	7,884	3,309
3510003	Sunnyslope	7,688	2,696
3510002	San Juan Bautista	841	283
	Total	16,413	6,288

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 2-2: Plan Identification		
Select One	**Type of Plan**	**Name of Regional Alliance or RUWMP** (Drop Down List)
☐	**Individual UWMP**	
	If Water Supplier is also a member of a SB X7-7 Regional Alliance, select name from the drop-down.	
☑	**Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP)**	
	If Supplier selected RUWMP, select name from the drop-down.	
NOTES:		

Submittal Table 2-3: Supplier Identification	
Type of Supplier (select one or both)	
☑	Supplier is a wholesale supplier
☑	Supplier is a retail supplier
Fiscal or Calendar Year (select one)	
☑	UWMP Tables are in calendar years
☐	UWMP Tables are in fiscal years
If using fiscal years provide month and date that the fiscal year begins (mm/dd)	
Units of measure used in UWMP (Select from the drop down list).	
Unit	AF
DWR NOTES: **Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG)** must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.	
NOTES:	

Submittal Table 2-4 Retail: Water Supplier Information Exchange **Water Code Section 10631(h)**
The retail Supplier has informed the following wholesale supplier(s) of projected water use.
Wholesale Water Supplier Name
Add additional rows as needed
San Benito County Water District
NOTES:

10631(h) An urban water supplier that relies upon a wholesale agency for a source of water shall provide the wholesale agency with water use projections from that agency for that source of water in five-year increments to 20 years or as far as data is available.

Submittal Table 2-4 Wholesale: Water Supplier Information Exchange Water Code Section 10631(h)	
☐	Check the box if the Supplier has informed more than 10 other water suppliers of water supplies available. **Completion of the table below is optional. If not completed, include a list of the water suppliers that were informed.**
	Provide page number for location of the list.
☑	Check the box if the Supplier has informed 10 or fewer other water suppliers of water supplies available. **Complete the table below.**
Water Supplier Name	
Add additional rows as needed	
NOTES:	

10631(h) ... The wholesale agency shall provide information to the urban water supplier for inclusion in the urban water supplier's plan that identifies and quantifies, to the extent practicable, the existing and planned sources of water as required by subdivision (b), available from the wholesale agency to the urban water supplier over the same five-year increments, and during various water-year types in accordance with subdivision (f).

3. SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

3.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The SBUA is located about 90 miles south of San Francisco in the northern portion of San Benito County, California. The SBUA is in a broad valley between the Gabilan Range on the west and the Diablo Range on the east. As shown in **Figure 1-1**, the San Benito River runs through the southwestern portion of the SBUA and Santa Ana Creek flows through the eastern portion of the SBUA. The Arroyo de Las Viboras and Arroyo Dos Picachos flow to the northeast of the SBUA. The City of Hollister, incorporated in 1872, is the largest community in San Benito County and San Juan Bautista, incorporated in 1896, is the second largest community. Other communities near the SBUA include Tres Pinos, which is also in San Benito County, and Gilroy in Santa Clara County. The SBUA overlies a portion of the Gilroy-Hollister groundwater basin, designated as DWR Basin No. 3-003.05.

3.2 SERVICE AREA

The service area was formerly known as the Hollister Urban Area (HUA) and was used in the previous 2010 UWMP (Todd 2011), 2015 UWMP (Todd 2016), the Water and Wastewater Master Plan (HDR 2008a and HDR 2017), and 2020 UWMP (Todd 2021). The area has been updated in the Water and Wastewater Master Plan in 2023 (HDR 2023) and is adopted in this 2025 UWMP update. The new study area includes the original Hollister Urban Area boundary, has incorporated the San Juan Bautista city limit, and is now referred to as the San Benito Urban Areas (SBUA). The SBUA is an approximately 20 square mile area comprising all of the incorporated, and some unincorporated county lands surrounding the City of Hollister, and City of San Juan Bautista (**Figure 1-1**).

There are three municipal water purveyors within the SBUA: the City of Hollister (Hollister), Sunnyslope County Water District (Sunnyslope), and the City of San Juan Bautista (SJB). These water purveyors provide water supply to their individual service areas from sources described in Section 4 of this report. The year 2025 service areas for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB are shown on **Figure 3-1**.

The District was formed by a special act of the State with responsibility and authority to manage groundwater in San Benito County. As part of its management activities, the District manages recharge to the basin, explores expanded groundwater banking, monitors water levels and water quality, and reports annually on the basin. In addition, the District is the imported water wholesaler from the CVP to Zone 6, the northern portion of the County. SBUA is located mostly within Zone 6.

3.3 CLIMATE

San Benito County has a moderate California coastal climate, with a hot and dry summer season typically lasting from May through October. Average annual rainfall ranges from 7 inches in the drier eastern portion of the County to 27 inches per year in high elevations to the south (PRISM, 2025). The City of Hollister, some 30 miles inland from the coast and separated from it by the Gabilan Range, receives an annual average rainfall of about 13.08 inches (Todd 2026). Snowfalls in the mountains are infrequent and

relatively light. A comparatively long growing season of 265 days or more per year prevails, and year-round cropping is practiced to some extent. The area has a high percentage of sunny days, particularly in summer. Most of the rainfall occurs in late fall, winter, and early spring, generally between November and April. Therefore, significant irrigation is required during summer months (HDR 2017). Climate change and its effects on water demands and supplies are addressed in Sections 4 and 6.

Figure 3-2 is a graph of annual rainfall in Hollister from 1975 to 2025. While rainfall data have been collected monthly since 1875, precipitation and other weather data have been collected since June 1994 from a California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) station located by the San Benito County Water District office in Hollister (Station #126). As shown, annual precipitation is subject to wide annual variations.

Evapotranspiration (ET) is the loss of water to the atmosphere by evaporation from soil and plant surfaces and transpiration from plants. It is an indicator of how much water is needed by plants (e.g., crops and landscaping) for healthy growth and productivity. ET from a standardized well-watered grass surface is the common reference, denoted as ETo. The least ET occurs in the cool wet winter months and greatest ET occurs during the hot dry summer months. This results in peak monthly water demands in summer that are three times the comparable winter demand. Average annual ETo in the SBUA is 49.73 inches, peaking at 6.2 to 6.9 inches per month in June, July, and August (CIMIS 2026).

Average monthly temperatures in the SBUA range from approximately 48 degrees Fahrenheit in January and December to near 65 degrees in July and August. In these two months, daily maximum temperatures typically reach as high as 86 degrees (CIMIS 2026).

3.4 POPULATION

The SBUA is the urban center of a highly productive agricultural area that has been in continuous production for over one hundred years. The primary industry of the SBUA is agriculture and agriculture related businesses, although in recent years there has been an increase in the number of residents who commute to other areas for work. The area is characterized primarily by single family residences, with less than 19 percent and 9 percent of the population in multifamily dwellings, for Hollister and Sunnyslope respectively.

Tables 3-1 Hollister Retail, 3-1 Sunnyslope Retail, 3-1 SJB Retail show the population for 2025 through 2045 in five-year increments for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB respectively. The current population is based on the information reported to the Department of Drinking Water (DDW). Population is anticipated to increase in the coming years, as planned developments are constructed. The 2025 through 2045 populations for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB are based on the projected growth in the 2023 Master Plan, 3.5 percent increase per year. For SJB, estimated population is based on these regional estimates; however, expected water demand is based on the City's current planning and their specific General Plan. These data are in line with the Water and Wastewater Master Plan population projections (HDR 2023). The future population and water demand estimates are discussed in more detail in Section 4.2.

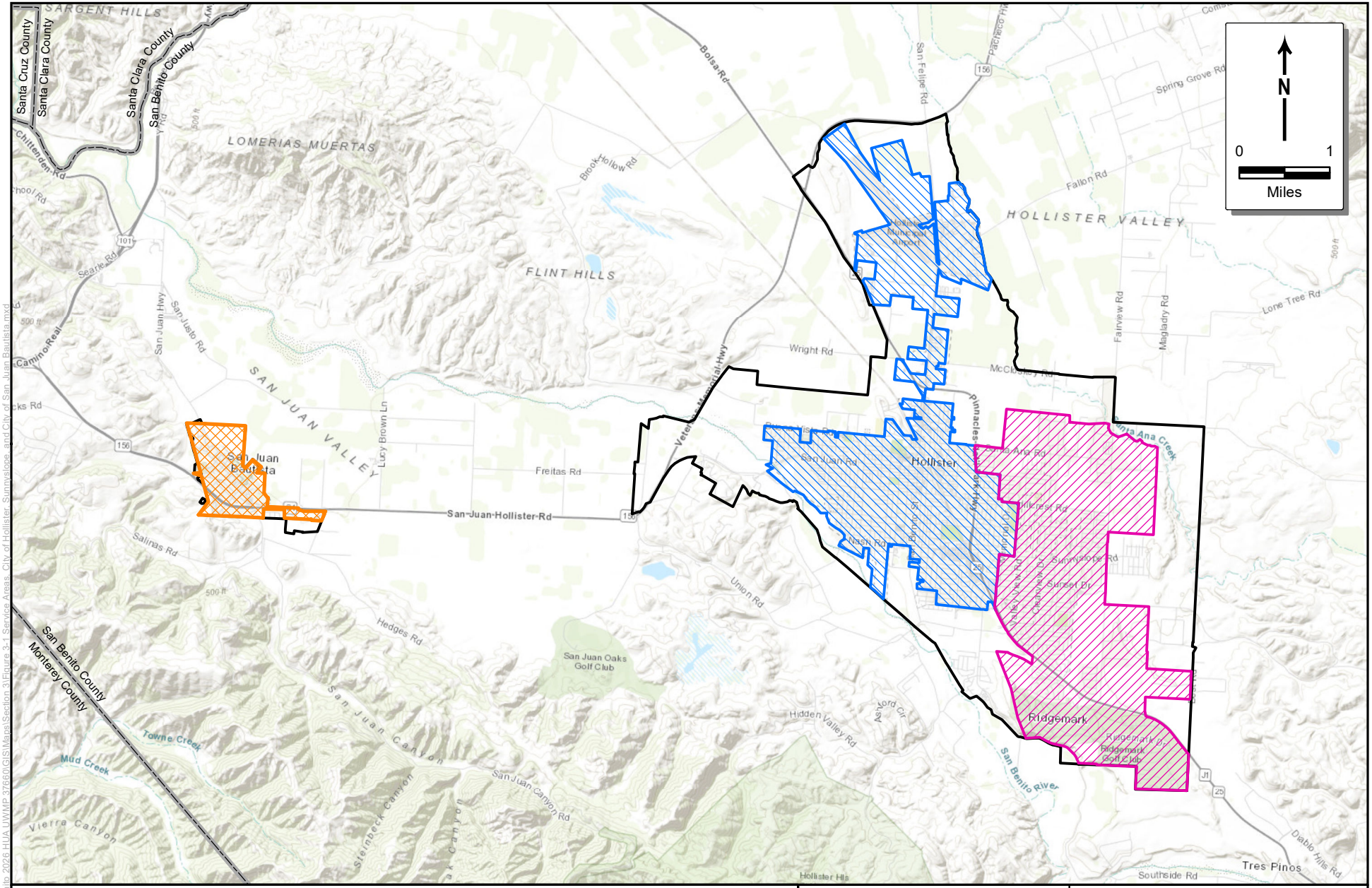
Based on the number of connections and the data available from the DWR population tool, the respective household size for single family and multiple family residences are 3.3 and 18.37 people per connection for Hollister, 3.45 and 10.03 people per connection for Sunnyslope; no information was provided for SJB. Information about the projected connections is discussed in Section 4.2. While the District is a wholesaler of CVP water to the SBUA, it does not provide urban water supply directly in the SBUA. **Table 3-1 W** shows the total population of the three retailers (Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB) served by the District.

Additional increases in population are expected to occur in the unincorporated part of the county, outside the SBUA. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB have no plans to serve this increase, and thus, these increases are not included in the future population or future demand calculations. However, it is recommended that development in neighboring areas continue to be tracked as increases in groundwater pumping for these developments may impact groundwater resources of the SBUA.

Demographic, social, and economic trends and shifts may affect water management and planning decisions, such as creating appropriate water programs based on the needs of specific socioeconomic factors. The overall poverty rate in San Benito County is 7.2% based on the most recent American Community Survey 2024 one-year estimates (U.S. Census Bureau). Meanwhile, the median income of all households is $114,011. The population identifies as about 63 percent Hispanic, 27 percent White, 5 percent Asian, less than 1 percent Black, and 4 percent as other. Of the population 5 years and older, 44.1 percent speaks a language other than English at home. The highest educational attainment breakdown(for 25 and older population) includes 15 percent for twelfth grade with no diploma, 29 percent for high school graduate, 29 percent receiving some college education, 19 percent with a bachelor's degree, and 8 percent with a graduate degree. This is important information when considering language and content for public outreach of water programs.

3.5 LAND USES WITHIN SERVICE AREA

GIS-based land use maps are available online with the DWR Land Use Viewer (DWR 2026), **Figure 3-3**. The current land use in the SBUA is dominated by natural and idle lands, which make up 36 percent of the service area by acreage. This refers to lands that are idle, non-vegetated or covered by water or grass and brush. Agricultural and pastural lands cover 29 percent of the service area and include lands used for vineyards, small vegetables, deciduous orchards, irrigated field crops, non-irrigated pastures, and non-irrigated grains. Urban residential lands cover 23 percent of the SBUA, while rural residential areas are only 2 percent by acreage. Other urban land uses include commercial, industrial, turf and vacant urban land, which cover 11 percent of the service area by acreage. Based on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and the County General Plan outlined in the Water and Wastewater Master Plan, anticipated changes in future land use include converting natural vegetation or agricultural use to urban growth (HDR 2023). Future development is expected to be somewhat denser than the existing urban area. Because of this, urbanization will likely occur at a slower rate than population growth. Other anticipated land use changes include some expansion of vineyard acreage, although at a slower rate than present, as recent industry trends suggest a slowing of grape production in California.

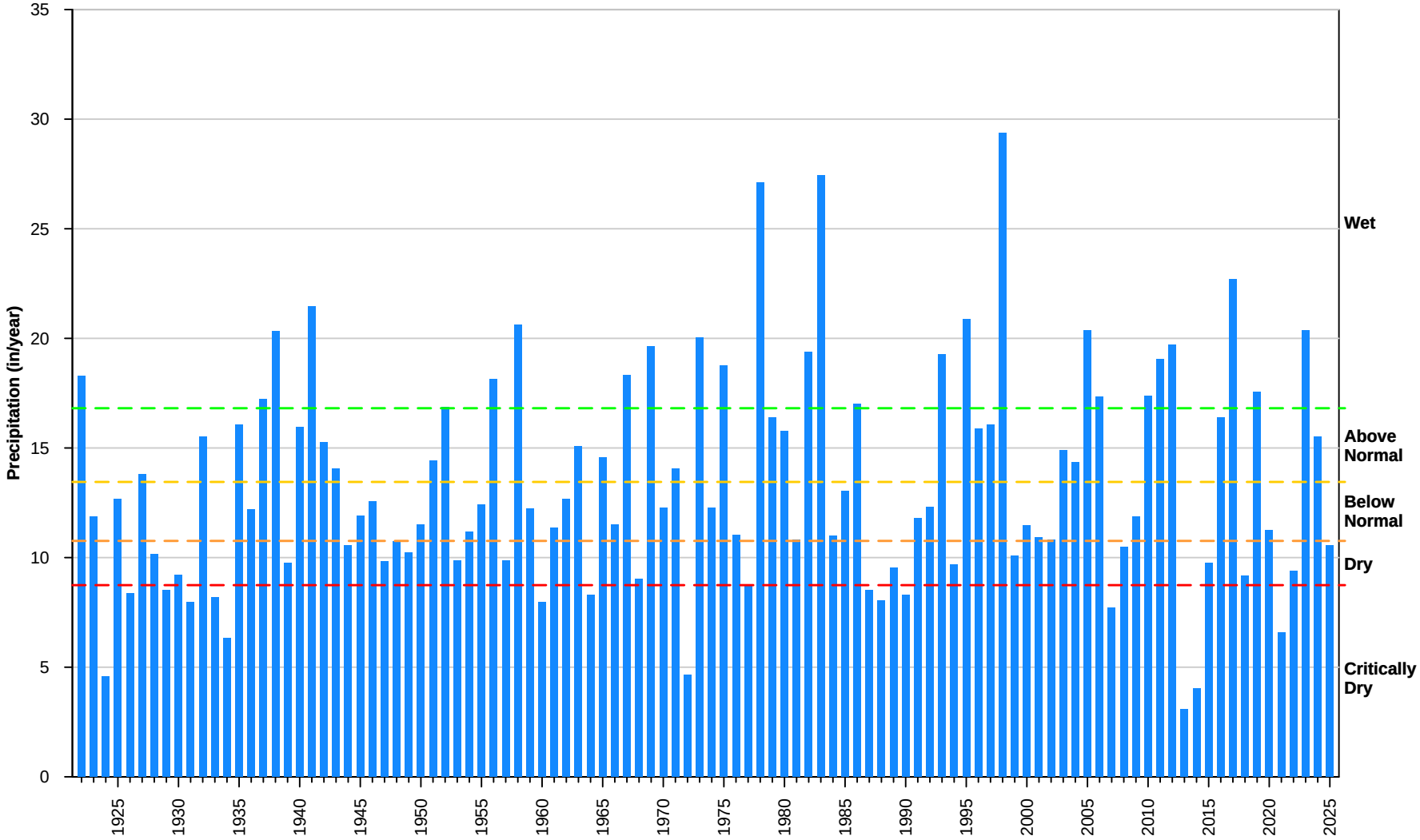


May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 3-1
Service Areas, City of Hollister, Sunnyslope, and City of San Juan Bautista

Path: T:\Projects\San Benito 2026 IUA UWMP 37660\GIS\Maps\Section 3\Figure 3-1 Service Areas City of Hollister Sunnyslope and City of San Juan Bautista.mxd

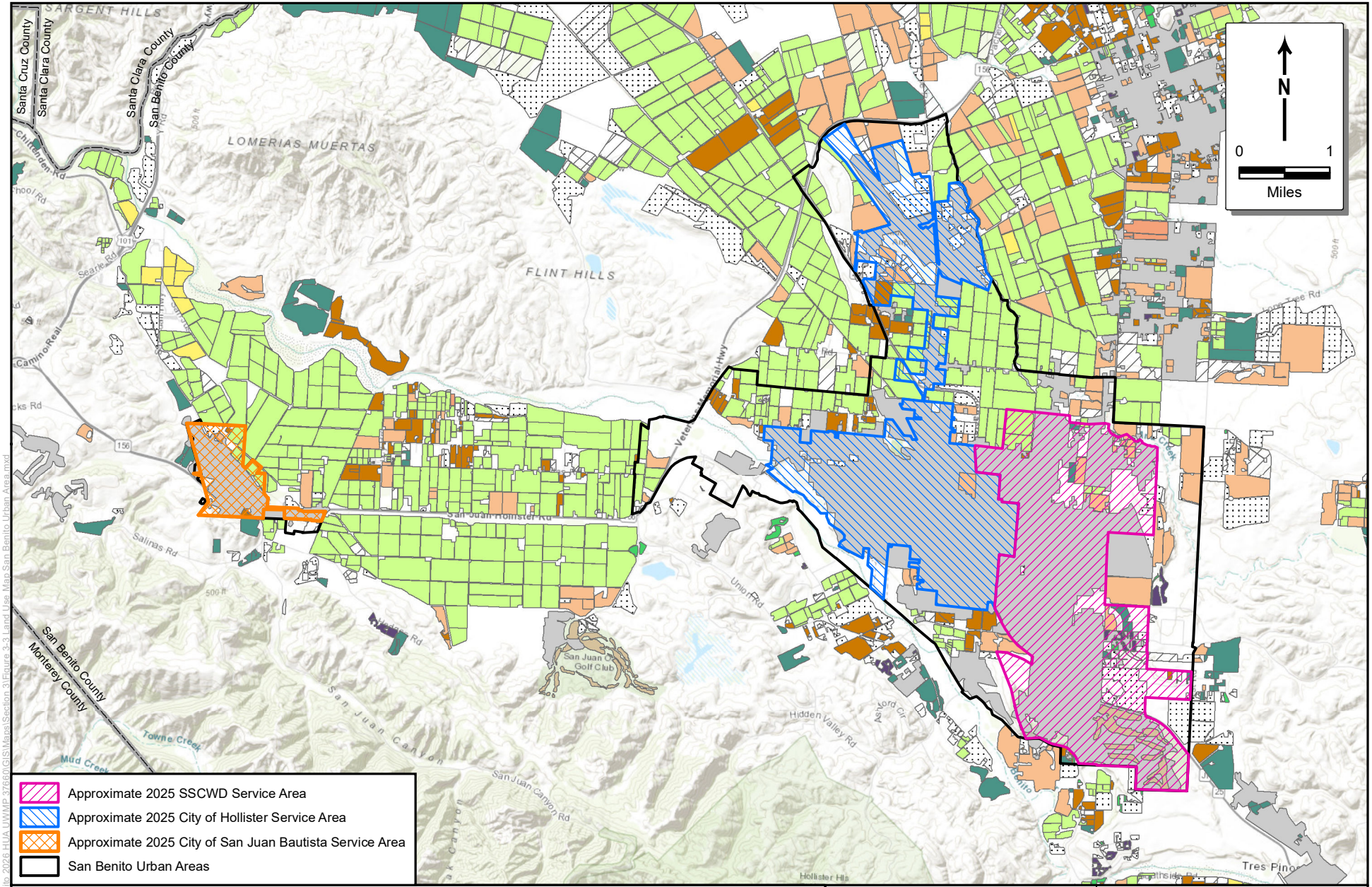


Precipitation (in/year)

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 3-2
Annual Precipitation
San Benito Urban Areas



May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 3-3
Land Use Map
San Benito Urban Area

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected Water Code Section 10631(a)						
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050(opt)
	26,928	31,982	37,985	45,114	53,581	
NOTES: Hollister, expected 3.5 percent growth						

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected Water Code Section 10631(a)						
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050(opt)
	24,954	29,638	35,200	41,807	49,653	
NOTES: Sunnyslope, expected 3.5 percent growth						

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected Water Code Section 10631(a)						
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050(opt)
	2,335	2,773	3,294	3,912	4,646	
NOTES: San Juan Bautista, 3.5 percent population growth						

Submittal Table 3-1 Wholesale: Population - Current and Projected Water Code Section 10631(a)						
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050(opt)
	54,217	64,393	76,478	90,832	107,880	
NOTES: District / SBUA						

4. WATER USE CHARACTERIZATION

Past, current, and projected water demands are presented in this section for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB. Current water demand is provided by water use sector and projected to 2045 in five-year increments. Current system losses are also provided and projected to 2045.

4.1 NON-POTABLE VERSUS POTABLE USE

Non-potable water accounts for only a small portion of water use within the SBUA as shown in **Tables 4-1 Retail** (for Hollister) and **Wholesale** (for total SBUA including other M&I users supplied by the District). In 2025, 2 percent of water supplied to Hollister and 1.3 percent for the entire SBUA was non-potable water, most of which is used for municipal irrigation. The source of non-potable water is disinfected tertiary recycled water provided from the domestic wastewater treatment plant/water reclamation facility (DWWTP/WRF) for the City of Hollister. This recycled water is currently being used for irrigation at one site within the SBUA (80 AF in 2025). While there are no plans to increase recycled water use for municipal use in the SBUA, additional recycled water is supplied to areas outside of the SBUA for agricultural irrigation (Todd 2025). The municipal non-potable use by Hollister is reflected in **Tables 4-2** showing projected total water use of potable and non-potable waters in five-year increments through 2045. There is no Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) in the SBUA and none is planned.

4.2 PAST, CURRENT, AND PROJECTED WATER USE BY SECTOR

4.2.1 WATER USE BY SECTOR

Tables 4-1 Hollister Retail, 4-1 Sunnyslope Retail, and 4-1 SJB Retail show the number of water service accounts and delivery volumes by customer type in 2025 for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB respectively. In recent years, the number of accounts (specifically residential connections) increased in both the Hollister and Sunnyslope service areas. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB water connections are classified into seven water use categories, which are described below along with selected California Water Code (CWC) citations:

- Single-family residential - A single-family dwelling unit. A lot with a free-standing building containing one dwelling unit that may include a detached secondary dwelling.
- Multi-family - Multiple dwelling units contained within one building or several buildings within one complex. It should be noted that the number of multi-family accounts is not the same as the number of multi-family units because one connection could supply multiple units.
- Commercial - A water user that provides or distributes a product or service. CWC 10608.12 (e). This category also includes institutional uses. This type of user includes, among other users, higher education institutions, schools, courts, churches, hospitals, government facilities, and nonprofit research institutions. CWC 10608.12 (j).

2. Industrial - A water user that is primarily a manufacturer or processor of materials as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code sectors 31 to 33, inclusive, or an

entity that is a water user primarily engaged in research and development. CWC 10608.12 (i). The following link is to the NAICS website: https://www.census.gov/naics/.

- Landscape - Water connections supplying water solely for landscape irrigation. Such landscapes may be associated with single-family residential, multi-family residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional/governmental sites, but are considered a separate water use sector if the connection is solely for landscape irrigation.
- Landscape (recycled water) - Includes meters that only use recycled water solely for landscape irrigation.
- Distribution System Losses - Reporting of system losses is required in the 2025 UWMPs.
- Optional – Other uses (e.g., construction water uses) also may be reported.

In addition to the demand of the three retailers, the District provides an additional 200 AFY to other M&I users in area. **Table 4-2 W** shows the total projected use for the SBUA, including the three retailers and the volume that the District delivers directly.

4.2.2 WATER USE SECTORS IN ADDITION TO THOSE LISTED IN WATER CODE

Other water use sectors (such as sales to other agencies, groundwater recharge, and conjunctive use) are not performed by the retailers in the SBUA at this time, are not planned in the future, and are not included in these demand tables. As described in Section 6, the District conducts extensive groundwater management, including conjunctive use and groundwater recharge, as part of its water supply programs.

4.2.3 PAST WATER USE

The delivery volumes by customer type for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB from 2000 through 2025 are illustrated respectively in **Figures 4-1 through Figure 4-3.** Total water deliveries for the SBUA are shown in **Figure 4-4**. The number of water service connections and volume of water served provide insight into water use amounts and trends associated with different types of users, which can be useful in defining effective water conservation measures. As shown on Figure 4-4, in 2025, single family residential represents most of the total demand at 70 percent. Multiple family homes and commercial uses each total about 9 percent of total demand. Other uses, including industrial and dedicated landscape irrigation, represent a combined 12 percent of total demand. Water demand in the SBUA peaked in the early 2000s and has decreased since then. The decline in total water demand in part reflects a sustained water conservation response to drought achieved through increased public outreach.

4.2.4 CURRENT WATER USE

Currently in the SBUA, water use is dominated by single family residential connections (3,834 AF). Peak water use months in 2025 for all retailers were June through September, averaging 302 AF, 295 AF, and 30 AF for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB respectively. These are the dry months with the least amount of precipitation, explaining the increase in water use. In contrast, the wettest months (December through March) had the least amount of water use, averaging 182 AF, 139 AF, and 19 AF for Hollister, Sunnyslope,

and SJB respectively. Water use in the winter months ranged from 40 percent to 60 percent of the summer months for each retailer. Beginning in April, the proportion of water use for landscape irrigation increased, while the proportions of both single and multi-family residential water use decreased; this trend reversed in November with a greater proportion of water used by residential.

4.2.5 PROJECTED WATER USE

Tables 4-2 Hollister Retail, 4-2 Sunnyslope Retail, and **4-2 SJB Retail** provide projections for water service connections and deliveries in five-year intervals between 2025 and 2045, for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB respectively. **Table 4-2 W** shows the total projected use for the SBUA including the three retailers and an additional 200 AFY that the District currently provides to other M&I users in the area. This volume is not expected to increase over time as the District has no plans to add new M&I customers in the area.

4.2.5.1 GENERAL GUIDANCE ON PROJECTIONS

The 2008 HUA Water and Wastewater Master Plan, and the 2017 and 2023 updates, have calculated buildout water demand based on the land use planning data from the adopted General Plans for the City and San Benito County (HDR 2008). These buildout conditions also have been used in the GSP to simulate future growth out to 2068 (Todd 2021). Total buildout demand for the SBUA as calculated by the 2008 Water and Wastewater Master Plan was projected to be 18,501 AFY for the SBUA (10,994 AFY for Hollister, 6,007 AFY for Sunnyslope, and 1,500 AFY for other users). For the purposes of the UWMP, the increase in water demand must be projected to 2045 in 5-year increments. While the 2008 Master Plan buildout estimate provides a maximum development scenario, additional information is needed for accurate projections of short term growth.

The 2023 update of the SBUA Water and Master Plan projected water demand through 2045. A key change in the recent demands is the addition of SJB, reflecting the expansion from the HUA to the SBUA, which has now encompassed SJB since the 2021 MOU. The second significant change is that the projected annual population growth has decreased from 4 percent to 3.5 percent based on regional and local planning documents that predict a slower growth rate.

The 2023 Water and Wastewater Master Plan estimates of the projected annual water demand is approximately 12,500 AFY by 2045. However, this includes projected growth from 2020-2025 that has not occurred. For purposes of this UWMP, future use assumes the expected increased growth from 2025-2045, which is added to actual 2025 water demand. These values represent potable water uses; non-potable water uses are not projected to increase.

4.2.5.2 WATER-USE PROJECTIONS BY SECTOR

To project future demand, the expected water demand increases for each five-year period from the Master Plan Update are shown by sector in **Table 4-A**. As shown in **Table 4-B**, the actual 2025 deliveries were used and the projected additions (from the 2023 Water and Wastewater Master Plan) were added to the actual deliveries. The total water use in 2045 is consistent with the previous UWMP that had estimated total water demand at 10,757 AFY in 2040.

Table 4-A. Increases in Water Demand as Projected in 2023 Master Plan Update, AFY

	2021 - 2025	2026 - 2030	2031 - 2035	2036 - 2040	2041-2045	Total
SFR(a)	699	831	986	1,172	1,391	**5,079**
MFR(b)	89	106	126	149	177	**647**
Commercial/Industrial(c)	63	63	63	63	63	**313**
Losses(d)	55	66	78	92	110	**401**
TOTAL	**906**	**1,064**	**1,253**	**1,476**	**1,741**	**6,440**

(a) SFR demand is based on a unit demand of 0.33 AFY.
(b) MFR demand is based on a unit demand of 0.21 AFY.
(c) Commercial / Industrial demands were estimated based on 12.5 AFY of new demand per year.
(d) Losses were estimated based as 7 percent of residential demand.

Table 4-B. Adjusted Projected Water Demand, 2023 Water and Wastewater Master Plan

Total SBUA	Current	Projected			
	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Single Family	4,032	4,863	5,849	7,021	8,412
Multi-Family	510	616	742	891	1,068
Commercial	538	601	664	727	790
Industrial	180	243	306	369	432
Landscape	407	407	407	407	407
Distribution System Water Losses	470	536	614	706	816
Other	71	71	71	71	71
Retailers Potable Total	**6,208**	**7,337**	**8,653**	**10,192**	**11,996**
Other M&I Users Supplied by District	200	200	200	200	200
Landscape Non-Potable	80	80	80	80	80
Grand Total	**6,488**	**7,617**	**8,933**	**10,472**	**12,276**

These water demand estimates apply per unit demands based on historical consumption. Water conservation measures were considered; however, because the demands were based on historical consumption, additional conservation was not included in the demand forecasts. The water demand for new developments will likely be lower than historical demand due to improved plumbing codes, active water conservation programs, and drought tolerant landscape.

Total water demand is expected to increase to a total of 11,587 AFY by 2045, including recycled water and deliveries to users outside of the retailers' service areas. **Tables 4-2 Hollister Retail, 4-2 Sunnyslope Retail, and 4-2 SJB Retail** provide projections for water service connections and deliveries in five-year intervals between 2025 and 2045, for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB respectively. The estimated water loss for the associated demand is included based on their current documented water loss percentage. The SBUA increases were divided among the retailers based on the current volumes. Because SJB currently has relatively limited development activity in process compared to other areas within the SBUA, the SJB projections were evaluated independently against the City's current planning assumptions and anticipated development pipeline. The increase for SJB was capped at their forecasted increased growth in their 2020 Water Master Plan 76 AFY (AKEL 2020)**.**

Table 4-2 W shows the expected volume of raw water the District will deliver to SBUA Water Treatment Plans (WTPs). Losses occur within the District's CVP conveyance and storage system (e.g., from evaporation and seepage).

4.2.5.3 STANDARDS, CODE, ORDINANCES, AND PLANS

In accordance with Water Code Section 10631(d)(4) water use projects shall account for the water savings estimated to result from adopted codes, standards, ordinances, or transport and land use plans identified by the urban water supplier.

Water conservation is encouraged in the SBUA through a variety of programs, which are discussed in detail in Section 9. To meet the future water use per capita demand targets, Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, the District, and the WRA, through their water conservation coordinator, plan to focus their efforts on several demand management measures (DMMs). These specific DMMs represent opportunities for maximum water savings, based on local experience during recent droughts (2014-2016 and 2021-2023). The DMMs that will continue to save water include state level programs:

1. Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (effective December 1, 2015) – The revised ordinance is projected to reduce typical residential landscape demands by about 20 percent from demands estimated using the prior ordinance provisions. Commercial landscapes may reduce water demand by about 35 percent over the prior ordinance.

2. California Energy Commission Title 20 appliance standards for toilets, urinals, faucets, and showerheads – The appliance standards determine what can be sold in California and therefore will affect both new construction and replacement fixtures in existing homes.

3. CALGreen Building Code – The CALGreen Building Code requires residential and non-residential water efficiency and conservation measures for new buildings and structures that will reduce the overall potable water use inside each building and structure by 20 percent. The 20 percent water savings can be achieved in one of the following ways: (1) installation of plumbing fixtures and fittings that meet the 20 percent reduced flow rate specified in the CAL Green Code, or (2) by demonstrating a 20 percent reduction in water use from the building "water use baseline." The practical representation of the savings in unit water demands from this code would be to reduce indoor baseline unit demands for recently constructed residential units downward by 2 to 5 percent, although this may be redundant with any reduction already represented by the Title 20 appliance standards.

In addition, several local programs already in place may reduce future water demand:

- Retail conservation pricing – "Conservation pricing" provides incentives to customers to reduce average or peak use, or both. All water rates and charges for Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District are established through ordinance by the appropriate governing body. Currently, Hollister's, Sunnyslope's, and SJB's rate structures for water service are increasing block structures for residential customers. Adjusting the rates or adding additional blocks for water rates may continue to improve water conservation.
- Public information programs – One of the cornerstones of an effective water conservation program is effective public outreach and education. Public information and outreach—which convey the need for efficient water use and show how customers can reduce water use—supports all other elements of the program. Public outreach promotes water conservation in general, by informing customers of the needs, benefits, and methods of conserving water. Outreach can also foster understanding regarding how water conservation fits into the overall water management for the SBUA. Current public outreach is focused on schools and students with classroom presentations promoting efficient water use and supplementation of presentations with grade level-appropriate education materials. Presentations are also given to local community groups and service organizations. While the effect of public outreach is unquantifiable, its qualitative effect on water conservation is considered very important.
- Rebates – WRA continues to provide a variety of rebate and retrofit programs that have successfully reduced water demand. These programs currently include incentives for replacement or removal of water softeners, efficient landscape hardware, high efficiency washers, and low flow toilets. The District is also considering policies on new developments to encourage water conservation.
- Landscape– This DMM applies to non-residential accounts with dedicated irrigation meters and to commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) accounts with mixed-use meters. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB continue to implement landscape audit and incentive programs, and these programs can be expanded to account for more water savings. In addition, the WRA has offered landscape efficiency programs over the past two years to encourage water conservation for large landscape and residential customers. Several DMMs are targeted to reducing water waste and increasing water efficiency. The turf removal program encourages irrigators to replace their high

water demand turf with water efficient landscaping. The program, advertised in both English and Spanish, has been very successful in reducing water demand during the recent drought.

A complete list of the DMMs that will be employed by the SBUA and the estimated water reductions resulting from their implementation are presented in Section 9.

4.2.5.4 RETAIL ONLY

Additional future reductions from codes, ordinances, and plans are not considered "passive savings" and were not considered in future water projects (as recorded in **Table 4-3 Retail**). The SBUA is committed to water conversion but does not include these savings in the demand forecast. The policies and programs implemented in the SBUA to reduce demand are discussed in detail in Sections 8 and 9.

4.2.5.5 LOWER INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

State legislation (SB 1087 and Government Code section 65589.7), effective January 1, 2006, specifies that local water agencies and sewer districts must grant priority for service hook-ups to projects that help meet the community's fair housing needs to lower income households. "Lower income households" are defined as households with an income below 80 percent of the area median income, adjusted for family size. To assist with city planning in addressing this legislation, lower-income household water use is included in water-use projections as reported in **Table 4-3 Retail**.

4.2.5.6 CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS

Climate change can affect projected water demand. The climate change vulnerability assessment, available from the UWMP 2025 guidebook, was performed for the SBUA. Water use varies by more than 50 percent seasonally, indicating that water demand is relatively elastic (likely reflecting summer landscape uses) and suggesting that water demand has potential to increase. Climate change is likely to increase temperatures and ET and may also increase the duration of high temperature/ET periods ("heat waves"). This would increase water demand for landscape irrigation and other residential uses, with particular ramifications for summer months. Public outreach will be critical to reduce demand in the high-water use summer months. The WRA already has programs to encourage drought tolerant landscaping, improve efficient irrigation practices, and reduce water waste, and these programs have and will continue to reduce potential impacts from climate change.

4.3 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER LOSSES

4.3.1 PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM LOSSES

Water losses for Hollister and Sunnyslope were calculated using the required methodology and audit tool developed by AWWA (www.awwa.org/resources-tools/water-knowledge/water-loss-control.aspx). The DWR requires reporting of losses for retailers for each of the five years preceding this plan update in accordance with Water Code Section 10631(d)(3). This is reported by calendar year. Reported losses to

DWR by year from 2021 through 2025 are shown in **Table 4-5 Hollister Retail** and **4-5 Sunnyslope Retail** for Hollister and Sunnyslope, respectively. The AWWA audit results for Hollister and Sunnyslope are included in **Appendix C**. It should be noted that SJB is not required to and currently does not conduct formal, stand-alone AWWA water loss audits. However, system usage and production are tracked as part of their routine operations and reporting. The AWWA tool uses the total water supply and deliveries by agency to estimate the total water loss. The tool also breaks out apparent water losses (unmetered water or inaccurate meter readings) and real water losses (water leaving the system through leaks, or other physical issues).

Since 2021, reported water losses in Sunnyslope averaged 6.3 percent (51.5 MG/Yr), similar to the period 2016 to 2020. The agency attributes this low loss to its program to replace aging meters. Hollister is currently preparing their water audits for CY 2024 and 2025, and data only from 2021 to 2023 are available. During that period, Hollister reported an average percent water loss of 9.6 percent (106 MG/Yr), ranging from 6.8 to 11.2 percent. SBJ water loss is not audited.

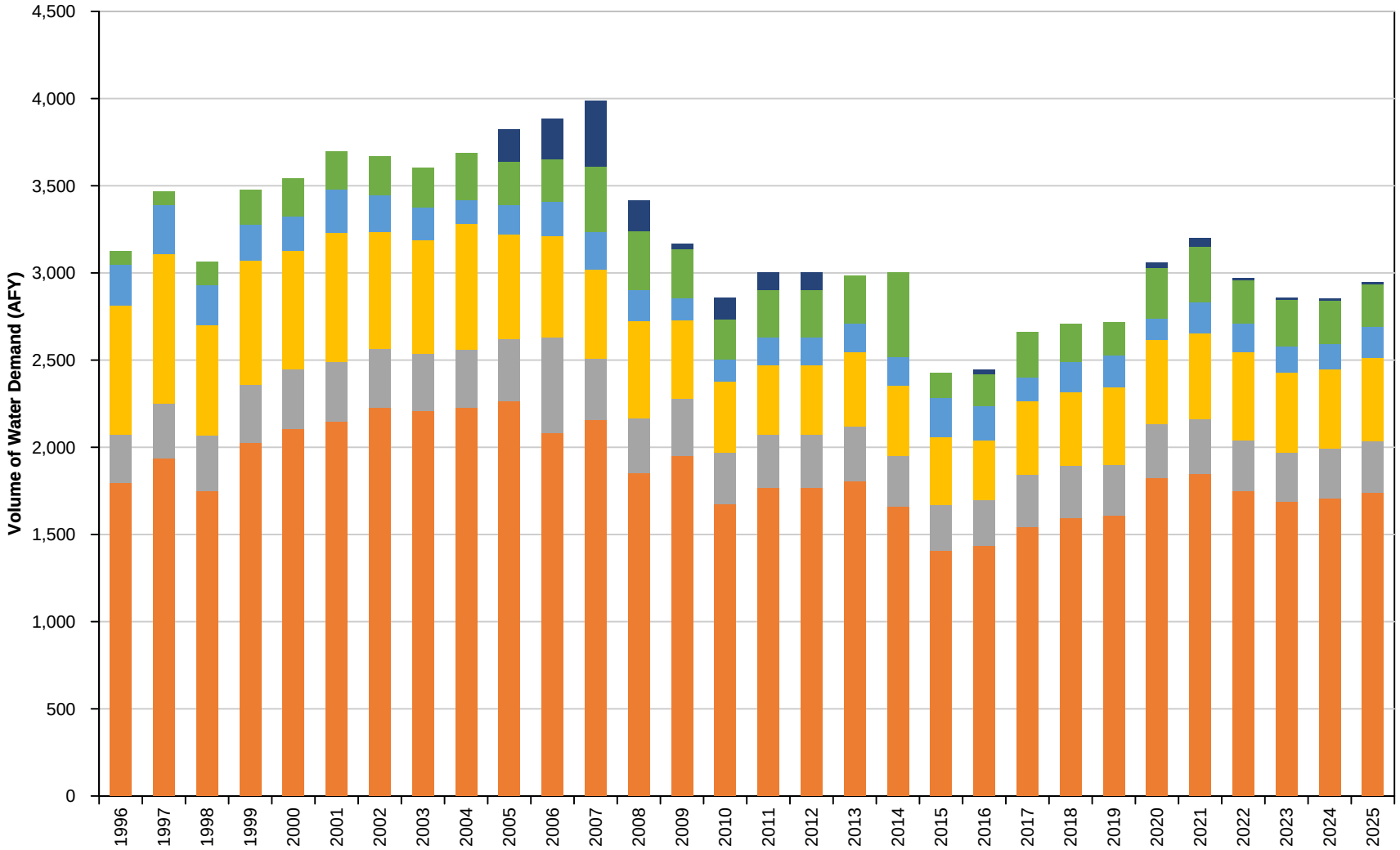
Losses associated within the CVP storage and distribution system are included as raw water losses for the District. Losses are associated with evaporation and seepage as a result of storage in an open reservoir. It is estimated that water losses are about 10 percent in normal years for the CVP storage and distribution system operated by the District.

4.3.2 PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING THE WATER LOSS PERFORMANCE STANDARD

In accordance with Water Code Section 10631(d)(3)(C) Hollister and Sunnyslope have assessed their progress towards the 2028 Water Loss Standard as reported in **Table 4-6 R.** SJB does not have a 2028 Water Loss Standard, due to its small size.

Hollister has decreased its large number of unmetered water uses including line flushing for sampling, fire flows, construction uses, and other unmeasured and unclassified uses and losses. In the AWWA tool for Hollister, the default ratio of apparent and real losses is used due to lack of data. Hollister estimates that most of its water losses are due to the apparent water loss of unmetered activities. To address this amount of loss, Hollister has a rigorous meter replacement program and is making continuous efforts to identify water losses. The decrease in water losses indicates that the program is already working to reduce excess losses.

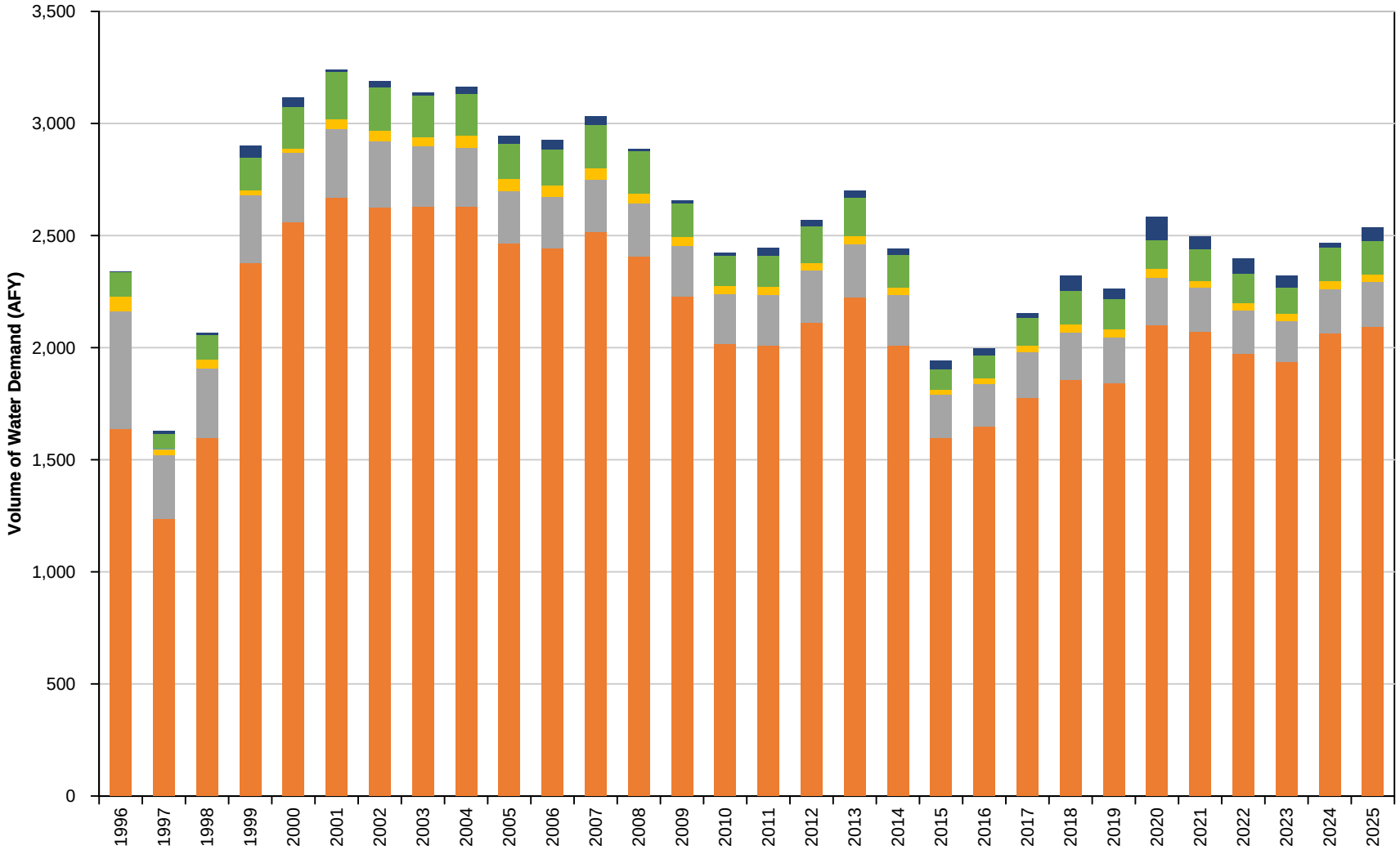
The water loss standard for Sunnyslope was set at its baseline water loss, recognizing their already low water loss percentage.



May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 4-1
Historical and Current Demand by Customer Type - Hollister

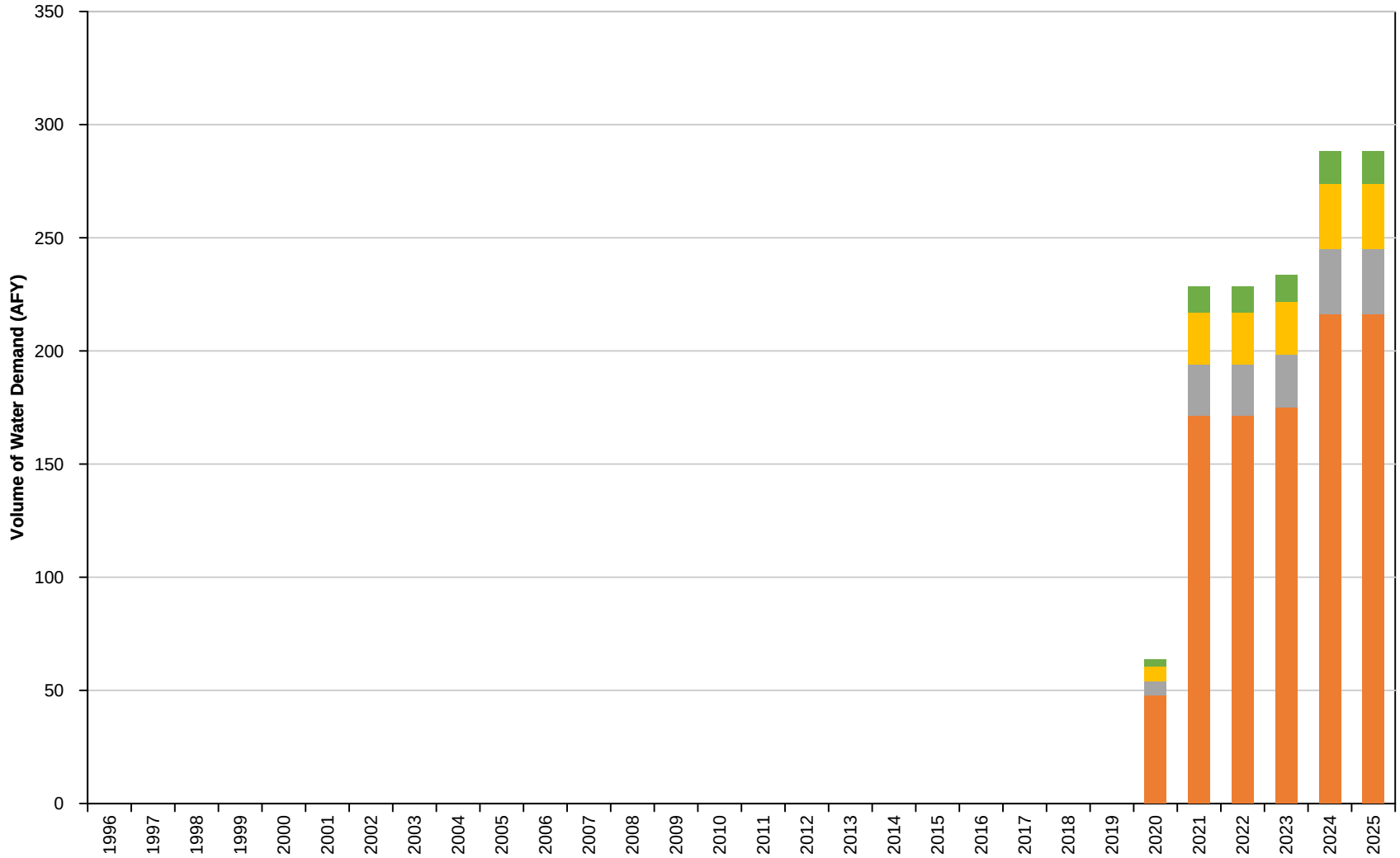


A. Single Family Residential
B. Multi-family Residential
C. Commercial/Institutional
D. Industrial
E. Landscape
F. Other

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 4-2
Historical and Current Demand by Customer Type - Sunnyslope

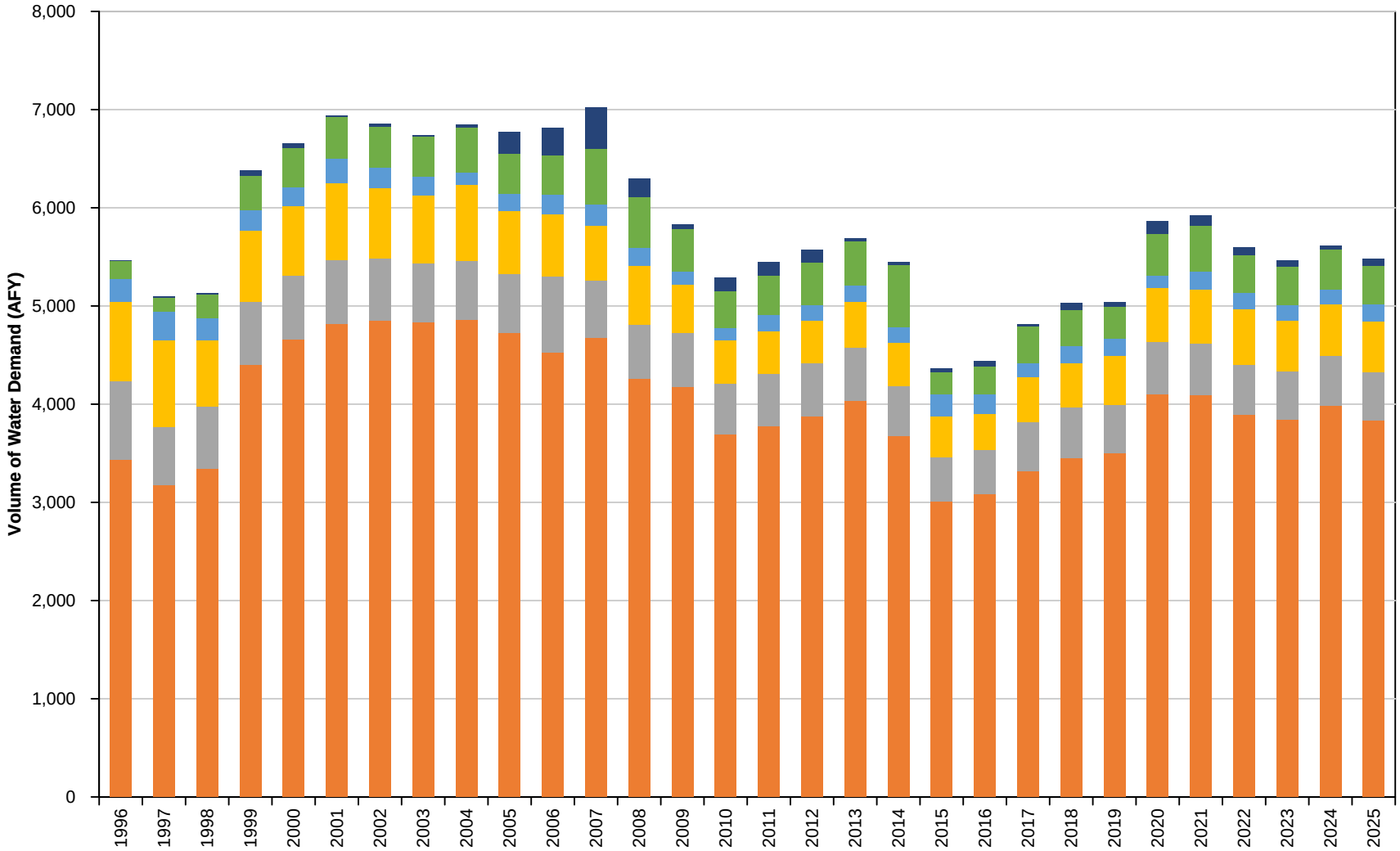


A. Single Family Residential
B. Multi-family Residential
C. Commercial/Institutional
D. Industrial
E. Landscape
F. Other

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 4-3
Historical and Current Demand by Customer Type - San Juan Bautista



A. Single Family Residential
B. Multi-family Residential
C. Commercial/Institutional
D. Industrial
E. Landscape
F. Other

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 4-4
Historical and Current Demand by Customer Type - SBUA

Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)			
Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume
Add additional rows as needed			
Single Family		Potable	1,740.13
Multi-Family		Potable	296.38
Commercial		Potable	476.07
Industrial		Potable	180.05
Landscape		Potable	242.55
Other (optional)	Construction	Potable	11.41
Distribution System Water Loss		Potable	282.87
Landscape		Non-Potable	80.00
		Subtotal Potable	3,229.46
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80.00
		Total	3,309.46
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal			
NOTES: Hollister			

Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual
Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)

Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume
Add additional rows as needed			
Single Family		Potable	2,094.1
Multi-Family		Potable	199.5
Commercial		Potable	33.4
Industrial		Potable	-
Landscape		Potable	149.6
Other (optional)		Potable	54.7
Distribution System Water Loss		Potable	159.8
Agricultural		Potable	5.0
		Subtotal Potable	2,696.1
		Subtotal Non-Potable	-
		Total	2,696.1

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in

NOTES: Sunnyslope

Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)			
Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume
Add additional rows as needed			
Single Family		Potable	198.2
Multi-Family		Potable	13.8
Commercial		Potable	28.8
Industrial		Potable	-
Landscape		Potable	14.4
Other (optional)	Construction	Potable	-
Distribution System Water Loss		Potable	27.7
		Subtotal Potable	283.0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	-
		Total	283.0
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-			
NOTES: SJB			

Optional Submittal Table 4-1 Wholesale: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)			
Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume
Add additional rows as needed			
Single Family		potable	4,032
Multi-Family		potable	510
Commercial		potable	538
Industrial		potable	180
Landscape		potable	407
Other (optional)		potable	66
Distribution System Water Loss		potable	470
Agricultural		potable	5
Other Users		potable	200
Landscape		non-potable	80
		Subtotal Potable	6,408
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80
		Total	6,488
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in			
NOTES: Total SBUA Area, , includes other M&I users supplied by SBCWD			

Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)							
Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	**Projected Water Use** (Report To the Extent that Records are Available)					
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only Use Types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	**2030**	**2035**	**2040**	**2045**	**2050 opt**
Add additional rows as needed.							
Single Family		potable	2,120	2,571	3,108	3,744	
Multi-Family		potable	359	433	521	626	
Commercial		potable	533	591	648	705	
Industrial		potable	246	324	416	526	
Landscape		potable	243	243	243	243	
Other (optional)	Construction	potable	11	11	11	11	
Distribution System Water Loss		potable	337	401	475	562	
Landscape		non potable	80	80	80	80	
		Subtotal Potable	3,850	4,574	5,422	6,417	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80	80	80	80	
		Total	3,930	4,654	5,502	6,497	
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: Hollister							

Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)							
Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	**Projected Water Use** (Report To the Extent that Records are Available)					
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only Use Types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	**2030**	**2035**	**2040**	**2045**	**2050 opt**
Add additional rows as needed.							
Single Family		potable	2,532.4	3,052.6	3,670.8	4,404.5	
Multi-Family		potable	241.9	292.3	351.9	422.7	
Commercial		potable	38.5	43.5	48.6	53.6	
Industrial		potable	-	-	-	-	
Landscape		potable	149.6	149.6	149.6	149.6	
Other (optional)		potable	54.7	54.7	54.7	54.7	
Distribution System Water Loss		potable	190.1	226.3	269.4	320.4	
Agricultural		potable	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	
		Subtotal Potable	3,212	3,824	4,550	5,410	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	
		Total	3,212	3,824	4,550	5,410	
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: Sunnyslope							

Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)							
Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	**Projected Water Use** (Report To the Extent that Records are Available)					
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only Use Types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	**2030**	**2035**	**2040**	**2045**	**2050 opt**
Add additional rows as needed.							
Single Family		potable	228.7	243.5	261.1	281.9	
Multi-Family		potable	29.9	31.1	32.6	34.4	
Commercial		potable	29.5	30.1	30.7	31.3	
Industrial		potable	-	-	-	-	
Landscape		potable	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	
Other (optional)		potable					
Distribution System Water Loss		potable	29	31	33	35	
Agricultural		potable					
		Subtotal Potable	331	350	371	397	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	
		Total	331	350	371	397	
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: SJB							

Optional **Submittal Table 4-2 Wholesale: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Projected** **Water Code Section 10631(d)(1)**							
Use Type		**Projected Water Use** (Report To the Extent that Records are Available)					
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only Use Types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool.	Additional Description (as needed)	**Potable or Non-Potable** (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	**2030**	**2035**	**2040**	**2045**	**2050 opt**
Add additional rows as needed							
Single Family		potable	4,881	5,867	7,039	8,430	
Multi-Family		potable	631	757	906	1,083	
Commercial		potable	601	664	727	790	
Industrial		potable	246	324	416	526	
Landscape		potable	407	407	407	407	
Other (optional)		potable	66	66	66	66	
Distribution System Water Loss		potable	556	658	777	917	
Agricultural		potable	5	5	5	5	
Other Users		potable	200	200	200	200	
Landscape		non-potable	80	80	80	80	
		Subtotal Potable	7,593	8,948	10,543	12,424	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80	80	80	80	
		Total	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,504	
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: Total SBUA Area, includes other M&I users supplied by SBCWD							

Submittal Table 4-3 Retail: Inclusion in Water Use Projections Water Code Section 10631 (a), 10631 (d)(4)(A), and 10631 (d)(4)(B)	
Are Future Water Savings Included in Projections? **Drop down list (y/n)**	No
If "Yes" to above, **state the section or page number**, in the cell to the right, where citations of the codes, ordinances, or otherwise are utilized in demand projections are found. ***Optional*** Suppliers may complete Optional Submittal Table 4-4 R to quantify the expected savings.	
Are Lower Income Residential Demands Included In Projections? **Drop down list (y/n)**	Yes
Optional If the method for accounting Lower Income Residential Demands has been included, provide page number where this accounting can be found.	
DWR NOTES: Additional guidance is provided in Appendix K.	
NOTES: All retailers	

Submittal Table 4-5 Retail: Water Loss Audit Reporting Water Code Section 10631(d)(3)(A)		
Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
Report submittal status for all five years for each Public Water System as available. Add rows as needed		
3510001	**2020**	yes
	2021	yes
	2022	yes
	2023	yes
	2024	no
DWR NOTES: Suppliers will provide a link to the WUEdata submittals of their Water Loss Audit Reports.		
NOTES: Hollister		

Submittal Table 4-5 Retail: Water Loss Audit Reporting Water Code Section 10631(d)(3)(A)		
Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
Report submittal status for all five years for each Public Water System as available. Add rows as needed		
3510003	**2020**	yes
	2021	yes
	2022	yes
	2023	yes
	2024	yes
DWR NOTES: Suppliers will provide a link to the WUEdata submittals of their Water Loss Audit Reports.		
NOTES: Sunnyslope		

Submittal Table 4-6 Retail: Progress Towards 2028 Water Loss Standard
Water Code Section 10631(d)(3)(C)

Public Water System ID # Reported in Submittal Table 2-1 R	Did the Water Board Calculate a Water Loss Standard for this Public Water System? (y/n) If no, Supplier will not complete this row.	Real Water Loss					Apparent Water Loss				
		State Water Board Standard		Most Recent AWWA			State Water Board Standard		Recent AWWA Water Loss		
		2028 Real Water Loss Standard per Unit per day	Units for Real Water Loss Drop down list	Number of Units (Connections or Miles corresponding with units	Volume of Total Real Loss (from AWWA Water Loss Audit)	Real Water Loss Per Unit per Day	2028 Apparent Water Loss Standard per Unit per Day	Units for Apparent Water Loss	Number of Connections	Volume of Total Apparent Loss (from AWWA Water Loss Audit)	Apparent Water Loss Per Unit per Day
Add additional rows as needed.											
3510001	y	17.2	gpscd	7861	153		7.2	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	7861	58	
3510003	y	12.2	gpscd	7831	138		5.1	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	7831	13	
3510002	n							Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)			

Water Board's Calculated Water Loss Standards

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) for Water Loss **MUST** remain consistent with units reported in Submittal Table 2-3. The units reported in Submittal Table 2-3 are used in this table's

NOTES: Hollister based on 2023 audit

5. SB X7-7 BASELINES 2020 TARGETS, AND 2025 REPORTING

Water agencies must demonstrate compliance with their established water use target for the year 2020 as per Water Code Section 10608.16(a). Water use targets are calculated separately for Hollister and Sunnyslope and the associated information is provided by agency in the WUE portal to allow for each agency to have local control. SJB is a small retailer and previously has not submitted an UWMP. They are now included in the SBUA UWMP as they are part of regional water system supply and demand. Because SJB was not included in the 2020 UWMP, they do not have 2020 Targets.

Compliance is verified by DWR's review of the SB X7-7 Verification Form submitted with an agency's 2020 UWMP.

The goal of this section is for Hollister and Sunnyslope to report on their progress toward meeting their urban water-use targets in pursuit to Water Code Section 10608.40. Discussed in detail in Section 9, these water use targets are based on their past population and water use and set a reasonable per capita demand that each retailer has been able to meet through a variety of demand management measures.

5.1 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR WHOLESALE SUPPLIERS

According to Water Code Section 10608.36, urban wholesale water suppliers shall include an assessment of their present and proposed future efforts to help achieve the required water use reductions. While calculations are not required, Sections 8 and 9 describe the District's policies and programs that will help Hollister and Sunnyslope achieve their 2020 Targets.

5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR RETAIL SUPPLIERS

For each agency, **Table 5-1 R** compares the 2020 Target per capita and the Actual 2020 GPCD and whether the supplier achieved Target Reduction for 2020. Hollister and Sunnyslope not only met but exceeded their respective 2020 goals (119 gpcd and 143 gpcd). The actual 2020 per capita daily water use was 114 gpcd and 119 gpcd, for Hollister and Sunnyslope, respectively. As stated in the previous section, SJB was not included in the 2020 UWMP and therefore does not have 2020 Targets.

Table 5-1 Hollister and **Table 5-1 Sunnyslope** summarize progress toward SB X7-7 2020 Target for Hollister and Sunnyslope. SJB was not included in the 2020 UWMP and they do not have 2020 Targets.

Submittal Table 5-1 Retail: SB X7-7 2020 Target Progress Water Code Section 10608.40						
☐	**Check the box if the Supplier was not an Urban Water Supplier during or before the 2020 UWMP reporting cycle. Proceed to the next table.**					
Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target? Drop down list	2020 Target	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?	**Only for suppliers that did not meet the Target in 2020** **See DWR NOTES below.**	
					Actual 2025 GPCD (From SB X7-7 Compliance Form)	Did Supplier meet the 2020 Target in 2025?
		119	114	Yes		NA

DWR NOTES:
Suppliers calculating a 2025 GPCD will need to complete and submit SB X 7-7 Compliance Tables to verify the use of SB X7-7 Methodologies.
Suppliers that were part of a merger or consolidation since 2020 see Chapter 5 and Appendix P for guidance.
NA=Not Applicable

NOTES: Hollister

Submittal Table 5-1 Retail: SB X7-7 2020 Target Progress Water Code Section 10608.40						
☐	Check the box if the Supplier was not an Urban Water Supplier during or before the 2020 UWMP reporting cycle. Proceed to the next table.					
Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target? Drop down list	2020 Target	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?	Only for suppliers that did not meet the Target in 2020 See DWR NOTES below.	
					Actual 2025 GPCD (From SB X7-7 Compliance Form)	Did Supplier meet the 2020 Target in 2025?
		143	119	Yes		NA

DWR NOTES:
Suppliers calculating a 2025 GPCD will need to complete and submit SB X 7-7 Compliance Tables to verify the use of SB X7-7 Methodologies.
Suppliers that were part of a merger or consolidation since 2020 see Chapter 5 and Appendix P for guidance.
NA=Not Applicable

NOTES: Sunnyslope

6. NORMAL-YEAR WATER SUPPLY CHARACTERIZATIONS

For this section, each normal-year water supply was assessed to provide necessary information for reliability and risk assessments. This information also supports analysis of water supplies in non-normal years, as discussed in Section 7. This section first provides an overview of all water supplies available to SBUA with succinct descriptions of considerations that affect the reliability of each water supply. This is followed by detailed analysis of each water supply source and its use. Energy use associated with water supply also is described. Note that Section 6 tables are numbered as required by DWR but are not discussed in numerical order.

6.1 WATER SUPPLY ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

The SBUA relied historically on the North San Benito Groundwater Basin (**Figure 6-1**) for its municipal water supply. Since 2003 and development of water treatment facilities, CVP water imported by the District has been available for direct urban use. In addition, recycled water also has been developed for non-potable use. **Tables 6-8 Hollister Retail, 6-8 Sunnyslope Retail, and 6-8 SJB Retail,** respectively, document the current (2025) water supply by source for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB. The projected water supply by source from 2030 through 2045 is documented in **Tables 6-9 Hollister Retail, 6-9 Sunnyslope Retail, and 6-9 SJB Retail** for Hollister, Sunnyslope and SJB, respectively. **Figures 6-2 through 6-5** are histograms illustrating the historical and current supply by source for each retailer and the entire SBUA**.**

6.1.1 SPECIFIC ANALYSIS APPLICABLE TO ALL WATER SUPPLY SOURCES

Water supply sources for SBUA include imported water from the Central Valley Project (CVP) and local groundwater for potable water uses, and a small volume of non-potable recycled water for landscape irrigation. Each of these water supplies is analyzed in detail in Section 6.2, including physical setting/conditions, management, availability and use, projected use, and future projects. As described in Section 6.2, SBUA does not directly use local surface water, stormwater, or desalinated water. Use of water exchanges and transfers is described.

6.1.2 SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

SBUA water supply sources are used conjunctively, such that water supplies, each with its own characteristics, are directed to respective best uses insofar as possible. Each SBUA supply has specific conditions that may affect current or future supply characterization. CVP water supplies are relatively high quality, and with water treatment, can be provided directly toward potable municipal uses. CVP water supplies are based on contractual allocations, and during below normal, dry, and critically dry years, the allocations may be reduced below the contract amount. Groundwater supply has lower quality. However, it is a shared resource among municipal, agricultural, and rural users that is broadly available across the North San Benito Basin and provides important storage during drought. North San Benito groundwater is sustainable, given continuing local management and availability of local and imported water for recharge.

Recycled water is highly reliable, but relatively poor quality and requirements for treatment limit its use to non-potable irrigation demands. These conditions and impacts on the water supply sources are discussed in further detail in Section 7.

6.1.2.1 CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS

Climate change is likely to affect water supply as well as demand (see Section 4.2.5.6). The most significant impact will be on the availability of imported water. As the climate warms, snowpack is expected to decrease in average annual amount and seasonal duration and to become more variable from year to year. With loss of reliable seasonal storage, CVP allocations will decrease and become more variable. In addition, CVP supply relies in part on the Delta, which is a climate-sensitive habitat where environmental requirements may also reduce CVP allocation. As discussed in Section 6.2.1, there are limited projections for future CVP supplies. Cal Sim III, the latest forecast, has been used to evaluate State Water Project (SWP) and forecasts slightly reduced allocations in the future due in part to climate change, although similar to what has been experienced over the past 20 years. Because of the CVP M&I Water Shortage Policy and the District's demonstrated Public Health and Safety need of 2,766 AF, a minimal municipal allocation is assumed to be available, amount to 33.5 percent of the District's M&I contract amount.

6.1.2.2 REGULATORY CONDITIONS AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Future water supply availability and reliability may also be affected by emerging regulatory conditions and planned future projects. Most importantly, any modifications to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan to reduce reliance on the Delta could impact availability of CVP water, which is imported by the District through the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. Planned water projects such as Sites Reservoir and B.F. Sisk are intended to increase CVP supply and reliability.

6.1.2.3 LOCALLY APPLICABLE CRITERIA

The North San Benito Basin groundwater resource is actively managed by the District and Valley Water Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) The GSAs have developed and adopted the North San Benito Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), which is being implemented actively consistent with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The GSP defines sustainability criteria for groundwater levels, storage, quality, subsidence and interconnected surface water. These locally-defined criteria guide groundwater management actions and projects. Progress is regularly reported and periodically evaluated.

6.1.2.4 THE SBUA COORDINATION

The SBUA UWMP, the Master Plan, and the WRA are all efforts that represent ongoing collaboration among the District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB in providing a secure and stable water supply to the region. Data are shared between all entities. This collaboration increases reliability of available water supplies.

6.2 WATER SUPPLY CHARACTERIZATION

6.2.1 IMPORTED WATER

The CVP is a Federal water system operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and created to: protect the Central Valley from water shortages and floods, improve navigation on the Sacramento River, provide supplies of municipal and industrial water, enhance water quality, generate electric power, conserve fish and wildlife, and create opportunities for recreation. The CVP consists of 20 dams and reservoirs, 11 power plants, and 500 miles of major canals, conduits, and tunnels. About nine million AFY of water are managed by the CVP and about seven million AFY of water for agricultural, urban, and wildlife uses are delivered annually. An average of five million AFY of CVP water is provided to farms to irrigate about three million acres of land and about 600,000 AFY of water is provided for municipal and industrial uses. About 800,000 AFY are provided for fish and wildlife habitats and 410,000 AFY to State and Federal wildlife refuges and wetlands, pursuant to the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA). Finally, the CVP generates 5.6 billion kilowatt hours of electricity annually (Mintier Harnish 2009).

The San Benito County Water District has a contract for a maximum of 8,250 AFY of M&I water and 35,550 AFY of agricultural water. The contract provides the provision to convert any, or all, of the agricultural entitlement to increase the 8,250 AFY M&I entitlement when the demand for M&I water grows beyond 8,250 AFY. Imported water is delivered to agricultural, municipal, and industrial customers in Zone 6 through 12 subsystems containing approximately 120 miles of pressurized pipeline laterals (SBCWD 2011).

In 2021, the District converted its CVP contract from a water service contract to a permanent repayment contract pursuant to the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, and the contract no longer has an expiration date. At that time, the District paid off its share of the capital costs associated with the “in-basin” CVP facilities, which are those facilities located in the Central Valley that are needed to produce and convey CVP water to the District. The District will continue to pay for its share of “out-of-basin” capital costs, which are associated with the federal facilities that convey CVP water from San Luis Reservoir to San Benito County, according to the repayment terms negotiated in the 2007 contract amendment.

The District distributes CVP water to both agricultural and M&I customers in Zone 6. Hollister and Sunnyslope purchase CVP water directly from the District as they are the primary M&I CVP customers. SJB is expected to begin receiving treated CVP water by the end of 2027/beginning of 2028. Other M&I uses of CVP water include urban irrigation, golf courses, and potable supply for the Stonegate community. Actual CVP deliveries are modified on an annual basis by USBR, reflecting hydrologic conditions (e.g., drought), reservoir storage, and the environmental status of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. In USBR water year 2025, the allocation for M&I users was 80 percent of historical use while agricultural users received 55 percent of contract amounts. Reductions in recent years are primarily the result of the less than average precipitation and increasingly stringent regulatory requirements in the Delta (Todd 2025).

WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES

Water treatment for potable M&I supplies within the SBUA is provided by the Lessalt WTP and West Hills WTP. The Lessalt WTP, placed into operation in January 2003, is designed to treat imported CVP water using microfiltration and chlorine disinfection (HDR 2008a). In 2015, the plant was upgraded with granulated activated carbon filtration to remove organic materials and thereby reduce trihalomethanes (THMs) in water. In addition, further treatment to remove iron and manganese was added. Treated water is distributed to Hollister and Sunnyslope customers. The Lessalt WTP was constructed to provide CVP as a direct source of M&I water and to improve delivered water quality by supplementing existing groundwater with higher quality surface water. The Lessalt WTP was completed in 2002 with a nominal design capacity of 3 million gallons per day (MGD). Because of hydraulic constraints, process limitations, and reductions in CVP water availability, the WTP operated initially at an average rate less than 1.6 MGD. A WTP expansion completed in April 2015 increased the operational capacity of Lessalt to 2.0 MGD, which extends the capacity of the WTP to an annual total of 2,240 AFY.

West Hills WTP is the second surface water treatment plant to treat CVP imports and allows delivery of high quality CVP water to urban areas (including disadvantaged communities) currently not served by the Lessalt WTP. West Hills came online in August 2017, with a long-term operational capacity of 4.0 MGD, or 4,480 AFY. Additional treatment capacity has been added to West Hills as part of the Accelerated Drought Response Project (ADRoP), but this increased capacity will not be used to serve urban customers directly. As of 2026, design is proceeding for a new water transmission pipeline from the West Hills WTP along Highway 156 to the SJB water system. . Once operational, this project is expected to provide additional capacity for the SJB system and allow SJB to blend CVP water with groundwater supplies, improving both supply reliability and water quality.

The total treatment capacity of M&I CVP water available to the San Benito Urban Area is currently 6,720 AFY.

The District manages San Justo Reservoir as storage for imported CVP water. In times of full allocation, the District is able to purchase additional water to keep as a reserve for future dry years. The District's planned reserve is 5,000 AF, plus additional CVP transfers and exchanges, which would be sufficient to provide supply (in addition to groundwater) for up to five years with preferred blending of imported water and groundwater. Based on future demand and supply calculations, this reserve may only be needed when CVP allocations for M&I uses are at the lowest allocations, namely 50 percent, which is identified by USBR for health and safety purposes (USBR 2017).

2025 ACTUAL USE OF SUPPLY

Total CVP imported water delivery for 2025 was 4,104 AFY to the SBUA. This includes both West Hills and Lessalt Treatment Plant deliveries to both Sunnyslope and Hollister. The two agencies work closely together to ensure adequate supply. In the past, the individual deliveries from Lessalt Treatment Plant were not metered but assumed to serve Hollister and Sunnyslope equally. With the addition of West Hills, the flow from the treatment plants to the agencies is monitored, although water can flow between the

agencies via interties. While the intertie flow is also monitored, the flow from both plants is combined and only total volumes of treated water are available. CVP deliveries represented 61 percent of total supply in 2025, an increase over the five-year average of 50 percent of total supply. The decreased utilization of CVP imports is due in part to limited CVP allocations and temporary WTP closures to address engineering issues. The percent of total supply from imported water is expected to increase as treatment capacity has expanded and there is no planned downtime at the WTPs.

WATER YEAR TYPES

Hydrologic conditions play a large role in the availability of CVP imports. The percent of the CVP contract allocated to the District is based on available supplies. While the total contract is for a maximum of 8,250 AFY of municipal and industrial (M&I), the District has only received 100 percent allocation in four out of the last fifteen years. The allocation varies from year to year based on the hydrologic conditions of the larger CVP system. Since 2006, the M&I allocation has ranged from 0 percent (public health and safety only) in dry years to 100 percent in wet years, with a 10-year average of 75 percent (Todd 2025).

PROJECTIONS

Future CVP supply and contract allocations are estimated by recent allocations observed during severe droughts and wet years (2007-2025). The GSP relied on Cal Sim II, a DWR tool used to simulate California SWP/ CVP operations. For the GSP simulations, the average allocation was 74 percent of the contract amount. Under normal conditions, the Cal Sim II simulations indicate that expected long-term allocations would average 82 percent of the M&I contract. This projection is more optimistic than current allocations and therefore has not been applied in this UWMP.

Since 2007, when court decisions changed how allocations are evaluated, allocations varied widely from 25 percent in dry years to full allocation in wet years. Over this time, allocations have averaged 62 percent. **Table 6-A** shows the average allocation for the SBUA based on the water year type of the Sacramento River system, which supplies much of the CVP system.

Table 6-A. Average SBUA Allocation by Water Year Type, 2008-2025

Sacramento River Year Type	Average M&I Allocation SBUA	Volume Allocated (AFY)
Wet Year	100%	8,250
Above Average	75%	6,188
Below Average	55%	4,496
Dry	55%	4,558
Critically Dry	39%	3,196

Future CVP supply availability is based on recent allocations and discussed in more detail in Section 7.

Tables 6-9 Hollister Retail, Table 6-9 Sunnyslope Retail, Table 6-9 SJB Retail, and Table 6-9 W show the projected future supply for the four agencies. The future supply to the District is the projected average CVP projections. In turn, the CVP supply available to the three agencies is the District's supply less other users and system losses, 5,388 AFY (see **Table 6-9 W**). The SBUA now has a treatment capacity of 6,720 AFY, which will allow the SBUA to fully use the expected allocation. It is assumed that Hollister and Sunnyslope will equally share the CVP supply to the SBUA and that SJB will receive up to 80 percent of their supply when available. Hollister is expected to continue its municipal supply of recycled water at 80 AFY. All three retailers will rely on groundwater for the remainder of the potable demand.

As discussed in the groundwater section, the SBUA mostly overlies the Hollister Management Area (MA) with a portion in San Juan MA. The sustainable yield for M&I uses in the Hollister and San Juan MA as defined in the GSP through future simulations is approximately 6,250 AFY (5,600 AFY and 650 AFY for Hollister MA and San Juan MA respectively).

This volume could be expanded during drought conditions as needed. In 2040, the SBUA plans to use groundwater as a supplemental supply during normal, single dry, and multiple dry years. Under normal conditions, the total groundwater pumping from the retailers (taking into account expected losses and other M&I deliveries) is expected to total 6,237 AFY, slightly less than the simulated Hollister MA sustainable yield.

It is expected that CVP imports will continue to be the most desirable water source for the SBUA in the future and that additional demand will be met with local groundwater blended with imported supplies. Blending is required to meet the water quality objectives detailed in the Master Plan and Water Supply and Treatment Agreement. The SBUA plans to maximize CVP imports, understanding the limitations in reliability and financial constraints. The preferred distribution of 80 percent imported water and 20 percent groundwater is a matter of preference and may be relaxed during short term droughts.

6.2.2 GROUNDWATER

Groundwater is a major source of supply for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB. The three retailers pump directly from wells located in the SBUA. The District, formed by a special act of the State, has regional responsibility and authority to manage groundwater. As part of its management activities, the District provides recharge to the basin, explores expanded groundwater banking, monitors water levels and water quality, and reports annually on groundwater conditions in the basin.

6.2.2.1 BASIN DESCRIPTION

LOCATION

The SBUA overlies the North San Benito Groundwater Basin, designated as DWR Basin No. 3-3.05, shown on **Figure 6-1** (DWR 2021a). The basin covers 200 square miles of the Pajaro River watershed and is drained by its tributaries, most notably the San Benito River. The San Benito River, intermittent in some parts of the basin, runs through the southern portion of the basin before reaching the Pajaro River. The

San Benito River, when flowing, is a recharging stream along much of its channel, but groundwater contributes some base flow upstream of its confluence with the Pajaro River. The Hernandez Reservoir, located upstream of the basin on the San Benito River, is operated to enhance flow in the river and recharge the groundwater basin.

GEOLOGY

The North San Benito Groundwater Basin lies within the Coast Ranges of California, which are a series of elongated ranges and valleys with a predominantly northwesterly trend. The Hollister Valley's origin and shape has been controlled by folding and faulting of basement rocks in the area, resulting in low-lying areas that have been infilled with unconsolidated to poorly consolidated alluvium of Tertiary and Quaternary age. The Quaternary alluvial deposits compose the valley floor and generally define the groundwater basin (California Geologic Survey 2002, Todd 2004). Numerous investigators have recognized the difficulty in describing the subsurface stratigraphy of the basin, due, in part, to sparse geophysical log data and a lack of distinctive textures and composition among the sedimentary units (Kilburn 1972, Faye 1974 and 1976, Luhdorff and Scalmanini 1991).

Major geologic faults, including the San Andreas and Calaveras, trend northwestward through the area. Most notably, the Calaveras fault is active and cuts through the basin, trending north-northwest from Hollister to the Pajaro River at San Felipe Lake, and separating the northern valley into two distinct geologic units at depth. The fault is perceived to impact groundwater flow locally, perhaps due to the presence of low permeability rock fragments and blocks displaced upward and adjacent to more permeable alluvial material along the fault zone (Todd 2004).

The Quaternary-age alluvium contains the main aquifers in the groundwater basin. The aquifers are the coarse-grain layers of sands and gravels with interbedded layers of silts and clays. The geometry of the basin suggests that basin-fill units were deposited in alluvial fan and fluvial environments from a variety of source rocks and directions. These deposits interfinger in the subsurface, making the differentiation of discrete aquifer packages difficult on a regional basis. This also results in variable aquifer properties across the basin. Previous investigators indicate wide variability in aquifer transmissivities (Luhdorff and Scalmanini 1991, Faye 1974). Although poorly defined, regional variations in permeability likely create preferential pathways for groundwater, especially in paleo-channel deposits, which may exist beneath current major stream courses or elsewhere in the basin (Todd 2004).

SUBAREAS

Figure 6-1 shows the four management areas delineated as part of the GSP: Bolsa, San Juan, Hollister, and Southern. This definition of subbasins is maintained in this report, supporting consistent reporting of groundwater conditions.

The SBUA overlies part of the Hollister and San Juan MAs. In water year 2025, all of Hollister and Sunnyslope's pumping was located in the Hollister MA and all of SJB's pumping was located in the San Juan MA.

GROUNDWATER LEVELS AND FLOW

In general, groundwater in the basin flows from the southeast and eastern portions of the basin toward the western and northwestern portions of the basin to the Pajaro River. However, general flow directions have been reversed in the Bolsa subbasin due to groundwater pumping; groundwater in the Bolsa subbasin near the Pajaro River flows southeast toward lower water levels.

Groundwater levels have been recorded in the basin since at least 1913 by various agencies including USBR, DWR, Pacheco Pass Water District, San Benito County, University of California Cooperative Extension, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) (Clark 1924, Kilburn 1972, Farrar 1981, Creegan & D'Angelo 1990). The District monitors water levels in approximately 80 to 100 wells on a semiannual and, more recently, a quarterly basis and reports the data as needed to the SGMA portal. Water levels and trends are presented in the District annual reports (e.g., Todd 2025). Groundwater generally occurs under unconfined and confined conditions. Surficial clay deposits, especially in the Bolsa and San Juan areas, create confining layers. These layers have resulted in local artesian conditions wherein groundwater levels in wells have risen to the surface.

Figure 6-6 illustrates long term changes in groundwater levels in the basin. Water elevations in key wells from the Hollister management area (Figure 4-5 from GSP) are shown on the map in **Figure 6-6**.

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

The District owns and operates two reservoirs along the San Benito River. Hernandez Reservoir (capacity 17,200 AF) is located on the upper San Benito River in southern San Benito County. Paicines Reservoir (capacity 2,870 AF) is an offstream reservoir between the San Benito River and Tres Pinos Creek. It is filled by water diverted from the San Benito River, with some of the diversions consisting of natural runoff and some consisting of water released from Hernandez Reservoir. Water stored in the two reservoirs is released for percolation in Tres Pinos Creek and the San Benito River to augment groundwater recharge during the dry season. Since 1996, releases from Hernandez have ranged between 0 AFY and 32,450 AFY, generally reflecting variations in inflow. The total releases from Paicines Reservoir range from 0 AFY to 6,139 AFY (Todd 2025).

In the past, the District has purchased and percolated additional CVP imported water for groundwater management. This program began in 1988, and CVP percolation peaked in 1997 at 11,087 AFY. Managed CVP percolation volumes were reduced following 1997 in response to successful recovery of the groundwater basin from overdraft. In recent years, the District has restarted the CVP recharge program at off-stream ponds. In water year 2025, 1,667 AFY of imported water was recharged in the groundwater basin (Todd 2025).

Hollister and Sunnyslope percolate treated wastewater discharge to the groundwater basin. The City of Hollister Domestic Wastewater Treatment Plant (DWWTP) represents the major portion, amounting to 3,131 AF in water year 2025. Wastewater percolation has been decreasing in recent years and is expected to continue to decrease as recycled water use increases. The Sunnyslope treatment plant also percolated wastewater discharge, 167 AF in water year 2025 (Todd 2025). The City of San Juan Bautista does not

percolate wastewater directly to the groundwater basin and instead delivers its wastewater to the DWWTP in Hollister for treatment.

WATER QUALITY

The District conducts semiannual sampling (spring and fall) of more than 24 wells distributed spatially over the basin. In addition, water suppliers with more than six connections, including Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB are required to monitor and report water quality to the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW). These data and others are used by the District to monitor and track the status of water quality basin-wide.

A comprehensive water quality database for the District was created in 2004. This database, funded in part by a DWR grant, involved compilation of all available water quality data with the intent of regular update with future data. The first major update occurred as part of the 2007 Annual Groundwater Report. The database is now regularly updated with readily available local data. A more complete update of the water quality database, including research at local, regional, and state agencies, occurs on a triennial basis. The database was updated in February 2026, as part of the Annual Groundwater Report for Water Year 2025 (Todd 2026).

The quality of groundwater in the North San Benito Groundwater Basin has been described as highly mineralized and of marginal quality for drinking and agricultural purposes. The mineralized water quality is typical of other relatively small Coast Range groundwater basins but has also been impacted by decades of human-related activities, both agricultural and urban.

A general measure of groundwater quality is total dissolved solids (TDS). For drinking water purposes, TDS concentration of 500 milligrams per liter (mg/L) or less are recommended; however, TDS concentrations up to 1,000 mg/L are acceptable. TDS concentrations are affected by both natural and anthropogenic sources. While concentrations are high (e.g., exceeding 500 mg/L), recent years (2023 through 2025) are characterized by TDS concentrations that are stable or decreasing.

The SBUA agencies blend treated imported CVP water with local groundwater to reduce TDS in Hollister and Sunnyslope's water supplies. If CVP water is available, the objective for M&I delivered water is around 80 percent CVP imports with the remaining 20 percent as groundwater. This blending results in better delivered water supply and sufficient wastewater quality to produce high quality recycled water and meet wastewater discharge requirements with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

The blending of groundwater with imported CVP water results in a linkage between groundwater supply and CVP allocations. In dry years, when CVP allocations are low, the volume of groundwater supply used by the SBUA agencies for urban supplies will be limited to maintain the planned blending ratio. The retailers target 60 percent CVP imports with the remaining 40 percent as groundwater in dry years. These blending requirements could be relaxed on a short-term basis in response to drought conditions.

WATER BALANCE AND SUSTAINABLE YIELD

The District prepared a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the North San Benito Groundwater Basin in 2022 and is in the process of preparing a Periodic Evaluation and GSP Amendment. As part of the 2022 GSP, the existing numerical model was expanded and updated to simulate the water budget and groundwater flow. For each Annual Report, the model is updated for the previous water year and the change in storage is calculated. For the GSP amendment, the model will be updated and improved.

Major inflows include deep percolation from rainfall, return flow from urban and agricultural uses, recharge of reclaimed water, stream percolation (both natural and managed through reservoir and CVP releases), and subsurface inflow from adjacent groundwater basins. Most of these inflows are controlled by hydrological conditions and are generally greater in wet years and reduced in dry years.

Major outflows include pumping by agricultural and urban users and subsurface outflow to adjacent basins. Agricultural groundwater pumping is not reliably consistent throughout the basin and is estimated in the model based on land use and reference evaporation. The volume of agricultural pumping in Zone 6 in any given year is dependent on the volume of CVP imports and the amount and distribution of rainfall, as growers often rely on both groundwater and CVP for water supply. Municipal pumping has decreased significantly as the SBUA expanded its ability to treat CVP water and use it directly.

The change in storage calculated by the numerical model for 1975-2025 shows fluctuations due to changes in management and hydrologic conditions. Groundwater storage was at its lowest near the beginning of the simulation because of overdraft during the preceding decades and an intense drought during 1976-1977. Hollister MA groundwater storage increased significantly when imported water deliveries began in 1988. With decreased groundwater pumping, managed aquifer recharge, and several wet years in the 1990s, groundwater storage increased rapidly and has remained relatively steady since 1998. The recovery of groundwater levels and storage in the Hollister MA provided a buffer for the recent droughts of 2014-2016 and 2021-2022, allowing local groundwater users to pump groundwater without severe declines.

The water budget section of the 2022 GSP estimates a sustainable yield based on expected future pumping. Sustainable yield is defined as the volume of pumping that the basin can sustain without causing undesirable effects. It is not a fixed or inherent natural characteristic of a groundwater basin. Rather, it is influenced by land use activities, importation of water, wastewater and stormwater management methods, and the locations of wells with respect to interconnected streams. The estimate of sustainable yield presented in this section reflects the current status of those variables and evaluates whether there would be a long-term increase or decrease in basin storage if those conditions continued over a 50-year future period with local hydrology and CVP imports (per CalSim2) corresponding to 1925-1953 and 1982-2002. The GSP analysis separates out the potential yield of groundwater by user. Based on numerical modeling and analysis detailed in the GSP, the estimated sustainable yield for groundwater for M&I uses in the Hollister MA, where all of the municipal wells for Hollister and Sunnyslope are located, is about 5,600 AFY. SJB pumping occurs in the San Juan MA that has a sustainable yield of 650 AFY. The total

sustainable yield for M&I pumping is 6,250 AFY. As noted above, future use of local groundwater supply may be limited or require treatment due to water quality concerns (Todd 2021).

6.2.2.2 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

The District manages the water resources for all of San Benito County. The District is a California Special District formed in 1953 by the San Benito County Water Conservation and Flood Control Act. The District has jurisdiction throughout San Benito County and has formed three zones of benefit to fund surface water and groundwater management activities. Zone 1 covers the entire county and provides the funding base for certain District administrative expenses. Zone 3 generally covers the San Benito River Valley to the confluence with the Pajaro River, from the Highway 25 Bridge nine miles south of the town of Paicines to San Juan Bautista, plus the Tres Pinos Creek Valley from Paicines to the San Benito River. Zone 3 provides the funding base for operation of Hernandez and Paicines reservoirs and related percolation and groundwater management activities. Zone 6 includes the two MAs (San Juan and Hollister) and provides the funding base for importation and distribution of CVP water and related groundwater management activities (Todd 2010, HDR 2008a). It should be noted that the SBUA includes Zone 6 and additional areas.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA)

The 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires sustainable groundwater management for designated medium- and high-priority groundwater basins; the North San Benito Groundwater Basin is medium priority. SGMA requires sustainable management of priority groundwater basins and empowers local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage groundwater resources. San Benito County Water District GSA (SBCWD GSA), in partnership with Valley Water (known as Santa Clara Valley Water District prior to 2019) GSA, has developed a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the North San Benito Basin. The North San Benito Basin (Basin) is predominantly in San Benito County with small areas in Santa Clara County. The North San Benito GSP was adopted by the SBCWD and Valley Water GSAs and was submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2022. The 2022 GSP provides the basic information, analytical tools, and projects and management actions for continued groundwater management, guided by SGMA and by locally defined sustainability goals, objectives, and metrics. The GSP was approved by DWR in July 2023.

ANNUAL GROUNDWATER REPORT

Each water year, the District oversees the preparation of an Annual Groundwater Report that describes current groundwater conditions in the District and the DWR defined groundwater basin. The report documents water supply sources and use, groundwater levels and storage, and District management activities over the water year (October to September). Recommendations are provided with regard to the future water year imports, groundwater replenishment, groundwater pumping, and groundwater charges. This Annual Report is prepared at the request of the District to meet its information needs and to fulfill statutory reporting requirements including SGMA and the District's Special Act (Todd 2025).

WATER RIGHTS

The North San Benito Groundwater Basin is not an adjudicated basin and groundwater entitlements or rights have not otherwise been defined. The long-term reliability of groundwater supply for the SBUA is not likely to be predicated on water rights but is likely to be defined by the overall state of the groundwater basin.

6.2.2.3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Groundwater resources of the North San Benito Basin are shared among the municipal, agricultural and rural users and managed conjunctively with local and imported water supplies. In the North San Benito Basin, groundwater provides important supply and storage benefits and is sustainable, given continuing local management and availability of imported water for recharge. The long history of collaborative groundwater management—now guided by SGMA—supports water supply reliability.

OVERDRAFT CONDITIONS

While groundwater levels over time have varied in response to precipitation, groundwater pumping, and managed aquifer recharge conditions, the basin is not in overdraft and is managed sustainably.

Water levels are estimated to have been at historical highs prior to 1913 before development of groundwater pumping (Kilburn 1972). In the extreme drought conditions of the late 1970s, water levels in some areas had declined more than 150 feet from the estimated highs (Creegan & D'Angelo 1990). With the exception of a few areas of persistent water level lows, by 1998 groundwater levels had recovered close to the historical highs as a result of decreased pumping (following CVP importation), increased precipitation, and managed aquifer recharge (Jones & Stokes 1999). During the drought that began in 2021, groundwater levels declined over much of the basin, most notably in agricultural areas of the basin that rely on groundwater. These subbasins sustained four successive years of drought with limited CVP imports. During this time groundwater elevations declined slightly or remained steady in areas of municipal pumping including Hollister East and Tres Pinos subbasins.

Groundwater elevation declines during drought do not constitute overdraft, which is a chronic condition. The North San Benito Basin is not in overdraft and sufficient storage remains in the basin to accommodate additional dry conditions with limited imported water availability. However, if drought conditions persist, avoidance of significant and unreasonable impacts will require delivery of alternative supplies to sensitive areas or more rigorous water demand management.

6.2.2.4 PAST FIVE YEARS GROUNDWATER PUMPING

Table 6-1 Hollister Retail, Table 6-1 Sunnyslope Retail, and Table 6-1 SJB Retail show the historical pumping of Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB respectively. In general, municipal pumping in the area has decreased over time due to increased treatment and use of imported water and water conservation measures (**Figure 6-5**). Average municipal pumping has declined as CVP treatment capacity has increased.

From 1996 to 2002 (before Lessalt WTP came online) pumping averaged 6,563 AFY. From 2003 to 2016 (with only Lessalt WTP online), pumping averaged 4,580 AFY. Average pumping from 2020 to 2025 is around 2,900 AFY, two thirds of the total pumping pre-CVP imports.

The groundwater basin is a shared resource, and other users (mainly agricultural) rely on groundwater supplies from the same MAs. For the SGMA Annual Report water balance, total current pumping in the Hollister MA is estimated to be around 47,700 AFY (2,500 AFY for M&I uses and 45,000 AFY for Agricultural uses). Municipal pumping has represented up to 15 percent of total pumping in the Hollister MA during the recovery period 1989-2014, reflecting the available CVP deliveries for agricultural users but limited CVP treatment capacity for M&I users. Locations of municipal wells in the SBUA are shown on **Figure 6-6**.

2025 ACTUAL USE OF SUPPLY

In 2025, the pumping for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB totaled 2,230 AFY. Hollister and Sunnyslope each pumped about 45 percent, while SJB pumped about 10 percent of the total groundwater used. The interties that connect Hollister and Sunnyslope allow groundwater pumped from either retailer to flow to each other. These two retailers use this connection to ensure that groundwater and CVP water are delivered efficiently to SBUA customers.

WATER YEAR TYPES

Groundwater use varies with water year type but is managed for long-term sustainability. In dry years (drought), the groundwater aquifer serves as an important storage reserve and the use of groundwater increases as CVP imports decrease. In wet years with available imported water supply and increased artificial and natural recharge, groundwater in storage increases.

PROJECTIONS

Groundwater is expected to make up the difference between total SBUA demand and CVP deliveries. While CVP deliveries are preferred due to better water quality, the allocations are limited especially during drought. Groundwater will be used to make up for any decreased allocations during drought and any increase in growth above the CVP contracted volumes.

6.2.3 SURFACE WATER

While local surface water is not directly used for water supply, it is used as a source of managed recharge to the groundwater aquifer. In most years, local surface water released from the District's Hernandez and Paicines Reservoirs is percolated along the San Benito River and Tres Pinos Creek. Releases of local surface water have been limited typically to percolation upstream of the confluence of San Benito River and Tres Pinos Creek. This has helped maintain groundwater levels without causing shallow groundwater problems and competing for available storage space with the City of Hollister wastewater percolation ponds.

In Water Year 2025, Paicines and Hernandez releases were 355 AFY and 5,394 AFY respectively, representing average hydrologic conditions.

2025 ACTUAL USE OF SUPPLY

There was no direct use of surface water in 2025.

WATER YEAR TYPES

While the volume of releases from the reservoirs, and therefore the recharge to the groundwater basin, varies based on water year conditions, there is no direct use of surface water.

PROJECTIONS

Reservoir releases and the corresponding recharge are expected to remain similar to historical conditions. There is no projected direct use of surface water.

6.2.4. STORM WATER

Currently, storm water is not diverted for direct beneficial use. However, while some stormwater runs off to the San Benito River, a portion of stormwater runoff enters the City of Hollister's storm water system and treated in the wastewater industrial plant prior to discharge to ponds. The collected storm water serves to increase the volume recharged in the disposal ponds and improves the discharge water quality. Hollister has developed a stormwater plan, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) were approved in late 2024 as part of the General Plan update to ensure storm water does not pose a threat to surface water quality and is properly routed through the City of Hollister.

6.2.5 WASTEWATER AND RECYCLED WATER OPPORTUNITIES

This section presents a summary of SBUA wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal; current and projected recycled water use; programs to encourage recycled water use; and the SBUA plan for optimizing recycled water use.

6.2.5.1 RECYCLED WATER COORDINATION

In 2004, the City of Hollister, the County, and the District executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) forming a partnership to undertake the development of the Master Plan for the SBUA. The MOU was amended in 2008 to include Sunnyslope. A new MOU with Hollister was completed in 2014 that allowed the District to receive recycled water from the Hollister wastewater treatment plant and make it available to agricultural customers in the area. These parties have undertaken a coordinated effort to plan water supply and wastewater strategies for the SBUA. These strategies include the collection and treatment of wastewater as well as disposal and recycled use, as appropriate.

Planning for recycled water use has included the preparation of a Recycled Water Feasibility Study prepared by the District in 2005 (RMC 2005) and a subsequent Recycled Water Feasibility Study Update prepared jointly by the District and Hollister (HDR 2008b). The Long Term Wastewater Master Plans (LTWWMPs) were prepared respectively by Hollister and Sunnyslope, and the Master Plan was prepared jointly by Hollister, Sunnyslope, and the District (HDR 2008a). The Master Plan was updated in 2023 with full integration of SJB (HDR 2023).

Recycled water is currently being used for irrigation at one site within the SBUA. While there are no detailed plans to increase recycled water use in the SBUA, additional recycled water is supplied to areas outside of the SBUA for agricultural irrigation (Todd 2020). Increasing recycled water supplies could reduce groundwater pumping in the area, increasing available groundwater supplies for other parties, including the SBUA retailers.

Recycled water is currently available and will become more widely available in the near term. However, neither increased municipal non-potable use nor potable reuse opportunities are targeted currently for implementation because agricultural use is a higher priority.

6.2.5.2 WASTEWATER COLLECTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL

As indicated on **Table 6-2 R,** five wastewater treatment plants treat the domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater flows generated within the SBUA (**Figure 6-7**). The existing wastewater facilities are owned by two separate agencies: Hollister and Sunnyslope. San Benito County operated Cielo Vista Estates Wastewater Treatment Plant until 2024 when it was decommissioned and replaced with a connection to the Hollister system. SJB historically operated a wastewater facility but, as of mid-2026, is in the final stages of a major wastewater project, which connects SJB sewage to the Hollister Domestic Water Reclamation Facility. The facility descriptions are included below, organized by agency.

Current wastewater collection and treatment volumes for each of the treatment plants are presented on **Table 6-3 R**. The Hollister Water Reclamation Facility treated 3,425 AF of wastewater in water year 2025. While most of the treated wastewater was discharged to percolation ponds, 80 AFY of recycled water was used for urban irrigation.

City of Hollister Wastewater Facilities

Hollister owns and operates two wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs); the domestic wastewater treatment plant/water reclamation facility (DWWTP/WRF) and the industrial wastewater treatment plant (IWWTP). The DWWTP/WRF, located on the western edge of the SBUA (**Figure 6-7**), was built in 1979 to treat Hollister's domestic wastewater. The IWWTP (located west of downtown Hollister) treats seasonal industrial wastewater and storm water from the downtown area. The City of Hollister's collection system consists of gravity pipelines and force mains ranging from 4- to 36-inches in diameter.

The Hollister DWWTP/WRF began operating in March 1980, was renovated in 1987 to increase capacity, improved in 2002 and 2003 to improve treatment efficiency, and upgraded in 2009 to include the WRF and improve treatment to tertiary levels. Construction of distribution systems connecting to the City of

Hollister Reclamation facility has begun. This system will increase the use of recycled water in the District. Recycled water will augment supply to agricultural users in the Hollister subbasin area. The DWWTP/WRF receives wastewater flow from all municipal and most industrial customers within Hollister City limits, including portions of the Sunnyslope service area, and, as of 2026, receives wastewater from SJB. The system treats water to disinfected tertiary recycled water standards through the use of a Membrane Bioreactor (MBR).

The DWWTP/WRF is currently capable of treating up to 4 MGD and the current dry weather average flow is approximately 3 MGD. The DWWTP/WRF can be expanded to accommodate peak flows of 5 MGD through the installation of additional membranes, when required by additional development.

The Hollister IWWTP began operating in 1971 and is located on 78 acres less than a mile east of the DWWTP/WRF (**Figure 6-7**). The facility was constructed to treat effluent from local tomato canneries and also treats storm water. Only one of the canneries, San Benito Foods, is currently in operation, from mid-June through mid-October. The IWWTP is a conventional aerated pond treatment system that produces secondary-treated discharge. The capacity of the IWWTP has been estimated to be as high as 7.5 MGD; however, the current RWQCB permit limits flows to 3.5 MGD during the canning season and 1.72 MGD of storm water during the non-canning season (HDR 2008a). The secondary effluent from the IWWTP is discharged to evaporation and percolation ponds, which recharge Hollister and San Juan area groundwater (RMC 2005). The number of industrial dischargers has significantly declined over the last 30 years and as of 2020, only one cannery discharged industrial wastewater to the IWTP (Wallace 2020).

Sunnyslope County Water District Wastewater Facilities

The domestic wastewater treatment plant serving the Ridgemark Estates community is managed by Sunnyslope. A new wastewater treatment plant was constructed in 2013 at the Ridgemark I facility (**Figure 6-7**). The new treatment plant is a sequential batch reactor facility with sludge handling facilities and four percolation ponds that can treat 330,000 gallons per day. In water year 2025, the total treated wastewater was 188 acre feet or approximately 168,000 gallons per day (Todd 2025). The previous Ridgemark II facility was converted to a pump station to pump wastewater to the new Ridgemark I treatment plant. At the Ridgemark II site, the treatment ponds and disposal ponds will remain as a backup facilities owned by Sunnyslope.

Sunnyslope has no plans to provide recycled water for irrigation in the next five years. In the past, Sunnyslope had considered providing recycled water for Ridgemark Golf Course, but this would require significant additional upgrades to its WWTP.

City of San Juan Bautista Wastewater Facilities

The City of San Juan Bautista has historically provided wastewater collection services to more than 900 residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional accounts. SJB owns and operates a wastewater collection system that consists of approximately 9.3 miles of gravity trunks and force mains and five lift stations, which has conveyed the flow to the San Juan Bautista Wastewater Treatment Plant (SJBWWTP). The SJBWWTP is currently non-operational and SJB now conveys wastewater flow to the Hollister

DWWTP/WRF. As background, the SJB WWTP is a tertiary treatment facility that includes a mechanical screen and influent pump station, sequencing batch reactor pond (SBR), flow equalization tanks, a denitrification pond pressure sand filters, and ultraviolet (UV) disinfection. Sludge is stored in lagoons, and wastewater was discharged to San Juan Creek, effectively leaving the North San Benito Basin. The original plant was a facultative pond plant. The last major improvement project, in 2010, upgraded Pond 1 to an aerated pond that functions as SBRs and split Pond 2 into three cells, which include the polishing pond and two sludge storage lagoons. The 2010 upgrade project also added a mechanical basket screen, a new dual media pressure filtration system, and UV disinfection system. In 2018, SJB removed 30-years of accumulated sludge from Pond 2, to accommodate continued operation of the treatment plant. The tertiary treatment facility is only designed to handle 0.2 MGD, while there is some buffering capacity available in the SBR (1.6 MG), the available volume has not been enough to equalize the excess daily flow during peak flow conditions. Despite past upgrades, the facility has experienced operational constraints associated with its aging infrastructure and inherent limitations of lagoon-based treatment systems, particularly with respect to regulatory compliance reliability and long-term performance.

To address long-term wastewater management needs and water quality compliance, the City of San Juan Bautista Regional Water and Wastewater Solution was established. As described in the GSP, the Regional Solution involves importing high quality water from the West Hills WTP to San Juan Bautista, replacing groundwater use, removing residential self-generating water softeners, reducing industrial salt loading to SJB wastewater, and then conveying San Juan Bautista wastewater to the City of Hollister DWWTP/WRF. The Regional Solution is part of the 2023 Master Plan process. The design for the San Juan Bautista Pipeline construction is underway, and water deliveries may start within the next two to three years. As of 2026, the Regional Solution has completed the wastewater pipeline project to connect SJB sewage to the DWWTP/WRF. This project has been supported by roughly $12.5 million in USDA funding (grants and loans) to replace failing infrastructure. The project ends SJB's requirement to operate its own treatment facility.

SJB does not currently provide recycled water, and future wastewater planning is focused on regional conveyance and treatment rather than expansion or modernization of local treatment or recycled water reuse infrastructure.

Other Wastewater Facilities

Wastewater treatment within the SBUA by parties other than the three municipal water purveyors is limited to the Cielo Vista Estates, operated by San Benito County, and private residential septic systems.

Cielo Vista Estates is a residential development within Sunnyslope's service area and includes approximately 75 single-family homes located at the intersection of Airline Highway and Fairview Road. Previously, the wastewater from the community was treated by a Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) system operated by San Benito County. The system was closed in 2024 and the community is now connected to the Hollister WWTP.

Some private residences within the SBUA are still serviced by individual septic systems. No estimate has been made of the quantity of wastewater generated from these onsite wastewater systems.

6.2.5.3 RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The wastewater treatment facilities within the SBUA utilize a number of treatment methods, which result in varying effluent quality, as described above. Current requirements for recycled water use are administered by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, referred to hereafter as Title 22. The Hollister DWWTP/WRF has the capacity to meet the requirements for disinfected tertiary recycled water as defined by Title 22. The remaining wastewater treatment facilities produce effluent that meets the Title 22 requirements for undisinfected secondary recycled water. However, the effluent streams from all of the treatment facilities have high levels of TDS, which may preclude local reuse on orchards and vineyards or non-food bearing trees. The parties to the MOU have committed to reducing these high concentrations by reducing the TDS of supplied water as part of the Master Plan (HDR 2023). The Hollister DWWTP/WRF currently treats all wastewater flows to tertiary standards, but only disinfects what is used offsite for landscape irrigation.

As previously noted, the other wastewater treatment facilities (Ridgemark WWTP and SJB WWTP) produce undisinfected secondary effluent, with disposal through evaporation and/or percolation.

The current and anticipated future quantities of wastewater treated to recycled water standards are presented in **Table 6-4 Hollister Retail, Table 6-4 Sunnyslope Retail, Table 6-4 SJB Retail, and 6-4 W.** Recycled water will be available from only Hollister's domestic wastewater treatment plant/water reclamation facility (DWWTP/WRF). There are no plans to provide recycled water from other facilities.

6.2.5.4 CURRENT, POTENTIAL, AND PROJECTED RECYCLED WATER USES

CURRENT USES

Offsite reuse of recycled water from the DWWTP/WRF takes place at Riverside Park (formerly known as the Brigantino Site) and previously occurred at the airport. Irrigation began in a limited capacity in 2009 and increased in 2010. In 2025, 80 AF of recycled water was delivered to Brigantino Park, while no recycled water was delivered to the airport site. The remaining treated wastewater from the DWWTP/WRF is currently disposed of by evaporation and percolation. The DWWTP/WRF will increase the quantity of disinfected tertiary recycled water that it produces as demand for recycled water increases, in accordance with the Master Plan. In Water Year 2025, an additional 406 AFY of recycled water was delivered to agricultural customers outside of the SBUA.

PLANNED VERSUS ACTUAL USE OF RECYCLED WATER

In the 2020 UWMP, recycled water use in the SBUA was projected to remain steady at 100 AFY by 2025. The actual recycled water use in 2025 was 80 AF. In **Table 6-5 Hollister Retail, Table 6-5 Sunnyslope Retail, and Table 6-5 SJB Retail** the projected recycled water use from the 2020 UWMP is compared to the 2025 actual use. The volume of landscape irrigation is about the same, as recycled water has been prioritized for agricultural use outside of the SBUA. Sunnyslope nor SJB have plans to pursue recycled water as a supply source.

FUTURE USES

Potential Recycled Water Uses

Water recycling began with municipal irrigation but has shifted focus to provide recycled water to agricultural users beyond the SBUA. The system was expanded in 2014, including infrastructure and treatment capability to improve water quality for the purpose of agricultural irrigation. The system was further improved in 2015 when SBCWD (at a cost of about $1,000,000) installed 1.65 miles of additional distribution system piping and 30 metered delivery points to provide water for agricultural customers. In 2016, the Recycled Water Storage Pond was installed in "Pond 2" at the Domestic Waste Reclamation Facility (DWRF) to improve distribution system water quality and to help equalize recycled water production with irrigation demand.

Projected Recycled Water Use

In 2019, the District installed a series of sand media filters upstream of the Recycled Water Distribution System to improve water quality and allow agricultural customers to use drip irrigation and minimize backwash waste. These upgrades to the Recycled Water Storage Pond and distribution system cost approximately $1,500,000. Recycled water currently is provided to approximately 865 acres for agricultural production and landscape irrigation. Currently, these agricultural customers rely on additional CVP imports and groundwater pumping. If more irrigation demands are met by recycled water, groundwater pumping in the area could be reduced, increasing the available groundwater supply for the SBUA retailers.

There are no plans to expand recycled water use for municipal users. This is documented as the absence of entries on **Tables 6-6 Hollister Retail, 6-6 Sunnyslope Retail, and 6-6 SJB Retail**.

6.2.5.5 ACTIONS TO ENCOURAGE AND OPTIMIZE FUTURE RECYCLED WATER USE

There are no current plans to increase recycled water use in the SBUA. Accordingly, no implementation strategies are listed on **Table 6-6 Hollister Retail, Table 6-6 Sunnyslope Retail, Table 6-6 SJB Retail, Table 6-7 Hollister Retail, Table 6-7 Sunnyslope Retail,** nor **Table 6-7 SJB Retail**. The District plans to distribute the recycled water produced by Hollister's WWTP for agricultural users outside the SBUA. Sunnyslope or SJB may pursue recycled water in the future but have no plans in place.

6.2.6 DESALINATION WATER OPPORTUNITIES

The 2023 Master Plan examined demineralization from municipal wells as a potential project to increase water supply reliability and improve water quality. Individual wellhead treatment was considered. The treated groundwater would be blended with the existing CVP and remaining groundwater supplies in the distribution system. The demineralization facilities would have a design capacity of 6,000 AFY and would produce an annual average supply of approximately 3,000 AFY. There are currently no plans to begin this project.

The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB are not considering desalination from ocean water or brackish surface water at this time because of a lack of such water sources in the region.

6.2.7 EXCHANGES OR TRANSFERS

Through its CVP contract, the District has the capability to engage in transfer or exchange with other CVP customers.

6.2.7.1 EXCHANGES

The District is the CVP wholesaler to agricultural and M&I users in addition to Hollister and Sunnyslope. During the next water shortage, Hollister and Sunnyslope may be eligible to purchase additional water that the District has obtained from its water transfers with other CVP customers, has purchased on the spot market, and has banked at the Semitropic water bank. The amount of available water would be variable, based on the District's overall water needs. Potential short-term water agreements are expected to include 1,000 AFY from North Delta contract holders and an additional 250 AFY from exchange contractors in non-critical years.

Currently, the District has no municipal supply stored with Semitropic.

6.2.7.2 TRANSFERS

Over the past decade, the District has had an ongoing practice of purchasing out-of-basin water supplies to supplement its imported CVP supplies. These purchases have totaled 13,550 AF over the period. Purchases are made, when available and cost-effective, from a variety of sources including irrigation districts north of the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta, the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors, and other sources. These purchases range from single-year (spot market) purchases to multi-year agreements (typically up to 5 years).

6.2.7.3 EMERGENCY INTERTIES

Hollister and Sunnyslope share a connected water system and in an emergency, water can flow from one retailer to the other as needed.

To meet future demands and to secure more-reliable and higher-quality water, a transmission pipeline and associated facilities are in the design process to connect SJB's distribution system to the District's West Hills WTP. The San Juan Bautista Pipeline will form the infrastructure backbone for delivering high-quality surface water from the West Hills WTP to SJB to improve water quality in the distribution system. The pipeline is a 10-inch-diameter, gravity-fed, treated water transmission pipeline that will extend approximately 6.75 miles from the West Hills WTP to SJB's distribution system, where it will connect near Well No. 6. The design for the San Juan Bautista Pipeline construction is underway, and water deliveries may start within the next two to three years.

6.2.8 SUPPLY FROM STORAGE

Both the ASR and B.F. Sisk Dam Raise projects (more information in Section 6.2.10) will improve the reliability of the existing CVP water by providing opportunities for long-term storage of excess CVP water during wet years. That water would then be available during dry years, when CVP allocations are curtailed.

6.2.9 OTHER SUPPLIES

There are currently no other water supplies being used by Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, nor the District.

6.2.10 FUTURE WATER PROJECTS

As listed on **Table 6-7**, several future projects and programs could increase the reliability of the SBUA water supply. These projects all reflect the basin-wide partnership between Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District. Additional information is provided in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the North San Benito Basin (Todd, 2021) and the 2023 Master Plan.

INCREASE GROUNDWATER WELL PRODUCTION CAPACITY

A major project has been termed the North County Project. It involves development of production well capacity in the northeastern portion of the North San Benito Basin to actively manage groundwater storage, to increase municipal water supply and drought year reliability, and to improve municipal water quality for the City of Hollister. The "North County" area has been defined mostly on the basis of relatively low concentrations of total dissolved solids (TDS) in groundwater. The effort is being led by the District in cooperation with the City of Hollister. The long-term goal of the project is to develop up to 5,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of local water supply that is reliable during droughts. Phase I consists of siting, design, and installation of a new production well to serve the northern City of Hollister, beginning with a test well installed in 2021.

Test wells drilled in March 2021 as part of the North County Project were added to the North San Benito GSP groundwater level and quality monitoring program. Information about the wells (including ground surface elevation, screened intervals, and baseline conditions) is currently being collected.

In addition, SJB is considering a potential water treatment project associated with its Well #6. This treatment could allow increased groundwater production capacity. While the timing of that project remains uncertain and dependent on funding and implementation capacity, it represents an important long-term consideration for the City of San Juan Bautista.

DEVELOP SURFACE WATER STORAGE

The B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project includes bolstering the footings and raising the dam that creates San Luis Reservoir. This project, which is being developed by USBR and DWR, is intended to

reduce seismic risk. A subsequent phase of the project is being developed to increase water storage capability in the Reservoir. The District diverts its CVP allocations from San Luis Reservoir. Additional storage would increase the capacity for carryover storage of surface water allocations in years when excess water is available, for increased flexibility to use the entire CVP allocation. All phases of construction are scheduled for completion in 2037.

The Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project was a collaborative effort of Valley Water, San Benito County Water District, and Pacheco Pass Water District (PPWD) and included in the 2020 UWMP and GSP. However, the project is no longer moving forward. On August 26, 2025, Valley Water's Board directed staff to cease work on the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, withdraw its grant application, and wind the project down. Valley Water's decision was made for three main reasons: 1) USBR determined that it would not allow for the storage of CVP water in the expanded reservoir, 2) most recent cost estimate had escalated to $3.2B, 3) inability to identify and secure additional project partners. On January 30, 2026 Valley Water notified SBCWD that it was formally terminating the 2018 MOU governing development of the project.

EXPAND MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE (MAR)

A MAR study was conducted and completed in water year 2022. The District has planned a MAR project using injection wells, specifically Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and has begun implementation. The entire ASR project is planned to provide for injection and storage of up to 6,000 AFY of treated CVP water in wet years with recovery of up to 6,000 AFY of stored water in dry years.

This first phase, the accelerated drought response project (ADRoP), consists of up to five ASR wells, expansion of the West Hills WTP, and construction of pipelines to convey injection and recovery water between the five ASR wells, West Hills WTP, and the Hollister Distribution System.

In 2022 and 2023, the District successfully applied for and was awarded three individual grants to assist In funding ADRoP. These grants included DWR SGMA Implementation and Integrated Water Resource Management grants and a USBR small storage grant. In 2024, the District conducted environmental review of the project, Identified and negotiated locations for key project components, and developed final designs and specifications for construction of ADRoP infrastructure. In water year 2025, the District made significant progress on ADRoP. This included continued West Hills WTP expansion construction, finalization of property acquisition and state and federal environmental assessment and planning, and significant construction. The District successfully completed design work for all the wells, transmission infrastructure, and other facilities early in 2025.

Well drilling began in August 2025 and pipeline and other facility construction started shortly thereafter. As of the end of the water year, four ASR wells have been constructed, and aquifer testing was underway. A significant portion of the pipeline and other construction work was also completed in Water Year 2025. The District anticipates completion of currently planned ADRoP construction work in Water Year 2026, including well testing, well equipping, site improvement, pipeline construction, etc.

ENHANCE CONJUNCTIVE USE

Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District are engaged in several conjunctive use projects including the GSP, UWMP and AWMP, the SBUA Water and Wastewater Master Plan, and the WRA. These ongoing collaborative efforts represent the commitment to providing stable and secure water supply to the region.

The 2022 GSP for the North San Benito Basin provides the basic information, analytical tools, and projects and management actions for continued groundwater management, guided by SGMA and by locally defined sustainability goals, objectives, and metrics.

The UWMP and AWMP provide detailed information on the current and future water supply and demand in normal and drought conditions.

The Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Planning Project (Master Plan) has been implemented since 2008 (now called the San Benito Urban Areas Water and Wastewater Master Plan) and it continues as an active planning process for the foreseeable future. Relative to groundwater sustainability, the Master Plan provides for conjunctive use of CVP supply, groundwater, wastewater, and recycled water. While CVP supply is sourced from beyond GSA jurisdictions and is not always reliable (see Plan Area section 2.1.2), the groundwater, wastewater, and recycled water are local sources and the conjunctive use planning increases reliability.

Water conservation efforts in San Benito County are conducted through the Water Resources Association (WRA). WRA is a cooperative effort among the District, City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, and Sunnyslope County Water District. The WRA provides outreach and education, as well as rebate programs to help promote water conservation.

CONTINUE/ENHANCE WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The District will continue to implement projects that will improve groundwater quality. These projects include implementing the Salt Nutrient Management Plan, which involves: collaborating with UC Davis toward reduced nitrate and salt loading by agriculture, supporting farmers in use of remote sensing to optimize fertilizer applications, enhancing cooperation with the County and local agencies on regulation of water softeners and onsite wastewater treatment systems, and enhancing outreach to North San Benito County stakeholders (including disadvantaged communities) on groundwater quality issues.

IMPROVE MONITORING PROGRAM

Water resource monitoring is described in the GSP and addresses surface water, groundwater levels and storage, and groundwater quality among other topics. This monitoring supports informed basin management and documents GSP performance in maintaining sustainability. The GSP Section 8 identifies recommended monitoring improvements, including:

- Investigation for Measurement of Agricultural Groundwater Extraction
- Assessment of Monitored Well Sites to Refine Network
- Documentation of Well Construction in the Plan Area

- Development of a Unique Well ID Program
- Enhancement of Surface Water Gaging
- Collaboration with State/Federal agencies for stream gages (Upper Tres Pinos)

These improvements are described in more detail in the GSP. Combined with the District's existing groundwater management, these programs will allow the SBUA to continue to rely on the groundwater basin especially during drought.

6.3 ENERGY USE

As a new requirement in 2020, suppliers must calculate the energy intensity of their water service. While the agencies have tracked their energy use in recent years, they have not systematically recorded energy uses from conveyance, storage, pumping, treatment, and distribution. **Table 6-A** below lists the possible uses of energy in the SBUA system. Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District have all provided their available energy consumption. Sunnyslope's estimate includes both pumping and distribution for a period of six month, whereas Hollister tracks only energy for pumping. To account for distribution, it is assumed that total energy costs for groundwater are similar in Sunnyslope and Hollister and that energy use can be extrapolated from the six month period to one year.

SBCWD tracks energy use at each part of the water system from the turnouts, storage operations, pump stations, and treatment plants.

Table 6-10 (UWMP Table O-1a) summarizes the energy data. As shown, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB use energy to extract and divert water and SBCWD uses energy for storage, conveyance, and treatment. To simplify the accounting, the process of Distribution in **Table 6-10** only includes distribution for CVP water whereas the processes of Extract and Divert include distribution for groundwater. The value for Volume of Water Entering is defined as the volume of water sources before losses. It should be noted that the CVP energy use for storage, conveyance, and distribution also includes water for agriculture uses that are not accounted for in the volume of water entering the process. Additional upstream energy to convey CVP water to the basin is not included in the total energy used.

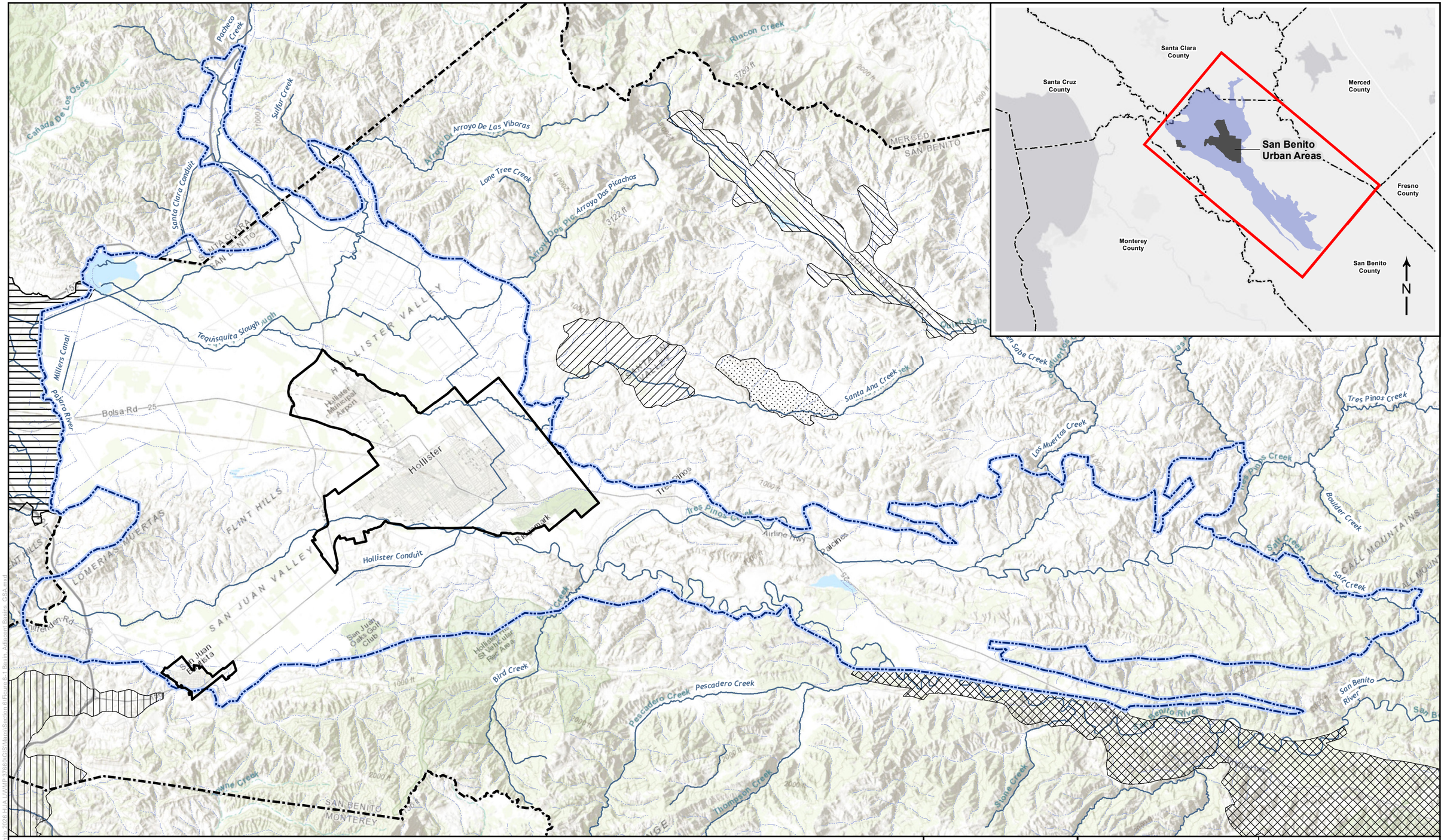
The energy intensity of the system is the total energy use divided by the volume of water in the system (kWh/AF). For the CVP system, the energy intensity is approximately 488 kWh/AF and the groundwater system energy intensity is approximately 838 kWh/AF. In 2025, the groundwater system supplied 33 percent of the water and used 45 percent of the total energy of the system, similar to the energy use documented in the 2020 UWMP.

While the energy data used in this analysis are approximate, the energy intensity of the systems can be applied to evaluation of potential water management projects. The three agencies will continue to monitor and collect data on the energy use of the system.

Table 6-A. Components of Energy Use for Water Supply in the San Benito Urban Area

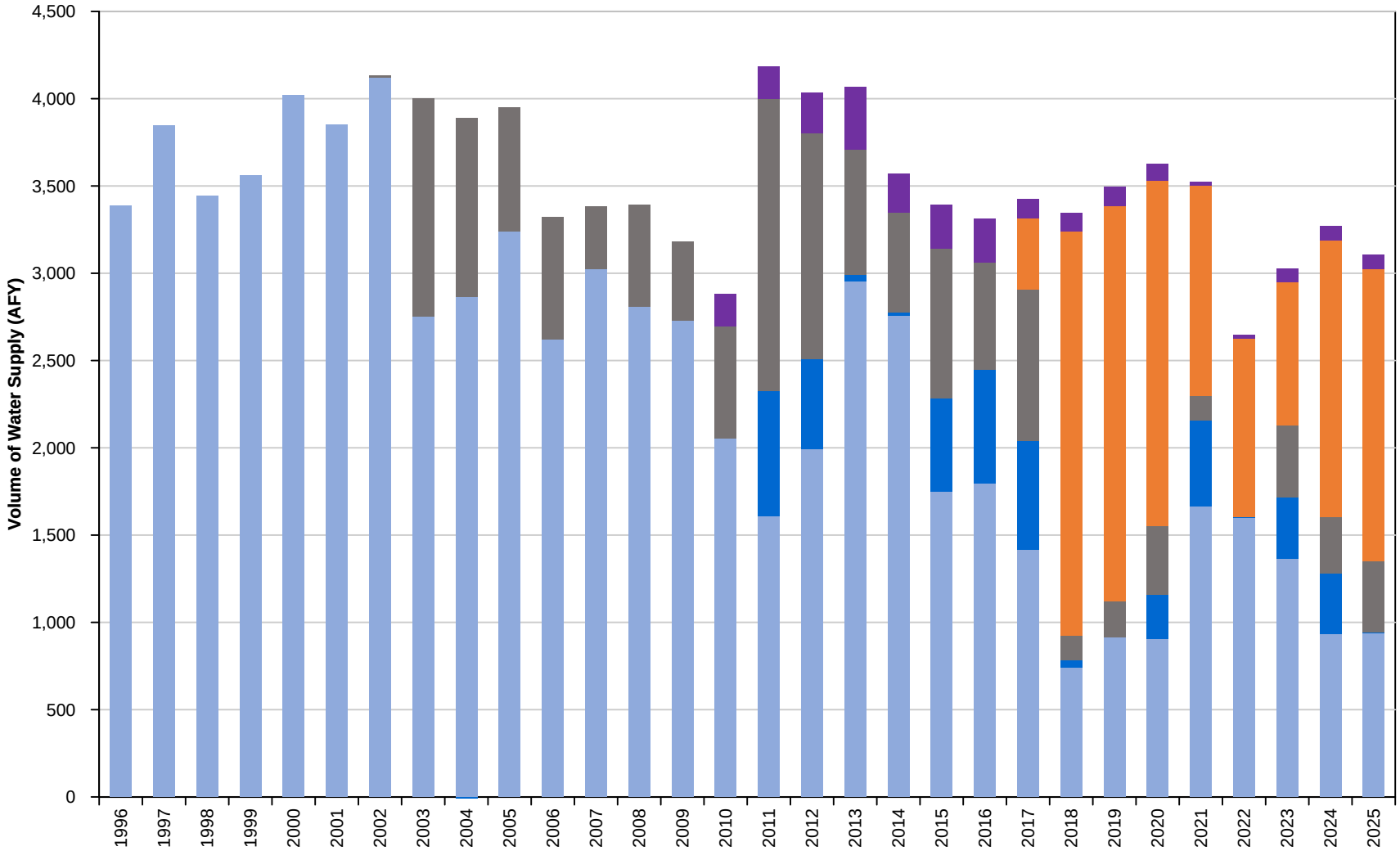
Component	Process	Agency
Groundwater		
Groundwater Wells	Extract and Divert	SSCWD, COH, SJB
GW to customers	Distribution	SSCWD, COH, SJB
CVP Operations		
San Justo Operations	Place into Storage	SBCWD
CVP conveyance from San Felipe to San Justo	Conveyance	SBCWD
CVP conveyance to Treatment Plants	Conveyance	All
Treatment Plants		
West Hills Treatment Plant	Treatment	SSCWD, COH
Lessalt Treatment Plant	Treatment	SSCWD, COH
Treated water to customers	Distribution	SSCWD, COH
Recycled Water		
Treatment of recycled water	Treatment	COH
Recycled water to municipal customers	Distribution	COH

COH: City of Hollister, SSCWD: Sunnyslope County Water District, SJB: City of San Juan Bautista



San Benito Urban Areas
North San Benito Groundwater Basin
Llagas Area Subbasin of the Gilroy-Hollister Basin
Pajaro Valley Subbasin of the Corralitos Basin
Quien Sabe Valley Basin
Santa Ana Valley Basin
Upper Santa Ana Valley Basin
San Benito River Valley Basin

Figure 6-1
North San Benito Groundwater Basin

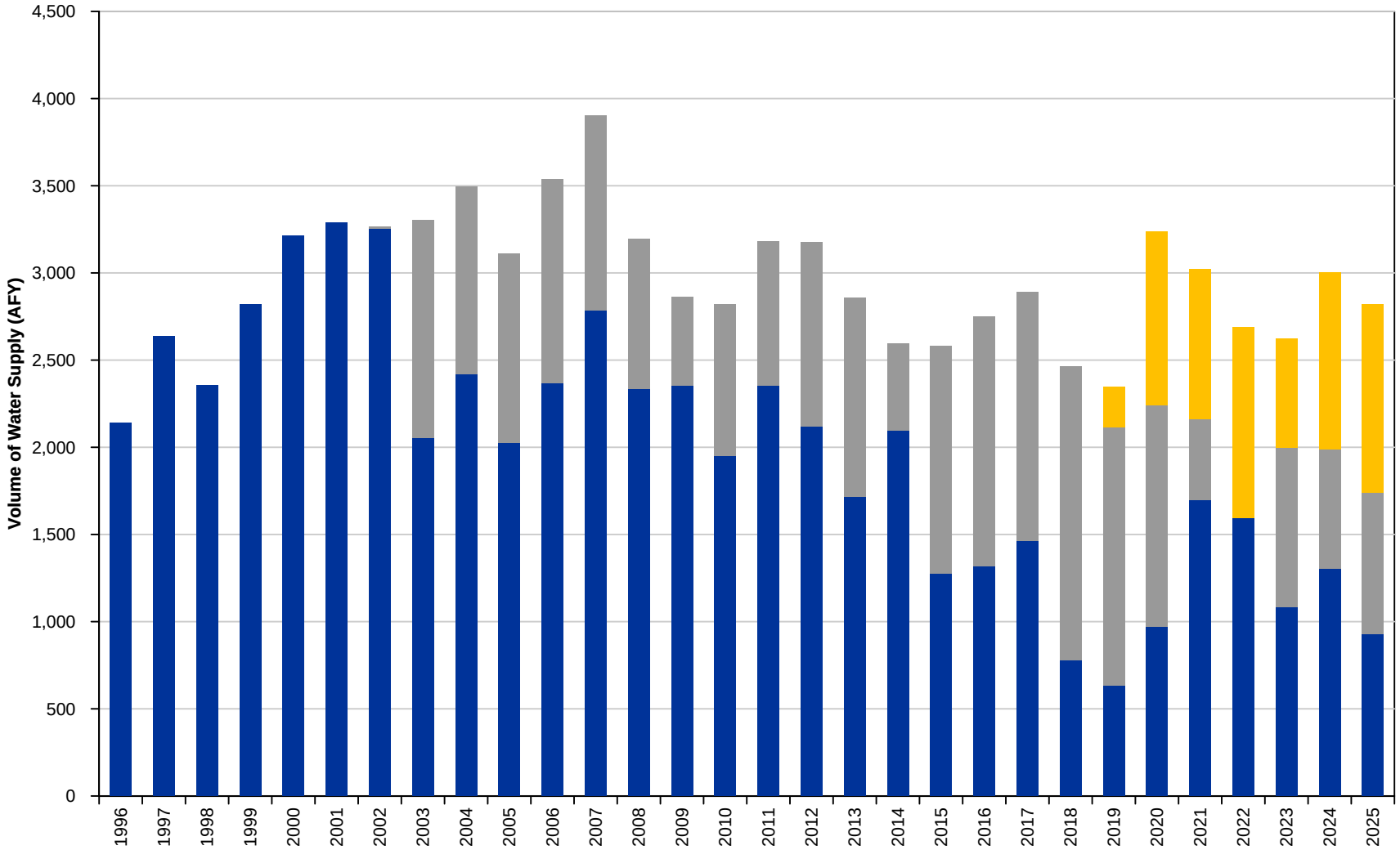


A. Hollister Wells
B. SSCWD Wells to COH
C. Hollister Lessalt1
D. Hollister West Hills
E. Recycled Water

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 6-2
Historical and Current Supply by Source Type - Hollister

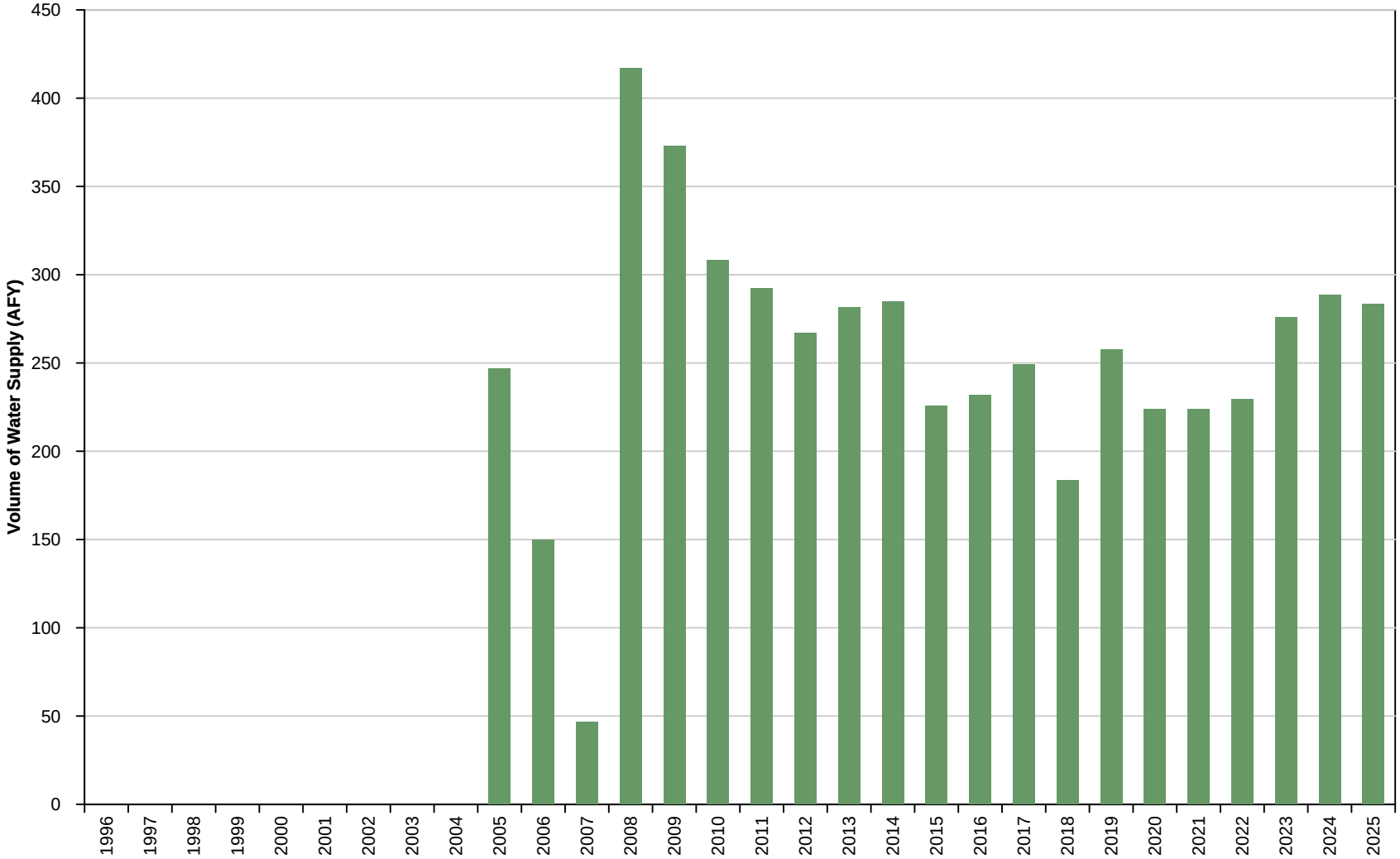


A. Sunnyslope Wells
B. Sunnyslope Lessalt
C. Sunnyslope West Wells

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 6-3
Historical and Current Supply by Source Type - Sunnyslope

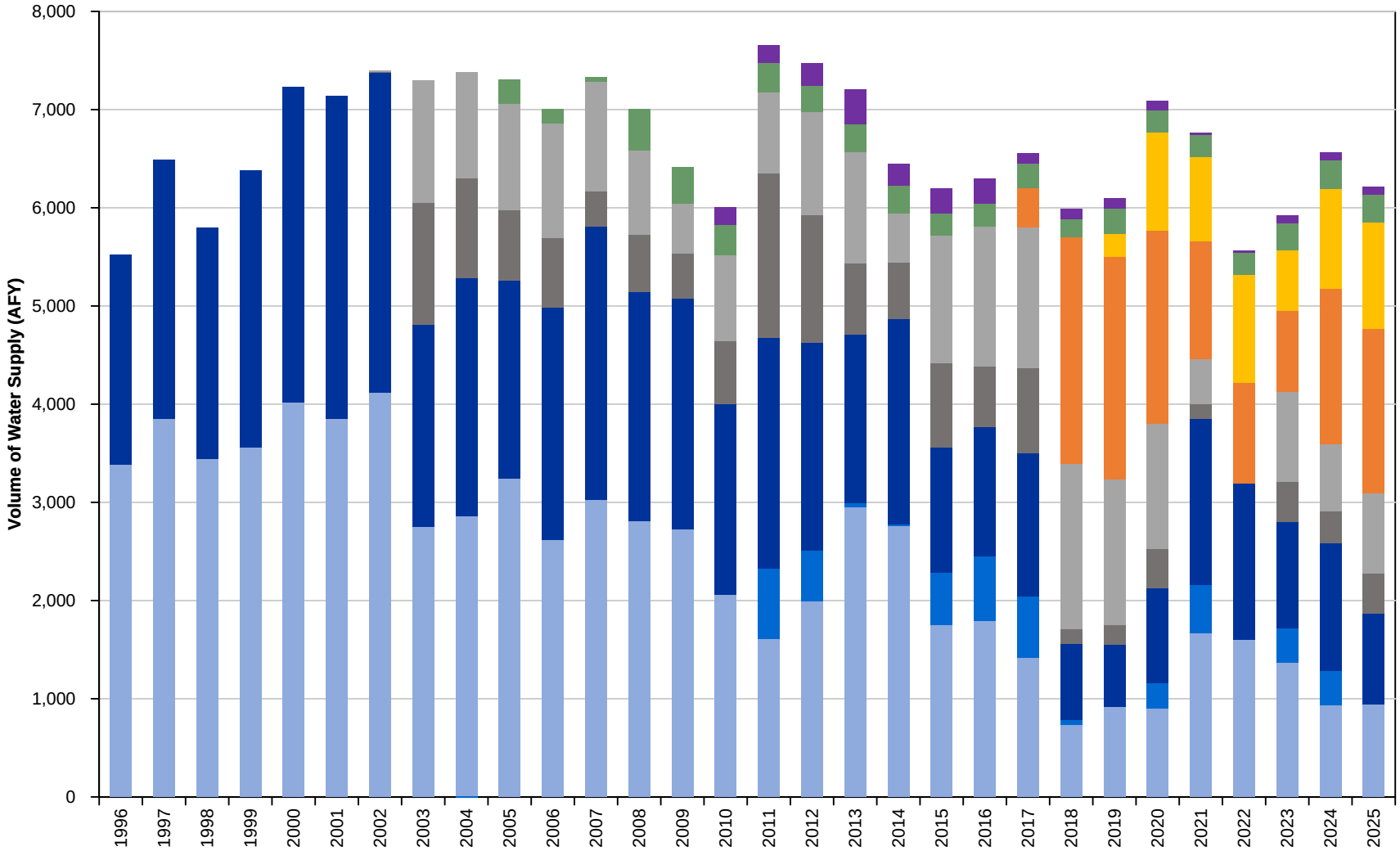


A. San Juan Bautista Wells

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 6-4
Historical and Current Supply by Source Type - San Juan Bautista



May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 6-5
Historical and Current Supply by Source Type - SBUA

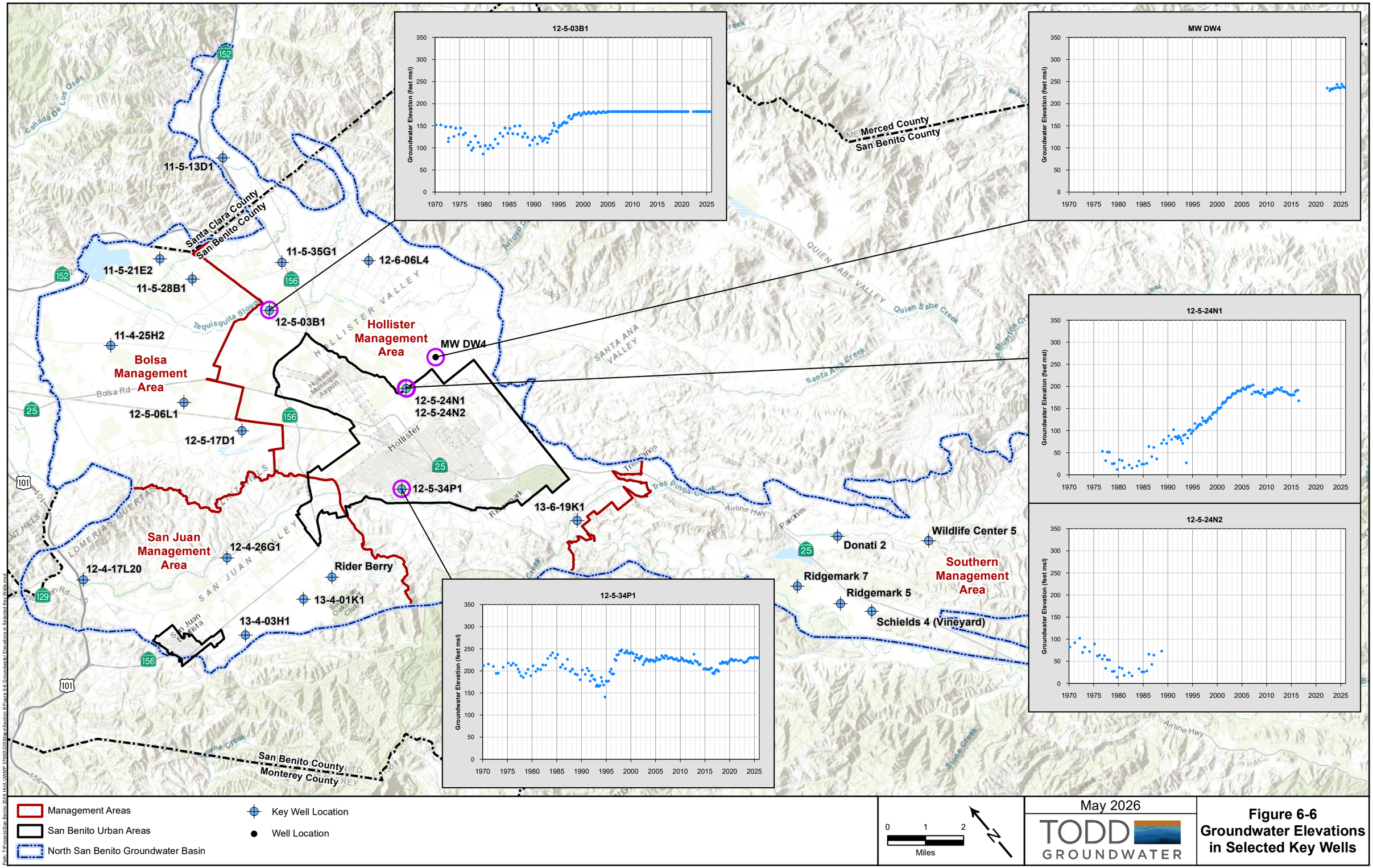
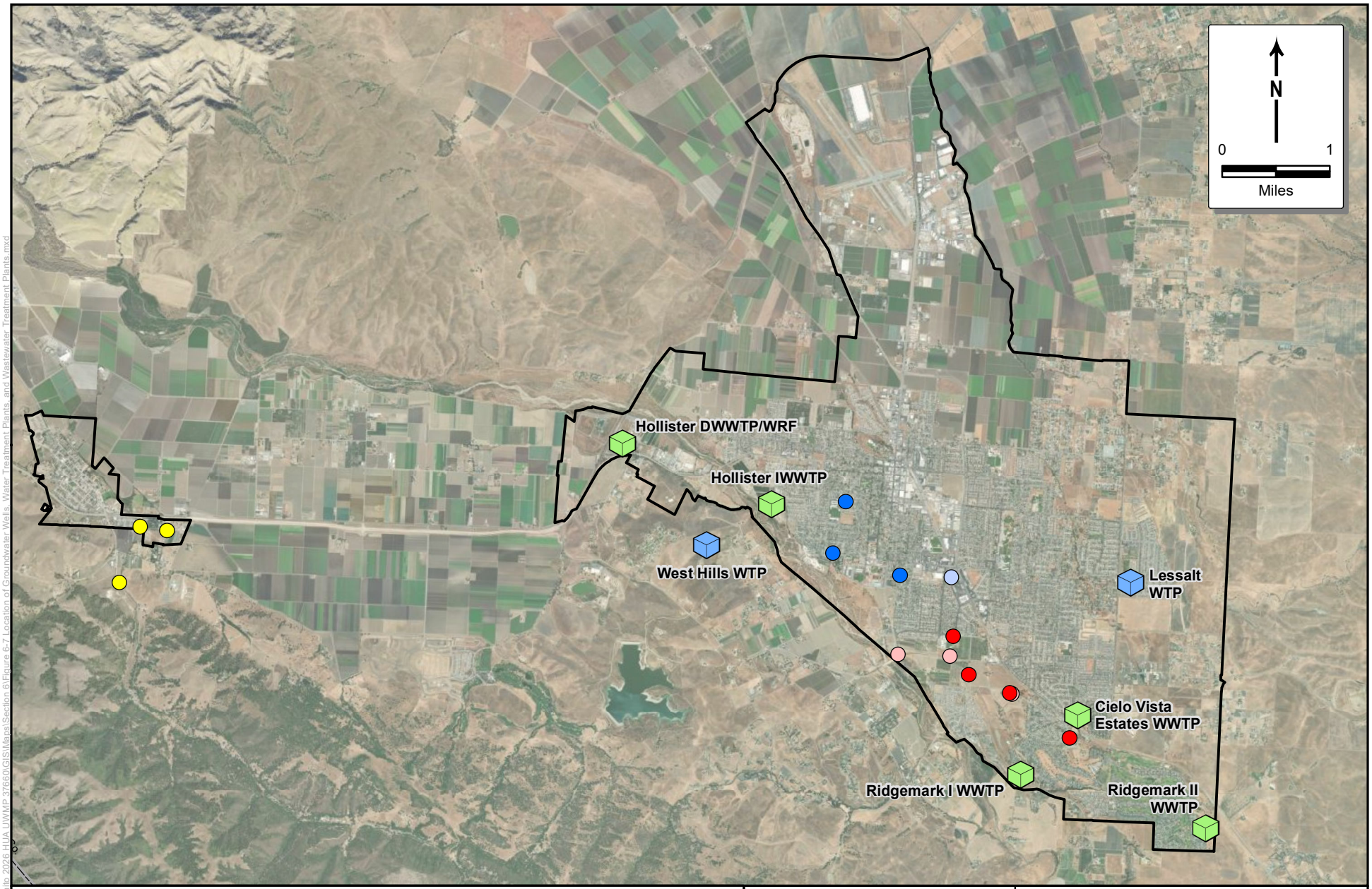


Figure 6-6
Groundwater Elevations in Selected Key Wells

Path: N:\Projects\San Benito 2024 HA\WMP 37666\GIS\Maps\Section 6\Figure 6-6 Groundwater Elevations in Selected Key Wells.mxd



May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 6-7
Location of Groundwater Wells, Water Treatment Plants, and Wastewater Treatment Plants

Path: T:\Projects\San Benito 2026 IUA UWMP 376600\GIS\Maps\Section 6\Figure 6-7 Location of Groundwater Wells, Water Treatment Plants, and Wastewater Treatment Plants.mxd

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped
Water Code Section 10631(4) and 10631(4)(c)

☐	Check the box if the Supplier does not pump groundwater. Proceed to the next table.
☐	Check the box if all or part of the groundwater described below is desalinated. (OPTIONAL)

Groundwater Type **Drop Down List** May use each category multiple times	Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) **Drop down list**	Location or Basin Name	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Add additional rows as needed							
Alluvial Basin	Potable	North San Benito	1,666.9	1,670.3	1,367.4	932.2	888.5
		Total	1,667	1,670	1,367	932	888

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: Hollister

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped
Water Code Section 10631(4) and 10631(4)(c)

☐	Check the box if the Supplier does not pump groundwater. Proceed to the next table.
☐	Check the box if all or part of the groundwater described below is desalinated. (OPTIONAL)

Groundwater Type **Drop Down List** May use each category multiple times	Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) **Drop down list**	Location or Basin Name	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Add additional rows as needed							
Alluvial Basin	Potable	North San Benito	1,698.5	1,926.4	1,084.4	1,304.8	1,059.0
		Total	1,699	1,926	1,084	1,305	1,059

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: Sunnyslope, includes groundwater pumped and delivered to Hollister

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped Water Code Section 10631(4) and 10631(4)(c)							
☐	Check the box if the Supplier does not pump groundwater. Proceed to the next table.						
☐	Check the box if all or part of the groundwater described below is desalinated. (OPTIONAL)						
Groundwater Type **Drop Down List** May use each category multiple times	Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) **Drop down list**	Location or Basin Name	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Add additional rows as needed							
Alluvial Basin	Potable	North San Benito	223.7	229.3	275.8	288.3	283.3
		Total	224	229	276	288	283
DWR NOTES: **Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG)** must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: SJB							

Submittal Table 6-1 Wholesale: Groundwater Volume Pumped							
☑	Check the box if the Supplier does not pump groundwater.						
☐	Check the box if all or part of the groundwater described below is desalinated. (OPTIONAL)						
Groundwater Type **Drop Down List** May use each category multiple times	Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Location or Basin Name	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Add additional rows as needed							
		Total	0	0	0	0	0
DWR NOTES:							
NOTES:							

Submittal Table 6-2 Retail: Wastewater Collected Within Service Area Water Code Section 10633(a)				
☐	Check the box if there is no wastewater collection system. Proceed to the next table.			
	Percentage of 2025 service area served by wastewater collection system (OPTIONAL)			
	Percentage of 2025 service area population served by wastewater collection system (OPTIONAL)			
Wastewater Collection			**Recipient of Collected Wastewater**	
Name of Wastewater Collection Agency	Wastewater Volume Metered or Estimated? OPTIONAL **Drop Down List**	Volume of Wastewater Collected from UWMP Service Area 2025	Name of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Place ID Number **Drop down list**	Is WWTP Located Within UWMP Area? **Drop Down List**
Add additional rows as needed				
City of Hollister	Metered	3,425	Hollister Domestic WWTP, Place ID 230555	Yes
Sunnyslope County Water District	Metered	188	Ridgemark Estates WWTP, Place ID 252700	Yes
City of San Juan Bautista	Metered	201	San Juan Bautista WWTP, Place ID 255337	Yes
Total Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area in 2025:		3,814		
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3. **Additional Guidance**: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.				
NOTES:				

Submittal Table 6-3 Retail: Wastewater Treatment and Outcomes Within UWMP Service Area
Water Code Section 10633(b)

☐ **Check the box if no wastewater is treated or disposed of within the UWMP service area.**
Proceed to the next table.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number **Drop down list**	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area? (OPTIONAL) **Drop down list**	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (As Reported in Submittal Table 6-2 R)	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated	**2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater**										
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area (enter data as applicable)		**Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area** (enter data as applicable)		**Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use** (enter data as applicable)		**Required Discharge for Instream Flow** (enter data as applicable)		**Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment** (enter data as applicable)		
				Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Name of other entity
Add additional rows as needed														
Hollister Domestic WWTP, Place ID 230555	No	3425	3,425	Tertiary	80	Tertiary	406	Tertiary	2939	Tertiary	0	Tertiary	0	NA
Ridgemark Estates WWTP, Place ID 252700	No	188	188	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	Secondary, Undisinfected	188	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	NA
San Juan Bautista WWTP, Place ID 255337	No	201	201	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	Secondary, Undisinfected	201	Secondary, Undisinfect	0	Secondary, Undisinfected	0	NA
	Total	3,814	3,814		80		406		3,328		0		0	

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
IPR: Indirect Potable Reuse would have the treatment level of its end use requirement in the Level of Treatment drop-down.
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 6-3 Wholesale: Wastewater Treatment and Discharge Within Service Area
Water Code Section 10633(b)

☑ Check the box if the Wholesale Supplier neither distributes nor provides supplemental treatment to recycled water. Proceed to the next table.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number **Drop down list**	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area? (OPTIONAL)	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater										
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area (enter data as applicable)		**Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area** (enter data as applicable)		**Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use** (enter data as applicable)		**Required Discharge for Instream Flow** (enter data as applicable)		**Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment** (enter data as applicable)		
				Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Treatment Level **Drop down list**	Volume	Name of other entity
Add additional rows as needed.														
Total		0	0		0		0		0		0		0	

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
IPR: Indirect Potable Reuse would have the treatment level of its end use requirement in the Level of Treatment drop-down.
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Recycled Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area
Water Code Section 10633 (c),(d),(e)

☐	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.

Name(s) of Facility/ies Producing (Treating) the Recycled Water (OPTIONAL) :	
Name of Supplier Operating the Recycled Water Distribution System (OPTIONAL) :	
Volume of Supplemental Water Added in 2025 (OPTIONAL) :	
Source of 2025 Supplemental Water (OPTIONAL) :	

Use Type **Drop down list**	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Additional Information (as needed)	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	**Potential Recycled Water Use**	
									Volume	Narrative page number (OPTIONAL)
Add additional rows as needed										
Landscape irrigation (exc golf courses)	Non-Potable		80	80	80	80	80	80		
		Subtotal Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80	80	80	80	80	80	0	
		Total	80	80	80	80	80	80	0	0

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.
Potential recycled water use: a description of the feasibility of these uses must be included in the narrative.
Multiple Producers: If you have multiple recycled water producers, submit a separate table for each.

NOTES: Hollister

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Recycled Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area
Water Code Section 10633 (c),(d),(e)

☑	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.

Name(s) of Facility/ies Producing (Treating) the Recycled Water (OPTIONAL) :	
Name of Supplier Operating the Recycled Water Distribution System (OPTIONAL) :	
Volume of Supplemental Water Added in 2025 (OPTIONAL) :	
Source of 2025 Supplemental Water (OPTIONAL) :	

Use Type **Drop down list**	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Additional Information (as needed)	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	**Potential Recycled Water Use**	
									Volume	Narrative page number (OPTIONAL)
Add additional rows as needed										
		Subtotal Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.
Potential recycled water use: a description of the feasibility of these uses must be included in the narrative.
Multiple Producers: If you have multiple recycled water producers, submit a separate table for each.

NOTES: Sunnyslope

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Recycled Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area
Water Code Section 10633 (c),(d),(e)

☑	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.

Name(s) of Facility/ies Producing (Treating) the Recycled Water (OPTIONAL) :	
Name of Supplier Operating the Recycled Water Distribution System (OPTIONAL) :	
Volume of Supplemental Water Added in 2025 (OPTIONAL) :	
Source of 2025 Supplemental Water (OPTIONAL) :	

Use Type **Drop down list**	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Additional Information (as needed)	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	**Potential Recycled Water Use**	
									Volume	Narrative page number (OPTIONAL)
Add additional rows as needed										
		Subtotal Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.
Potential recycled water use: a description of the feasibility of these uses must be included in the narrative.
Multiple Producers: If you have multiple recycled water producers, submit a separate table for each.

NOTES: SJB

Submittal Table 6-4 Wholesale: Current and Projected Recycled Water Uses
Water Code Section 10633(c),(d),(e)

☑	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.

Name(s) of Facility/ies Producing (Treating) the Recycled Water (OPTIONAL) :	
Name of Supplier Operating the Recycled Water Distribution System (OPTIONAL) :	
Volume of Supplemental Water Added in 2025 (OPTIONAL) :	
Source of 2025 Supplemental Water (OPTIONAL) :	

Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Additional Information (as needed)	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Potential Recycled Water Use	
									Volume	Narrative page number (OPTIONAL)
Add additional rows as needed										
		Subtotal Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table reports the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

Potential recycled water use: a description of the feasibility of these uses must be included in the narrative.

Multiple Producers: If you have multiple recycled water producers, submit a separate table for each.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual
Water Code Section 10633(e)

☐ Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020.
Proceed to the next table.

Use Type Drop Down list	2020 Projection for 2025	2025 Actual Use
Add additional rows as needed		
Landscape irrigation (exc golf courses)	100	80
Total	100	80

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual
Water Code Section 10633(e)

☑ Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020.
Proceed to the next table.

Use Type Drop Down list	2020 Projection for 2025	2025 Actual Use
Add additional rows as needed		
Total	0	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

NOTES: Sunnyslope

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual
Water Code Section 10633(e)

☑ Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020.
Proceed to the next table.

Use Type Drop Down list	2020 Projection for 2025	2025 Actual Use
Add additional rows as needed		
Total	0	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3
Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

NOTES: SJB

Submittal Table 6-5 Wholesale: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual
Water Code Section 10633(e)

☑	Check the box if recycled water was not used or distributed by the supplier in 2025, nor projected for use or distribution in 2020. Proceed to the next table.

Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	2020 Projection for 2025	2025 Actual Use
Add additional rows as needed		
Total	0	0

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

Additional Guidance: See Appendix M, Section M.21 for detailed guidance on this table.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use Water Code Section 10633(f)			
☑	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use
Add additional rows as needed			
		Total	0
		Unit Conversion to AF	

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) MUST remain consistent with units reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

The unit conversion to Acre Feet addresses the Water Code's requirement that this value be provided in acre-feet.

NOTES: Hollister

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use Water Code Section 10633(f)			
☑	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use
Add additional rows as needed			
		Total	0
		Unit Conversion to AF	

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) MUST remain consistent with units reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

The unit conversion to Acre Feet addresses the Water Code's requirement that this value be provided in acre-feet.

NOTES: Sunnyslope

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use Water Code Section 10633(f)			
☑	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use
Add additional rows as needed			
		Total	0
		Unit Conversion to AF	

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) MUST remain consistent with units reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

The unit conversion to Acre Feet addresses the Water Code's requirement that this value be provided in acre-feet.

NOTES: SJB

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs Water Code Section 10631(f)							
☐	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide a quantifiable increase to the agency's water supply. Proceed to the next table.						
☐	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are not compatible with this table and are described in a narrative format.						
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description (as needed)	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type **Drop Down List**	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a range)
	Drop Down List (yes/no)	If Yes, Supplier Name					
Add additional rows as needed							
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise	yes	SBCWD	The B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project include raising the dam that creates San Luis Reservoir.	non-potable	2037		0-5,000
ADRoP	yes	SBCWD	The accelerated drought response project (ADRoP), consists of five ASR wells, expansion of the West Hills WTP, and construction of pipelines to convey injection and recovery water between the five ASR wells, West Hills WTP, and the Hollister Distribution System.	potable	2027		0-6,000
DWR NOTES: **Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG)** must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: Hollister							

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs Water Code Section 10631(f)							
☐	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide a quantifiable increase to the agency's water supply. Proceed to the next table.						
☐	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are not compatible with this table and are described in a narrative format.						
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description (as needed)	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type **Drop Down List**	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a range)
	Drop Down List (yes/no)	If Yes, Supplier Name					
Add additional rows as needed							
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise	yes	SBCWD	The B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project include raising the dam that creates San Luis Reservoir.	non-potable	2037		0-5,000
ADRoP	yes	SBCWD	The accelerated drought response project (ADRoP), consists of five ASR wells, expansion of the West Hills WTP, and construction of pipelines to convey injection and recovery water between the five ASR wells, West Hills WTP, and the Hollister Distribution System.	potable	2027		0-6,000
DWR NOTES: **Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG)** must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.							
NOTES: Sunnyslope							

10631 (f) Include a description of all water supply projects and water supply programs that may be undertaken by the urban water supplier to meet the total projected water use, as established pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 10635. The urban water supplier shall include a detailed description of expected future projects and programs that the urban water supplier may implement to increase the amount of the water supply available to the urban water supplier in normal and single-dry water years and for a period of drought lasting five consecutive water years. The description shall identify specific projects and include a description of the increase in water supply that is expected to be available from each project. The description shall include an estimate with regard to the implementation timeline for each project or program.

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs
Water Code Section 10631(f)

☐	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide a quantifiable increase to the agency's water supply. Proceed to the next table.
☐	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are not compatible with this table and are described in a narrative format.
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP

Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description (as needed)	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type **Drop Down List**	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a range)
	Drop Down List (yes/no)	If Yes, Supplier Name					
Add additional rows as needed							
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise	yes	SBCWD	The B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project include raising the dam that creates San Luis Reservoir.	non-potable	2037		0-5,000
ADRoP	yes	SBCWD	The accelerated drought response project (ADRoP), consists of five ASR wells, expansion of the West Hills WTP, and construction of pipelines to convey injection and recovery water between the five ASR wells, West Hills WTP, and the Hollister Distribution System.	potable	2027		0-6,000

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: SJB

Submittal Table 6-7 Wholesale: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs Water Code Section 10631(f)							
☐	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide a quantifiable increase to the agency's water supply. Proceed to the next table.						
☐	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are not compatible with this table and are described in a narrative format.						
	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description (as needed)	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type **Drop Down list**	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a range)
	Drop Down List (yes/no)	If Yes, Supplier Name					
Add additional rows as needed							
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise	yes	SBCWD	The B.F. Sisk Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project include raising the dam that creates San Luis Reservoir.	non-potable	2037		0-5,000
ADRoP	yes	Retailers	The accelerated drought response project (ADRoP), consists of five ASR wells, expansion of the West Hills WTP, and construction of pipelines to convey injection and recovery water between the five ASR wells, West Hills WTP, and the Hollister Distribution System.	potable	2027		0-6,000

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual Water Code Section 10631(b)				
Water Supply		**2025**		
Drop down list May use each category multiple times. These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Description (as needed)	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Actual Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed				
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - Treated at West Hills	Potable	1,676	
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - Treated at Lessalt	Potable	409	
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Hollister Pumped	Potable	888	
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Sunnyslope pumped water through intertie	Potable	256	
Recycled Water		Non-Potable	80	
		Subtotal Potable	3,229	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80	0
		Total	3,309	0

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: Hollister

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual
Water Code Section 10631(b)

Water Supply		2025		
Drop down list May use each category multiple times. These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Description (as needed)	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Actual Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed				
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - Treated at West Hills	Potable	1,079	
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - Treated at Lessalt	Potable	814	
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Sunnyslope Pumped and used in Service Area	Potable	803	
		Subtotal Potable	2,696	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0
		Total	2,696	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: Sunnyslope

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual
Water Code Section 10631(b)

Water Supply	Additional Description (as needed)	2025		
Drop down list May use each category multiple times. These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Actual Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed				
Groundwater (not desalinated)		Potable	283	
		Subtotal Potable	283	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0
		Total	283	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.
Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: SJB

Submittal Table 6-8 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Actual Water Code Section 10631(b)				
Water Supply	Additional Description (as needed)	2025		
Drop down list May use each category multiple times.These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Actual Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed				
Purchased or Imported Water	Delivered to West Hills and Lessalt	Potable	3,978	
Purchased or Imported Water	Other Uses	Potable	200	
Purchased or Imported Water	System Losses	Potable	418	
Groundwater	Pumped by retailers	Potable	2,230	
Recycled Water		Non-Potable	80	
		Subtotal Potable	6,826	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80	0
		Total	6,906	0

DWR NOTES:

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in Submittal Table 2-3.

Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: Losses estimated as 10 percent

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected
Water Code Section 10631 (b)

Water Supply			Projected Water Supply (Report to the Extent Practicable)									
Drop down list May use each category multiple times. These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Detail on Water Supply	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	**2030**		**2035**		**2040**		**2045**		**2050 (opt)**	
			Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL)	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL)	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL)	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL)
Add additional rows as needed												
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - All	Potable	2,861		2,854		2,845		2,835			
Groundwater (not	Hollister	Potable	988		1,720		2,576		3,582			
Recycled Water		Non-Potable	80		80		80		80			
Subtotal Potable			3,850	0	4,574	0	5,422	0	6,417	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable			80	0	80	0	80	0	80	0	0	0
Total			3,930	0	4,654	0	5,502	0	6,497	0	0	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.
Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: Hollister, Assumes 50% of available CVP to SBCWD (less other uses)

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected
Water Code Section 10631 (b)

Water Supply		Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Projected Water Supply (Report to the Extent Practicable)									
			2030		2035		2040		2045		2050 (opt)	
Drop down list May use each category multiple times. These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Detail on Water Supply		Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL)	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes'	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed												
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - All	Potable	2,861		2,854		2,845		2,835			
Groundwater (not	Sunnyslope	Potable	351		970		1,704		2,575			
		Subtotal Potable	3,212	0	3,824	0	4,550	0	5,410	0	0	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Total	3,212	0	3,824	0	4,550	0	5,410	0	0	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.
Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected
Water Code Section 10631 (b)

Water Supply			Projected Water Supply (Report to the Extent Practicable)									
			2030		2035		2040		2045		2050 (opt)	
Drop down list May use each category multiple times. These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Detail on Water Supply	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed												
Purchased or Imported Water	CVP - All	Potable	265		280		297		318			
Groundwater (not desalinated)		Potable	66		70		74		79			
		Subtotal Potable	331	0	350	0	371	0	397	0	0	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Total	331	0	350	0	371	0	397	0	0	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.
Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: SJB

Submittal Table 6-9 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Projected
Water Code Section 10631 (b)

Water Supply			Projected Water Supply (Report to the Extent Practicable)									
			2030		2035		2040		2045		2050 (opt)	
Drop down list May use each category multiple times.These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Detail on Water Supply	**Potable or Non-Potable** (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL) Drop Down list	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes'	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes'	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes'	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below	Reasonably Available Volume	Total Entitlement (OPTIONAL) See 'DWR Notes' below
Add additional rows as needed												
Purchased or Imported Water		Potable	6,188	8,250	6,188	8,250	6,188	8,250	6,188	8,250		
Groundwater	Total pumped by retailers	Potable	1,405		2,760		4,355		6,237			
Recycled Water		Non-Potable	80		80		80		80			
		Subtotal Potable	7,593	8,250	8,948	8,250	10,543	8,250	12,424	8,250	0	0
		Subtotal Non-Potable	80	0	80	0	80	0	80	0	0	0
		Total	7,673	8,250	9,028	8,250	10,623	8,250	12,504	8,250	0	0

DWR NOTES:
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table identifies the unit of measure selected in a Submittal Table 2-3.
Total Entitlement: e.g. Water Right, Groundwater Allocation, Contracted Amount.

NOTES: Assumes an average reliability of 71 (same as 5 year average)

Optional Submittal Table O-1A: Recommended Energy Reporting - SINGLE DELIVERY PRODUCT - WATER SUPPLY PROCESS APPROACH

Water Delivery Product drop down list (If delivering more than one type of product recommend using Table O-1C)	Retail Potable Deliveries	Only for Water Delivery Products Under the Urban Water Supplier's Operational Control							
Start Date of Reporting Period	1/1/2025	Water Management Process						Non-Consequential Hydropower (if applicable)	
End Date of Reporting Period	12/1/2025								
Is upstream embedded energy included in the values reported?	N								
		Units for Water Volume	Extract and Divert	Place into Storage	Conveyance	Treatment	Distribution	**Total Utility** See DWR NOTES	Hydropower	Net Utility
Volume of Water Entering Process		AF	2,231	4,596	4,596	4,596	4,596	6,827		6,827
Energy Consumed (kWh)		N/A	1,869,422	158,346	732,037	1,326,946	25,291	4,112,043		4,112,043
Energy Intensity (kWh/vol. converted to MG)		N/A	2,572	106	489	886	17	1,849	0	1,849

DWR NOTES: Total Utility: The volume of water entered in the "Total Utility" column should equal the volume of water entering the distribution system (excluding recycled water); in most cases, this is the total volume calculated in UWMP Table 4-1: 2025 Actual Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water. Note if recycled water is included in your Submittal Table 4-1, you must exclude it from your volume in this table.

Quantity of Self-Generated Renewable Energy

0 kWh

Data Quality (Estimate, Metered Data, Combination of Estimates and Metered Data)

Metered Data

Data Quality Narrative:

Energy use based on PG&E meters as reported by the agencies.

Narrative:

The energy use for each step in the water management process is focused on retail potable deliveries and local storage for all three retailers. Additional losses to transport the CVP water to the basin are not included.

NOTES:

7. WATER SERVICE RELIABILITY AND DROUGHT RISK ASSESSMENT

7.1 CONSTRAINTS ON WATER SOURCES

The SBUA has multiple water supply sources—CVP, groundwater, and recycled water—that increase overall water supply reliability. However, many factors could result in inconsistency of supply and shortages. These factors may include legal, environmental, water quality, and/or climatic considerations, as discussed below. Major factors affecting surface water supply from the CVP include environmental issues and climate change. The groundwater basin has a recent history of consistent supply but may be affected by climatic variations and poor water quality. Increased future uses of recycled water may be affected by the water quality of the source and legal/environmental constraints on use.

Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District are addressing these potential constraints on water supply through development of a portfolio of supplies, improvement of facilities (e.g., treatment plant expansion and groundwater banking), and through demand management as summarized in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Section 8).

LEGAL

The Hollister basin has not been adjudicated, so specific groundwater rights have not been quantified. Although the possibility exists that adjudication proceedings could be initiated, the success of local groundwater management activities with stakeholder involvement (including GSP preparation) reduces the likelihood that such lengthy and costly legal action will occur.

Imported water is secured for the future through contracts that include provisions for reductions in water supply. Such interruption of imported water would induce additional groundwater pumping that, depending on the magnitude and persistence of the interruption, could reduce groundwater storage and affect the reliability of the groundwater supply.

The collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater and recycled water uses are governed by the MOUs between the County, the District, Hollister, SJB, and Sunnyslope and by regulatory requirements. The local parties have undertaken a coordinated effort to plan water supply and wastewater strategies for the SBUA.

ENVIRONMENTAL

The most likely environmental factors affecting SBUA water supplies would be reductions to CVP imports due to concerns over endangered species and water quality in the Delta. Expanded use of recycled water may also be limited by environmental concerns. Potential recycled water uses are and will continue to be in compliance with policies set by the RWQCB and other agencies. Other environmental concerns could include substantially increased pumping from other groundwater basin users, resulting in basin overdraft. SGMA defines overdraft as involving undesirable impacts including chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, degraded water quality, land subsidence,

and surface water depletions with adverse impacts on beneficial uses. These undesirable results are addressed in the GSP preparation process (except seawater intrusion, which is not relevant to this inland basin.)

DELTA PUMPING RESTRICTIONS

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a key component to the state's water system (DWR 2009b), as much of the water that feeds the SWP and CVP flows through the Delta. The Delta is also home to a sensitive ecosystem with several federally listed threatened species. In 2007, pumping from the Delta for water supply was limited by a federal court to protect the Delta Smelt, a federally listed threatened species. Further restrictions have been imposed to protect other fish species, including the Longfin Smelt and Chinook salmon. Further appeals have upheld these restrictions (Los Angeles Times 2014). These pumping limits directly affect the amount of CVP imported water available to the SBUA and other San Benito County users.

The SWRCB has developed the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). While unlikely to reduce any limitations, the Bay-Delta Plan is establishing water quality control measures and flow requirements. In 2018 the State Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments establishing the Lower San Joaquin River flow objectives and revised southern Delta salinity objectives.

The Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (HRL) Program is a collaborative initiative in California designed to improve the ecological health of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Bay-Delta) ecosystem. HRL aims to increase CVP and Delta resilience by pairing targeted environmental water flows with habitat restoration rather than relying solely on water export restrictions, like the 2018 Basin Plan amendments. This approach seeks to improve the long-term sustainability of the Bay-Delta ecosystem while providing more certainty for water users by reducing the likelihood of extreme, reactive regulatory cuts to water supplies. HRL is currently being considered by the State Water Resources Control Board and may be adopted late 2026.

WATER QUALITY

Water samples from the municipal wells are monitored for various water quality constituents. If these constituents are detected at concentrations higher than the drinking water standard or maximum concentration limit (MCL) set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) or the DDW, the well may be taken offline. In the past, municipal wells have been taken offline as a result of high nitrate concentrations. Although high nitrate concentrations can be treated, removal of wells from the system and fitting for treatment technology may temporarily impact the system and affect the cost of supply. In addition, availability of groundwater from municipal wells may be affected by regulatory changes that tighten water quality standards, for example, for chromium, which is naturally occurring in North San Benito or for emerging contaminants such as PFAS. These can be addressed with treatment, modification of groundwater pumping among wells, and blending.

As discussed in the supply section, local groundwater is highly mineralized and the relatively poor water quality may limit some uses of groundwater. The SBUA agencies are taking steps to improve water quality of the groundwater supply. In the meantime, groundwater is blended with CVP water to ensure adequate quality for supply and indirectly improved quality for wastewater and recycled water. There is no regulatory requirement, but the agencies may limit the volumes of groundwater used if insufficient imported water is available for blending.

As with groundwater, the water quality of recycled water (also characterized by high TDS concentrations) may also limit its potential uses. The 2008 Master Plan (HDR 2008a) and Updates (HDR 2017 and 2023) include procedures by which the quality of recycled water can be improved over time. The changing quality of recycled water was taken into consideration in the projection of future use.

CLIMATIC

The climatic events most likely to affect water supply are droughts, which are addressed in other sections of this report by examining historical droughts and considering their impact on current and future water supply and demand. It is notable that five of the six extreme drought years have occurred within the past 20 years, suggesting greater climatic variability in recent decades. In addition to climate variability, climate change can result in long-term loss of snowpack (affecting CVP supply) and increased evaporative losses. Both short-term and long-term changes bring additional uncertainty to water supply management.

DROUGHT

Recorded droughts have been sufficiently intense and prolonged to temporarily affect groundwater levels in the basin but have not affected the long-term consistency of supply. However, paleoclimatic data indicate that extreme prolonged droughts have occurred in prehistoric California and current climate research indicates that extreme drought may occur more frequently with climate change. This is discussed in more detail below.

As reported in past UWMPs, basic review of groundwater hydrographs for wells in the basin suggested that one or even three consecutive extreme dry years did not have a discernable impact on groundwater levels. However, as experienced in recent drought, CVP allocations may be significantly reduced during these periods. As guided by the Master Plan process (HDR, 2008, 2017, and 2023), available imported water supplies are being managed conjunctively with local storage and supplies as available in drought.

In addition to the measures described above, San Benito County agencies (including Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District), have adopted drought resilience measures in the 2026 San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan (Drought Resilience Plan) (Stantec Consulting Services 2026). This plan establishes how the County's Drought and Water Shortage Task Force and other responsible agencies will coordinate responses to water supply vulnerabilities affecting domestic wells and state small water systems. Through advanced planning, interagency coordination, and response procedures, the Drought Resilience Plan strengthens countywide preparedness for drought-related supply interruptions and supports overall water service reliability.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, global warming could significantly alter California's hydrologic cycles and water supply. These impacts include decreased Sierra snowpack, increased temperatures, more severe droughts, sea level rise, and increased floods. Climate models indicate that precipitation as rainfall is expected to increase as snowfall decreases over the Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountain ranges. By the end of this century, the Sierra snowpack is projected to be 48 to 65 percent less than the historical average (DWR 2026). This reduction would directly impact the volume of imported water available for all the District CVP customers, including Hollister and Sunnyslope. Sierra snowmelt feeds rivers that flow to the Delta, the source of CVP imported water. The Delta is also at risk from the predicted increases in climate variability associated with climate change. More severe flooding and rising sea levels threaten the waterways that serve as a vital link in the CVP system within the Delta.

Climate change also is projected to increase regional temperatures and cause more variable weather patterns. The minimum daily temperature in California has increased over one degree Fahrenheit and continues to rise (DWR 2021b). In addition to decreasing snowpack, these increased temperatures may also increase water demand. Higher temperatures could increase water demand throughout the state through increased agricultural irrigation and increased outdoor residential and commercial irrigation. Changing weather patterns could cause more severe flooding that disrupts surface water storage and conveyance systems.

Climate change has already been incorporated into future supply projections for all SBUA water sources. The CVP projections are based on the observed allocations since 2007 and not on the Cal Sim II simulations that show a more optimistic future. The groundwater availability is limited to the sustainable yield developed for the North San Benito GSP. The future modeling, on which the sustainable yield is based, represents a continuation of existing land and water use patterns, but with anticipated effects of future climate change on local hydrology (rainfall recharge and stream percolation) and on the availability of imported water supplies.

CATASTROPHIC WATER SHORTAGE

The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires that water purveyors describe actions to be taken in the event of catastrophic water supply interruption, such as earthquake and regional power outage. Regional power outages represent a potential interruption in water supply treatment and conveyance.

REGIONAL POWER OUTAGE

Heat waves and wildfire conditions have resulted in power outages in the SBUA that disrupt water supply. As part of the Drought Resilience Plan, power outages can activate the Warning Stage and if prolonged, the Emergency Stage. In the Warning Stage, County staff increases communication and outreach activities and initiates coordination with other entities. County staff may consider recommending that the Task Force and/or the County Board of Supervisors activate the County's water conservation policies outlined in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan. In the event of an Emergency Stage, County staff, in coordination

with the Task Force and County Board of Supervisors, would declare a water shortage emergency and activate the Water Distribution Plan described in the following section, “Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan.” (Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 2026)

To ensure that the water system is capable of providing an adequate level of service during power outages, Hollister Well Nos. 4 and 5 are equipped with standby power. Hollister also has portable generators to supply emergency power for the other active wells (HDR 2008a). Sunnyslope has portable generators at all potable well sites, wastewater pump stations, and their wastewater treatment plant. A backup generator has been installed at West Hills WTP. The Lessalt treatment plant has been wired with a quick-connect electrical connection so that a rental generator could easily be brought in and quickly connected to power the plant if needed.

NATURAL DISASTERS

Similar to power outages, natural disasters can disrupt the water supply, and the Drought Resilience Plan can be activated with the Warning Stage or Emergency Stage. In the Warning Stage, County staff increases communication and outreach activities and initiates coordination with other entities. County staff may consider recommending that the Task Force and/or the County Board of Supervisors activate the County's water conservation policies outlined in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan. In the event of an Emergency Stage, County staff, in coordination with the Task Force and County Board of Supervisors, would declare a water shortage emergency and activate the Water Distribution Plan described in the following section, “Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan.” (Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 2026)

Disasters such as earthquakes could disrupt water delivery infrastructure. The wholesalers—USBR and SBCWD—that provide imported water to the SBUA are taking steps to ensure water supply reliability. USBR is responsible for about 370 storage dams and for dikes that form a significant part of the water resources infrastructure for the western United States. As the owner of these facilities, USBR is committed to providing the public and the environment with adequate protection from the risks inherent to collecting and storing large volumes of water for later distribution and/or release (USBR 2016). The District routinely monitors the conditions of Hernandez and Paicines.

Recognizing the proximity of the San Andreas and Calaveras faults, the City of Hollister, San Benito County, and the District have a joint water shortage emergency response plan included in **Appendix E.**

7.2 WATER SERVICE RELIABILITY ASSESSMENT

The California Urban Water Management Planning Act requires that each water supplier provide an assessment of the reliability of its water supply during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. This section considers the impact on water supplies during a single extreme dry year and a multiple dry year period (defined as a drought lasting five consecutive years). In addition, a catastrophic water shortage could also occur, for example, as a result of earthquake damage, regional power outage, or water quality emergency. This section presents the response to potential water shortages for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and the District,

including catastrophic water supply interruption and drought. **Tables 7-1 Retail and 7-1 W** show the base years selected to define average, single-dry year, and multiple-dry year period for each water source.

7.2.1 WSRA YEAR-TYPE CHARACTERIZATION

7.2.1.1 TYPES OF YEARS

GSP Regulations require quantification of the water budget by water year type, which is a classification based on the amount of annual precipitation in a basin. It should be noted that the water year type is based on hydrologic water year October to September. This UWMP reports on calendar year January to December.

Figure 7-1 shows annual rainfall in Hollister from water year 1976 through 2025; the average annual amount is 12.9 inches. Water year type is intended to aid in the evaluation of information such as water level hydrographs and groundwater storage changes. **Table 7-A** documents the classification developed for the North San Benito GSP, which describes five water year types (critically dry, dry, normal, above normal, wet). The methodology for defining the water year types is based on DWR's Water Budget Best Management Practice (BMPs) Document (DWR, 2016). For North San Benito, the annual rainfall amounts in Hollister over the period of record (1976-2025) were expressed as percentages of average annual rainfall. These were then sorted into quintiles, reflecting the five categories. The sorting into quintiles resulted in the classification shown in **Table 7-A**.

The water year classification is based on local Hollister rainfall as representative of the Basin and surrounding watershed. Local precipitation is important for the overall water balance of the area. While CVP allocations are critical to avoiding overdraft and are based on precipitation patterns in the Sierra Nevada and Central Valley, local precipitation has a larger effect by volume on the groundwater basin. Surface water recharge, deep percolation, and irrigation demand are all dependent on local rainfall.

Table 7-A. Water Year Type Classification

Water Year Type		Range of percent normal	Precipitation Range (in)
Wet	W	>130	> 16.7
Above Normal	AN	105-130	13.5 – 16.7
Normal	N	85-105	11.0 – 13.5
Dry	D	70-85	9.0 – 11.0
Critically Dry	C	<70	< 9.0
Average Rainfall 12.9 inches per year			

NORMAL YEAR

Rainfall data have been collected monthly in the Hollister area since 1875. Precipitation and other weather data have been collected from a California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) station located by the District office in Hollister since June 1994 (Station #126). Average conditions are considered the same as Normal as defined in **Table 7-A**.

Rainfall in water years 1992, 2003, 2009, 2019, 2024 was about average. For the purposes of this UWMP, calendar year 2019 is selected as the typical average year for supply because the most recent year is representative of current basin operations and not an extremely wet year like 2023.

SINGLE-DRY YEAR

DWR guidelines suggest that a single dry year should be the lowest supply available to the retailers, in addition to lower precipitation. Supply has been reduced due to decreases in the CVP allocations for both agricultural and M&I uses. A decrease in agriculture allocations, while not affecting the retailers directly, indirectly affects supply as groundwater pumping from other uses in the basin generally increases. This increased groundwater use could affect groundwater availability in the long term. Critically dry years, as defined by the GSP water year type include 1990, 2007, 2013, 2014, and 2022.

In water year 2021, the year selected as a single dry year, local precipitation was 6.58 inches, 50 percent of normal. In addition, CVP allocations (contract year 2021-2022) for agricultural and M&I users were 0 percent, the first time the District had to apply for a Public Health and Safety allocation. The low allocations and low precipitation resulted in significant groundwater level drawdown. Accordingly, calendar year 2021 is representative of a severe single-dry year.

FIVE-CONSECUTIVE-YEAR DRY YEAR PERIOD

DWR guidelines suggest that a five-consecutive-year period should represent the lowest average water supply availability for a consecutive multiple year period (now defined as five or more consecutive dry years). As with the single dry year, CVP allocations significantly affect available supply.

In water years 2012 through 2016, CVP allocations for both agricultural and M&I users were the lowest on record. For example, the M&I allocation ranged from 25 to 75 percent of historical use for years. In addition, average annual precipitation for the five years was 10.58 inches, or 79 percent of normal. While other five-year periods had lower rainfall, the low rainfall during this period (combined with the low CVP allocation) significantly decreased the retailers' available water supply. While the dry years between 2021-2022 were also dry, they were preceded and followed by normal to wet years, limiting the number of years in the dry year period. Based on these considerations, the representative five-year drought selected for reliability assessments was 2012–2016 because it combined low precipitation with historically low CVP allocations.

7.2.1.2 SOURCES FOR WATER DATA

Information regarding local climate conditions is available from the CIMIS station located in Hollister, while imported CVP allocations are available from the USBR. Groundwater availability and storage change are reported in the District's Annual Groundwater Reports (Todd 2026).

7.2.2 WSRA SUPPLY AND DEMAND COMPARISON

Projected demands used in the Water Service Reliability Assessment (WSRA) are based on the demand projections in Chapter 4 and assume implementation of normal conservation standards. Dry-year adjustments are discussed below. In the years when there is a surplus of supply when compared to demand, it is assumed imported water will be maximized to preserve water quality and create a reserve for future use. In years where there is a deficit, WSCP measures will be enacted to reduce demand.

7.2.2.1 NORMAL YEAR

Table 7-2 characterizes the SBUA's normal year water service reliability. This table compares the normal year supply totals to the normal-year gross water use totals for the 20-year projection horizon (based on **Tables 4-3 and 6-9**). **Table 7-2 W** shows the supply reliability of CVP imported water for the District.

Table 7-2 R shows the projected supply totals and demands in normal years from 2020 through 2045 in five-year intervals.

7.2.2.2 SINGLE DRY YEAR

Table 7-3 R shows the supply totals and demands for a single dry year (similar to 2022) for the 20-year planning horizon. This table compares the single dry year supply total to an adjusted gross water-use total for the SBUA. As shown on **Table 7-1 CVP**, the CVP contract allocation is expected to be at a minimum of 33 percent. Recent critically dry year allocations and Public Health & Safety actions support a planning assumption of approximately 33 percent minimum availability, though future allocations are not guaranteed. As noted above, the District maintains additional reservoir storage that would supplement CVP supply with 1,000 AFY and an additional 1,000 AFY would come from ADRoP.

For planning purposes, water used during a single dry year is assumed to be the same as during a normal year (see values from Submitted Table 4-3). Water demand may decrease during a dry year if users are responsive to conservation education and outreach campaigns or if temporary water use restrictions, specified in the WSCP in Chapter 8, are enacted. Conversely, water use may increase if irrigation water application is increased due to lower rainfall. The SBUA agencies will monitor water use during a dry year and implement outreach or WSCP stages as appropriate.

The District supplies approximately 200 AFY to M&I customers other than the Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB. This non-urban M&I demand will be met during normal years, a single dry year, or the first year of a multiple year drought. In the event of a prolonged drought, this non-urban demand may be unmet in order to provide the minimum human health and safety for urban residents.

Table 7-3 R provides a comparison of supply and demand in a single dry year. In a typical single dry year, CVP allocations are expected to be 33 percent of the contracted amount less losses, which is a total of 2,450 AFY. Recycled water is expected to be fully available at 80 AFY. In addition, it is assumed that the District can use reserve water stored in San Justo reservoir up to 1,000 AFY. The WSCP would be triggered to Stage 2 and would achieve the required conservation up to 20 percent. The supply shortage in a single dry year is expected to be 12 percent. Additional supply to District M&I customers outside of the SBUA area is needed to meet demand in a single dry year.

7.2.2.3 FIVE CONSECUTIVE DRY YEARS

Table 7-4 R and **Table 7-B** show the supply totals and demands for each year of a multiple year drought (similar to 2012 through 2016) for the same time period. As with the single dry year, supply is limited by the CVP allocations, but additional CVP supplemental water is available, including supplies from ADRoP. While based on the 2012-2016 drought, the later years of the drought were assumed to have minimal public health and safety allocations (not the actual allocations that occurred in the corresponding year). **Table 7-1 W** shows the District's CVP allocation during the multiple dry year period. **Table 7-1 CVP** shows what would be available to the SBUA agencies (the District's allocation less other M&I users and system losses). The District supplies approximately 200 AFY to non-urban M&I customers other than Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB and will deliver that supply in the first year of a multiple year drought. In the event of prolonged drought, this non-urban demand may be unmet in order to provide minimum human health and safety supply for urban residents.

The multiple dry year projections suggest that at least voluntary restrictions for Stage 1 (10 percent reduction) should be implemented for the first two years and then Stage 2 (up to 20 percent) in all following dry years.

The District relies on a diverse portfolio of imported water, groundwater, and recycled water, and has made plans for additional supplemental imported water in dry years. In general, the groundwater pumping is expected to be at least as much as current pumping (2,230 AFY in 2025) and to increase as needed to help meet demands. For planning purposes, CVP allocations are assumed to be limited in all years other than the normal year 2025. The available CVP supplemental supply (San Justo reserves, contractor and exchange water) is used as needed in dry years. As noted, in all dry years, it is expected the WSCP Stage 1 will be enacted to encourage a 10 percent reduction in water demand. As drought continues beyond the first two years, WSCP Stage 2 will be needed to encourage a 20 percent reduction.

Table 7-B summarizes the projected annual water supply, demand, shortage magnitude, and corresponding WSCP response for each year of the representative five-year consecutive year dry period The table illustrates how available supplies are managed over time through use of groundwater, recycled water, supplement CVP supplies, and staged demand management measures. The most constrained years occur in the middle of the drought sequence when imported supplies are lowest and stored supplemental supplies have been partially depleted, while demand remains high. Continued groundwater availability and implementation of the WSCP are expected to maintain service reliability throughout the planning scenario. WSCP stages shown are planning assumptions and may be adjusted based on actual conditions.

Table 7-B. Water Demand and Supply by Water Year Type

Year Type	Base Year	CVP	GW	Recycled Water	Supplemental CVP	Total Supply Available	Total Demand 2045	Surplus/Deficit	% Shortage	WSCP Stage
Average Year	2019	7,425	6,250	80	-	13,755	12,504	1,251	0	1
Single-Dry Year	2022	2,450	6,250	80	2,000	10,780	12,504	(1,724)	14%	2
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2012	3,787	6,250	80	2,000	12,117	12,504	(388)	3%	1
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2013	3,490	6,250	80	2,000	11,820	12,304	(485)	4%	1
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2014	2,450	6,250	80	2,000	10,780	12,304	(1,524)	12%	2
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2015	2,450	6,250	80	2,000	10,780	12,304	(1,524)	12%	2
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2016	2,450	6,250	80	2,000	10,780	12,304	(1,524)	12%	2

7.2.3 WSRA DESCRIPTION OF MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND OPTIONS TO MAINTAIN RELIABILITY

SBUA agencies have several ongoing and planned demand management projects and programs. These are summarized in Chapter 9. Public outreach and education, coupled with demand reduction programming like rebates and home surveys, can decrease long-term demand, increase reliability, and minimize the need to import water from other regions.

In times of water shortage, water demand restrictions can be implemented by enacting the WSCP, outlined in Chapter 8. The restrictions largely focus on decreasing water use for outdoor irrigation. Additionally, in times of serious water shortage, a larger portion of water can be derived from groundwater to meet demands.

Section 6.2.10 describes future water projects Including potential surface water storage expansion, expanded managed aquifer recharge, and additional well production capacity in conjunction with increased groundwater monitoring.

7.3 DROUGHT RISK ASSESSMENT

While Section 7.2 evaluates long-range supply reliability, this section presents the drought risk assessment (DRA) in accordance with Water Code Section 10612, which focuses on near-term shortage preparedness during the next five years. The DRA reliability assessment involves characterizing the expected quantity of each water supply source monthly for each year of the five-year drought under a variety of water shortage conditions. For purposes of the analysis, the drought is assumed to occur in the next five years. For planning purposes, the representative five-year drought selected for the DRA was 2012–2016 because it combined low precipitation with historically low CVP allocations to the SBUA.

The analysis also addresses the reliability of water sources expected to be used during water supply shortages, which are not part of the Supplier's normal water portfolio (e.g., special transfer or exchange agreements). The analysis reveals potential shortage or surplus; if a shortage is indicated, WSCP demand reduction measures and supply augmentation are identified to resolve the shortage. DWR recommends that the DRA address possible scenarios that could further impact water supply such as climate change. Recent critically dry year allocations and Public Health and Safety approvals support a planning assumption of approximately 33 percent minimum availability during severe drought, although future allocations are not guaranteed.

The DRA has been developed using the Planning Tool provided by DWR. The Planning Tool DRA Worksheets are summarized in **Table 7-5**. **Table 7-5** summarizes annual projected supplies, demands, shortages, and response actions for each year of the five-year drought scenario. The SBUA agencies reviewed their supply and demand deficit on an annual basis, as imported water allocations are the biggest uncertainty year to year. They did not examine the demand and supply on a monthly time scale as they rely on local storage (San Justo and San Luis Reservoirs) to help meet the peak demands in the

summer months. Because of the surface storage and the stable groundwater conditions, the agencies are able to dynamically adjust supply to meet demand throughout the year.

7.3.1 DATA, METHODS, AND BASIS FOR WATER SHORTAGE CONDITIONS

The data used to complete the DRA are documented in this UWMP as are assumptions on future growth. A linear extrapolation was used to account for annual growth over the next five years, 3.5 percent per year (as used in the 2023 Master Plan). The reliability of water supply sources is documented in Section 7.2.3. For the DRA, it was assumed that the voluntary Stage 1 of the WSCP would be applied for the first two dry years, reducing total demand by 10 percent. After the first two years, Stage 2 of the WSCP would be implemented to save up to 20 percent of demand.

The water supply is projected to remain relatively stable during the five-year drought, as increased groundwater use and CVP supplemental water compensate for reduced CVP deliveries. As discussed in 7.2.3, CVP allocations are reduced in drought periods. However, local groundwater is managed to account for increased pumping in times of water shortage, although its use may be managed to maintain high delivered water quality.

The maximum annual supplies for 2012-2016 drought conditions were calculated and compared to the demand to determine sufficiency. When demand exceeded supply, the difference was compared to the total demand. The annual demand exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual supply available after the first two years. Stage 2 of the WSCP, with mandatory actions, is expected to sufficiently reduce demands.

Some sources of error and uncertainty affect this DRA. Dry conditions may lead to an increase in irrigation. However, it is generally expected that outreach and education, especially with up-to-date use of news media (Quesnel and Ajami, 2017), will result in residential water use decreases. Timing of water use may vary during dry periods, and water users may respond more quickly to drought conditions than during the 2012-2016 drought years. Notwithstanding some uncertainty, if voluntary restrictions in WSCP Stage 1 do not cause a timely 10 percent decrease in demand, Stage 2 or greater can be implemented at any time.

7.3.2. INDIVIDUAL WATER SOURCE RELIABILITY

Table 7-C summarizes the expected reliability of each major water supply source available to the SBUA during the five-year drought planning period evaluated in this DRA. The table identifies the relative availability, operational role, and key constraints associated with imported CVP water, groundwater, recycled water, and supplemental stored or transferred supplies under shortage conditions. The SBUA's diversified supply portfolio reduces dependence on any single source and allows available supplies to be managed conjunctively in response to changing hydrologic, regulatory, and demand conditions. The individual source descriptions below provide additional detailed availability and reliability during the drought period.

Table 7-C. Water Sources Reliability in Drought

Source	Reliability in Drought	Limitation
CVP	Moderate-Low	Allocation cuts
Groundwater	High	Quality / sustainability
Recycled	High	Limited volume
Supplemental CVP	Moderate	Finite resources

CVP ALLOCATION

The SBUA relies primarily on groundwater and CVP imported water, with some use of recycled water. Both groundwater and CVP supplies are impacted during dry years.

Table 7-1 W shows the supply reliability of CVP imported water for the District. **Tables 7-1 CVP, 7-1 Groundwater, 7-1 CVP Supplemental and 7-1 Recycled Water Retail** show the retailer supply reliability of CVP imported water, groundwater, and recycled water based on the different year types.

Table 7-1 W estimates the reduction in CVP for single and multiple year droughts based on past allocations. As discussed in Section 6, past allocations were used to project future availability. It is estimated that the future average allocation will be 75 percent of the contract in normal years, amounting to 6,188 AFY for the District (0.75 x 8,250 AFY). The SBUA retailers could receive 5,988 AFY, while the remaining volume is served by the District to other M&I users (200 AFY) or is accounted by 10 percent system losses. CVP supply allocations are reported by the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) for the USBR water year (March through February).

The US Bureau of Reclamation published a Municipal and Industrial Water Shortage Policy and Environmental Impact Statement for the Central Valley Project in August 2015 (USBR 2015). The M&I shortage policy recognizes that CVP M&I water is needed to meet Public Health and Safety (PHS) needs; nonetheless, USBR cannot guarantee allocation.

In 2022, for M&I users, the initial allocation was also 0 percent but agencies had the opportunity to request water to serve public health and safety (PHS) needs. The District prepared a memorandum to USBR summarizing the demands and supplies of the retailers consistent with the "Central Valley Project Municipal and Industrial Water Shortage Policy Guidelines and Procedures" (WSP Guidelines). The District documented that—without any CVP imports—the unmet PHS demand would be 2,968 AF. USBR granted the District 2,766 AF, equivalent to 33.5 percent of their contract. For future critically dry years, the SBUA anticipates this would be the minimum allocation.

Future CVP projections are based on the actual allocations since 2007. The allocations are more conservative than the previous estimates available from Cal Sim II, a DWR tool used to simulate California SWP/ CVP operations. The expected M&I allocations by water year type are shown by base year in **Table 7-1 CVP** for the retailers and **Table 7-1 W**.

The District plans to supply approximately 200 AFY to M&I customers other than the City of Hollister and Sunnyslope. This additional M&I demand will be met during normal years, a single dry year, or the first year of a multiple year drought. In the event of a prolonged drought, the non-urban portion of this demand (200 AFY) may be unmet in order to provide the minimum human health and safety for urban residents.

GROUNDWATER

The volume of groundwater used by the SBUA is linked to the CVP allocation because local users prefer the higher quality CVP water. Accordingly, all of the CVP allocation is expected to be used by Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB with groundwater as a supplemental source. The groundwater basin is managed for continued sustainability, as documented in the GSP, and for provision of supplemental supply during drought. Accordingly, **Table 7-1 Groundwater** shows no decrease of availability during drought conditions. In **Table 7-1 Groundwater**, the volume of available groundwater is not reduced from the sustainable yield of 6,250 AFY (discussed in Section 6). This is a conservative estimate, while long term pumping should not exceed the sustainable yield, short term pumping may exceed this volume if needed during continued dry years.

Table 7-1 Groundwater accounts for the preferred blending of groundwater with CVP supply (targeting 20 percent) to improve delivered water quality. Additional groundwater may be used during drought conditions.

RECYCLED WATER

The annual rate of recycled water is based on the 2025 value of 80 AF. Recycled water is not reduced in **Table 7-1 Recycled Water** because the source is reliable and not affected significantly by year-to-year hydrological variability. However, its desirability as a supply for some sensitive uses could be affected by changes in municipal water quality. For example, a significant long-term increase of groundwater use (for example, due to low CVP allocation and assuming no wellhead demineralization) could affect wastewater quality and thus the quality of the recycled water.

RESERVOIR STORAGE AND SUPPLEMENTAL WATER

The District manages San Justo Reservoir as storage for imported CVP water. In times of full allocation, the District is able to purchase additional water to keep as a reserve for future dry years. The District plans to reserve sufficient water to provide up to an additional 1,000 AFY for a limited time during the most severe droughts for up to five years. In addition, ADRoP, described in Section 6, will supply CVP water during dry years. The project will store surplus CVP water and deliver up to 6,000 AFY. As the project is only replenished during wet years, it is assumed the maximum volume of 6,000 AF would be available

over the course of a multi-year drought, delivered as 1,000 AFY for each year of the drought up through six years. The combined amount of 2,000 AF is documented in **Table 7-1 CVP Supplemental**.

WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

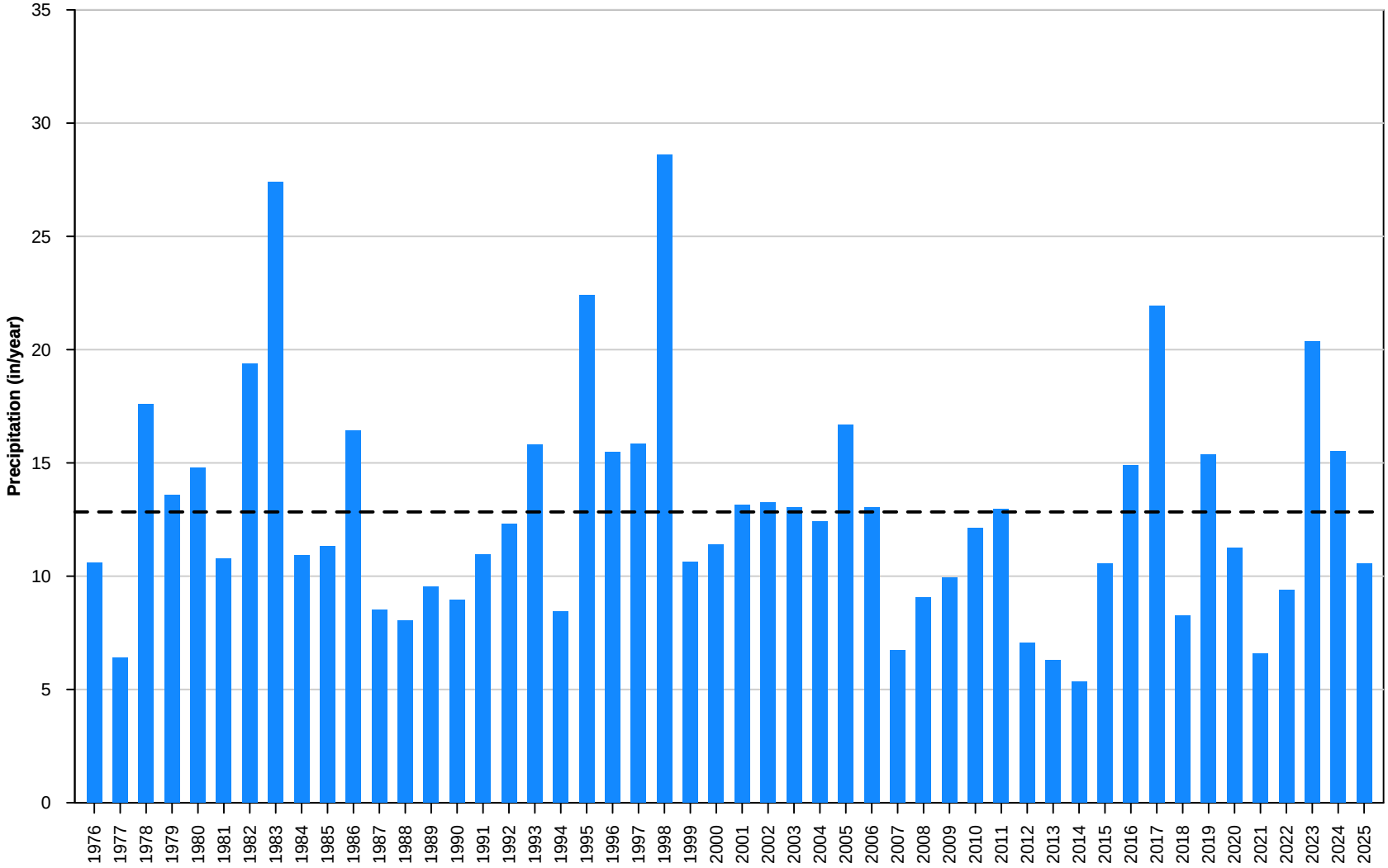
As experienced in the most recent drought, water conservation can reduce demand effectively. Chapter 8 of this UWMP outlines the Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP), which contains voluntary and mandatory restrictions to curb demand by 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, and greater than 50 percent in times of water shortage. The WSCP also discusses outreach and education programs to decrease demand and temporary actions to augment water supply.

7.3.3 TOTAL WATER SUPPLY AND USE COMPARISON

Table 7-5 summarizes monthly projected supplies, demands, shortages, and response actions for each year of the five-year drought scenario. As indicated, the SBUA is prepared for a multiple year drought given the availability of a portfolio of sources and active management of potential risks. While necessary to long-term basin sustainability, CVP supply is considered less reliable, given that M&I allocations can range from 33 to 100 percent and local agencies have little control. However, the SBUA actively seeks out additional contracts and transfers and stores the additional supply in San Justo reservoir in preparation of multi-year droughts. Currently, the District is capable of continuing to provide adequate CVP supplies to the SBUA even in a multi-year drought. In addition, the District manages the groundwater basin conjunctively with surface water supplies, providing a reliable supply in the event of CVP interruption.

The current DRA projections indicate that the SBUA can withstand a five-year drought beginning in 2026 with implementation of only stage 1 of the WSCP, a voluntary 10 percent reduction to bridge the gap between supply and demand. However, if voluntary measures do not result in the expected 10 percent demand reduction, the SBUA agencies will be prepared to implement Stage 2 mandatory restrictions.

The SBUA relies primarily on groundwater and CVP imported water, with some use of recycled water. Both groundwater and CVP supplies are impacted during dry years. **Tables 7-1 Retail** show the available supply for the agencies for normal, single dry, and multiple dry years for each water source. The available supply is based on forecasts for each source.



Precipitation (in/year)

Average Precipitation (12.9 in/year)

May 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

Figure 7-1
Precipitation 1976-2025

Optional Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment)

Year Type	Base Year If not using a calendar year, type in the last year of the fiscal, water year, or range of years, for example, water year 2024-2025, use 2025	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		☐ Check the box if quantification of available supplies is not compatible with this table and is provided elsewhere in the UWMP. **Location:** [insert location from UWMP]	
		Quantification of available supplies is provided in this table as either volume only, percent only, or both.	
		Volume Available	**% of Average Supply**
Average Year	2019	7,425	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	2,450	33%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2012	3,787	51%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2013	3,490	47%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2014	2,450	33%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2015	2,450	33%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2016	2,450	33%

DWR NOTES: Supplier may use multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R if different water sources have different base years and the supplier chooses to report the base years for each water source separately. If a Supplier uses multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R, in the "Note" section of each submittal table, state that multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R are being used and identify the particular water source that is being reported in each submittal table.
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table reports the units of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: CVP

Optional Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment)

Year Type	Base Year If not using a calendar year, type in the last year of the fiscal, water year, or range of years, for example, water year 2024-2025, use 2025	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		☐ Check the box if quantification of available supplies is not compatible with this table and is provided elsewhere in the UWMP. **Location:** [insert location from UWMP]	
		Quantification of available supplies is provided in this table as either volume only, percent only, or both.	
		Volume Available	**% of Average Supply**
Average Year	2019	6,250	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	6,250	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2012	6,250	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2013	6,250	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2014	6,250	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2015	6,250	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2016	6,250	100%

DWR NOTES: Supplier may use multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R if different water sources have different base years and the supplier chooses to report the base years for each water source separately. If a Supplier uses multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R, in the "Note" section of each submittal table, state that multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R are being used and identify the particular water source that is being reported in each submittal table.
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table reports the units of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: Groundwater (GSP Sustainable Yield for M&I pumping - 5,600 AFY in Hollister MA and 650 AFY in San Juan MA

Optional Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment)

Year Type	Base Year If not using a calendar year, type in the last year of the fiscal, water year, or range of years, for example, water year 2024-2025, use 2025	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		☐ Check the box if quantification of available supplies is not compatible with this table and is provided elsewhere in the UWMP. **Location:** [insert location from UWMP]	
		Quantification of available supplies is provided in this table as either volume only, percent only, or both.	
		Volume Available	**% of Average Supply**
Average Year	2019	80	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	80	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2012	80	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2013	80	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2014	80	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2015	80	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2016	80	100%

DWR NOTES: Supplier may use multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R if different water sources have different base years and the supplier chooses to report the base years for each water source separately. If a Supplier uses multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R, in the "Note" section of each submittal table, state that multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R are being used and identify the particular water source that is being reported in each submittal table.

Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table reports the units of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: Recycled Water

Optional Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment)

Year Type	Base Year If not using a calendar year, type in the last year of the fiscal, water year, or range of years, for example, water year 2024-2025, use 2025	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		☐ Check the box if quantification of available supplies is not compatible with this table and is provided elsewhere in the UWMP. **Location:** [insert location from UWMP]	
		Quantification of available supplies is provided in this table as either volume only, percent only, or both.	
		Volume Available	**% of Average Supply**
Average Year	2019	0	0%
Single-Dry Year	2022	2,000	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2012	2,000	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2013	2,000	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2014	2,000	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2015	2,000	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2016	2,000	100%

DWR NOTES: Supplier may use multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R if different water sources have different base years and the supplier chooses to report the base years for each water source separately. If a Supplier uses multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R, in the "Note" section of each submittal table, state that multiple versions of Submittal Table 7-1 R are being used and identify the particular water source that is being reported in each submittal table.
Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3. This table reports the units of measure reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES: CVP Supplemental
Single and Multi Dry Years 1,000 AFY from San Justo Reserve
Multi Dry Years 1,000 AFY from ADRoP for single or multiple year droughts

Submittal Table 7-2 Retail: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison Water Code Section 10635 (a)					
	2030	**2035**	**2040**	**2045**	**2050**
Supply totals (autofill from Submittal Table 6-9 R)	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,504	0
Use totals (autofill from Submittal Table 4-2 R)	9,028	10,623	12,504	0	0
Surplus/(shortfall)	(1,355)	(1,595)	(1,882)	12,504	0
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions					
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	0	0	0	0	0
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	0	0	0	0	0
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	(1,355)	(1,595)	(1,882)	12,504	0
DWR NOTES : Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.					
NOTES:					

Submittal Table 7-3 Retail: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison Water Code Section 10635(a)					
	2030	**2035**	**2040**	**2045**	**2050**
Supply totals	10,780	10,780	10,780	10,780	
Use totals	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,504	
Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	(1,724)	
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions					
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	0	0	0	0	
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	0	0	0	1,724	
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	0	
DWR NOTES : Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.					
NOTES					

Submittal Table 7-4 Retail: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison
Water Code Section 10635(a)

		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	12,117	12,117	12,117	12,117
	Use totals	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,504
	Surplus/(shortfall)	4,443	3,089	1,494	(388)
	OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions				
	WSCP - supply augmentation benefit				
	WSCP - use reduction savings benefit				388
	Revised Surplus/(shortfall)				0
Second year	Supply totals	11,820	11,820	11,820	11,820
	Use totals	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,304
	Surplus/(shortfall)	4,146	2,792	1,197	(485)
	OPTIONAL WSCP Actions				
	WSCP - supply augmentation benefit				
	WSCP - use reduction savings benefit				485
	Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	4,146	2,792	1,197	0
Third year	Supply totals	10,780	10,780	10,780	10,780
	Use totals	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,304
	Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	(1,524)
	OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions				
	WSCP - supply augmentation benefit				
	WSCP - use reduction savings benefit				1,524
	Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	0
Fourth year	Supply totals	10,780	10,780	10,780	10,780
	Use totals	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,304
	Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	(1,524)
	OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions				
	WSCP - supply augmentation benefit				
	WSCP - use reduction savings benefit				1,524
	Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	0
Fifth year	Supply totals	10,780	10,780	10,780	10,780
	Use totals	7,673	9,028	10,623	12,304
	Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	(1,524)
	OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions				
	WSCP - supply augmentation benefit				
	WSCP - use reduction savings benefit				1,524
	Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	3,107	1,752	157	0

DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.

NOTES:

Submittal Table 7-5 Retail: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Water Code Section 10635(b)(3)	
2026	**Total**
Total Water Use	6,408
Total Supplies	6,097
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	(311)
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions (use reduction and supply augmentation)	
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	311
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	0
2027	**Total**
Total Water Use	6,433
Total Supplies	6,800
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	367
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions (use reduction and supply augmentation)	
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	367
2028	**Total**
Total Water Use	6,458
Total Supplies	5,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	(697)
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions (use reduction and supply augmentation)	
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	697
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	0
2029	**Total**
Total Water Use	6,484
Total Supplies	5,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	(723)
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions (use reduction and supply augmentation)	
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	723
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	0
2030	**Total**
Total Water Use	6,511
Total Supplies	5,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	(750)
OPTIONAL Planned WSCP Actions (use reduction and supply augmentation)	
WSCP - supply augmentation benefit	
WSCP - use reduction savings benefit	750
Revised Surplus/(shortfall)	0
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.	
NOTES:	

8. WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLANNING

The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB have all passed ordinances/resolutions to address shortages in water supply. In addition, the SBUA agencies have updated the Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP). This plan serves as a guide for adjusting supply and demand in response to a water shortage. The original plan was developed in 2016 as part of the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (**Appendix D**) and provides details on how to reduce demand in the event of a water supply shortage.

In response to the 2012-2016 drought, a new WSCP mandate requires WSCPs to provide a more detailed analysis of supply and demand contingency actions and plan implementation. Additions to the 2020 WSCP include the documentation of plan procedures and implementation, standardization of water supply stages of action for the water supply plan, and quantification of contingency action effects on supply and demand.

Emergency responses to natural disasters are also discussed in a joint Water Shortage Emergency Response Plan to assist in planning and managing supply disruption, **Appendix E.**

The 2016 WSCP outlined a water shortage response plan in the event of supply interruption. This plan included a four-stage rationing plan with voluntary and mandatory rationing depending on the severity and duration of the water supply shortage. The water shortage response was based on the Sunnyslope No Water Waste Ordinance No. 45 and was first documented for the HUA (now SBUA) as part of the 2000 UWMP.

Pursuant to Water Code Section 10632(a)(3), all WSCPs must include a six-stage plan corresponding to shortage stages of up to 10 percent, 20 percent, 30 percent, 40 percent, 50 percent, and greater than 50 percent of water supply. During the 2012-2016 drought years, differences in state and local definitions led to uncertainty in public communication and state policy. This standardization is meant to aid communication and response action implementations across the state.

Water Code Section 10632(a)(3)(B) allows suppliers to retain existing water shortage response plan stages if the existing stages are directly related to the specified six stages. The four stages identified in the previous 2016 WSCP have been translated to the six new stages, which are shown in **Table 8-1**. For the new Stage 1, up to 10 percent reduction, the voluntary measures for the previous stage 1 (up to 15 percent) are applicable. For both 10 to 20 percent and 20 to 30 percent reductions, the previous Stage 2 restrictions are applicable, aiming for 25 percent reduction. For 30 to 40 percent and 40-50 percent reductions, the previous Stage 3 is applicable, which aims for 35 percent reductions. Finally, for greater than 50 percent reductions, the previous Stage 4, is applicable for over 50 percent reduction.

8.1 WATER SYSTEM RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

Water supply reliability analyses conducted by the SBUA (Section 7) identify constraints on water supply sources and evaluated each source's availability during a normal year, a single dry year, a five-year drought period, and twenty-year future projections. These analyses show that supply resources are sufficient to

meet demand. The SBUA depends on imported water, groundwater, and recycled water to meet its supply.

CVP water has been imported by the District for direct municipal supply since 2003 and water treatment facilities have been expanded to an operational capacity of 6,720 AFY, 81 percent of the total contractual allocation for CVP M&I water (8,250 AFY). However, allocations vary based on hydrologic conditions. The CVP allocation for M&I demand since 2006 has ranged from 0 percent (public health and safety) during dry years, to the full allocation during wet years.

In 2022, For M&I users, the initial allocation was also 0 percent, but agencies had the opportunity to request water to serve public health and safety (PHS) needs. The District prepared a memorandum to USBR summarizing the demands and supplies of the retailers consistent with the "Central Valley Project Municipal and Industrial Water Shortage Policy Guidelines and Procedures" (WSP Guidelines). The District documented that—without any CVP imports—the unmet PHS demand would be 2,968 AF. USBR granted the District 2,766 AF, equivalent to 33.5 percent of their contract. For future critically dry years, the SBUA anticipates this would be the minimum allocation, although USBR does not guarantee any future allocations.

In 2025, the total CVP water supply for the SBUA was 4,176 AF, not including losses. Future projections suggest an average of 75 percent of CVP supplies in normal years, resulting in 7,425 AFY for supply in the SBUA.

The groundwater basin provides critical storage and is also an important source of water for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB which pump groundwater directly from wells within the SBUA. As documented in the GSP, the groundwater basin is managed sustainably, and stored groundwater is replenished in wet years for use in dry years. While groundwater has relatively poor water quality, it is blended with CVP supply in order to improve water supply, and indirectly the quality of wastewater and recycled water.

Recycled water is used at Riverside Park in the SBUA but has been prioritized for agricultural users outside the SBUA. No surface or stormwater are utilized directly for supply, but these sources of water can be used to supplement recharge.

Drought is the primary issue that would cause a shortage condition. Other causes of a water shortage include the sudden presence of unforeseen toxins or infrastructure damage due to earthquakes or other natural disasters.

The Water Supply Reliability Analysis shows that the current available supply is sufficient to meet unconstrained demand during both a regular year and a single dry year (Section 7.2.2.2). Accounting for growth, the water supply during a normal year would meet demand every year 2020-2040. During a single dry year, supply would decrease due to decreased CVP allocations but can be supplemented with groundwater and other sources or addressed with conservation. The current supply is sufficient to meet unconstrained demand in 2025, 2030, and 2035, but demand in 2040 is expected to be 186 AF greater than supply (i.e., 1.3 percent of the total 10,859 AF projected demand). Initiation of voluntary Stage 1 of the WSCP is recommended during dry years.

The Drought Risk Assessment evaluates if current supplies are sufficient to meet demand during a multi-year drought. In brief, the maximum available supply was found sufficient to meet demand for three out of five dry years. The dry year conditions were based on the 2012-2016 drought years, and water demands were adjusted for population growth over the next five years. Although the supply should be sufficient to meet demand during the first three years of a multi-year drought, it is recommended that the SBUA Agencies implement the voluntary WSCP Stage 1 as a precautionary measure to conserve water during every drought year. After year two of a multi-year drought, the projected demand was greater than the maximum supplies if Stage 1 if the WSCP was not implemented. The gap each year was less than 20 percent of total demand, and it is expected that implementing Stage 2 of the WSCP would bridge the gap. However, agencies should be prepared to implement higher stages in the event of extended dry years.

8.2 ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

Beginning in 2022, SBUA agencies have prepared and submitted an annual water supply and demand assessment, pursuant to section 10632 (a)(2) of the Water Code. These annual assessments must be submitted to DWR by July 1 of each year.

The annual assessment has been completed in conjunction with the SGMA North San Benito County Groundwater Sustainability Agency annual GSP report. SGMA requires the submittal of this annual report on April 1. The GSP annual report includes analyses of recent groundwater conditions, surface water supply, total water use, and change in groundwater storage. In addition, the report summarizes supply and demand in the previous water year and includes an estimate of next-year conditions, agricultural pumping, and water purchases. The water supply and demand assessments for the SBUA are prepared as a follow up memo relaying the same data as the annual report to streamline data requests and reporting for the three agencies.

The assessment will include documentation of the projected supply and demand for the upcoming year and determination that supply will be sufficient, even during a dry year. Supplies, including available groundwater, CVP, and recycled water, will be assessed by describing and quantifying the previous year's water supply and estimating the upcoming year's supplies. Groundwater use and basin conditions in the previous water year were assessed to determine any issues. The supply assessment includes data on climatic conditions, groundwater levels and extraction, land use, streamflow measurements, reservoir budgets, CVP deliveries, recharge rates, municipal recycling rates, and water quality data. The demand assessment relies on agency-reported totals by use category.

Projected supplies are largely dependent on climate and water conditions during the previous water year and the projected CVP allocations. In the annual water supply and demand assessment, the supplies are assessed for both the current year and the subsequent dry year, taking plausible constraints into account.

Unconstrained customer demand is assessed annually by looking at historical growth, climate, and water demand over the previous water year. The previous year's use was adjusted to account for new customer connections. If the planned use is greater than the dry year supply, the SBUA agencies are prepared to

enact the WSCP. Any infrastructure projects or conditions will also be factored into the supply and demand assessment.

8.3 WATER SHORTAGE LEVEL STAGES OF ACTION

Pursuant to Water Code Section 10632(a)(3), all WSCPs must include a six-stage plan corresponding to shortage stages of up to 10 percent, 20 percent, 30 percent, 40 percent, 50 percent, and greater than 50 percent of water supply. During the 2012-2016 drought years, differences in state and local definitions led to uncertainty in public communication and state policy. This standardization is meant to aid communication and response action implementations across the state.

Water Code Section 10632(a)(3)(B) allows suppliers to retain existing water shortage response plan stages if the existing stages are directly related to the specified six stages.

8.4 SHORTAGE RESPONSE ACTIONS

Water shortages can be met by augmenting the supply and/or decreasing the water demand. Each response action must be implementable. In Sections 8.4.1 and 8.4.2, the response actions for each stage are outlined, along with the methodology for calculating action effectiveness. **Tables 8-2 R** and **W** present the two general demand reduction actions (namely, to increase the proportion of groundwater in potable water, and to use imported water stored in San Justo Reservoir for drought reserves), the stages in which they are implemented, and the estimated percent by which they can decrease demand. **Tables 8-3 R** and **W** provide detailed lists of demand reduction actions.

In response to the WSCP guidelines, the effectiveness of each demand reduction action has been quantified for SBUA using the best available data. It should be noted that the effectiveness of many shortage response actions has not been studied, and effectiveness can vary by region. These estimates are best used as guidelines to inform decision makers about which actions may contribute most to demand reductions. The methods for calculating the effectiveness of each action are outlined in **Appendix F.** In addition to the methods outlined as part of the WSCP, further demand reductions (particularly with indoor residential water use) are expected due to outreach, education, and social pressures.

The effectiveness of each action was estimated based on the observed water demand reduction during the 2014-2016 drought, studies and literature reviews examining the effectiveness of individual and combined response actions, and calculations of demand decreases scaled to the regional population. These estimates reflect best available data; however, it should be noted that the estimates are also uncertain. Historical data on demand reductions during drought, both within SBUA and in case studies, are a result of *combined* demand restrictions, public education, and social pressures. There are very few studies of the effect of individual actions. In addition, a variety of assumptions are used in calculations of water demand as reduced by a given action. For example, estimating the money saved by restricting at-home carwashes involved assumptions about how many SBUA residents would wash their car at home in a non-drought month, how many of those carwashes would use a hose with a nozzle, and how much water each wash would use. Furthermore, several restrictions rely on postponing actions or implementing large

water-use projects, such as filling up a new pool, removing a single-pass cooling system, or receiving a large new water permit.

8.4.1 LOCALLY APPROPRIATE DEMAND REDUCTION BY STAGE

Implementation of restrictions and prohibitions on end users is based on a fundamental prioritization of domestic supply for human health and safety over non-essential uses, including landscape irrigation. In the event of a water shortage, water service may be restricted or prohibited for non-essential uses, recognizing that certain end users may be required to save more water than others because of their specific use. Prohibitions on end uses will affect user types differently:

- For urban residential users (who typically rely on SBUA agencies for domestic supply), water service will continue during a shortage with restrictions on outdoor water use in Stages 1 through 5 and prohibitions in Stage 6.
- Rural residential users of CVP M&I water would also be subject to restrictions and prohibitions on outside water features and landscape irrigation.
- Landscape irrigators (e.g., golf courses, dedicated irrigation meters) are subject to the restrictions listed below for Stages 1 through 5 and the prohibition in Stage 6.
- Commercial businesses are subject to all restrictions in Stages 1 through 5 and prohibitions in Stage 6.

Stage 1

The first stage applies voluntary actions to reach the demand reduction goal of 10 percent, with a focus on outdoor irrigation demand reduction.

1. Recommended Watering Hours: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is discouraged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time.
2. Recommended Limit on Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated areas with potable water using a landscape irrigation system or a watering device that is not continuously attended is recommended to be limited to no more than three days a week with a duration of fifteen minutes watering per water day per station. This subsection does not apply to landscape irrigation systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two gallons of water per hour and weather-based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70 percent efficiency standard. The use of recycled water is exempt from this prohibition.
3. Eliminate Excessive Water Flow or Runoff: Watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area in a manner that causes or allows excessive water flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter, or ditch is strongly discouraged.
4. Discourage Washing Down Hard or Paved Surfaces: Washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is discouraged except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held

hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shutoff device, a low-volume, high-pressure cleaning machine equipped to recycle any water used, or a low-volume high-pressure water broom.

5. Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: Excessive use, loss or escape of water through breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system for any period of time after such escape of water should have reasonably been discovered and corrected are encouraged to be corrected as soon as practical.
6. Recirculating Water for Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features: Operating a water fountain or other decorative water features that uses recirculated water is encouraged.
7. Washing Vehicles: Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat, or trailer, whether motorized or not is discouraged, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. Washing vehicles at commercial conveyor car wash systems with re-circulating water systems is recommended.
8. Drinking Water Served Upon Request: Eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to a restaurant, hotel, cafe, cafeteria, bar, or other public place where food or drinks are sold, served, or offered for sale, are encouraged to providing drinking water to any person only when expressly requested.
9. Commercial Lodging Establishments Encouraged to Provide Guests Option to Decline Daily Linen Services: Hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments are encouraged to provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments are encouraged to prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.
3. Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems: Installation of single pass cooling systems is discouraged in buildings requesting new water service.
10. Installation of Non-recirculating Water System in Commercial Car Wash and Laundry Systems: Installation of non-recirculating water systems is discouraged in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
11. Restaurants Encouraged to Use Water Conserving Dishwash Spray Valves: Food preparation establishments, such as restaurants or cafes, are encouraged to use water conserving dish wash spray valves.
12. Commercial Car Wash Systems: All commercial conveyor car wash systems are encouraged to install operational re-circulating water systems.
13. Pool Covers: It is recommended that all existing pools use a pool cover or solar blanket to reduce water loss due to evaporation.

Stage 2

The second stage seeks a 10 to 20 percent reduction of future supplies, and uses restricted building permits, mandatory rationing, and reduction by customer types. The shortage response actions in Stage 2 are derived from the 25 percent reduction stage established in the 2016 WSCP. Stage 2 continues the voluntary reductions in Stage 1. In addition, the following reduction requirements become mandatory:

4. Limits on Watering Hours: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. The use of recycled water is exempt from this prohibition.
5. Limit on Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water using a landscape irrigation system or a watering device that is not continuously attended is limited to no more than fifteen minutes watering per designated water day per station. This subsection does not apply to landscape irrigation systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two gallons of water per hour and weather based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70 percent efficiency standard. The use of recycled water is exempt from this prohibition.
6. Limits on Watering Days: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to three days per week from April through October. The watering days are designated depending upon house address (odd house and no house address Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, even house address Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday). During the months of November through March, watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to no more than one day per week (odd house and no house address - Monday, even house address - Tuesday). This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.
7. No Excessive Water Flow or Runoff: The application of water is prohibited to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non- irrigated areas, private and public walkways, driveway, street, alley, gutter, ditch, parking lots, or structures.
8. No Washing Down Hard or Paved Surfaces: Washing down hard or paved surfaces is prohibited, including but not limited to buildings, structures, sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios, or alleys.
9. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within seventy-two (72) hours of notification by the city unless other arrangements are made with the city.
10. Recirculating Water Required for Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features: Operating a water fountain or other decorative water feature that does not use recirculated water is prohibited.
11. Limits on Washing Vehicles: Using water to wash or clean a vehicle is prohibited, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat, or trailer, whether motorized or not, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. This subsection does not apply to any commercial car washing facility.

12. Drinking Water Served Upon Request Only: Eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to a restaurant, hotel, cafe, cafeteria, bar, or other public place where food or drinks are sold, served, or offered for sale, are prohibited from providing drinking water to any person unless expressly requested.
13. Commercial Lodging Establishments Must Provide Guests Option to Decline Daily Linen Services: Hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments must provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.
14. No Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems: Installation of single pass cooling systems is prohibited in buildings requesting new water service.
15. No Installation of Non-re-circulating in Commercial Car Wash and Laundry Systems: Installation of non-re-circulating water systems is prohibited in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
16. Commercial Car Wash Systems: Within one year of passage of this Ordinance, all commercial conveyor car wash systems must have installed operational re-circulating water systems, or must have secured a waiver of this requirement from the city.
17. Pool Covers and Refilling of Existing Pools: All new pools shall be required to have a pool cover or solar blanket to reduce water loss through evaporation. Refilling of existing private pools is prohibited, except to maintain water levels, unless the pool is in imminent danger of failure.

Stage 3

The third stage seeks a 20 to 30 percent reduction of water demand. During this stage, the shortage response actions for Stages 1 and 2 will be in place. The shortage response actions for this stage are derived from the 25 percent reduction stage established in the 2016 WSCP. Stage 3 contains the same response actions as Stage 2. SBUA may choose to increase response action monitoring and enforcement in Stage 3, as well as encouraging water users to adopt additional voluntary conservation measures.

Stage 4

Stage 4 aims for a 30 to 40 percent reduction. It allows the agencies to restrict water uses to priority needs and the prohibited or limited uses of water become more restrictive. These restrictions are derived from the 35 percent reduction stage in the 2016 WSCP.

1. Limits on Watering Days: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to two days per week from April through October. The watering days are designated depending upon house address (odd house and no house address - Monday and Thursday, even house address - Tuesday, and Friday). During the months of November through March, watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to no more than one day per week (odd house and no house address - Monday, even house address - Tuesday). This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than

two (2) gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. Use of recycled water for irrigation is exempt from these restrictions.

2. Irrigating Within 48 Hours of Rainfall: The applications of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours following measurable rainfall is prohibited.
3. Irrigation outside Newly Constructed Homes: The irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Building Standards Commission is prohibited.
4. Installation of New Turf: Adding new turf landscaping is prohibited.
5. Prohibition against Watering Turf in Medians: The irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians, including roundabouts is prohibited.
6. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within forty- eight (48) hours of notification by the city unless other arrangements are made with the city.
7. Limits on Filling Ornamental Lakes or Ponds: Filling or re-filling ornamental lakes or ponds with potable water is prohibited, except to the extent needed to sustain aquatic life, provided that such animals are of significant value and have been actively managed within the water feature prior to declaration of a supply shortage level under this section.
8. New Pools: Installation and filling of new private pools are prohibited.
9. Dust Control: The use of potable water for construction and dust control is prohibited.
10. Drought Water Rates: Each agency may consider adopting rate structures and other mechanisms to maximize water conservation. These rates should be consistent with Prop 218's requirements.
11. Any of the SBUA agencies reserve the right to restrict water use for priority uses.

Stage 5

Stage 5 aims for a 40 to 50 percent reduction. The water shortage response actions in this phase are the same as those in Stage 4. Enforcement and monitoring may be increased during this stage to assist in decreasing water demand.

Stage 6

Stage 6 seeks at least a 50 percent reduction. This stage adds flow restrictions and a per capita allotment by customer type. The prohibited or limited uses of water in the previous stages are continued or made more restrictive. No watering or irrigating. Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is prohibited. This restriction does not apply to recycled water. Exceptions are limited to the following:

1. Maintenance of vegetation, including trees and shrubs, that are watered using a hand-held bucket or similar container, hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device;

2. Maintenance of existing landscape necessary for fire protection;
3. Maintenance of existing landscape for soil erosion control;
4. Maintenance of plant materials identified to be rare or essential to the well-being of protected species;
5. Maintenance of landscape within active public parks and playing fields, day care centers, golf course greens, and school grounds, provided that such irrigation does not exceed two (2) days per week for no more than fifteen (15) minutes watering per designated water day per station and is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time.
6. Actively irrigated environmental mitigation projects.
7. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions. All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within twenty-four hours of notification by the city unless other arrangements are made with the water retailer.
8. Limits on New Potable Water Service: Upon declaration of a Level 4 Water Shortage Emergency condition, the agency may limit the issuance of new potable water services, temporary meters and/or statements of immediate ability to serve or provide potable water service (such as, can and will-serve letters, certificates, or letters of availability), except under the following circumstances:
9. A valid, unexpired building permit has been issued for the project; or
10. The project is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; or
11. The applicant provides substantial evidence of an enforceable commitment that water demands for the project will be offset prior to the provision of a new water meter(s) to the satisfaction of the agency providing service.
12. This provision does not preclude the resetting or turn-on of meters to provide continuation of water service or the restoration of service that has been interrupted for a period of one year or less.
13. Limits on Building Permits. Upon declaration of a Stage 4 Water Supply Shortage Emergency condition, the City Administrator is authorized to implement a program in his or her discretion to limit or withhold the issuance of building permits which require new or expanded water service, except to protect the public health, safety and welfare, or in cases which meet the city's adopted conservation offset requirements.
14. No New Annexations. Upon the declaration of Stage 4, the agencies may suspend consideration of annexations to their service area. This subsection does not apply to boundary corrections and annexations that will not result in any immediate increased use of water.
15. Each of the SBUA agencies reserves the right to restrict flow in water lines.

8.4.2 LOCALLY APPROPRIATE SUPPLY AUGMENTATION

During a water shortage emergency, the SBUA Agencies may choose to augment the water supply by increasing the proportion of groundwater in delivered water. Groundwater can make up for any decrease in CVP allocation during a drought. SBUA potable water is a mix of CVP water and groundwater to meet aesthetic standards. The average proportion of the supply that is CVP water was 50 percent over the past five years. The proportion of groundwater can be temporarily increased if the CVP supply is limited or

insufficient to meet demand. The preferred ratio of groundwater to imported water is 35:65, but this proportion may temporarily increase during periods of water shortage. Decreasing the proportion of potable water that is CVP is at the discretion of the SBUA agencies and may be enacted during stages 2 through 6. As shown in **Table 8-3,** augmenting the supply through increasing the proportion of groundwater in potable water is estimated to enhance the supply by up to 20 percent. Drought reserves in San Justo Reservoir can also augment supply during a water shortage emergency. However, these supplies are managed as exchanges or transfers (Section 6.2.7.2) and not as part of the WSCP.

8.4.3 CATASTROPHIC SUPPLY INTERRUPTION

Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District also have water shortage emergency response plans in place. The Drought Resilience Plan outlines a process for classifying water shortage stage (readiness, alert, and emergency) using indicators of water supply that activate defined actions to address the water shortage (Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 2026). A copy of this plan is included in **Appendix E**.

Hollister and Sunnyslope have a general Emergency Disaster Response Plan as well as a Power Failure Emergency Response Plans. The plans include steps to be taken during and after a disaster and the use of the Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS). Copies of these plans are included as **Appendix F**. The District relies on their current Water User's Handbook and County emergency plans.

These plans develop the procedures for each agency before and during a disruption of water supply during a natural disaster. In 1999, the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) published *Emergency Planning Guidance for Public and Private Water Utilities* to improve coordination among water utilities and other emergency response agencies and to assist water utilities in developing or revising emergency plans and procedures. It is recommended that ongoing coordination between Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB and the District take place to ensure these water supply emergency plans remain consistent and meet the goals provided in the guidance documents. With these plans in place, the retailers in the SBUA can adequately handle a water supply shortage due to a natural disaster or another interruption of the water supply (Cal EMA 1999).

The agencies' emergency shortage plans meet the requirements for the WSCP to include a seismic risk assessment and mitigation plan to assess the vulnerability of each water facility.

8.5 COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

Effectively implementing any stage of the water shortage contingency plan requires clear and timely communication with the public, stakeholders, key decision makers, and local, regional, and state governments. The WSCP Communication protocols allow agencies to efficiently communicate any current or predicted water shortages and the response actions that are triggered. Communication protocols are outlined for each stage. In order to ensure consistency, each agency is encouraged to develop scripted responses to commonly asked questions when each stage goes into effect and, as information changes throughout a water shortage crisis.

8.5.1 STAGE 1 AND PRIOR COMMUNICATION

Stage 1 contains voluntary measures meant to reduce water demand by up to 10 percent. The SBUA agencies aim to communicate water conditions when a water shortage condition exists or is anticipated. During this stage, or when SBUA is expected to enter Stage 1 soon, the following communication protocols are recommended:

- The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB must communicate to establish consistent Stage 1 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (Section 8.5.7).
- Communication in both English and Spanish of voluntary actions with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.

16. Monthly reports will be sent to the City of Hollister Council, Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions and response actions.
- Daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency.

17. The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, Public Works Director at the City of Hollister, City Manager at the City of SJB, and Program Manager of the WRA.

- Communication with public about potential for mandatory stages.
- Increased information about voluntary programs, like home surveys and leak repairs.

8.5.2 STAGE 2 COMMUNICATION

Stage 2 contains voluntary measures meant to reduce water demand by 10-20 percent. During this stage, the following communication protocols are recommended:

- The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB must communicate to establish consistent Stage 2 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (Section 8.5.7)
- Communication in both English and Spanish of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions and new mandatory response actions.

- Direct contact (via telephone or email) to chamber of commerce and businesses directly affected by restrictions (hotels and carwashes, for example)
- Monthly reports will be sent to the City of Hollister Council, Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency.

18. The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, Public Works Director at the City of Hollister, City Manager at the City of SJB and Program Manager of the WRA.

- Education about continued voluntary conservation actions with public.
- Increased information about voluntary programs, like home surveys and leak repairs, particularly within context of adhering to Stage 2 mandatory restrictions.

8.5.3 STAGE 3 COMMUNICATION

Stage 3 seeks to reduce water demand by 20-30 percent but includes the same mandatory actions as Stage 2. During this stage, increased communication about water conditions can lead to a decrease in demand.

- The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB must communicate to establish consistent Stage 3 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (Section 8.5.7)
- Increased communication of mandatory actions with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency.
- The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, the Public Works Director at the City of Hollister, the City Manager at SJB, and to the Program Manager of the WRA.

19. Monthly reports will be sent to the City of Hollister Council, Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions.
- Warnings of increased water use monitoring and stricter mandatory restrictions if SBUA enters Stage 4.

8.5.4 STAGE 4

Stage 4 implements stricter mandatory management actions to achieve a 30-40 percent reduction.

- The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB must communicate to establish consistent Stage 4 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (Section 8.5.7)
- Communication in English and Spanish of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production reports will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions and new mandatory response actions.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) to chamber of commerce and businesses directly affected by restrictions (construction or landscaping companies, for example).
- Monthly reports will be sent to the Hollister City Council, the Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and the City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Increased information about voluntary programs, like home surveys and leak repairs, particularly within context of adhering to Stage 4 mandatory restrictions.

8.5.5 STAGE 5

Stage 5 seeks to reduce water demand by 40-50 percent but includes the same mandatory actions as Stage 4. During this stage, increased communication about water conditions can lead to a decrease in demand.

- The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB must communicate to establish consistent Stage 5 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (Section 8.5.7)
- Increased communication of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production reports will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions
- Monthly reports will be sent to the Hollister City Council, the Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and the City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

- Warnings of increased water use monitoring and stricter mandatory restrictions if SBUA enters Stage 5.

8.5.6 STAGE 6

Stage 6 is the most severe stage, seeking to reduce demand by at least 50 percent. The District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope must communicate to establish consistent Stage 5 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (Section 8.5.7).

- Increased communication of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production reports will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions.
- Monthly reports will be sent to the Hollister City Council, the Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and the City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

8.5.7 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS BY TARGET AUDIENCE

It is recommended that the District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope collaborate to develop a unified response to the following commonly asked questions:

Customers and Community:

- When will water supply return to normal?
- What are the restrictions, and when will restrictions be lifted?
- What will you give me to compensate for any damage to my property?
- How will you prevent a water shortage in the future?

News Media:

- What are the current water conditions?
- What is the status of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan?
- What is the estimated loss?
- How will you prevent this from happening again?
- Who is responsible?

Government Regulators:

- When did water shortage happen?

- What are the environmental, health, and safety impacts of this water shortage?

Elected officials:

- How does this water shortage affect the environment, the economy, and public safety?
- How many employees are affected?
- When will the situation return to normal?

Employees:

- Will this water shortage affect my job?
- Will I get paid during times of reduced operation?

8.6 COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

8.6.1 DEMAND REDUCTION THROUGH PUBLIC OUTREACH

During the most recent drought (2014-2016), public outreach was expanded by 200 percent, and a 25 percent reduction was achieved by both Hollister and Sunnyslope. These programs are discussed in more detail in Section 9. The specific public outreach measures listed below are intended to reduce demand during a drought or water supply interruption:

- Expand Public Information Campaign – Newsletter and other flyers in both English and Spanish were used to publicize programs and explain the importance of drought conservation.
20. Improve Customer Billing – Customers with higher-than-average bills were contacted and possible water savings were recommended.
- Offer Water Use Surveys – Both residential and landscape surveys help high water users to identify areas of potential conservation.
21. Provide Rebates or Giveaways of Plumbing Fixtures and Devices – Rebates and plumbing retrofits are available at all times, but are publicized more during drought conditions. Plumbing retrofits including hose nozzles, faucet aerators, and shower heads are available at no cost to customers. Rebates are available for low flow toilets and high efficiency washing machines.
- Provide Rebates for Landscape Irrigation Efficiency – There is currently a landscape efficiency rebate program that provides rebates for landscape conversion, low-volume sprinkler heads, rain sensors, hose timers, and includes customized sprinkler schedules.
- Increase Water Waste Patrols – Examples include: Implement a Water Waste Patrol program; Increase staffing for Water Waste Patrol; Increase authority of Water Waste Patrol.
22. Moratorium or Net Zero Demand Increase on New Connections – The agencies have added a ‘no new connection’ element to their WSCP that is triggered in Stage 4.
- Implement or Modify Drought Rate Structure or Surcharge –a drought rate structure may be implemented in future droughts.

In addition to these measures, SBUA agencies offer ongoing educational programming, classes, and community outreach. Section 9 of the UWMP contains a more detailed descriptions of these programs.

8.6.2 WARNING AND CITATION PROTOCOLS

Enforcement is applicable at any water shortage stage. Any customer violating the regulations and restrictions on water use set forth in the “No Waste" Ordinances will receive a written warning for the first violation. A second violation within 12 months of the first violation results in a $100 penalty. On the third violation, the customer will be charged a $250 fine and the retailer may install a flow-restrictor. If a flow-restrictor is placed, the violator will pay the cost of installation and removal. After a fourth violation, a $500 penalty is issued. If water service is disconnected, it will be restored only upon payment of a reconnection charge. These penalties apply at any time but are likely to be more closely adhered to during drought periods.

Any willful violation occurring subsequent to the issuance of the second written warning will constitute a misdemeanor and may be referred to the City/County District Attorney’s office for prosecution pursuant. Misdemeanor convictions could include imprisonment and/or fines. The length of time for imprisonment and the magnitude of the fine vary between Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB. If water service is disconnected, it will be restored only upon payment of a reconnection charge. These penalties apply at any time but are likely to be more closely adhered to during drought periods. In addition to fines, Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, or the District, after written notice, may install a flow restrictor device or discontinue service to consumers who willfully violate provisions of this WSCP.

A person or property can apply for a waiver to the requirements in the WSCP. This hardship waiver is applicable at any stage of the WSCP. The written request must be submitted to one of the SBUA agencies with supporting documentation (photographs, maps, drawings, and any other information as appropriate). The waiver may be granted or conditionally granted only upon a written finding of the existence of facts demonstrating an undue hardship to a person using water or to property upon which water is used. The Agency that receives the waiver must act upon any completed application no later than ten days after submittal and may approve, conditionally approve, or deny the waiver. The applicant requesting the waiver must be promptly notified in writing of any action taken.

8.7 LEGAL AUTHORITIES

In the event of a water shortage, the SBUA Agencies shall declare a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code Chapter 3 Division 1.

Water Code Chapter 3 Division 1, Section 350 *Declaration of water shortage emergency condition.*
The governing body of a distributor of a public water supply, whether publicly or privately owned and including a mutual water company, shall declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the area served by such distributor whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply of the distributor to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection.

The SBUA agencies shall coordinate with the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista and San Benito County for the possible proclamation of a local emergency, as defined in the California Government Code, California Emergency Services Act (Article 2, Section 8558).

8.8 FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF WSCP

During periods of water shortage, revenue of the SBUA agencies may be reduced as the WSCP is implemented. Decreased water demand will lead to decreased revenue at the normal billing rate. The WSCP calls for an increase in water demand reduction programs, such as expanded public information campaigns, water use surveys, rebates, and water waste patrols, which may result in increased spending and staff costs.

The SBUA agencies proactively prepare for periodic revenue shortages and periods of increased spending. All surplus revenues that the District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope collect are currently reinvested into the water supply system in preparation for potential revenue reduction during water shortages.

Based on projected and observed declines in revenue during shortages, the entities determined that rate increases may be needed in Stage 2 through 6. In Stage 1, no additional water purchases and no rate increases are required. For Stages 2 & 3, 4 & 5, and 6, rate increases may be needed if the agencies decide to maintain the same revenue over this period.

8.9 MONITORING, REPORTING, AND WSCP REFINEMENT PROCEDURES

Under normal water supply conditions, potable water production values for Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB are recorded daily and reported monthly to the Water Supervisor. Water use will be monitored and analyzed through billing data. During a Stage 1, Stage 2, or Stage 3 water shortage, daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency. The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, the Public Works Director at the City of Hollister, City Manager at SJB, and to the Program Manager of the WRA. During a Stage 4, 5, or 6 water shortage, the daily production report will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency. In Stages 1 through 6, monthly reports will be sent to the Hollister City Council, the Sunnyslope Board of Directors, and the City of SJB Council. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

The WSCP implementation can be refined and updated at any point. During a water shortage, the agencies may make changes as needed to best fit the emergency and communicate these changes with the public and stakeholders. After a water shortage emergency has passed, the agencies are encouraged to evaluate the plan's effectiveness and may choose to adjust the WSCP to enhance its success, clarity, and feasibility.

8.10 SPECIAL WATER FEATURE DISTINCTION

Per Water Code Section 10632 (b) the SBUA Agencies shall define and analyze water features that are artificially supplied with water, such as ponds, places, waterfalls, and fountains, separately from

swimming pools and spas. Water features that are not pools or spas may use recycled water, while potable water must be used in pools and spas for health and safety purposes.

8.11 ADOPTION, SUBMITTAL, AND AVAILABILITY

The initial WSCP adoption coincided with the 2015 UWMP adoption. In accordance with section 10642 of the Water Code and section 6066 of the Government Code, each agency held a public hearing prior to adoption of the Plan.

Submittal Table 8-1: Cross-reference for Standard vs Supplier Shortage Levels Water Code Section 10632(a)(3)(B)			
☑	Check the box if the Supplier uses the Standard six levels of water shortage. Proceed to the next table.		
Standard Shortage Levels	**Percent Shortage Range**	**Suppliers Shortage Levels**	**Percent Shortage Range**
1	Up to 10%	1	0-10
2	Up to 20%	2	10-20
3	Up to 30%	3	20-30
4	Up to 40%	4	30-40
5	Up to 50%	5	40-50
6	>50%	6	50-100

Submittal Table 8-2 Retail: Supply Augmentation and Other Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(A),(C) and (E)				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
Add additional rows as needed				
2,3,4,5,6	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	0-20%	Increase proportion of groundwater in potable water
2,3,4,5,6	Stored Emergency Supply	Percentage	0-10%	Imported water stored in San Justo Reservoir for drought reserves
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.				
NOTES: Hollister, Sunnyslope, and San Juan Bautista				

Submittal Table 8-2 Wholesale: Supply Augmentation and Other Actions				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
Add additional rows as needed				
2,3,4,5,6	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	0-20%	Increase proportion of groundwater in potable water
2,3,4,5,6	Stored Emergency Supply	Percentage	0-10%	Imported water stored in San Justo Reservoir for drought reserves
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.				
NOTES:				

Submittal Table 8-3 Retail: Demand Reduction Actions
Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B),(D), and (E)

Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)				
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool. Select those that apply.	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)	Penalty, Charge, or Other Enforcement? **For Retail Suppliers Only** Drop Down List
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)		
Add additional rows as needed					
1,2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Restrict or prohibit runoff from landscape irrigation	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Excess runoff is discouraged under Stage 1 and profited for Stage 2 and above.	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific times	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Irrigation is discouraged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m in Stage 1 and prohibited for Stage 2 and above.	Yes
2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific days	Percentage	10% for three times a week restrictions, 20% for twice a week restrictions	Irrigation is limited to three days a week in Stage 2 and reduced to two days a week in Stage 4.	Yes
4,5,6	Landscape - Prohibit certain types of landscape irrigation	Percentage	2%	Irrigation outside new homes or on medians is prohibited in Stage 4. No new turf is allowed in Stage 6.	Yes
6	Landscape - Prohibit all landscape irrigation	Percentage	40%	All Watering or irrigation of lawn, landscape, or other vegetaed areas with potable water is prohibited in stage 6	Yes
4,5,6	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Irrigation within 48 hours after rainfall is prohibited in Stage 4, 5, and 6.	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6,	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Duration of irrigation is suggested to be no more than 15 minutes per watering in stage 1. This limit is required in Stage 2	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Commercial car washes are required to have recirculating systems. Recirculation is encouraged in Stage 1 and required in Stage 2 and above	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Lodging establishment must offer opt out of linen service	Percentage	<1%	Hotel programs are encouraged in stage 1 and required for Stage 2 and above	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Restaurants may only serve water upon request	Percentage	<1%	Drinking water by request is encouraged in Stage 1 and required for Stage 2 and above.	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	1%	Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems are discouraged in Stage 1 and prohibited for Stage 2 and above	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Restaurants encouraged to use water conserving dishwash spray valves	
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Stage 1 recommends washing a vehicle with a hose with a shut valve. In Stage 2 and above, a hose with a shut value is mandatory.	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	Water Features - Restrict water use for decorative water features, such as fountains	Percentage	1%	Recirculating water features are encouraged at all stages. In Stage 2 and beyond, operating a decorative water feature that does not use recirculated water is prohibited.	Yes
4,5,6	Water Features - Restrict water use for decorative water features, such as fountains	Percentage	1%	Filling or refilling ornamental lakes and ponds are prohibited in Stages 4, 5, 6	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Require covers for pools and spas	Percentage	<1%	All pools should have a pool cover, this is encouraged in Stage 1 and required in Stage 2 and above	Yes
4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	Percentage	<1%	The installation and filling of new pools are prohibited	Yes
2,3,4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	Percentage	1%	Existing pools should not be refilled in Stage 2 and above, except to maintain water levels.	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Customers must repair leaks, breaks, and malfunctions in a timely manner	Percentage	2%	Fixing leaks is encouraged under stage 1. Leaks must be fixed with 72, 48 and 24 hours in Stages 2 & 3, 4 & 5 and 6, respectively	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for washing hard surfaces	Percentage	<1%	Washing hard surfaces is discouraged in Stage 1 and prohibited in all other stages.	Yes
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Prohibit vehicle washing except at facilities using recycled or recirculating water	Percentage	<1%	Voluntary in Stage 1, mandatory in Stage 2 and above.	Yes

Submittal Table 8-3 Retail: Demand Reduction Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B),(D), and (E)					
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)				
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool. Select those that apply.	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)	Penalty, Charge, or Other Enforcement? **For Retail Suppliers Only** Drop Down List
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)		
4,5,6	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for construction and dust control	Percentage	1%	Potable water use for dust control is prohibited during Stage 4 throuhg Stage 6.	Yes
6	Other	Percentage	2%	Limits on new water service, building permits, and annexation	Yes
4,5,6	Other	Percentage	Variable	Any HUA Agencies reserve the right to restrict water for priority uses in Phases 4,5,and 6	Yes
4,5,6	Other	Percentage	3%	Agencies may consider drought rates, if applicable in Stages 4,5, and 6.	Yes
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.					
NOTES: Hollister, Sunnyslope, and San Juan Bautista					

Submittal Table 8-3 Wholesale: Demand Reduction Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B) and (E)				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool. Select those that apply.	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
Add additional rows as needed				
1,2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Restrict or prohibit runoff from landscape irrigation	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Excess runoff is discouraged under Stage 1 and profited for Stage 2 and above.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific times	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Irrigation is discouraged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m in Stage 1 and prohibited for Stage 2 and above.
2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific days	Percentage	10% for three times a week restrictions, 20% for twice a week restrictions	Irrigation is limited to three days a week in Stage 2 and reduced to two days a week in Stage 4.
4,5,6	Landscape - Prohibit certain types of landscape irrigation	Percentage	2%	Irrigation outside new homes or on medians is prohibited in Stage 4. No new turf is allowed in Stage 6.
6	Landscape - Prohibit all landscape irrigation	Percentage	40%	All Watering or irrigation of lawn, landscape, or other vegetaed areas with potable water is prohibited in stage 6
4,5,6	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Irrigation within 48 hours after rainfall is prohibited in Stage 4, 5, and 6.
1,2,3,4,5,6,	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Duration of irrigation is suggested to be no more than 15 minutes per watering in stage 1. This limit is required in Stage 2
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Commercial car washes are required to have recirculating systems. Recirculation is encouraged in Stage 1 and required in Stage 2 and above
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Lodging establishment must offer opt out of linen service	Percentage	<1%	Hotel programs are encouraged in stage 1 and required for Stage 2 and above
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Restaurants may only serve water upon request	Percentage	<1%	Drinking water by request is encouraged in Stage 1 and required for Stage 2 and above.
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	1%	Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems are discouraged in Stage 1 and prohibited for Stage 2 and above

Submittal Table 8-3 Wholesale: Demand Reduction Actions
Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B) and (E)

Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool. Select those that apply.	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Restaurants encouraged to use water conserving dishwash spray valves
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Stage 1 recommends washing a vehicle with a hose with a shut valve. In Stage 2 and above, a hose with a shut value is mandatory.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Water Features - Restrict water use for decorative water features, such as fountains	Percentage	1%	Recirculating water features are encouraged at all stages. In Stage 2 and beyond, operating a decorative water feature that does not use recirculated water is prohibited.
4,5,6	Water Features - Restrict water use for decorative water features, such as fountains	Percentage	1%	Filling or refilling ornamental lakes and ponds are prohibited in Stages 4, 5, 6
1,2,3,4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Require covers for pools and spas	Percentage	<1%	All pools should have a pool cover, this is encouraged in Stage 1 and required in Stage 2 and above
4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	Percentage	<1%	The installation and filling of new pools are prohibited
2,3,4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	Percentage	1%	Existing pools should not be refilled in Stage 2 and above, except to maintain water levels.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Customers must repair leaks, breaks, and malfunctions in a timely manner	Percentage	2%	Fixing leaks is encouraged under stage 1. Leaks must be fixed with 72, 48 and 24 hours in Stages 2 & 3, 4 & 5 and 6, respectively
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for washing hard surfaces	Percentage	<1%	Washing hard surfaces is discouraged in Stage 1 and prohibited in all other stages.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Prohibit vehicle washing except at facilities using recycled or recirculating water	Percentage	<1%	Voluntary in Stage 1, mandatory in Stage 2 and above.
4,5,6	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for construction and dust control	Percentage	1%	Potable water use for dust control is prohibited during Stage 4 throuhg Stage 6.
6	Other	Percentage	2%	Limits on new water service, building permits, and annexation

Submittal Table 8-3 Wholesale: Demand Reduction Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B) and (E)				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions **Drop down list** These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool. Select those that apply.	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
4,5,6	Other	Percentage	Variable	Any HUA Agencies reserve the right to restrict water for priority uses in Phases 4,5,and 6
4,5,6	Other	Percentage	3%	Agencies may consider drought rates, if applicable in Stages 4,5, and 6.
DWR NOTES: Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent throughout the UWMP as reported in Submittal Table 2-3.				
NOTES:				

9. DEMAND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

9.1 WHOLESALE AGENCY PROGRAMS

The District is the wholesaler to Zone 6 (Northern San Benito County) for CVP imported water, while Hollister and Sunnyslope are retailers that purchase CVP water from the District. The District is currently working with SJB on the San Juan Bautista Pipeline, which will delivering high-quality surface water from the West Hills WTP to SJB. For this reason, SJB is now included in the SBUA. These four agencies have a strong partnership to plan the future water supply for the SBUA through this document and others, including the Master Plan and GSP. With regard to demand management, the District provides the conservation coordinator for the WRA, financial contribution and technical support to the WRA, and reporting on BMP implementation for Sunnyslope (not a signatory to the CUWCC MOU).

The District continues to:

- Join retail water agencies to plan, design, implement, manage, and evaluate regional conservation programs.
- Provide conservation-related technical support and information to retail agencies they serve.
- Operate part of the conservation programs.
- Provide reports on BMP implementation within their service area by retail water agencies that are not signatories to the CUWCC MOU.
- Encourage all of their retail agencies to be part of the Water Resources Association (WRA).

9.2 DEMAND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR SBUA

Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB and the District are committed to implementing water conservation and water recycling programs. The four agencies participate in the WRA of San Benito County. The WRA retains a Water Conservation Coordinator, who is a District employee, to serve the water conservation needs for the WRA members.

As required by USBR, the WRA coordinator also enters water conservation data to the CUWCC database for Sunnyslope and the District. Hollister's Utility Technician, a certified and functional Conservation Practitioner, enters this information into the CUWCC's database on behalf of the City. The CUWCC BMP number is included with each section for consistency with CUWCC reporting. The WRA coordinator also enters data for District activities into the Agricultural Water Management Council (AWMC) database each year as required by the Bureau. In addition, the WRA coordinator updates the Agricultural Water Management Plan for the District every five years.

UTILITY OPERATIONS RESOURCES – BMP 1

Water waste prevention ordinances. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB have approved water conservation ordinances to reduce water waste at all times. San Benito County has also created a Water Conservation

Plan (also included in **Appendix G**). The plan prohibits certain water wasting uses, limits others, creates guidelines for plumbing fixtures in new developments, and encourages water conservation.

Metering. Hollister, Sunnyslope and SJB are fully metered and currently have meter replacement programs in place. Sunnyslope requires separate irrigation meters for commercial landscaping, parks, and other non-residential water services.

Tiered pricing. A tiered pricing structure is always in place and is not dependent upon a water shortage for implementation, although a future rate structure could include drought rate structures. Tiered pricing sends a signal to customers regarding their water use. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB use a tiered rate structure for single family residences, where efficient water use is billed at a low price, and higher water use is billed at progressively higher prices. The rate structures are included in **Appendix H**.

Programs to assess and manage distribution system real loss. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB generally have small water losses for the overall system. Each retailer regularly inspects the distribution system, to check for leaks. In addition, customers are contacted if water bill increases suggest leaks.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH – BMP 2

WRA, through its Water Conservation Coordinator and other staff, supports a variety of public education and outreach efforts. This includes bill inserts, flyers, Water Awareness Month, school presentations, and more. Water Awareness Month (WAM) is in May at the start of the irrigation season. The timing is optimal to remind water customers about irrigation programs and water efficiency. In addition, Proclamations are read at the Member Agencies board and council meetings as well as the Board of Supervisors meeting in proclaiming May as Water Awareness Month. During WAM, a banner is strung across San Benito Street to urge people to contact their water provider for water saving ideas, the WRA sets up a booth at the local Farmer's Market and holds workshops or classes covering a variety of topics concerning water use reduction.

The WRA retains a Water Conservation Coordinator, who is a District employee, to serve the water conservation needs for the WRA members. This person's duties focus primarily on ongoing programs within the District to encourage wise water use among the urban community and within the SBUA. The duties of this position (and any support staff, as necessary) are described in section 9.3.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS – BMP 3

Residential Surveys. This survey is a free home water conservation checkup including identification of the need for plumbing retrofits, a water softener check, household leak checks and identification of other possible water conservation improvements.

Plumbing Retrofits. As a complement to the residential surveys, WRA offers plumbing retrofits that replace older shower heads, add aerators in faucets and free hose nozzles. While this program has been successful in the past and is estimated to have reached over 75 percent of customers, it may not provide significant water demand reduction in the future because of its past success.

High Efficiency Clothes Washers (HECW) Rebates. These HECW use half as much water as traditional top loading clothes washers. These machines also use less detergent and help protect the quality of groundwater supplies. This rebate has been discontinued and is no longer available.

Toilet Rebates. Rebates and giveaways are available for residential customers who replace existing toilets with high efficiency models. This program was discontinued in 2018 as only high efficiency toilets are now available for purchase.

Water Softener Rebate Program. Since 2007, a program has been in place to issue rebates to those water customers who remove self-regenerating water softeners (SRWS) without replacement ($300) or with transition to an off-site exchange service ($250). In July 2014, the City of Hollister enacted an ordinance that prohibits the installation of SRWS that use sodium and/or potassium salts. In February 2015, Sunnyslope adopted a new District Code prohibiting the installation of SRWS that use sodium and/or potassium salts.

Residential Bill Comparison. In addition to public outreach information. The agencies revised their bills to reflect a comparison of 2013 water consumption and current consumption for customers to gauge their reduction efforts.

High-Bill Contact Programs. These programs alert residential users if the monthly bill is higher than a pre-determined threshold and is implemented by the retailers directly. This will help the residential user identify leaks or changes in water use.

Notification of Leaks. If a leak is detected on a customer's property, they are alerted so they can repair the leak and avoid further water waste.

CII PROGRAMS – BMP 4

Commercial High - Efficiency Single Load Clothes Washers. Rebates are available for commercial customers who replace existing washers with high efficiency single load machines.

Commercial High - Efficiency Toilets. Rebates are available for commercial customers who replace existing toilets with high efficiency model.

Green Business Certification. The WRA is working together with the San Benito County Chamber of Commerce to recognize and promote businesses and government agencies that volunteer to operate in a more environmentally responsible way. WRA staff sits on the board of the Chamber of Commerce's Green Business Committee and actively participates in the Green Business Certification Program. The WRA's partners include Integrated Waste, Recology and PG&E.

Hotel Program. The WRA provides table cards to hotels and motels that allow guests to have linens washed only upon request.

LANDSCAPE PROGRAMS – BMP 5

Landscape Water Surveys. This survey is a free water conservation checkup for large urban irrigators including the identification of needs for plumbing retrofits and/or updated irrigation hardware, leak checks and identification of other possible water conservation improvements.

Landscape Irrigation Hardware Rebate Program. The WRA has rebates on hose timers, rain sensors and MP Rotator irrigation nozzles and sprinkler bodies with pressure regulators. A rebate is offered of 50 percent of the cost of qualifying products, up to $100.

Turf Removal Program. During the last drought (2014-2015) over 88,000 square feet of turf were removed in the Hollister Urban Area. This turf removal program included extensive public outreach in Spanish and English. The program is not currently active but may be used in the future as needed.

Irrigation Education. Since 2009 the District, in collaboration with the WRA, has offered a series of classes on irrigation efficiency and other agriculture practices.These workshops provide concepts, tools, and examples for optimizing irrigation and nitrogen management efficiency in row, tree, and greenhouse crop production. The classes also focus on keeping records and acquiring data needed for water quality regulation and reporting. The WRA also offers classes to residential customers. These classes instruct customers on topics such as efficient irrigation practices, converting landscapes to be water wise, and composting.

Custom Sprinkler Schedule. A Water Conservation Specialist will design a watering schedule tailored to customer habits, sprinkler's output, and the seasonal water needs of the individual lawn and garden. The plan is free and includes a schedule for each season, and even programming of the automatic sprinkler timer upon request.

Landscape Plans. The WRA offers three professional landscape plans, meadow, dry creek, and strolling garden themes, to replace high-water-use gardens. These plans, each valued at $500, emphasize native plants to support biodiversity and utilize permeable features like pavers to improve groundwater recharge. Between 2020 to 2025, there were 4,780 downloads of these plans.

9.3 IMPLEMENTATION OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS

Each DMM listed above is discussed below including the following details:

- Nature – Description of the DMM program (e.g., the dollar value for individual toilet replacements, the process used to inform customers of a landscape water budget program, or the content of a school education program.)
- Extent – Quantification of the implementation of the DMM (e.g., the number of customers who have used the toilet rebate program, the number of large landscape accounts that have been assigned a water budget, or the number of school presentations given by the WRA). In addition, extent includes a description of the methods used to estimate the expected water savings from DMMs, or the agency's implementation plan for a particular DMM.

The SBUA continues to show its dedication to water demand management by steady funding for the WRA. The annual budget has increased from $324K in fiscal year 2015-2016 to $372K in fiscal year 2020-2021 (not including additional funds for development of this UWMP). A more detailed budget by DMM was not available. A summary table on the following page shows the implementation from 2011 to 2015 and 2016 to 2020.

Table. 9-A Ongoing Conservation Programs

CUWCC BMP	Program	Unit	TOTAL 2011-2015	TOTAL 2016-2020	Total 2021-2025
1	Water Waste Ordinances	In Effect			
1	Metering	No unmetered			
1	Conservation Pricing	Tier Rates - Single Family			
1	Water Conservation Coordinator				
2.1	Newsletter and Articles	# of articles published	38	50	**30**
2.1	Flyers/ Bill Inserts	# reached	161,900	108,000	**110,000**
2.1	Website	# reached	2,600	3,800	**45,239**
2.1	Booths at Festivals	# of attendees	6,200	4,650	**6500**
2.1	Email	email sent	675	800	**1000**
2.2	School classroom presentations	# students reached	700	920	**800**
2.2	Large School Assemblies	# students reached	3600	2,200	**2000**
2.2	Field Trips to WTP and WWTP	# students reached	350	275	**250**
2.2	Focus on Water Career Education	# students reached	425	320	**500**
3	Surveys- Residential Single Family	# surveys	1,547	1,073	**1234**
3	Surveys- Residential Multi Family	# surveys	184	42	**32**
3	Plumbing Retrofits Single Family (showerhead/faucet aerators)	# replaced	1,642	1,042	**749**
3	Plumbing Retrofits Multi Family (showerheads/faucet aerators)	# replaced	161	25	**10**
3	High Efficiency Clothes Washers HECW Rebates ($100)	# replaced	280	18	**0**
3	ULF Toilets Rebates/Giveaways	# replaced	995	425	**47**
3	Water Softener Replacement Program	# replaced	319	348	**159**
3	Residential Bill Comparison	total hh reached	3,050		**UNK**
3	High Bill Contact Programs	total hh reached	3,950		
3	Notification of Leaks	total hh reached	1,150		
4	Commercial High-Efficiency Toilets	# replaced	50	82	**160**
4	Commercial High - Efficiency Single Load Clothes Washers	# replaced	2	0	**0**
4	Green Business Certification	# of businesses	11	0	**0**
4	The Hotel Program	# of hotels	2	5	**0**
5	Landscape Irrigation Hardware Rebate Program	# of rebates	89	13	**5**
5	Turf Removal Program	sq ft removed	88,000		
5	Landscape Water Surveys/Audits	# of surveys	6	1,231	**958**

CUWCC BMP	Program	Unit	TOTAL 2011-2015	TOTAL 2016-2020	Total 2021-2025
5	Custom Sprinkler Schedule	# reached	6	150	**UNK**
5	Landscape Classes	# of attendees	400	300	**UNK**
5	Landscape Plans	# downloads	UNK	1,231	**4780**

hh: households

WATER WASTE PREVENTION ORDINANCES

The ordinances were originally created as a response to the multiple dry years of the early 1990's but have continued to support sustainable water supply by prohibiting water wasting activities, which include:

- Indiscriminate or excessive water use, which results in water waste.
- Washing of cars, buildings, or exterior surfaces without the use of a quick-acting, positive shut-off nozzle.
- Use of potable water to irrigate turf, lawns, gardens, or ornamental landscaping between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by means other than drip irrigation or hand watering with a quick-acting, positive shut-off nozzle.
- Use of potable water to wash sidewalks or roadways when the use of airblowers or sweeping would provide a reasonable alternative.
- Allowing water waste caused by easily correctable leaks, breaks, or malfunctions, after a reasonable time within which to correct the problem.
- Operation of decorative fountains, even if they use recirculating systems.
- Use of water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill, except when no other method can be used.
- Restaurant water service unless upon customer request.
- Hydrant flushing, except where required for public health and safety.
- Refilling existing private pools, except to maintain water levels.

Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, the District, and San Benito County have all established "No-Waste" ordinances, policies, and resolutions for their respective jurisdictions. The District has a Water Users Handbook that explains how each water user must take steps to control tailwater. If these policies are not followed, the District has the authority to discontinue service.

In addition to these existing ordinances, Emergency Water Conservation Regulations were passed in 2015 that added outdoor water restrictions. The Emergency regulations also added penalties for violating these restrictions including fines for repeated violations. The Regulations are included in **Appendix F**.

The water waste ordinances are enforceable for retailer customers in the City of Hollister, Sunnyslope, and the City of San Juan Bautista. Enforcement costs are a part of each agency's overhead.

The WRA handles complaints of water waste or pursues water waste violations if observed by staff. The WRA issues 'Water Waste' violation cards and follows up with letters to the violators and offers assistance to correct the problem.

METERING

Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB meter all customers within their service areas, and each retailer has a meter replacement program.

Hollister has been replacing approximately 700 to 800 meters annually, about 10 percent of total connections. As of early 2008, nearly half of the City's old meters have been replaced with new meters that allow reading through a radio. Hollister is making continuous efforts to identify the number of accounts by specific customer type, including installation of dedicated landscape meters for customers who had mixed-use meters. Meter installation costs are part of new service connection fees.

Sunnyslope began the meter replacement program about 10 years ago, replacing up to 600 meters annually, 11 percent of total connections. Sunnyslope's goal is to replace any meter older than 15 years to ensure meter accuracy. In Fiscal year 14/15, approximately 350 water meters were replaced; Sunnyslope added staff to assist with this maintenance task in January 2015.

In 2016 San Juan Bautista began an infrastructure replacement program to modernize its aging water system, which consists of approximately 735 meters, including 38 commercial accounts. City employees replaced the entire assorted mix of unreliable, century-old meters within a five-month period, including the installation of 275 new meter boxes. The city transitioned to a Master Meter 3G AMR (Automated Meter Reading) drive-by system, utilizing Multijet meters for residential connections and Octave® ultrasonic meters for commercial districts to ensure high-flow accuracy. This modernization reduced meter reading time for the city's small staff from over a full day of manual entry to less than one hour. The new system provides detailed data logging to assist with leak detection and conservation efforts, while the increased accuracy ensures more reliable revenue for the city's enterprise fund. San Juan Bautista intends to eventually upgrade this flexible system to a full AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) as future revenues allow. Currently, SJB does not have a formal water meter replacement program, and meters are replaced on an as-needed basis. Between 2020 to 2025, fewer than 20 water meters were replaced.

CONSERVATION PRICING

Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB use a tiered rate structure for single family residences, where efficient water use is billed at a low price and higher water use billed at progressively higher prices. The entities assess a monthly service charge based on water meter size, plus a monthly consumption rate based on the amount of water consumed.

The monthly consumption rates for single-family residential customers are an inclining block with three tiers, while non-single-family customers are charged one rate for all water consumption. Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB tiers and rates are included in **Appendix H**.

Hollister recently increased water rates in April 2026 after approval by the City Council in February 2026. The current Sunnyslope multi-year water rates as proposed in Ordinance 82 were approved by the Board of Directors on May 28, 2024 and took effect on August 1, 2024 with annual updates through July 1, 2029. After conducting a water rate study, SJB set its current rates in May 2022 under Resolution No. 2022-38.

Comparison with previous average usage rates might provide some information regarding the effectiveness of changing from non-conserving to conservation pricing. It is assumed that the economic incentive to customers to conserve water under conservation pricing structures is sufficient to make this program efficient.

It is expected that most of the conservation savings will occur with the largest water users, who will see larger benefits for conserving water. The expected annual water savings is 100 AFY, compared to the scenario where non-conserving pricing is used.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Public outreach is central to the SBUA water conservation efforts. These ongoing activities were ramped up in response to the State mandated water conservation. Specific activities include:

23. Newsletter articles on conservation - These articles are included as **Appendix I.**
24. Flyers and/or brochures, bill stuffers, messages printed on bill, information packets. The flyers are included as **Appendix I**.

- Development and update of a website with resources for water conservation: www.wrasbc.org.The website provides details about ongoing water conservation programs and has three different water wise landscape plans available for download. Last updated in December 2020.
- Booths at Children's Festivals and Farmer's Market.
- Engagement with the community through responsiveness to emailed questions and concerns.
- Water Awareness Festival in May.

The full-time water conservation coordinator records the number and type of outreach activities. Newsletters are sent with water bills and are estimated to reach 40,000 people per year. Booths at festivals reached over 6,500 people in the last five years. Other outreach includes the website and email communication which reached about 1800 people since 2016.

While there is no direct way to quantify public outreach, it is the foundation for all other programs. With methods to advertise and connect customers to other programs and information, all other demand management measures would be less effective. In addition, the expanded public outreach in response to the drought shows a direct connection between increased public outreach and decreased water use.

SCHOOL EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The WRA also provides specific school focus outreach including:

- Presentations to school groups (both classroom and large assemblies
    - Water Cycle presentation to 4 and 5th graders
    - Water and Your World presentation to elementary students
- Field trips to the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Water Careers Education

The number of students who have participated in these school programs totaled 3,550 in the last five years. WRA will continue to reach out to students at all grade levels. Before the start of each school year, the Water Conservation Coordinator visits every school in the SBUA to alert them of the School Education Program offered through the WRA. The direct effect on water demand is not quantifiable, but there is long-term benefit to educating students on the science and impacts of water supply and conservation.

PROGRAMS TO ASSESS AND MANAGE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM REAL LOSS

As all connections in Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB are metered, water loss in the SBUA is due to leaks, flushing fire hydrants, maintenance of water tanks, metering accuracy, and other small unmetered releases due to maintenance procedures. No additional programs are planned to further manage water distribution system losses.

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM COORDINATION AND STAFFING SUPPORT

The WRA conservation coordinator's duties focus primarily on ongoing programs within the District to encourage wise water use among the agricultural community and within the SBUA. The duties of this position (and any support staff, as necessary) include the following:

- Coordination and oversight of conservation programs and BMP implementation
- Preparation and submittal of the CUWCC BMP Implementation reports
- Communication and promotion of water conservation issues to agency senior management
- Coordination of agencies' conservation programs with operations and planning staff
- Preparation of annual conservation budget
- Attendance at Bay Area Water Conservation Coordinator Meetings with representatives from the CUWCC
- Reporting to the governing bodies of the participatory agencies on the progress of the Water Conservation Program.

As required by USBR, the WRA coordinator also enters water conservation data to the CUWCC database for Sunnyslope, the District, and San Juan Bautista. Hollister's Utility Technician, a certified and functional Conservation Practitioner, enters this information into the CUWCC's database on behalf of the City of Hollister.

The water conservation coordinator works on behalf of the WRA which includes Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB, and the District. Like public outreach, this demand management measure provides a foundation for all other programs. Having key personnel to coordinate ongoing programs and begin new initiatives is critical for continued water use efficiency. The Conservation Coordinator will continue to oversee water conservation activities for the SBUA. To gauge the effectiveness of this DMM, the conservation coordinator and Hollister staff will continue to document the number of programs, materials and attendance at water conservation activities. The benefits of a coordinator are indirect and the water savings due to this DMM cannot be quantified.

Residential Surveys

This DMM involves assisting customers with leak detection and minimization. This may include but is not limited to: a water conservation survey, water efficiency suggestions and/or inspection, and provision of showerheads and faucet aerators that meet current Water Sense specifications. The primary focus is on older neighborhoods with pre-1980 plumbing and the second priority is other pre-1992 housing. Houses constructed after 1992 were required by state building codes to utilize water conserving plumbing fixtures. The program is marketed through advertising in bill inserts, bill messages, and newsletters. During the water survey, water conservation staff perform the following:

- Check for leaks, including toilets, faucets, and meter check
- Check showerhead flow rates, aerator flow rates, and offer to replace or recommend replacement, as necessary
- Check toilet flow rates and direct customer to ultra-low flush toilet (ULFT) replacement programs, as necessary, and replace leaking toilet flappers and floats if applicable
- Check irrigation system and timers
- Review or develop customer irrigation schedule
- Evaluate water softener operations and test water hardness to ensure proper settings
- Promote the retrofit program and provide other information on local water resource topics

Surveys require between 30 and 90 minutes. For each dwelling unit, a Water Conservation Assistant completes a customer data form (including number of people per household, number of bathrooms, age of clothes washer and water softener, and approximate landscaped area square footage). These data are used to analyze the customer's water use for both pre- and post-audit conditions, and to refine the program. The results of the residential water survey are provided to the customer with water saving recommendations and specific local information packets prepared as part of the public information program described for DMM 7. The individual contacts made during the survey are used to actively promote the other programs and services offered by the Water Conservation Program, including retrofit and rebate programs offered under other BMPs. Both English and Spanish speaking persons conduct the surveys, and both English and Spanish language materials are available. The form used in the survey is shown in **Appendix I**.

In the last five years, over 1,234 single family homes and 32 multiple family units have participated.

Based on available information, the potential water savings from this BMP are estimated to be 20 to 30 gpd and 18 to 28 gpd for single family and multi-family residences, respectively. This savings would be approximately 187 AF over the last five years. It is expected that the number of surveys per year will decline with the decrease in older residences that have not completed these surveys.

REBATES AND RETROFITS

The WRA provides several rebates and plumbing retrofits for residential customers, including:

- Plumbing retrofits (shower heads, aerators in faucets and free hose nozzles)
- Water Sense Specification (WSS) toilets
- Water Softeners (demolishing)
- Turf Removal Rebate
- Water Softener Rebate
- Low-flow Toilet Rebate
- Landscape Hardware Rebate

The rebate programs have been very active and successful. The three major programs (High Efficiency Clothes Washers (HECW), low flow toilets, and water softeners) have all seen great success in the past but the number of rebates issued has decreased as water efficient fixtures dominate the market. In the past, water savings from these programs has totaled up to 130 AFY.

The HECW rebate was $100 per washer. From 2016 until the program was discontinued, 18 rebates for HECW had been issued. The CUWCC reports a water savings estimate of 5,250 gallons per year (0.2 AFY) per high efficiency washing machine, for a total savings of 3.6 AFY.

For WSS toilets, a free toilet is offered or a $75 rebate towards a new toilet. In addition, the WRA provides a free toilet by appointment, limited to two free toilets per residence, unless a WRA representative inspects the property to confirm more than two toilets are required. In the past, this program has been extremely successful, with over 7,000 ULFTs installed from 2001 to 2015. In the last five years, only 425 toilets rebates were issued. Projected total annual water savings from toilet retrofits at full implementation are 20 gpcd each or 30 AFY for rebates issued (2016-2020), both in water demand and wastewater generation. The decrease in rebates and budget are another indication that the area already has many water saving devices with limited additional water savings potential.

Since 2007, WRA has conducted a water softener rebate program that encourages people to upgrade from their timer-based models (pre-1999) to demand-initiated regenerating (DIR) models or to demolish these older softeners with no replacement. A shared goal of the District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, and SJB is to reduce salt loading to wastewater and thereby help maintain groundwater quality and support water recycling. The program includes water softener checks as part of the home water audit programs. It also provides the public with information about DIR and exchange-type water softeners, encouraging replacement of less efficient timer models Currently, there are two rebates; $300 for water softener removal or $250 for upgrading to a salt/potassium-free system. The water softener rebates are funded by

a grant. It is estimated these rebates save 600 gallons per month per household. In the last five years, 159 rebates were issued, for an estimated total savings of three AFY.

While water softener rebates do help reduce water demand, a major benefit is the decrease in salt discharge in the wastewater. The salt reduction is critical to improving water quality of the wastewater discharge, recycled water, and indirectly the groundwater basin.

COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

The WRA works with businesses to encourage water conservation. The two main programs include the Green Business Certification which recognizes and promotes businesses and government agencies that volunteer to operate in a more environmentally responsible way. The other program serves hotels and provides table cards to hotels and motels that allow guests to have linens washed only upon request.

These programs are conducted jointly with SBC Chamber of Commerce. The WRA works closely with their partners to establish policies that are both business friendly and promote environmental stewardship. As part of this partnership, they produce the TV show “Going Green” which is aired on the Community Media Access Partnership through the local cable provider (Charter). This show discusses “green” topics including water conservation both locally and worldwide.

There is no single budget amount for these programs administered by the water conservation coordinator.

LANDSCAPE WATER SURVEYS

A landscape water survey includes a check of an irrigation system and timers for maintenance and repairs needs, development of a customer irrigation schedule, reviewing scheduling with the customer, and providing the customer with an evaluation.

During a survey, the WRA checks irrigation schedules to see if they are adjusted for the season, checks/adjust sprinkler heads to make sure landscape is being irrigated and not fences or walkways, etc., develops an irrigation schedule to follow for the year, and makes recommendations to upgrade or repair equipment.

Hollister has a landscape ordinance that pertains to new and existing single-family homes and has adopted the model water efficiency landscape ordinance (MWELO) to promote landscape irrigation efficiency. The City is also considering a financial incentive program to help homeowners to convert landscaping toward more water efficiency (e.g., landscape materials, irrigation conversions, automatic controllers, etc.)

The WRA water conservation coordinator offers water use surveys and audits to single family residences, which are modified versions of audits offered to large landscape customers. The WRA also publishes a newsletter biannually entitled, “Water Conservation Update”, included in **Appendix I.** The newsletter provides landscape water conservation information and suggests seasonal water conservation measures such as turning off irrigation systems in the fall. WRA also offers free irrigation inspections in the spring and irrigation controller assistance in the fall. The WRA website provides useful tips for outside water

conservation, a Watering Index to guide irrigation, and a Residential Lawn Watering Guide. The website also promotes a free custom sprinkler schedule.

In the last five years, over 950 surveys were performed or survey information downloaded. The water savings of this measure would depend on the existing volume of irrigation and the implemented reduction of irrigation. The 2010 UWMP estimated 25-50 AFY savings for this program.

The City of Hollister and the County have adopted Large Landscape Conservation Requirements, including the MWELO. The SBUA entities will continue to implement this DMM through annual review of customers' water use, and by offering on-site follow-up evaluations to customers whose total water use exceeds their total annual water budget. The overall target of providing large landscape audits is 3 percent of existing accounts each year.

Landscape Irrigation Hardware Rebate Program

The WRA has rebates on hose timers, rain sensors and MP Rotator irrigation nozzles. Information on how residents apply for this rebate and what models are available are included in **Appendix I**. Five rebates were issued for this program.

Turf Removal Program

During the last drought (2014-2015) over 88,000 square feet of turf were removed in the Hollister Urban Area. This turf removal program included extensive public outreach in Spanish and English. The turf was removed and either replaced with hardscape, drought tolerant plants or a combination of both. While the program is not currently active, the water savings effects of the removed drought will continue unless new turf is planted. This program may be brought back for future droughts as needed.

IRRIGATION EDUCATION

Since 2009, the District, in collaboration with the WRA, has been offering a series of classes on irrigation efficiency and other agriculture practices. These workshops provide concepts, tools, and examples for optimizing irrigation and nitrogen management efficiency in row, tree, and greenhouse crop production. The classes also focus on keeping records and acquiring data needed for water quality regulation and reporting. The WRA also offers classes to residential customers. These classes instruct customers on topics such as composting, implementing efficient irrigation practices, and converting landscapes to be water wise. From 2016 to 2019, these classes reached 300 participants. There were no classes in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but these classes resumed in 2021.

Custom Sprinkler Schedule

A Water Conservation Specialist will design a watering schedule tailored to customer habits, sprinkler's output, and the seasonal water needs of the individual lawn and garden. The plan is free and includes a schedule for each season plus programming of the automatic sprinkler timer.

In the last five years, it is unknown how many schedules have been developed for large landscapes customers; between 2016 to 2020 150 were developed. It is estimated that a custom sprinkler schedule could reduce irrigation by 20 to 30 gallons per day, for a total of 5 AFY for the schedules recently implemented. This program can be expanded by reaching out directly to large landscape as well as residential customers. Schedules are created for residential customers through the water survey program.

9.4 PLANNED IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE WATER USE TARGETS *(RETAIL AGENCIES ONLY)*

Water conservation efforts over the past five years have resulted in numerous plumbing and hardware retrofits in older buildings. These existing efforts (combined with new plumbing codes that require new developments to have water saving fixtures) have resulted in a large percent of buildings (both residential and commercial) with water saving technology. While these improvements have resulted in decreased water demand, the future potential gains from the rebate and retrofit programs may be limited.

In response to the State mandated water reduction due to the 2016 drought, the WRA and agencies stepped up their public outreach. They increased bill inserts, contacted high water users, and increased the advertisement of existing programs in multiple languages. In addition, the WRA also used public outreach to alert users to the new Emergency Water Conservation Regulations. These regulations focused on implementing efficient irrigation and outdoor water use. The increased public outreach and the focus on reducing water waste outdoors had measurable results. The agencies were able to reduce water demand in 2015 by more than 25 percent.

The water demand has continued to remain low and has not rebounded to pre-drought water use. This is due in large part to the public outreach and permanent changes enacted during the drought. Turf that was removed has not been replaced, high efficiency appliances remain in homes, and landscape plans continue to keep irrigation efficient.

The WRA plans to continue its focus on public outreach and education about irrigation efficiency. While these programs are difficult to account per unit water savings, the overall effect of reducing demand during the drought demonstrates the overall water savings.

10. PLAN ADOPTION, SUBMITTAL, AND IMPLEMENTATION

This 2025 UWMP was adopted and submitted as required by the Water Code. The Water Code lays out several notifications and other processes required to prepare and adopt the UWMP. In addition, the UWMP shall be submitted to DWR by July 1, 2026 and must include a WSCP. The SBUA WSCP was adopted as part of the 2015 adoption process and was updated and approved in 2021 and 2026. In accordance with section 10642 of the Water Code and section 6066 of the Government Code, each agency held a public hearing prior to adoption of the Plan. A public notice was posted before the public hearing and included in **Appendix A**. The Final Plan was adopted by Hollister on June 15, 2026, SJB City Council on June 16, 2026, Sunnyslope on June 23, 2026, and the District on June 24, 2026.

The following steps were followed for adoption:

- Notification of public hearing
    - The SBUA agencies notified cities and counties of the public hearing.
    - Documented in **Table 10-1**
    - At least 60 days prior to public hearing
- Notification to the public
    - At least two notifications
    - Published in a local newspaper at least once a week for two successive weeks.
- Public hearing and optional adoption
    - Each agency held separate public hearings
- Adoption
    - Each agency adopted the UWMP
    - The adoption resolutions included in **Appendix A**
- Plan submittal
    - Each Supplier submitted the Plan and their relevant table via the WUE Portal
- Plan availability
    - Suppliers submitted the UWMP and WSCP to the California State Library and all cities and counties within which the Supplier provides water.

10.1 CHECKLIST

DWR has provided a UWMP checklist to ensure the 2025 UWMP includes all required elements. This complete check list is presented here as **Table 10-1**.

Submittal Table 10-1 Wholesale: Notification to Cities and Counties Water Code Section 10621(b) and 10642		
☐	Check the box if the Supplier has notified more than 10 cities or counties. **Completion of the table below is not required. Provide a separate list of the cities and counties that were notified.**	
	Provide the page or location of this list in the UWMP.	
☑	Check the box if the Supplier has notified 10 or fewer cities or counties. **Complete the table below.**	
City Name	60 Day Notice **Drop Down (yes/no)**	Notice of Public Hearing **Drop Down (yes/no)**
Add additional rows as needed		
Hollister	Yes	Yes
San Juan Bautista	Yes	Yes
County Name **Drop Down List**	60 Day Notice **Drop Down (yes/no)**	Notice of Public Hearing **Drop Down (yes/no)**
Add additional rows as needed		
San Benito County	Yes	Yes
Santa Clara County	Yes	Yes
NOTES:		

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2025

San Benito Urban Area Urban Water Management Plan

Volume 2. Appendices

June 2026



TODD GROUNDWATER

Appendix A
Notice to Adopt

Appendix B
DWR Population Tool

Hollister Population Tool

Hollister	SF connections	MF connections	persons per SF	persons per MF	SF population	MF population	Total Population
1990	4267	153	2.49	18.93	10,625	2,896	13,521
1995			3.08	19.75			
2000	5014	215	3.67	20.58	18,401	4,425	22,826
2005	5190	221	3.58	20.03	18,580	4,427	23,007
2010	5148	245	3.48	19.48	17,915	4,773	22,688
2015			2.9	11.38			-
2020	6592	278	3.3	18.37	21,754	5,107	26,860
2025	6864	293	**3.3**	**18.37**	22,651	5,382	28,034

Sunnyslope Population Tool

Sunnyslope	SF connections	MF connections	persons per SF	persons per MF	SF population	MF population	Total Population
1990			2.63	12.06			
1995			2.77	11.72			
2000	4843	198	2.9	11.38	14,045	2,253	16,298
2005	4985	200	3.04	11.04	15,154	2,208	17,362
2010	4985	210	3.18	10.7	15,852	2,247	18,099
2015			2.9	11.38			-
2020	6237	217	3.53	10.14	22,017	2,200	24,217
2025	7312	250	**3.45**	**10.03**	25,226	2,508	27,734

San Juan Bautista Reported Population

SJB	Reported Population
1990	1574
1995	1550
2000	1543
2005	1623
2010	1844
2015	1907
2020	2087
2025	2335

Appendix C
Water Loss Audits

AWWA Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet

WAS v5.0

American Water Works Association.

? Click to access definition

\+ Click to add a comment

Water Audit Report for: City of Hollister (3510001)

Reporting Year: 2020 1/2020 - 12/2020

Please enter data in the white cells below. Where available, metered values should be used; if metered values are unavailable please estimate a value. Indicate your confidence in the accuracy of the input data by grading each component (n/a or 1-10) using the drop-down list to the left of the input cell. Hover the mouse over the cell to obtain a description of the grades

All volumes to be entered as: MILLION GALLONS (US) PER YEAR

To select the correct data grading for each input, determine the highest grade where

<---------- Enter grading in column 'E' and 'J' ---------->

Master Meter and Supply Error Adjustments

WATER SUPPLIED

						Pcnt:	Value:	
Volume from own sources:	5	306.976	MG/Yr	2				MG/Yr
Water imported:	3	848.985	MG/Yr	8				MG/Yr
Water exported:	3	9.828	MG/Yr	8				MG/Yr

Enter negative % or value for under-registration

Enter positive % or value for over-registration

WATER SUPPLIED: 1,146.133 MG/Yr

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION

Click here: ? for help using option buttons below

			Pcnt:	Value:	
Billed metered:	6	996.009 MG/Yr			
Billed unmetered:	n/a	0.000 MG/Yr			
Unbilled metered:	n/a	0.000 MG/Yr			
Unbilled unmetered:	5	2.865 MG/Yr		2.865	MG/Yr

Use buttons to select percentage of water supplied OR value

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION: ? 998.874 MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES (Water Supplied - Authorized Consumption) 147.259 MG/Yr

Apparent Losses

			Pcnt:	Value:	
Unauthorized consumption:		2.865 MG/Yr	0.25%		MG/Yr
Customer metering inaccuracies:	3	15.168 MG/Yr	1.50%		MG/Yr
Systematic data handling errors:	5	2.490 MG/Yr	0.25%		MG/Yr

Default option selected for unauthorized consumption - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Default option selected for Systematic data handling errors - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Apparent Losses: ? 20.523 MG/Yr

Real Losses (Current Annual Real Losses or CARL)

Real Losses = Water Losses - Apparent Losses: ? 126.736 MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES: 147.259 MG/Yr

NON-REVENUE WATER

NON-REVENUE WATER: ? 150.124 MG/Yr

= Water Losses + Unbilled Metered + Unbilled Unmetered

SYSTEM DATA

Length of mains:	10	115.0	miles
Number of active AND inactive service connections:	8	7,598	
Service connection density:		66	conn./mile main

Are customer meters typically located at the curbstop or property line? Yes

Average length of customer service line: (length of service line, beyond the property boundary, that is the responsibility of the utility)

Average length of customer service line has been set to zero and a data grading score of 10 has been applied

Average operating pressure: 4 65.0 psi

COST DATA

Total annual cost of operating water system:	10	$7,423,551	$/Year
Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses):	9	$5.03	$/100 cubic feet (ccf)
Variable production cost (applied to Real Losses):	5	$1,101.00	$/Million gallons

☐ Use Customer Retail Unit Cost to value real losses

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY SCORE:

***** YOUR SCORE IS: 54 out of 100 *****

A weighted scale for the components of consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION:

Based on the information provided, audit accuracy can be improved by addressing the following components:

1: Water imported

2: Customer metering inaccuracies

3: Billed metered

AWWA Free Water Audit Software: Worksheet

FWAS v6.0

American Water Works Association.

Water Audit Report for: City of Hollister

Audit Year: 2022 | Jan 01 2022 - Dec 31 2022 | Calendar

Click 'n' to add notes

Click 'g' to determine data validity grade

To edit water system info: go to start page

To access definitions, click the input name

All volumes to be entered as: MILLION GALLONS (US) PER YEAR

Water Supplied Error Adjustments

WATER SUPPLIED

choose entry option:

VOS	Volume from Own Sources:	n	g	3	544.540	MG/Yr	n	g	8		percent	VOSEA
WI	Water Imported:	n	g	4	563.270	MG/Yr	n	g	4		percent	WIEA
WE	Water Exported:	n	g	4	16.053	MG/Yr	n	g	4		percent	WEEA

WATER SUPPLIED: 1,091.757 MG/Yr

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION

BMAC	Billed Metered:	n	g	7	967.410	MG/Yr	
BUAC	Billed Unmetered:	n	g	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr	
UMAC	Unbilled Metered:	n	g	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr	choose entry option:
UUAC	Unbilled Unmetered:	n	g	3	2.419	MG/Yr	0.25% default

Default option selected for Unbilled Unmetered, with automatic data grading of 3

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION: 969.829 MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES

121.928 MG/Yr

Apparent Losses

Default option selected for Systematic Data Handling Errors, with automatic data grading of 3

choose entry option:

SDHE	Systematic Data Handling Errors:	n	g	3	2.419	MG/Yr	0.25% default	
CMI	Customer Metering Inaccuracies:	n	g	1	14.732	MG/Yr	1.50% percent	under-registration
UC	Unauthorized Consumption:	n	g	3	2.419	MG/Yr	0.25% default	

Default option selected for Unauthorized Consumption, with automatic data grading of 3

Apparent Losses: 19.569 MG/Yr

Real Losses

Real Losses: 102.359 MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES: 121.928 MG/Yr

NON-REVENUE WATER

NON-REVENUE WATER: 124.347 MG/Yr

SYSTEM DATA

Lm	Length of mains:	n	g	10	115.2	miles	(including fire hydrant lead lengths)
Nc	Number of service connections:	n	g	10	7,847		(active *and* inactive)
	Service connection density:				68	conn./mile main	

Are customer meters typically located at the curbstop/property line? Yes

Lp: n g 10

Average length of customer service line has been set to zero and a data grading of 10 has been applied

AOP: Average Operating Pressure: n g 6 — 65.0 psi

COST DATA

CRUC	Customer Retail Unit Charge:	n	g	9	$5.61	$/100 cubic feet (ccf)	Total Annual Operating Cost	
VPC	Variable Production Cost:	n	g	8	$322.89	$/Million gallons	$6,567,852	$/yr (optional input)

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY TIER:

***** The Water Audit Data Validity Score is in Tier III (51-70). See Dashboard tab for additional outputs. *****

go to dashboard

A weighted scale for the components of supply, consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION TO IMPROVE DATA VALIDITY:

Based on the information provided, audit reliability can be most improved by addressing the following components:

1: Volume from Own Sources (VOS)
2: Water Imported (WI)
3: Customer Metering Inaccuracies (CMI)

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TARGETS:

OPTIONAL: If targets exist for the operational performance indicators, they can be input below:

Unit Total Losses:		gal/conn/day
Unit Apparent Losses:	7.2	gal/conn/day
Unit Real Losses[A]:	17.2	gal/conn/day
Unit Real Losses[B]:		gal/mile/day

If entered above by user, targets will display on KPI gauges (see Dashboard)

AWWA Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet

WAS v5.0

American Water Works Association.

? Click to access definition

\+ Click to add a comment

Water Audit Report for: City of Hollister (3510001)

Reporting Year: 2022 1/2022 - 12/2022

Please enter data in the white cells below. Where available, metered values should be used; if metered values are unavailable please estimate a value. Indicate your confidence in the accuracy of the input data by grading each component (n/a or 1-10) using the drop-down list to the left of the input cell. Hover the mouse over the cell to obtain a description of the grades

All volumes to be entered as: MILLION GALLONS (US) PER YEAR

To select the correct data grading for each input, determine the highest grade where

<---------- Enter grading in column 'E' and 'J' ---------->

Master Meter and Supply Error Adjustments

WATER SUPPLIED

						Pcnt:	Value:	
Volume from own sources:	5	543.177	MG/Yr	2				MG/Yr
Water imported:	3	645.378	MG/Yr	8				MG/Yr
Water exported:	3	15.868	MG/Yr	8				MG/Yr

Enter negative % or value for under-registration

Enter positive % or value for over-registration

WATER SUPPLIED: 1,172.687 MG/Yr

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION

Click here: ? for help using option buttons below

				Pcnt:	Value:	
Billed metered:	6	1,042.000	MG/Yr			
Billed unmetered:	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr			
Unbilled metered:	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr			
Unbilled unmetered:	5	2.932	MG/Yr		2.932	MG/Yr

Use buttons to select percentage of water supplied OR value

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION: ? 1,044.932 MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES (Water Supplied - Authorized Consumption) 127.755 MG/Yr

Apparent Losses

				Pcnt:	Value:	
Unauthorized consumption:		2.932	MG/Yr	0.25%		MG/Yr

Default option selected for unauthorized consumption - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Customer metering inaccuracies:	3	15.868	MG/Yr	1.50%		MG/Yr
Systematic data handling errors:	5	2.605	MG/Yr	0.25%		MG/Yr

Default option selected for Systematic data handling errors - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Apparent Losses: ? 21.405 MG/Yr

Real Losses (Current Annual Real Losses or CARL)

Real Losses = Water Losses - Apparent Losses: ? 106.351 MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES: 127.755 MG/Yr

NON-REVENUE WATER

NON-REVENUE WATER: ? 130.687 MG/Yr

= Water Losses + Unbilled Metered + Unbilled Unmetered

SYSTEM DATA

Length of mains:	10	113.0	miles
Number of active AND inactive service connections:	8	7,849	
Service connection density:		69	conn./mile main

Are customer meters typically located at the curbstop or property line? Yes

Average length of customer service line: (length of service line, beyond the property boundary, that is the responsibility of the utility)

Average length of customer service line has been set to zero and a data grading score of 10 has been applied

Average operating pressure: 4 65.0 psi

COST DATA

Total annual cost of operating water system:	10	$6,521,180	$/Year
Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses):	9	$4.81	$/100 cubic feet (ccf)
Variable production cost (applied to Real Losses):	5	$1,101.00	$/Million gallons

☐ Use Customer Retail Unit Cost to value real losses

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY SCORE:

***** YOUR SCORE IS: 55 out of 100 *****

A weighted scale for the components of consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION:

Based on the information provided, audit accuracy can be improved by addressing the following components:

1: Water imported

2: Volume from own sources

3: Customer metering inaccuracies

AWWA Free Water Audit Software: Worksheet

FWAS v6.0

American Water Works Association.

Water Audit Report for: City of Hollister

Audit Year: 2023 | Jan 01 2023 - Dec 31 2023 | Calendar

Click 'n' to add notes

Click 'g' to determine data validity grade

To edit water system info: go to start page

To access definitions, click the input name

All volumes to be entered as: MILLION GALLONS (US) PER YEAR

Water Supplied Error Adjustments

WATER SUPPLIED

choose entry option:

VOS	Volume from Own Sources:	n	g	6	857.540	MG/Yr	n	g	8		percent	VOSEA
WI	Water Imported:	n	g	6	210.279	MG/Yr	n	g	4		percent	WIEA
WE	Water Exported:	n	g	6	65.250	MG/Yr	n	g	4		percent	WEEA
	WATER SUPPLIED:				1,002.569	MG/Yr						

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION

choose entry option:

BMAC	Billed Metered:	n	g	5	931.659	MG/Yr		
BUAC	Billed Unmetered:	n	g	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr		
UMAC	Unbilled Metered:	n	g	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr		
UUAC	Unbilled Unmetered:	n	g	3	2.329	MG/Yr	0.25%	default
	AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION:				933.988	MG/Yr		

Default option selected for Unbilled Unmetered, with automatic data grading of 3

WATER LOSSES

68.581 MG/Yr

Apparent Losses

choose entry option:

SDHE	Systematic Data Handling Errors:	n	g	3	2.329	MG/Yr	0.25%	default	
CMI	Customer Metering Inaccuracies:	n	g	1	14.188	MG/Yr	1.50%	percent	under-registration
UC	Unauthorized Consumption:	n	g	3	2.329	MG/Yr	0.25%	default	
	Apparent Losses:				18.846	MG/Yr			

Default option selected for Systematic Data Handling Errors, with automatic data grading of 3

Default option selected for Unauthorized Consumption, with automatic data grading of 3

Real Losses

	Real Losses:				49.735	MG/Yr
	WATER LOSSES:				68.581	MG/Yr

NON-REVENUE WATER

NON-REVENUE WATER: 70.910 MG/Yr

SYSTEM DATA

Lm	Length of mains:	n	g	10	115.0	miles	(including fire hydrant lead lengths)
Nc	Number of service connections:	n	g	10	7,861		(active *and* inactive)
	Service connection density:				68	conn./mile main	

Are customer meters typically located at the curbstop/property line? Yes

Lp: n | g | 10

Average length of customer service line has been set to zero and a data grading of 10 has been applied

AOP	Average Operating Pressure:	n	g	7	65.0	psi	

COST DATA

CRUC	Customer Retail Unit Charge:	n	g	7	$8.40	$/100 cubic feet (ccf)	Total Annual Operating Cost	
VPC	Variable Production Cost:	n	g	8	$275.77	$/Million gallons	$4,974,960	$/yr (optional input)

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY TIER:

***** The Water Audit Data Validity Score is in Tier III (51-70). See Dashboard tab for additional outputs. *****

go to dashboard

A weighted scale for the components of supply, consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION TO IMPROVE DATA VALIDITY:

Based on the information provided, audit reliability can be most improved by addressing the following components:

1: Volume from Own Sources (VOS)
2: Billed Metered (BMAC)
3: Customer Metering Inaccuracies (CMI)

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TARGETS:

OPTIONAL: If targets exist for the operational performance indicators, they can be input below:

Unit Total Losses:		gal/conn/day
Unit Apparent Losses:		gal/conn/day
Unit Real Losses[A]:		gal/conn/day
Unit Real Losses[B]:		gal/mile/day

If entered above by user, targets will display on KPI gauges (see Dashboard)

AWWA Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet

WAS v5.0

American Water Works Association.

? Click to access definition

\+ Click to add a comment

Water Audit Report for: Sunnyslope County Water District (CA3510003)

Reporting Year: 2020 7/2020 - 6/2021

Please enter data in the white cells below. Where available, metered values should be used; if metered values are unavailable please estimate a value. Indicate your confidence in the accuracy of the input data by grading each component (n/a or 1-10) using the drop-down list to the left of the input cell. Hover the mouse over the cell to obtain a description of the grades

All volumes to be entered as: MILLION GALLONS (US) PER YEAR

To select the correct data grading for each input, determine the highest grade where the utility meets or exceeds all criteria for that grade and all grades below it.

<---------- Enter grading in column 'E' and 'J' ---------->

Master Meter and Supply Error Adjustments

WATER SUPPLIED

					Pcnt:	Value:	
Volume from own sources:	3	1,123.851	MG/Yr	4			MG/Yr
Water imported:	3	9.455	MG/Yr	6			MG/Yr
Water exported:	3	202.098	MG/Yr	5			MG/Yr

Enter negative % or value for under-registration

Enter positive % or value for over-registration

WATER SUPPLIED: **931.208** MG/Yr

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION

Click here: ? for help using option buttons below

				Pcnt:	Value:	
Billed metered:	5	870.456	MG/Yr			
Billed unmetered:	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr			
Unbilled metered:	n/a	0.000	MG/Yr			
Unbilled unmetered:	6	7.583	MG/Yr		7.583	MG/Yr

Use buttons to select percentage of water supplied **OR** value

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION: **878.039** MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES (Water Supplied - Authorized Consumption) **53.169** MG/Yr

Apparent Losses

				Pcnt:	Value:	
Unauthorized consumption:		2.328	MG/Yr	0.25%		MG/Yr

Default option selected for unauthorized consumption - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Customer metering inaccuracies:	4	8.792	MG/Yr	1.00%		MG/Yr
Systematic data handling errors:	6	2.176	MG/Yr	0.25%		MG/Yr

Default option selected for Systematic data handling errors - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Apparent Losses: **13.297** MG/Yr

Real Losses (Current Annual Real Losses or CARL)

Real Losses = Water Losses - Apparent Losses: **39.872** MG/Yr

WATER LOSSES: **53.169** MG/Yr

NON-REVENUE WATER

NON-REVENUE WATER: **60.752** MG/Yr

= Water Losses + Unbilled Metered + Unbilled Unmetered

SYSTEM DATA

Length of mains:	8	85.0	miles
Number of active AND inactive service connections:	9	6,593	
Service connection density:		78	conn./mile main

Are customer meters typically located at the curbstop or property line? Yes

Average length of customer service line:

(length of service line, beyond the property boundary, that is the responsibility of the utility)

Average length of customer service line has been set to zero and a data grading score of 10 has been applied

Average operating pressure: 5 72.0 psi

COST DATA

Total annual cost of operating water system:	10	$8,100,000	$/Year
Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses):	9	$6.32	$/100 cubic feet (ccf)
Variable production cost (applied to Real Losses):	5	$300.00	$/Million gallons

☐ Use Customer Retail Unit Cost to value real losses

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY SCORE:

***** YOUR SCORE IS: 52 out of 100 *****

A weighted scale for the components of consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION:

Based on the information provided, audit accuracy can be improved by addressing the following components:

1: Volume from own sources

2: Billed metered

3: Customer metering inaccuracies

Appendix D
Water Shortage Contingency Plan

SAN BENITO URBAN AREA

WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

May 18th, 2026

TODD GROUNDWATER

1301 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 320
Alameda, CA 94501
510.747.6920
ww.toddgroundwater.com

SIGNATURE PAGE



Maureen Reilly, P.E.

Principal Engineer

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Appendices

Appendix G: Water Shortage Contingency Plan
Appendix H: Water Shortage Emergency Response

1. WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN 2025

Each urban water supplier must develop and adopt a Water Shortage. Contingency Plan (*WSCP*) as part of its Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) every five years. The District, the City of Hollister, Sunnyslope, and the City of San Juan Bautista have developed a joint UWMP for the San Benito Urban Area (SBUA) for 2025. In addition, the SBUA agencies have updated the Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP). This Plan serves as a guide for adjusting supply and demand in response to a water shortage.

The original WSCP was developed in 2016 as part of the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan and provides details on how to reduce demand in the event of a water supply shortage. In response to the 2012-2016 drought, a new WSCP mandate required WSCPs to provide a more detailed analysis of supply and demand contingency actions and plan implementation for the 2020 WSCP. The retailers responded by updating the documentation of plan procedures and implementation, standardization of water supply stages of action for the water supply plan, and quantification of contingency action effects on supply and demand.

Updates to the WSCP for the 2025 UWMP planning cycle focus on the inclusion of the City of San Juan Bautista and the WSCP is now a stand alone document. Per DWR's guidelines, the WSCP will be adopted in a Public Hearing along with the 2025 UWMP for all the agencies.

Pursuant to Water Code Section 10632(a)(3), all WSCPs must include a six-stage plan corresponding to shortage stages of up to 10 percent, 20 percent, 30 percent, 40 percent, 50 percent, and greater than 50 percent of water supply. During the 2012-2016 drought years, differences in state and local definitions led to uncertainty in public communication and state policy. The standardization is meant to aid communication and response action implementations across the state.

Water Code Section 10632(a)(3)(B) allows suppliers to retain existing water shortage response plan stages if the existing stages are directly related to the specified six stages. The four stages identified by the previous WSCP translate to the six new stages, as shown in **Table 1-1**. For the new Stage 1, up to 10 percent reduction, the voluntary measures for the previous stage 1 (up to 15 percent) are applicable. For both 10 to 20 percent and 20 to 30 percent reductions, Stage 2 restrictions are applicable, aiming for 25 percent reduction. For 30 to 40 percent and 40-50 percent reductions, Stage 3 is applicable, which aims for 35 percent reductions. Finally, for greater than 50 percent reductions, the Stage 4, is applicable for over 50 percent reduction.

Table 1-1 Water Shortage Contingency Plan Levels

Standard Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range	Suppliers Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range
1	Up to 10%	1	0-10
2	Up to 20%	2	10-20
3	Up to 30%	3	20-30
4	Up to 40%	4	30-40
5	Up to 50%	5	40-50
6	>50%	6	50-100

1.2. SHORTAGE RESPONSE ACTIONS

Water shortages can be met by augmenting the supply and/or decreasing the water demand. Each response action must be implementable. In this section and in section 8 of the UWMP, the response actions for each stage are outlined, along with the methodology for calculating action effectiveness. **Table 1-2** summarizes each demand reduction action, the stages in which they are implemented, and the estimated percent by which they can decrease demand.

Table 1-2 Demand Reduction Actions

Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (AF)	
2,3,4,5,6	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	0-20%	Increase proportion of groundwater in potable water
2,3,4,5,6	Stored Emergency Supply	Percentage	0-10%	Imported water stored in San Justo Reservoir for drought reserves

In response to the WSCP guidelines, the effectiveness of each action has been quantified for SBUA using the best available data. It should be noted that the effectiveness of many shortage response actions have not been studied and effectiveness can vary by region. These estimates are best used as guidelines to inform decision makers which actions may contribute most to demand reductions. The methods for calculating the effectiveness of each action are outlined in the UWMP, **Appendix G**. In addition to the methods outlined as part of the WSCP, further demand reductions (particularly with indoor residential water use) are expected due to outreach, education, and social pressures.

The effectiveness of each action was estimated based on the observed water demand reduction during the 2014-2016 drought, studies and literature reviews examining the effectiveness of individual and combined response actions, and calculations of demand decreases scaled to the regional population. These estimates reflect best available data; however, it should be noted that the estimates are also uncertain. Historical data on demand reductions during drought, both within SAN BENITO URBAN AREA and in case studies, are a result of combined demand restrictions, public education, and social pressures. There are very few studies of the effect of individual actions. In addition, a variety of assumptions are used in calculations of water demand as reduced by a given action. For example, estimating the money saved by restricting at-home carwashes involved assumptions about how many Hollister Urban Area residents would wash their car at home in a non-drought month, how many of those carwashes would use a hose with a nozzle, and how much water each wash would use. Furthermore, several restrictions rely on postponing

actions or implementing large water-use projects, such as filling up a new pool, removing a single-pass cooling systems, or receiving a large new water permit.

1.2.2. Locally Appropriate demand reduction by stage

Implementation of restrictions and prohibitions on end users is based on a fundamental prioritization of domestic supply for human health and safety over non-essential uses, including landscape irrigation. In the event of a water shortage, water service may be restricted or prohibited for non-essential uses, recognizing that certain end users may be required to save more water than others because of their specific use. Prohibitions on end uses will affect user types differently:

- For urban residential users (who typically rely on SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies for domestic supply), water service will continue during a shortage with restrictions on outdoor water use in Stages 1 through 5 and prohibitions in Stage 6.
- Rural residential users of CVP M&I water would also be subject to restrictions and prohibitions on outside water features and landscape irrigation.
- Landscape irrigators (e.g., golf courses, dedicated irrigation meters) are subject to the restrictions listed below for Stages 1 through 5 and the prohibition in Stage 6.
- Commercial businesses are subject to all restrictions in Stages 1 through 5 and prohibitions in Stage 6.

Stage 1

The first stage applies voluntary actions to reach the demand reduction goal of 10 percent, with a focus on outdoor irrigation demand reduction.

1. Recommended Watering Hours: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is discouraged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time.
2. Recommended Limit on Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water using a landscape irrigation system or a watering device that is not continuously attended is recommended to be limited to no more than three days a week with a duration of fifteen (15) minutes watering per water day per station. This subsection does not apply to landscape irrigation systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour and weather-based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70 percent efficiency standard. The use of recycled water is exempt from this prohibition.
3. Eliminate Excessive Water Flow or Runoff: Watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area in a manner that causes or allows excessive water

flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter, or ditch is strongly discouraged.

4. Discourage Washing Down Hard or Paved Surfaces: Washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is discouraged except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shutoff device, a low-volume, high-pressure cleaning machine equipped to recycle any water used, or a low-volume high-pressure water broom.
5. Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: Excessive use, loss or escape of water through breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system for any period of time after such escape of water should have reasonably been discovered and corrected are encouraged to be corrected as soon as practical.
6. Recirculating Water for Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features: Operating a water fountain or other decorative water features that uses recirculated water is encouraged.
7. Washing Vehicles: Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat, or trailer, whether motorized or not is discouraged, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. Washing vehicles at commercial conveyor car wash systems with re-circulating water systems is recommended.

   Drinking Water Served Upon Request: Eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to a restaurant, hotel, cafe, cafeteria, bar, or other public place where food or drinks are sold, served, or offered for sale, are encouraged to providing drinking water to any person only when expressly requested.
8. Commercial Lodging Establishments Encouraged to Provide Guests Option to Decline Daily Linen Services: Hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments are encouraged to provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments are encouraged to prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.
9. Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems: Installation of single pass cooling systems is discouraged in buildings requesting new water service.
10. Installation of Non-recirculating Water System in Commercial Car Wash and Laundry Systems: Installation of non-recirculating water systems is discouraged in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
11. Restaurants Encouraged to Use Water Conserving Dishwash Spray Valves: Food preparation establishments, such as restaurants or cafes, are encouraged to use water conserving dish wash spray valves.

12. Commercial Car Wash Systems: All commercial conveyor car wash systems are encouraged to install operational re-circulating water systems.
13. Pool Covers: It is recommended that all existing pools use a pool cover or solar blanket to reduce water loss due to evaporation.

Stage 2

The second stage seeks a 10 to 20 percent reduction of future supplies, and uses restricted building permits, mandatory rationing, and reduction by customer types. The shortage response actions in Stage 2 are derived from the 25 percent reduction stage established in the 2016 WSCP. Stage 2 continues the voluntary reductions in Stage 1. In addition, the following reduction requirements become mandatory:

1. Limits on Watering Hours: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. The use of recycled water is exempt from this prohibition.
2. Limit on Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water using a landscape irrigation system or a watering device that is not continuously attended is limited to no more than fifteen (15) minutes watering per designated water day per station. This subsection does not apply to landscape irrigation systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour and weather based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70 percent efficiency standard. The use of recycled water is exempt from this prohibition.
3. Limits on Watering Days: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to three days per week from April through October. The watering days are designated depending upon house address (odd house and no house address Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, even house address Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday). During the months of November through March, watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to no more than one day per week (odd house and no house address - Monday, even house address - Tuesday). This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device,

or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.

4. No Excessive Water Flow or Runoff: The application of water is prohibited to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non- irrigated areas, private and public walkways, driveway, street, alley, gutter, ditch, parking lots, or structures.
5. No Washing Down Hard or Paved Surfaces: Washing down hard or paved surfaces is prohibited, including but not limited to buildings, structures, sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios, or alleys.
6. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within seventy-two (72) hours of notification by the city unless other arrangements are made with the city.
7. Recirculating Water Required for Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features: Operating a water fountain or other decorative water feature that does not use recirculated water is prohibited.
8. Limits on Washing Vehicles: Using water to wash or clean a vehicle is prohibited, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat, or trailer, whether motorized or not, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. This subsection does not apply to any commercial car washing facility.
9. Drinking Water Served Upon Request Only: Eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to a restaurant, hotel, cafe, cafeteria, bar, or other public place where food or drinks are sold, served, or offered for sale, are prohibited from providing drinking water to any person unless expressly requested.
10. Commercial Lodging Establishments Must Provide Guests Option to Decline Daily Linen Services: Hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments must provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.
11. No Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems: Installation of single pass cooling systems is prohibited in buildings requesting new water service.
12. No Installation of Non-re-circulating in Commercial Car Wash and Laundry Systems: Installation of non-re-circulating water systems is prohibited in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
13. Commercial Car Wash Systems: Within one year of passage of this Ordinance, all commercial conveyor car wash systems must have installed operational re-circulating water systems, or must have secured a waiver of this requirement from the city.

14. Pool Covers and Refilling of Existing Pools: All new pools shall be required to have a pool cover or solar blanket to reduce water loss through evaporation. Refilling of existing private pools is prohibited, except to maintain water levels, unless the pool is in imminent danger of failure.

Stage 3

The third stage seeks a 20 to 30 percent reduction of water demand. During this stage, the shortage response actions for Stages 1 and 2 will be in place. The shortage response actions for this stage are derived from the 25 percent reduction stage established in the 2016 WSCP. Stage 3 contains the same response actions as Stage 2. SAN BENITO URBAN AREA may choose to increase response action monitoring and enforcement in Stage 3, as well as encouraging water users to adopt additional voluntary conservation measures.

Stage 4

Stage 4 aims for a 30 to 40 percent reduction. It allows the agencies to restrict water uses to priority needs and the prohibited or limited uses of water become more restrictive. These restrictions are derived from the 35 percent reduction stage in the 2016 WSCP.

1. Limits on Watering Days: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to two days per week from April through October. The watering days are designated depending upon house address (odd house and no house address - Monday and Thursday, even house address - Tuesday, and Friday). During the months of November through March, watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is limited to no more than one day per week (odd house and no house address - Monday, even house address - Tuesday). This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. Use of recycled water for irrigation is exempt from these restrictions.
2. Irrigating Within 48 Hours of Rainfall: The applications of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours following measurable rainfall is prohibited.
3. Irrigation outside Newly Constructed Homes: The irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Building Standards Commission is prohibited.
4. Installation of New Turf: Adding new turf landscaping is prohibited.

5. Prohibition against Watering Turf in Medians: The irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians, including roundabouts is prohibited.
6. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions: All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within forty- eight (48) hours of notification by the city unless other arrangements are made with the city.
7. Limits on Filling Ornamental Lakes or Ponds: Filling or re-filling ornamental lakes or ponds with potable water is prohibited, except to the extent needed to sustain aquatic life, provided that such animals are of significant value and have been actively managed within the water feature prior to declaration of a supply shortage level under this section.
8. New Pools: Installation and filling of new private pools are prohibited.
9. Dust Control: The use of potable water for construction and dust control is prohibited.
10. Drought Water Rates: Each agency may consider adopting rate structures and other mechanisms to maximize water conservation. These rates should be consistent with Prop 218 requirements.
11. Any of the SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies reserve the right to restrict water use for priority uses.

Stage 5

Stage 5 aims for a 40 to 50 percent reduction. The water shortage response actions in this phase are the same as those in Stage 4. Enforcement and monitoring may be increased during this stage to assist in decreasing water demand.

Stage 6

1. Stage 6 seeks at least a 50 percent reduction. This stage adds flow restrictions and a per capita allotment by customer type. The prohibited or limited uses of water in the previous stages are continued or made more restrictive. No Watering or Irrigating. Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with potable water is prohibited. This restriction does not apply to recycled water. Exceptions are limited to the following:
2. Maintenance of vegetation, including trees and shrubs, that are watered using a hand-held bucket or similar container, hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device;
3. Maintenance of existing landscape necessary for fire protection;
4. Maintenance of existing landscape for soil erosion control;

5. Maintenance of plant materials identified to be rare or essential to the well-being of protected species;
6. Maintenance of landscape within active public parks and playing fields, day care centers, golf course greens, and school grounds, provided that such irrigation does not exceed two (2) days per week for no more than fifteen (15) minutes watering per designated water day per station and is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time.
7. Actively irrigated environmental mitigation projects.
8. Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions. All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the water user's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within twenty four (24) hours of notification by the city unless other arrangements are made with the water retailer.
9. Limits on New Potable Water Service: Upon declaration of a Level 4 Water Shortage Emergency condition, the agency may limit the issuance of new potable water services, temporary meters and/or statements of immediate ability to serve or provide potable water service (such as, can and will-serve letters, certificates, or letters of availability), except under the following circumstances:
10. A valid, unexpired building permit has been issued for the project; or
11. The project is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; or
12. The applicant provides substantial evidence of an enforceable commitment that water demands for the project will be offset prior to the provision of a new water meter(s) to the satisfaction of the agency providing service.
13. This provision does not preclude the resetting or turn-on of meters to provide continuation of water service or the restoration of service that has been interrupted for a period of one year or less.
14. Limits on Building Permits. Upon declaration of a Stage 4 Water Supply Shortage Emergency condition, the City Administrator is authorized to implement a program in his or her discretion to limit or withhold the issuance of building permits which require new or expanded water service, except to protect the public health, safety and welfare, or in cases which meet the city's adopted conservation offset requirements.
15. No New Annexations. Upon the declaration of Stage 4, the agencies may suspend consideration of annexations to its service area. This subsection does not apply to boundary corrections and annexations that will not result in any immediate increased use of water.
16. Each of the SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies reserves the right to restrict flow in water lines.

1.2.3. Locally Appropriate Supply Augmentation

During a water shortage emergency, the SBUA Agencies may choose to augment the water supply by increasing the proportion of groundwater in delivered water. Groundwater can make up for any decrease in CVP allocation during a drought. SBUA potable water is a mix of CVP water and groundwater to meet aesthetic standards. The average proportion of the supply that is CVP water was 61 percent over the past five years. The proportion of groundwater can be temporarily increased if the CVP supply is limited or insufficient to meet demand. The preferred ration of groundwater to imported water is 20:80, but this proportion may temporarily increase during periods of water shortage. Decreasing the proportion of potable water that is CVP is at the discretion of the SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies and may be enacted during stages 2 through 6. In **Table 1-3**, augmenting the supply through increasing the proportion of groundwater in potable water is estimated to enhance the supply by up to 20 percent. Drought reserves in San Justo Reservoir can also augment supply during a water shortage emergency. However, these supplies are managed as exchanges or transfers (UWMP Section 6.7) and not as part of the WSCP.

Table 1-3 Supply Augmentation and Other Actions

Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (AF)	
1,2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Restrict or prohibit runoff from landscape irrigation	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Excess runoff is discouraged under Stage 1 and profited for Stage 2 and above.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific times	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Irrigation is discouraged between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Stage 1 and prohibited for Stage 2 and above.
2,3,4,5,6	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific days	Percentage	10% for 3x a week restrictions, 20% for2x a week restrictions	Irrigation is limited to three days a week in Stage 2 and reduced to two days a week in Stage 4.
4,5,6	Landscape - Prohibit certain types of landscape irrigation	Percentage	2%	Irrigation outside new homes or on medians is prohibited in Stage 4. No new turf is allowed in Stage 6.
6	Landscape - Prohibit all landscape irrigation	Percentage	40%	All Watering or irrigation of lawn, landscape, or other vegetated areas with potable water is prohibited in stage 6
4,5,6	Landscape - Other landscape restrictions or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Irrigation within 48 hours after rainfall is prohibited in Stage 4, 5, and 6.
1,2,3,4,5,6,	Landscape - Other landscape restrictions or prohibition	Percentage	5% reduction mandatory, 2% reduction voluntary	Duration of irrigation is suggested to be no more than 15 minutes per watering in stage 1. This limit is required in Stage 2
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Commercial car washes are required to have recirculating systems. Recirculation is encouraged in Stage 1 and required in Stage 2 and above
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Lodging establishment must offer opt out of linen service	Percentage	<1%	Hotel programs are encouraged in stage 1 and required for Stage 2 and above
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Restaurants may only serve water upon request	Percentage	<1%	Drinking water by request is encouraged in Stage 1 and required for Stage 2 and above.

Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (AF)	Shortage Level
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	1%	Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems are discouraged in Stage 1 and prohibited for Stage 2 and above
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Restaurants encouraged to use water conserving dishwash spray valves
1,2,3,4,5,6	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition	Percentage	<1%	Stage 1 recommends washing a vehicle with a hose with a shut valve. In Stage 2 and above, a hose with a shut value is mandatory.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Water Features - Restrict water use for decorative water features, such as fountains	Percentage	1%	Recirculating water features are encouraged at all stages. In Stage 2 and beyond, operating a decorative water feature that does not use recirculated water is prohibited.
4,5,6	Water Features - Restrict water use for decorative water features, such as fountains	Percentage	1%	Filling or refilling ornamental lakes and ponds are prohibited in Stages 4, 5, 6
1,2,3,4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Require covers for pools and spas	Percentage	<1%	All pools should have a pool cover, this is encouraged in Stage 1 and required in Stage 2 and above
4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	Percentage	<1%	The installation and filling of new pools are prohibited
2,3,4,5,6	Pools and Spas - Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	Percentage	1%	Existing pools should not be refilled in Stage 2 and above, except to maintain water levels.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Customers must repair leaks, breaks, and malfunctions in a timely manner	Percentage	2%	Fixing leaks is encouraged under stage 1. Leaks must be fixed with 72, 48 and 24 hours in Stages 2 & 3, 4 & 5 and 6, respectively
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for washing hard surfaces	Percentage	<1%	Washing hard surfaces is discouraged in Stage 1 and prohibited in all other stages.
1,2,3,4,5,6	Other - Prohibit vehicle washing except at facilities using recycled or recirculating water	Percentage	<1%	Voluntary in Stage 1, mandatory in Stage 2 and above.

Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (AF)	Shortage Level
4,5,6	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for construction and dust control	Percentage	1%	Potable water use for dust control is prohibited during Stage 4 through Stage 6.
6	Other	Percentage	2%	Limits on new water service, building permits, and annexation
4,5,6	Other	Percentage	Variable	Any HUA Agencies reserve the right to restrict water for priority uses in Phases 4,5, and 6
4,5,6	Other	Percentage	3%	Agencies may consider drought rates, if applicable in Stages 4,5, and 6.

1.2.4. Catastrophic Supply Interruption

Hollister, Sunnyslope, and the District also have water shortage emergency response plans in place. Sunnyslope and the City have a general Emergency Disaster Response Plan as well as a Power Failure Emergency Response Plans. The plans include steps to be taken during and after a disaster and the use of the Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS). Copies of these plans are included in the UWMP, **Appendix H**. The District relies on their current Water User's Handbook and County emergency plans.

These plans develop the procedures for each agency before and during a disruption of water supply during a natural disaster. In 1999, the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) published Emergency Planning Guidance for Public and Private Water Utilities to improve coordination among water utilities and other emergency response agencies and to assist water utilities in developing or revising emergency plans and procedures. It is recommended that ongoing coordination between the City, Sunnyslope, and the District take place to ensure these water supply emergency plans remain consistent and meet the goals provided in the guidance documents. With these plans in place, the retailers in the SAN BENITO URBAN AREA can adequately handle a water supply shortage due to a natural disaster or another interruption of the water supply (Cal EMA 1999).

The agencies' emergency shortage plans meet the requirements for the WSCP to include a seismic risk assessment and mitigation plan to assess the vulnerability of each water facility.

1.3. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

Effectively implementing any stage of the water shortage contingency plan requires clear and timely communication with the public, stakeholders, key decisionmakers, and local, regional, and state governments. The WSCP Communication protocols allow agencies to efficiently communicate any current or predicted water shortages and the response actions that are triggered. Communication protocols are outlined for each stage. In order to ensure consistency, each agency is encouraged to develop scripted responses to commonly asked questions when each stage goes into effect and as information changes throughout a water shortage crisis.

1.3.1. Stage 1 and Prior Communication

Stage 1 contains voluntary measures meant to reduce water demand by up to 10 percent. The SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies aim to communicate water conditions when a water shortage condition exists or is anticipated. During this stage, or when SAN BENITO URBAN AREA is expected to enter Stage 1 soon, the following communication protocols are recommended:

- The District, Hollister, Sunnyslope, SJB must communicate to establish consistent Stage 1 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (UWMP Section 8.5)
- Communication in both English and Spanish of voluntary actions with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Monthly reports will be sent to the Hollister and SJB City Council and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions and response actions.
- Daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency.
- The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, the Public Works Director at the City of Hollister, San Juan Bautista City Manager and to the Program Manager of the Water Resource Association (WRA).
- Communication with public about potential for mandatory stages.

- Increased information about voluntary programs, like home surveys and leak repairs.

1.3.2. Stage 2 Communication

Stage 2 contains voluntary measures meant to reduce water demand by 10-20 percent. During this stage, the following communication protocols are recommended:

- The District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope must communicate to establish consistent Stage 2 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (UWMP Section 8.5)
- Communication in both English and Spanish of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions and new mandatory response actions.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) to chamber of commerce and businesses directly affected by restrictions (hotels and carwashes, for example)
- Monthly reports will be sent to the City Council and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency.
- The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, the Public Works Director at the City of Hollister and to the Program Manager of the WRA.
- Education about continued voluntary conservation actions with public.
- Increased information about voluntary programs, like home surveys and leak repairs, particularly within context of adhering to Stage 2 mandatory restrictions.

1.3.3. Stage 3 Communication

Stage 3 seeks to reduce water demand by 20-30 percent but includes the same mandatory actions as Stage 2. During this stage, increased communication about water conditions can lead to a decrease in demand.

- The District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope must communicate to establish consistent Stage 3 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (UWMP Section 8.5)
- Increased communication of mandatory actions with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency.
- The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, the Public Works Director at the City of Hollister and to the Program Manager of the WRA.
- Monthly reports will be sent to the City Council and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions.
- Warnings of increased water use monitoring and stricter mandatory restrictions if SAN BENITO URBAN AREA enters Stage 4.

1.3.4. Stage 4

Stage 4 implements stricter mandatory management actions to achieve a 30-40 percent reduction.

- The District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope must communicate to establish consistent Stage 4 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (UWMP Section 8.5)
- Communication in English and Spanish of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production reports will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions and new mandatory response actions.

- Direct contact (via telephone or email) to chamber of commerce and businesses directly affected by restrictions (construction or landscaping companies, for example).
- Monthly reports will be sent to the City Council and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Increased information about voluntary programs, like home surveys and leak repairs, particularly within context of adhering to Stage 4 mandatory restrictions.

1.3.5. Stage 5

Stage 5 seeks to reduce water demand by 40-50 percent but includes the same mandatory actions as Stage 4. During this stage, increased communication about water conditions can lead to a decrease in demand.

- The District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope must communicate to establish consistent Stage 5 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (UWMP Section 8.5.7)
- Increased communication of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production reports will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions
- Monthly reports will be sent to the City Council and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.
- Warnings of increased water use monitoring and stricter mandatory restrictions if SAN BENITO URBAN AREA enters Stage 5.

1.3.6. Stage 6

Stage 6 is the most severe stage, seeking to reduce demand by at least 50 percent. The District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope must communicate to establish consistent Stage 5 implementation and unified message in response to commonly asked questions (UWMP Section 8.5.7).

- Increased communication of mandatory actions and penalties with customers, residents, and businesses through social media, radio, websites, newspaper, television coverage, newsletters, and bill stuffers.
- Notification to stakeholders, elected officials, and other decision-makers regarding water shortage conditions, projections, actions to be taken, demand reduction goals, and implementation.
- Daily production reports will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency.
- Direct contact (via telephone or email) with local media about conditions.
- Monthly reports will be sent to the City Council and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

1.3.7. Frequently Asked Questions by Target Audience

It is recommended that the District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope collaborate to develop a unified response to the following commonly asked questions:

Customers and Community:

- When will water supply return to normal?
- What are the restrictions, and when will restrictions be lifted?
- What will you give me to compensate for any damages to my property?
- How will you prevent a water shortage in the future?

News Media:

- What are the current water conditions?
- What is the status of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan?
- What is the estimated loss?
- How will you prevent this from happening again?
- Who is responsible?

Government Regulators:

- When did water shortage happen?
- What are the environmental, health, and safety impacts of this water shortage?

Elected officials:

- How does this water shortage affect the environment, the economy, and public safety?
- How many employees are affected?
- When will the situation return to normal?

Employees:

- Will this water shortage affect my job?
- Will I get paid during times of reduced operation?

1.4. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

1.4.1. Demand Reduction Through Public Outreach

During the most recent drought (2014-2016), public outreach was expanded by 200 percent, and a 25 percent reduction was achieved by both Hollister and Sunnyslope. These programs are discussed in more detail in Section 9 of the UWMP. The specific public outreach measures listed below are intended to reduce demand during a drought or water supply interruption:

- Expand Public Information Campaign – Newsletter and other flyers in both English and Spanish were used to publicize programs and explain the importance of drought conservation.
- Improve Customer Billing – Customers with higher than average bills were contacted and possible water savings were recommended.
- Offer Water Use Surveys – Both residential and landscape surveys help high water users to identify areas of potential conservation.
- Provide Rebates or Giveaways of Plumbing Fixtures and Devices – Rebates and plumbing retrofits are available at all times but are publicized more during drought conditions. Plumbing retrofits including hose nozzles, faucet aerators, and shower heads are available at no cost to customers. Rebates are available for low flow toilets and high efficiency washing machines.
- Provide Rebates for Landscape Irrigation Efficiency – There is currently a landscape efficiency rebate program that provides rebates for landscape conversion, low-volume sprinkler heads, rain sensors, hose timers, and includes customized sprinkler schedules.
- Increase Water Waste Patrols – Examples include: Implement a Water Waste Patrol program; Increase staffing for Water Waste Patrol; Increase authority of Water Waste Patrol.
- Moratorium or Net Zero Demand Increase on New Connections – The agencies have added a no new connection element to their WSCP that is triggered in Stage 4.

- Implement or Modify Drought Rate Structure or Surcharge –a drought rate structure may be implemented in future droughts.

In addition to these measures, SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies offer ongoing educational programming, classes, and community outreach. Section 9 of the UWMP contains more detailed descriptions of these programs.

1.4.2. Warning and Citation Protocols

Enforcement is applicable at any water shortage stage. Any customer violating the regulations and restrictions on water use set forth in the “No Waste" Ordinances will receive a written warning for the first violation. A second violation within 12 months of the first violation results in a $100 penalty. On the third violation, the customer will be charged a $250 fine and the retailer may install a flow-restrictor. If a flow-restrictor is placed, the violator will pay the cost of installation and removal. After a fourth violation, a $500 penalty is issued. If water service is disconnected, it will be restored only upon payment of a reconnection charge. These penalties apply at any time but are likely to be more closely adhered to during drought periods.

Any willful violation occurring subsequent to the issuance of the second written warning will constitute a misdemeanor and may be referred to the City/County District Attorney’s office for prosecution pursuant. Misdemeanor convictions could include imprisonment and/or fines. The length of time for imprisonment and the magnitude of the fine vary between Hollister and Sunnyslope. If water service is disconnected, it will be restored only upon payment of a reconnection charge. These penalties apply at any time but are likely to be more closely adhered to during drought periods. In addition to fines, the City, Sunnyslope or the District, after written notice, may install a flow restrictor device or discontinue service to consumers who willfully violate provisions of this WSCP.

A person or property can apply for a waiver to the requirements in the WSCP. This hardship waiver is applicable at any stage of the WSCP. The written request must be submitted to one of the SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies with supporting documentation (photographs, maps, drawings, and any other information as appropriate). The waiver may be granted or conditionally granted only upon a written finding of the existence of facts demonstrating an undue hardship to a person using water or to property upon which water is used. The Agency that receives the waiver must act upon any completed application no later than ten days after submittal and may approve, conditionally approve, or deny the waiver. The applicant requesting the waiver must be promptly notified in writing of any action taken.

1.5. LEGAL AUTHORITIES

In the event of a water shortage, the SAN BENITO URBAN AREA Agencies shall declare a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code Chapter 3 Division 1.

Water Code Chapter 3 Division 1, Section 350 *Declaration of water shortage emergency condition.*

The governing body of a distributor of a public water supply, whether publicly or privately owned and including a mutual water company, shall declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the area served by such distributor whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply of the distributor to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection.

The SBUA agencies shall coordinate with the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista and San Benito County for the possible proclamation of a local emergency, as defined in the California Government Code, California Emergency Services Act (Article 2, Section 8558).

1.6. FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF WSCP

During periods of water shortage, revenue of the SBUA agencies may be reduced as the WSCP is implemented. Decreased water demand will lead to decreased revenue at the normal billing rate. The WSCP calls for an increase in water demand reduction programs, such as expanded public information campaigns, water use surveys, rebates, and water waste patrols, which may result in increased spending and staff costs.

The SAN BENITO URBAN AREA agencies proactively prepare for periodic revenue shortages and periods of increased spending. All surplus revenues that the District, Hollister, and Sunnyslope collect are currently reinvested into the water supply system in preparation for potential revenue reduction during water shortages.

Based on projected and observed declines in revenue during shortages, the entities determined that rate increases may be needed in Stage 2 through 6. In Stage 1, no additional water purchases and no rate increases are required. For Stages 2 & 3, 4 & 5, and 6, rate increases may be needed if the agencies decide to maintain the same revenue over this period.

1.7. MONITORING, REPORTING, AND WSCP REFINEMENT PROCEDURES

Under normal water supply conditions, potable water production values for Hollister and Sunnyslope are recorded daily and reported monthly to the Water Supervisor. Water use will be monitored and analyzed through billing data. During a Stage 1, Stage 2, or Stage 3 water shortage, daily production figures will be reported to the Water Supervisor of each agency. The Supervisor will compare the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Weekly reports will be forwarded respectively to the General Manager of Sunnyslope, the Public Works Director at the City of Hollister and to the Program Manager of the WRA. During a Stage 4, 5, or 6 water shortage, the daily production report will be provided to the General or City Manager of each agency. In Stages

1 through 6, monthly reports will be sent to the City Councils of Hollister and SJB and the Sunnyslope Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the respective managers will notify the governing board of each agency that additional action is required.

The WSCP implementation can be refined and updated at any point. During a water shortage, the Agencies may make changes as needed to best fit the emergency and communicate these changes with the public and stakeholders. After a water shortage emergency has passed, the Agencies are encouraged to evaluate the plan's effectiveness and may choose to adjust the WSCP to enhance its success, clarity, and feasibility.

1.8. SPECIAL WATER FEATURE DISTINCTION

Per Water Code Section 10632 (b) the SBUA Agencies shall define and analyze water features that are artificially supplied with water, such as ponds, places, waterfalls, and fountains, separately from swimming pools and spas. Water features that are not pools or spas may use recycled water, while potable water must be used in pools and spas for health and safety purposes.

1.9. ADOPTION, SUBMITTAL, AND AVAILABILITY

The initial WSCP adoption coincided with the 2015 UWMP adoption. The WSCP will be adopted again along side of the UWMP for the 2025 cycle. In accordance with section 10642 of the Water Code and section 6066 of the Government Code, each agency held a public hearing prior to adoption of the Plan.

Appendix E
Water Shortage Emergency Response

Sunnyslope County Water District

Emergency/Disaster Response Plan

(SEMS-NIMS)

PWS 3510003



Emergency/Disaster Response Plan

SEMS-NIMS

Revision Date:
September 24, 2003
May 2005
December 2006
July 2007
September 2009

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)
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Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)

1. Introduction

Objective

To continue minimum service levels and mitigate the public health risks from drinking water contamination that may occur during a disaster or other emergency events and in order to provide reliable water service and minimize public health risks from unsafe drinking water during those events, the Sunnyslope County Water District proposes the following plan that defines how it will respond to emergencies and/or disasters that are likely to affect its operation.

Disasters/emergencies that are likely to occur in the water system's service area that are addressed are: earthquake, major fire emergencies, water outages due to loss of power, localized flooding, water contamination, and acts of sabotage.

2. Planning Group Partners

Sunnyslope County Water District has established emergency planning partnerships with other parties who have agreed to help the utility in an emergency situation. A list of these agencies and brief description of their emergency capabilities is provided in section "SSCWD Telephone List"

3. Water System Information

System Identification Number	PWS 3510003	
System name and address	Sunnyslope County Water District 3570 Airline Highway Hollister CA 95023	
Connections/Population Served	5,300 service connections	16,713 population
Type of Source	5 Groundwater Wells	1 Surface Water Treatment Plant
Type of Treatment Provided	Disinfection treatment is provided using Sodium Hypochlorite 12.5% at Wells and LESSALT Surface Water Treatment Plant in addition adds Sodium Hydroxide 25% (Caustic Soda) for pH control.	
Number of Storage Tanks	4 Treated Water Tanks totaling 6,000,000 gallons	

Emergency Water Supply

Average Water Demand	2.7 mgd	
Max Water Demand	5.0 mgd	
Max Water Production	6.3 mgd	
Max Emergency Electrical Generator Water Supply Capacity	SSCWD Supply 6.3 mgd	City of Hollister Supply 0.9 mgd
Days of Emergency Supply	Unlimited at Average Demand	Unlimited at Max Demand

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)

Typical residential water usage in the United States is on the order of 300 to 500 gallons per residence per day, or 100 to 150 gallons per capita per day. Although these amounts can typically be significantly reduced during crisis situations, Sunnyslope County Water District has found it useful to develop an estimate for the quantity of supplemental water required for a number of potential outage scenarios. These estimates are as follows:

Outage Period	Number of Customers (service connections) Affected	Quantity of water needed
1 hour	5300 connections	110,416 gph
12 hours	5300 connections	1,324,999 g/12hr
1 day	5300 connections	2,650,000 gpd
2 days	5300 connections	5,300,000 g/2days
1 week	5300 connections	18,550,000 gpw

CITY OF HOLLISTER/SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT INTER-TIES			
COH/SSCWD Inter-tie Location	Description	Flow Direction	(GPM Range) Actual
Santa Ana & La Baig	Pressure Reduction Valve Water meters & totalizer 2" & 6" Meter	Flow to the COH Only	(0 - 1000 GPM) 250 - 600 GPM
Hillcrest & Memorial Booster Station	Pressure Reduction Valve, 2 Booster Pumps, Water meter & totalizer 8" Mag Meter	Flow to the COH can be pumped to SSCWD	(0 - 1000 GPM) 250 - 600 GPM
Sunnyslope & Memorial	Water meter & totalizer 8" Mag Meter	Flow to the COH can be pumped to SSCWD	(0 - 1000 GPM) 150-250 GPM
Sunset Dr. & Memorial	Water meter & totalizer 8" Mag Meter	Flow to the COH can be pumped to SSCWD	(0 - 1000 GPM) 150-250 GPM
San Benito County Public Works Yard	Pressure Reduction Valves Water meters & totalizers 2" & 6"	Flow to COH Only	(0 – 1000 GPM) 150-250 GPM

The City of Hollister maintains a potable community water system that is capable of supplying water to Sunnyslope County Water District during an emergency.

During Normal operations, the exchange of water is as required by demand and metered through a series of five inter-ties between the City of Hollister and the Sunnyslope County Water Distribution

Systems. This exchange includes the routine daily transfer of the City of Hollister's share of water from the LESSALT Water Treatment Plant. Additional flows to and from the Sunnyslope Distribution System are based on seasonal water supply demands.

These inter-ties typically involve pressure reduction valves, water meters and a booster pump station at one location with associated appurtenances.

A higher water pressure in the Sunnyslope County Water District Distribution System results in Hollister's share of LESSALT surface water to flow through the Sunnyslope Fairview Pressure Zone primarily through the Santa Ana and Hillcrest Pressure Reducing Valve Inter-ties. Flows can vary from 0 to 1000 GPM but typically are between 400-600 gallons per minute (GPM) range at Santa Ana and 100-300 GPM range at Hillcrest, Sunset and Sunnyslope. Seasonal demands also allow Sunset and Sunnyslope inter-ties to provide LESSALT water to the City.

Water can be transferred into the Sunnyslope system using the City of Hollister's booster pump station at Hillcrest and Memorial Drive or Airline Highway City Well #6 to pump water against the pressure gradient. The demand in the City's sub system west of Memorial Drive is first met then surplus water will flow back to the Sunnyslope system through the Sunset, Sunnyslope and Hillcrest inter-tie connections.

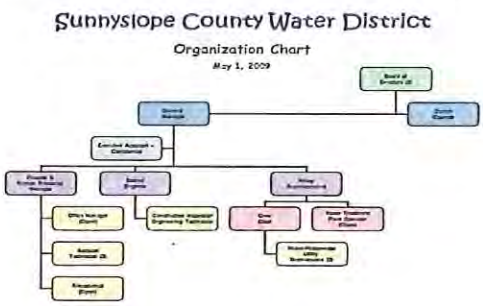
The San Benito County Public Works Inter-tie provides water from the Sunnyslope Ridgemark Water Pressure Zone though a series of pressure reducing valves to the City of Hollister Cienega Pressure Zone. Transfer at this site typically falls within the 0-300 GPM range depending on seasonal demands.

Emergency Area Map

A map of the Sunnyslope County Water District which identifies water well sources, inter-ties with the City of Hollister water distribution system, pressure zones, booster pumps, pressure reducing stations, and District owned wastewater facilities and also establishes emergency response areas. See section "SSCWD Emergency Area Map".

Designated Responsible Personnel

For designated responsible personnel, chain of command, identified responsibilities, and additional resources see section" SSCWD Employee Phone List."



Sunnyslope County Water District

Organization Chart

May 1, 2009

- Board of Directors
  (Date Elected/Appointed – Term Expires)
  - Douglas G. Keck, President (11/08 – 11/10)
  - Marshal Nelson, Vice President (11/08 – 11/10)
  - Dawn V. Anderson (11/08 – 11/10)
  - Stephen B. Hallstone (12/08 – 11/10)
  - Dave Meraz (11/08 – 11/12)
- District Counsel
  - Lloyd Lowrey, Esq.
- General Manager
  - Bryan M. Yamaoka
- Executive Assistant-Confidential
  - Marsha A. Nelson
- Finance & Human Resource Manager
  - Cathy L. Buck
- Office Manager
  - Open Position
- Account Technician
  - Kelly L. Brill
  - Carol A. Parteur
  - Anabel G. Zavala
- Receptionist
  - Open Position
- District Engineer
  - Kenneth R. Girouard
- Construction Inspector/ Engineering Technician
  - Patrick L. Imperatrice
- Water Superintendent
  - James L. Fliss
- Water Treatment Plant Operator
  - Open Position
- Crew Chief
  - Patrick W. Jackson
- Water/Wastewater Utility Maintenance
  - Abel Alvarez
  - Kevin G. Castro
  - Manuel T. Chavez
  - Ernesto P. Eclarin
  - Thomas A. Estrada
  - Patrick M. Hagins
  - Walter R. Norman III
  - David Padilla
  - Scott Watson

Inventory of Resources

Equipment and system resources that are used for normal operations and available for emergencies; including maps and schematic diagrams of the water system, emergency equipment, equipment suppliers, mutual aid with planning group partners, repair parts and equipment are located at the Sunnyslope County Water District Office 3570 Airline Highway. Additional District equipment and resources available include:

- Electrical generators
- Backhoe
- Air compressors
- High pressure hydro flushing equipment
- Utility vehicles equipped with tool, valve turners, lift gate, air compressor.
- Dump trailers
- Box Truck containing repair equipment and supplies
- Welder and cutting torch
- Cell phones, two way radio communications
- Shop vacuums
- Pumps
- Emergency spill kits
- Mutual aid with the City of Hollister, San Benito County Water District, San Benito County Public Works

Sunnyslope County Water District has established procedures for equipment maintenance. See Operation and Maintenance Procedures.

4. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS/NIMS)

The Standardized Emergency Management System/National Incident Management System (SEMS/NIMS) is the system required by Government Code §8607 (a) for managing response to multi-agency and multi-jurisdiction emergencies in California. The system was created for several purposes. First, it allows rapid and effective coordination at the field level using the Incident Command System (ICS) to manage multi-agency response to an incident. Secondly, SEMS/NIMS create a common management structure at all levels of response, which allows entities to work with common terminology, staffing organizations, and facilities for more efficient interagency coordination. Thirdly, it creates an ordering process for requesting resources from the field through local government, to the County (Operational Area) to the state and eventually the federal government. It also allows each level of organization to track requests and resources that are dispatched to the incident or necessary for support. Local public agencies (cities, counties, special

districts) must use SEMS/NIMS to be eligible for State funding of certain response-related personnel costs resulting from a disaster. State agencies are required by the law to utilize SEMS/NIMS during emergencies.

NOTE: Depending on the circumstances of the incident, when a request is made by the water system to local first response agencies, such as Fire or Law Enforcement, ICS will be implemented by these first response agencies to manage the resources at the site. Water system personnel that will interface with these response agency personnel, in the field, should understand their role in the ICS structure. Water systems can and will provide tactical and precautionary measures through their Emergency Operations Center or the Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM). It will be important to coordinate these activities with the field (Incident) through an Agency Representative or Technical Specialist in the ICS structure.

Water System Personnel may function in the ICS structure (Field Level) as an Agency Representative or Technical Specialist.

Five Principle Functions of SEMS/NIMS

Management - In a Water System Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the EOC Director has overall responsibility for all emergency functions. This person may initially be designated as the Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM) prior to the activation of an EOC. The EOC Director may retain and/or delegate authority for functions listed below.

In the field, under ICS, an Incident Commander or Unified Command is established depending on statutory authorities for the Incident. The Incident Commander's responsibility is the overall management of the incident.

Operations - The Operations Section is responsible for the management of all operations directly applicable to the primary mission established for the response. The Operations Section Chief activates and supervises organization elements in accordance with the Incident Action Plan and directs its execution.
For water utilities, coordinates emergency response activities at the water utility EOC level and implements the priorities established by management or the Incident Command. Operation Section staff include field coordinators, as necessary, linked to water utility personnel at other fixed facilities or assigned to incidents within the water utility. The field coordinator should receive and pass information up the chain of command, as well as, receive and coordinate requests for services and support.

Planning/Intelligence - Oversees the collection, evaluation, verification, and display of current information related to the emergency. This section is also responsible for preparing action plans and maintaining documentation related to the emergency. The information collected is needed to 1) understand current situation 2) predict probable course of the incident events 3) prepare alternative strategies and control operations for the incident.

Logistics - Provides facilities, services, and material in support of the Incident. Oversees the acquisition, storing, and distribution of essential resources and support services needed to

manage the emergency. It tracks the status of resources. Logistics provides services to all field units in terms of obtaining and meeting their personnel, materials and equipment needs including communications.

Finance/Administration - The Finance/Administration Section is responsible for all financial, administrative and cost analysis aspects of the incident. Finance/Administration prepares vendor contracts, maintains records of expenditures for personnel and equipment, and maintains records and processes claims. It also provides preliminary estimates of damage costs and losses.

General Staff - Each function listed above should have a delegated Chief to manage the Section. Depending on the nature and scope of the emergency, each Section can have several branches, divisions, groups, or units.

Command Staff - These positions report directly to and are directly subordinate to the Incident Commander or EOC Director. They are the Public Information, Liaison and Safety Officers.

Water Utility Emergency Operations Center

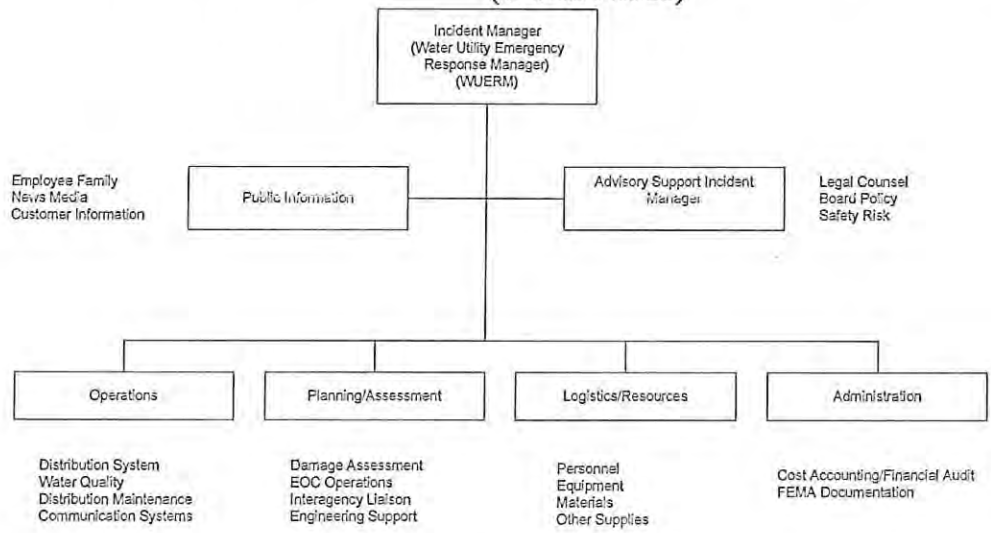
Depending on the Magnitude of the Incident, Water Utilities may have to establish an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to manage its resources and coordinate with outside entities. An EOC is a physical location from which support for centralized emergency management can be performed. The essential functions necessary in the Water Utility EOC are described below:

- Establish an EOC Director to manage the Operations, Planning/Intelligence, Logistics, Finance/Administration Sections, and related sub-functions.
- Setting Priorities and developing Action Plans
- Coordination and support of all field level incident activities within the utility service area.
- Information gathering, processing, and reporting within the utility service area and to other levels of SEMS/NIMS
- Coordination with local government, operational areas, or regional EOCs as appropriate.
- Requesting Resources from higher SEMS/NIMS levels

Note: In general, at any level of activation, the Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM) should be aware of the following incident management principles:

- Establishing objectives and priorities for the incident
- Establish an Incident Action Plan (written or verbal)
- Awareness of his or her responsibility for the 5 primary functions of SEMS/NIMS
- Management, Operations, Planning, Logistics and Finance/Administration
- Ensure an effective span of control (only supervise 5-7 staff directly on an incident)
- Delegate authority and activate organizational elements within an Incident Command Structure only as necessary
- Provide for personnel accountability and a safe environment for staff
- Ensure effective communications

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)



Section Leader Assignments

SECTION	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE
Incident Manager	General Manager or Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM)	Chief Engineer
Operations	Water Quality/District Superintendent or WUERM	Field Main. Superintendent
Planning/Asssessment	Head of Engineering Services	Principal Engineer
Logistics/Resources	Asst. Field Maintenance Superintendent	Field Supervisor
Administration	Admin. Manager Accounting	Personnel Administrator Human Resources
COMMAND STAFF	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE
Public Information	Public Education Coordinator	Customer Service Admin.
Advisory Support	Safety Coordinator	Assistant Safety Coordinator

Sunnyslope County Water District Personnel

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)

Name and title	Responsibilities during an emergency
Bryan Yamaoka *Water System General Manager* *WUERM*	• Overall management and decision making for the water/wastewater system. • WUERM is lead for managing the emergency and contacting the regulatory agencies. • WUERM contacts the public and news media • All communications to external parties are approved by the WUERM
Ken Girouard *District Engineer*	• In charge of operating the water/wastewater system. • Performs inspections, maintenance, sampling of the system and relaying critical information to the WUERM. • Assess facilities, and provides recommendations to the WUERM.
Jim Filice *Water Superintendent* Pat Jackson *Crew Chief*	• In charge of running water/wastewater treatment plants • Performs inspections, maintenance, sampling of the WTP and relaying critical information to the WUERM. • Assess WTP facilities and treatment provided and provides recommendations to the WUERM.
Bryan Yamaoka Ken Girouard Jim Filice Pat Jackson	• In charge of collecting samples, having samples analyzed by certified labs, receiving the results. • Determines the quality of the water being served meets all drinking water and public health requirements.
Cathy Buck *Office Administrator*	• Responsible for administrative and financial functions in the office. • Cost accounting and tracking during emergencies. • Oversee customer phone calls and maintains a log of complaints and calls. • In an emergency, could provide a standard carefully pre-scripted message for customers who call with general questions.
Walter Norman III Pat Hagins David Padilla Manuel Chavez Jr. Ernie Eclarin Tom Estrada Kevin Castro Abel Alvarez Scott Watson *Water/Wastewater Maintenance*	• Delivers water quality notices or door hangers • Provides backup to water system operator. • Conducts site inspections of all facilities.
Bryan Yamaoka *Public Information Officer (PIO)*	• Coordinate with all the other agencies PIOs. • Report and work with the joint information center (JIC) if more than one agency is involved.

Drinking Water Field Operations Branch - Chain of Command

The primary contact for the water system during any emergency is their District Engineer. Water Systems should contact their District Engineer in the event of any emergency. From the District Engineer, authority moves up the line to the Regional Engineer, Branch Chiefs, Assistant Division Chief, to finally the Chief of the Division.

Emergency Operations Center

The Sunnyslope County Water District office (3570 Airline Highway) has been designated as the communication network Emergency Operations Center (EOC). (The designated backup Emergency Operation Center is the LESSALT Water Treatment Plant at 1391 Fairview Road) All District vehicles contain copies of the SSCWD Emergency Response Plan & Operation and Maintenance Procedures Manual. Emergency contact information for equipment suppliers is located in section "SSCWD Employee Phone List" of this manual. The telephone and FAX will be the primary mode of communication in an emergency. In addition, all District vehicles have Motorola Radios for inter company communication and the local fire department and law enforcement have a radio and SSCWD has made arrangements to use it to contact police, fire and other emergency response personnel should telephone communication be lost.

Personnel Accountability

The Sunnyslope County Water District Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is designated as the personnel assembly area. During catastrophic emergency situations outside of working hours all personnel will first respond to personal emergencies then will report to the Emergency Operations Center. During working hours, personnel will communicate with the Emergency Operations Center to report their status and receive instructions. If an employee fails to report their status, an investigation into the location and safety of that employee will be initiated.

Family members are urged to contact the EOC for personnel updates and assistance.

Response Procedures

Personnel will, as quickly as possible, assess damage to water and wastewater system facilities, provide logistics for emergency repairs, monitor progress of repairs and restoration efforts, communicate with health officials and water users according to the "Emergency Notification Plan" on file with the regulatory agency (i.e., Department of Public Health Services (CDPH) and document damage and repairs.

Other Agency Coordination

Coordination procedures with governmental agencies for health and safety protection; technical, legal, and financial assistance, and public notification procedures are continually being developed and updated through regulation and experience and will be added as necessary to this plan.

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)

During an emergency, it is important to contact and notify all the appropriate agencies and stakeholders that will be affected by the emergency. Some agencies will need to be notified immediately while others may be needed later in the incident, depending on the event. The following is a list of agencies and stakeholders that a water system should have updated contact information. Since this list has many contact names and phone numbers, this information should be reviewed annually to ensure that current information is provided.

The initial notification response to any emergency should be to "911" for the needed first responder and then to the Department of Public Health Services-Drinking Water Program. The Department of Public Health Services – Drinking Water Program is the Drinking Water Primacy Agency in California and has regulatory jurisdiction over all public water systems in the state.

Contact to the CDPH-DWP should be to their District Engineer. If the water system is unable to contact the District Engineer (or one of their staff), the water system should use the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) Warning Center Phone Number: 1-800-852-7550, which is a 24/7 phone number. A second phone number for the OES Warning Center is 916-845-8911. A duty officer will answer the CA OES Warning Center phone call and refer to statewide emergency phone numbers. In order to assist the duty officer-it will expedite response if you request the California Department of Public Health Services (CDPH) duty officer. The CDPH duty officer will then call management staff in the Drinking Water Program to respond to the emergency.

Depending on the magnitude of the event, the following state agencies may also need to be contacted:

- Office of Emergency Services (OES) Warning Control Center.
- Department of Water Resources.
- Department of Fish and Game.
- Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- Department of Toxic Substances Control.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- USEPA
- Local County Health Department
- County Health Department
- County Environmental Health Departments
- Local Agencies/Facilities
- County and State Offices of Emergency Services
- Hospital and Critical Care Facilities
- Water District Customers

5. Initial Notifications

First Responders

911 - If the situation is an emergency that needs response from local fire, law enforcement, medical or hazardous materials team (HAZMAT), calling 911 should be the first immediate call.

Water system staff should be aware of where and how they are calling 911. If the water system staff call "911" from a cell phone, then the call is routed to the nearest California Highway Patrol Office, which may be in another city or county, and not in the immediate local 911 area. Typically, a direct phone number for the local 911 can be provided to the water system-contact your local first responders to get this phone number for cell phones.

Local Police and Sheriffs

Water systems should establish an ongoing relationship with the local police and sheriff offices that serve their service area. It is good practice to get them familiar with water system facilities. If they are called out to an incident, they will then be familiar with some basic aspects of the water system. Water systems that have large service areas that cover several cities or large areas should have contacts for each police and sheriff agency in their service area.

Fire and Hazmat

If the emergency incident involves an unknown substance and possible contamination of the water system, the first responders will more likely be the local fire department and/or HAZMAT team. Most Hazmat teams are part of the local fire department, but some may be special teams under county or city jurisdiction.

Like law enforcement agencies, water systems should know all the fire departments and/or HAZMAT teams that serve their service area and maintain contacts with those agencies. Contact your local county Office of Emergency Services to obtain the local HAZMAT teams that have jurisdiction in your area.

Drinking Water Primacy Agency

The Department of Public Health Services Drinking Water Program has regulatory jurisdiction for public water systems and should be one of the first agencies to be contacted in almost all emergency events. Contact should be to the District Engineer. In most emergency events, it is not appropriate to leave a message on the District Engineers voicemail. If the water system is not able to contact the District Engineer-they should call the State Warning Center 24/7 phone number as described in Section 6.3. The District Engineer will be able to assist the water system in:

- Inspections of water treatment plants, storage facilities, watersheds (chemical contamination, sewage spills, erosion, and drainage diversions).

- Water Quality Sampling.
- Consulting with water system staff/operators.
- Providing technical assistance.
- Documenting the disaster's effect on the water system through photographs and reports.
- Keeping local officials advised of the current drinking water situation.
- Review plans and specifications for reconstruction projects, and issue amended permits as needed.
- Laboratory Sampling Analysis

a. Depending the magnitude of the event, the following state agencies may also need to be contacted:
   - Office of Emergency Services (OES) Warning Control Center.
   - Department of Water Resources.
   - Department of Fish and Game.
   - Regional Water Quality Control Board.
   - Department of Toxic Substances Control.

Federal Agencies

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) - If the event is a known terrorist incident or a direct written or phone threat against the water system, the FBI is to be contacted as soon as possible. There are four regional offices that have Key Asset Coordinators/Special Agents that should be contacted. The water system should report an emergency by calling the 24/7 phone numbers, which are listed below for each of the four regional offices in California. A link to the regional offices is also provided to allow water systems to check what region they should report an event.

San Francisco - (415) 553-7400 http://sanfrancisco.fbi.gov/

Los Angeles - (310) 477-6565 http://losangeles.fbi.gov/

Sacramento - (916) 481-9110 http://sacramento.fbi.gov/

San Diego - (858) 565-1255 http://sandiego.fbi.gov/

USEPA

The US Environmental Protection Agency Drinking Water Program is not a direct response agency. US EPA, through its "Superfund Response Program" has emergency response resources for incidents related to environmental chemical releases. These resources are not "first response" resources and should be requested through the SEMS/NIMS process.

County Health Department

The County Public Health Officer is responsible for all public health issues within their county. They should be notified of any event that could affect public health within their county. In the event of an emergency that will require financial and technical assistance through the CA Mutual Aide System, the County Public Health Officer will be one of the officials that can declare a "State of Emergency" and request assistance from the Regional and State OES. The County Public Health Officer also will have access to disease surveillance data within the county. If you do not have the contact information of the current County Health Officer, contact your District Engineer.

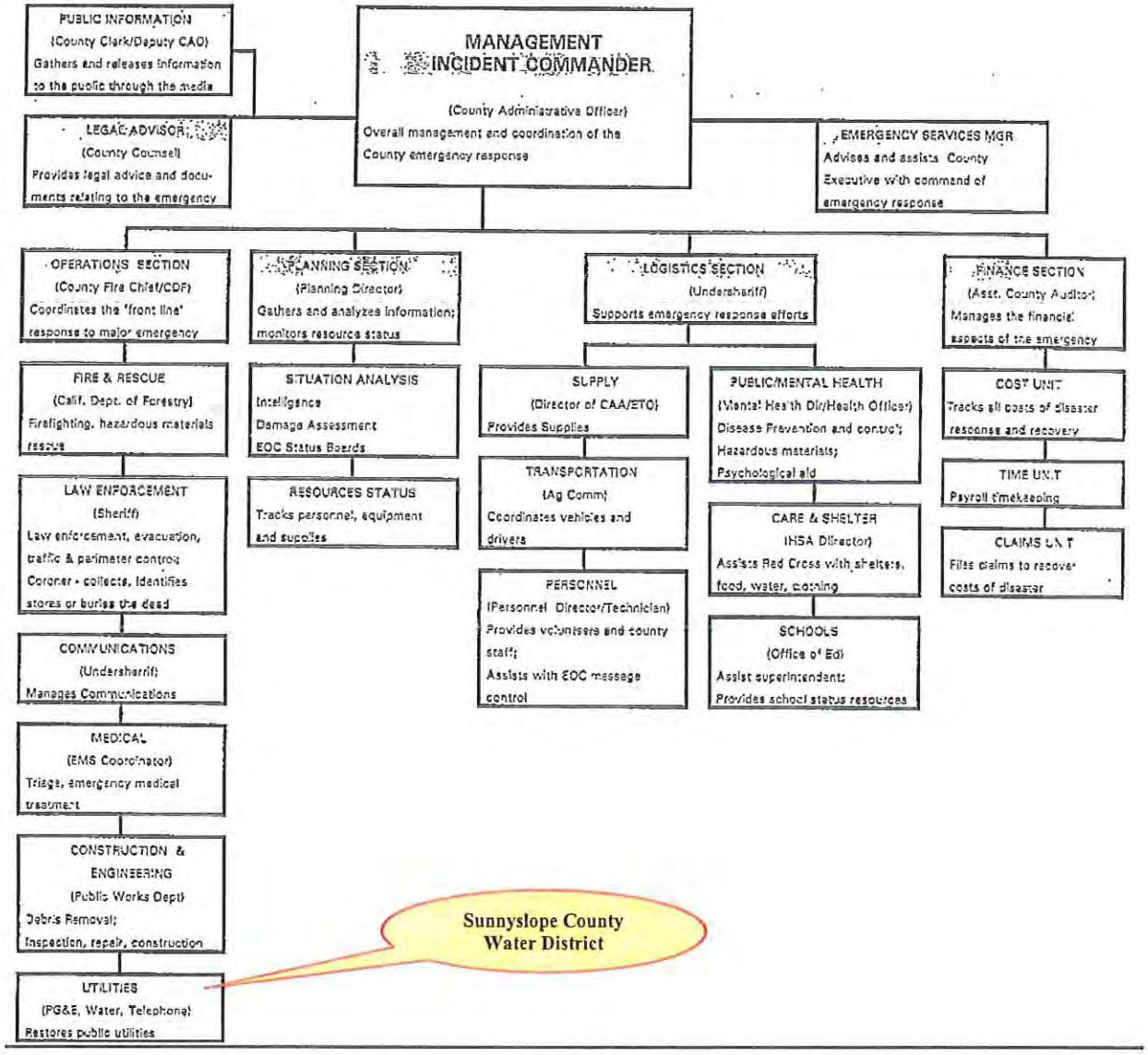
County Environmental Health Departments

Many County Environmental Health Departments have been delegated primacy for the small water systems serving less than 200 service connections within the county. The Environmental Health Departments have contacts with the Department of Public Health Services as well as many county HAZMAT teams. If you do not have the contact information of the current County Director of Environmental Health Department, contact your District Engineer.

County and State Offices of Emergency Services

The County and State Offices of Emergency Services (OES) provide support and coordination of resources during an emergency. Water systems should work with their County OES to establish requesting protocols for State OES resources utilizing SEMS/NIMS. If additional or specialized resources are needed during an emergency, OES should be able to dispatch those resources to the emergency.

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)
San Benito County
Operational Area Emergency Organization



Hospital and Critical Care Facilities

It is important to know location and contact information for all the critical care facilities and hospitals in your service area. An emergency or contamination event in the water system can effect the operations of these facilities.

Customers

It is important that a water system be able to communicate with their customers. All means of communication need to be explored to effectively communicate with customers. The Water Quality Emergency Notification Plan (WQENP), as required under Section 116460, California Health and Safety Code, is a significant part of a water system plan to communicate with their customers. The WQENP should be included in the Appendix of the ERP. The WQENP is a standard form that contains specific information for the CDPH District Engineer and the County. Contact your District Engineer for the current WQENP form.

6. Response Procedures

Personnel will, as quickly as possible, determine the status of other employees, assess damage to water and wastewater system facilities, provide logistics for emergency repairs, monitor progress of repairs and restoration efforts, communicate with health officials and water users according to the "Emergency Notification Plan" on file with the regulatory agency (i.e., Department of Public Health Services (CDPH) or Local Primacy Agency (LPA)), and document damage and repairs.

7. Public Notice Procedures

Public notice procedures should be developed before the disaster and not during the event. Public notices are a significant part of communicating with customers. Standard public notifications for a water outage/low pressure problems, Boil Water Order (BWO), Unsafe Water Alert (UWA) or Do Not Drink Notices have been developed by CDPH for use during an emergency. Each utility will need to modify the standard forms with specific contact information and guidance to customers depending on the nature of the emergency event. In addition, water systems need to have copies of public notices in the appropriate languages used in their service areas.

A BWO, UWA or Do Not Drink Notice can be issued by one, or a combination of the following agencies:

- CDPH – Drinking Water Program (Designated personnel-District Engineer, Regional Engineer or Branch Chief).
- Local County Health Department (Designated personnel-County Health Officer or Director of Environmental Health Department for small water systems under county jurisdiction).
- Affected Water System (Designated personnel-responsible person in charge of the affected water system, i.e., Director of Water Quality, Manager, Director of Water

Department, Director of Public Works, Owner, etc. The water systems ERP should identify the designated personnel in their ERP).

All public notifications (BWO, UWA or Do Not Drink Notices) should be coordinated with the CDPH District Engineer, County Environmental Health Department and the County Health Officer prior to issuing a public notice. However, any one of the three agencies should act immediately to issue a BWO or UWA, if delays will jeopardize public health and safety. The CDPH District Engineer or the water system must notify the County Health Department and the County Health Officer prior to or immediately after issuing a public notice. Notice must be given to a person, a message left on voicemail is not sufficient. Coordination of this notification should be identified in the ERP. Whenever a BWO/UWA has been issued, the CDPH DWP also needs to notify two other CA Department of Public Health Services Agencies- CDPH Food and Drug and CDPH Licensing and Certification. The CDPH DWP District Engineer will notify the other two CDPH agencies of the BWO/UWA issued.

The following standard public notices are provided in the Appendix of this manual.

Consumer Alert During Water Outages or Periods of Low Pressure

If a water system is experiencing power outages, water outages or low pressure problems, a consumer alert may be issued to the public. The notice provides consumers information on conserving water and how to treat the water with household bleach if the water quality is questionable.

Boil Water Order (BWO)

A BWO should be issued when minimum bacteriological water quality standards cannot be reasonably assured. To assure public health protection a BWO should be issued as soon as it is concluded by the designated personnel that the water supply is or may be biologically unsafe. Examples of these situations include:

1. Biological contamination of water supply system, including but not limited to:
   - Positive total or fecal coliform bacteriological samples;
   - Prolonged water outages in areas of ruptured sewer and/or water mains;
   - Failed septic tank systems in close proximity to ruptured water mains;
   - Ruptured water treatment, storage, and/or distribution facilities in areas of known sewage spills
   - Known biological contamination;
   - Cross-connection contamination problems;
   - Illness attributed to water supply.
2. Unusual system characteristics, including but not limited to:
   - Prolonged loss of pressure;
   - Sudden loss of chlorine residual;
   - Severe discoloration and odor;

- Inability to implement emergency chlorination.

3. Implemented due to treatment inadequacies.

Unsafe Water Alert (UWA)/"Do Not Drink"

In the event a water quality emergency due to known or suspected chemical (non-bacteriological) contamination to a water system a UWA or "Do Not Drink" should be issued. Water should not be used for drinking and cooking, but may be used for sanitation purposes. Examples of these situations include:

1. Known or suspected widespread chemical or hazardous contamination in water supply distribution, including but not limited to:
   - Ruptured water distribution system (storage tanks, mains) in area of known chemical spill coupled with loss of pressure;
   - Severe odor and discoloration;
   - Loss of chlorine residual;
   - Inability of existing water treatment process to neutralize chemical contaminants prior to entering the distribution system.
2. Threatened or suspected acts of sabotage confirmed by analytical results, including but not limited to:
   - Suspected contamination triggered by acts of sabotage or vandalism.
3. Emergency use of an unapproved source to provide a supplemental water supply.

Unsafe Water Alert (UWA)/"Do Not Use"

In the event a known or suspected contamination event to a water system, where the contaminate may be chemical, biological or radiological a UWA or "Do Not Use" should be issued. Water should not be used for drinking, cooking, or sanitation purposes. Examples of these situations include:

1. Known or suspected widespread chemical or hazardous contamination in water supply distribution, including but not limited to
   - Terrorist contamination event.

The public information officer for a water system needs to be assigned before an emergency occurs. The water system public information officer (PIO) will need to coordinate with all the other agencies PIOs. If more than one agency is involved in an emergency, a joint information center (JIC) will probably be established. If a BWO or UWA is issued, the water system should notify the PIOs in the EOC immediately.

Media Notification

Dealing with and notifying the media is one of the most significant communication tasks. Any dealing with the media during an emergency should come from one unified source-typically from the

EOC. If more than one source communicates with the media, there will be conflicting information that will give the appearance all the agencies involved in the emergency do not know what they are doing. The media is a good way to communicate with water system customers. Boil Water Orders, Unsafe Water Alerts, and other public notices can be distributed through the media. Again, this is only effective if the information is coordinated through one source (the JIC) and one message is delivered to the public.

Cancellation of Public Notification

Once a BWO/UWA is issued, the only agency that can rescind the public notice is the drinking water primacy agency. CDPH DWP will not lift the BWO until two rounds, collected one day apart, of coliform bacteria samples have been analyzed and the results are negative. The two sets of sample results should be faxed to the CDPH DWP District Office for final approval before rescinding the BWO. Special chemical sampling will be required to rescind an UWA, please contact the CDPH DWP District Office to determine required sampling.

- See SSCWD public notices in Section "Public Notification" of this Manual.

8. Water Quality Sampling

NOTE: Laboratory protocols and procedures identified are still under development by Federal and State Agencies. This section will continue to evolve and updates will be provided as necessary.

During an emergency, there are several types of water quality sampling that may need to be analyzed depending on the actual event. If it is natural disaster, flood or power outage, sampling will probably only include bacteriological samples, turbidity and chlorine residual samples if the system is chlorinated. However, if the event is a terrorist act or contamination event, the sampling will include a full scan of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) chemical, radiological and microbiological (unless the actual contaminant used is known).

Laboratory Resources

In general there are four different types or ownership of laboratory facilities in California that can analyze drinking water samples, which are listed below:

1. Commercial/private laboratories
2. County Public Health Laboratories
3. State Department of Health Services Laboratories
4. Research Facility/Specialty Laboratories

In general, laboratories are grouped into two broad categories – chemical or biological. Chemical laboratories include: general environmental chemistry laboratories, radiological laboratories, and specialty laboratories that may be able to handle and analyze exotic contaminants, such as chemical weapons and radionuclides. Biological laboratories include: environmental microbiology

laboratories and the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) that typically analyze clinical samples for pathogens and select biotoxins.

CDPH Laboratory

The CDPH Sanitation and Radiation Laboratories Branch (SRLB) is organized within the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (DDWEM). SRLB is the State's primary drinking water quality testing laboratory and is the only State laboratory capable of measuring environmental radiation. Its primary mission is to provide analytical services, reference measurements and technical support pertaining to the State's Drinking Water and Radiologic Health Programs.

SRLB has two laboratories. The Southern California Section is located in Los Angeles and performs microbiological, inorganic and organic testing in various water matrices. The Northern California Section, located in Richmond, carries out inorganic and organic analyses in water, and radiochemical testing in various environmental matrices in addition to water. The SRLB in conjunction with the CDPH Microbial Disease Laboratory (MDL) does microbiological analyses including biotoxins.

California Mutual Aid Laboratory Network (CAMAL Net)

The CDPH SRLB, in conjunction with the water utilities, USEPA Region IX laboratory in Richmond, Lawerence Livermore National Laboratory, and the California Department of Water Resources, have formed a laboratory network, CAMAL Net, to address laboratory capacity issues associated with possible drinking water related contamination events. CAMAL Net establishes a triage system to process samples when water systems or commercial laboratory methods are not available or the water system lacks capacity within their own lab. The CAMAL Net system will not handle any samples where field screening indicates that the sample may contain a CDC listed WMD agent. The list of WMD agents can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage at http://www.bt.cdc.gov/. Any request for analysis through the CAMAL Net system needs to be approved by the CDPH DWP District Engineer in your jurisdiction prior to collection of water quality samples to be processed.

Chemical Analysis Classification

The California Department of Public Health Services along with its stakeholders and federal partners are in the process of developing an algorithm to assist California water systems, public health agencies, law enforcement, and first responders with the identification of possible chemical agents in drinking water contamination events. A draft version has been developed and it is anticipated that a final version will be released in the near future. The final version will become an appendix to this document.

Biological Analysis Classification

The LRN for Bioterrorism has ranked laboratories (Level A, B, C or D) based on the type of safety procedures they practice.

- Level A Lab uses a Class II biosafety (BSL) cabinet
- Level B Lab is a BSL-2 facility + BSL-3 safety practices
- Level C Lab is a BSL-3 facility
- Level D Lab is a BSL-4 facility

- Level A Labs are used to rule out and forward organisms.
- Level B Labs are used for limited confirmation and transport.
- Level C Labs are used for molecular assays and reference capacity.
- Level D Labs are used for the highest level of characterization.

Currently, in California there are: 28 Level A labs, 10 Level B labs, 2 Level C labs. The two Level C laboratories are the LA County Public Health Laboratory, Los Angeles, CA and the CDPH MDL in Richmond, CA. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is also a Level C laboratory, but access to them is restricted. The only Level D laboratories available in the LRN are the national laboratories, such as those at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Defense. These laboratories test and characterize samples that pose challenges beyond the capabilities of the Level A, B, and C reference labs, and provide support for other LRN members during a serious outbreak or terrorist event. The most dangerous or perplexing pathogens are handled only at the Bio-Safety Level 4 laboratories at CDC and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID).

Natural Disaster

During a natural disaster, flood, earthquake, fire etc., sample collection and analysis will be available to the water system by their normal laboratory resources. Sampling will primarily consist of regulatory bacteriological samples and turbidity to show that the system has been flushed out. The water system may also be collecting chlorine residual samples throughout the system with a field chlorine test kit.

Terrorist Event/Contamination Event

Once a threat warning has occurred and the utility has deemed the threat confirmed, it will be necessary to collect water quality samples. The decisions made from the time of the threat warning to the time the threat is confirmed is specific to each individual event. This "credibility stage" as referred to in the EPA Response Toolbox may take the utility between 2 – 8 hours and should involve consultation with local first responders, CDPH DWP (Drinking Water Primacy Agency), local Public Health Department and regional FBI office.

Assuming the threat is confirmed and credible enough to warrant water quality sampling, several state and federal agencies are involved to collect samples, transport the samples to appropriate laboratory and analyze the samples. The water system's first step in this process is to contact the CDPH-District Engineer so they can notify the CDPH-SRLB of the incoming samples. The following steps are described in more detail below:

- Emergency Water Quality Sampling Kit (EWQSK)
- Sample Collection
- Laboratory Required for Analysis
- Sample Transport
- Sample Analysis

Emergency Water Quality Sampling Kit

Contains sample bottles needed for chemical, radiological and microbiological analysis (that could be split into 3 complete sample sets). The original sample kit was developed by Metropolitan Water Department to be used during a terrorist or contamination event. EPA reviewed the sample kit and provided a list of the sample bottles in the EPA Toolbox. The California Mutual Aid Laboratory Network (CAMAL Net) has also reviewed this kit and made some minor changes that will allow water quality samples to be collected under all conditions. The CAMAL Net version of the sample kit has been finalized for deployment. This kit will continue to evolve as the US EPA develops sampling protocols for these new constituents in drinking water. The estimated cost of one kit is approximately $200. The EWQSK should remain sealed before the sample is collected. Since some of the sample bottles contain reagents that expire, the bottles in each kit should be replaced annually.

CDPH-DWP will purchase the supplies to create enough EWQSK to supply 2-3 in each DWP District Office. If water systems do not want to purchase and maintain their own kits, then the DWP will provide one of these kits in the event of an emergency. Requests for these kits should be made to the District Engineer when the water system reports the incident. Travel time from the District Office to the water system should be incorporated in the water system's emergency response plan.

Sample Collection

Several types of samples may need to be collected depending on the event. The FBI will collect samples for the crime scene investigation. The water system needs to collect samples for public health to determine if the water is safe for consumption using the EWQSK for public health. The Department does not recommend that water system staff collect samples for the EWQSK due to liability issues. Several responding agencies are available for EWQSK sample collection – local HAZMAT, FBI, California National Guard Civilian Support Team (CST) or USEPA. Each agency has the proper personal protection material to minimize exposure to any possible agent. In addition, each agency has field screening kits that will provide a preliminary screen for several WMD agents that will help identify the required laboratory resources needed.

Laboratory

Depending on the results of the field screening and actual event, the required laboratories need to be notified and prepared to accept the samples. If an EWQSK (supplied by water system or CA CDPH DWP) is used, the CAMAL Net and the LRN need to be notified and involved in the process for laboratory selection. The first step in this process is for the District Engineer working with the water system to contact SRL.

Sample Transport

Depending on the responding agencies, field screening, the ICS will decide how the samples will be transported to the appropriate lab. Since the samples may be used for the crime investigation, proper chain-of-custody must be maintained. The possible agencies and field screening, depending on the event, are: local HAZMAT, CHP, FBI, CST, or US EPA.

Sample Analysis

Once the samples are delivered to the appropriate laboratory, they may be split for analysis to different laboratories. The transport and laboratory testing protocols will be handled by the CDPH SRLB laboratory. Sample results will be shared through the ICS. Please note that sample analysis may take days to weeks to complete depending on the complexity of analysis.

9. Restoration and Recovery

The CA OES "Emergency Planning Guidance, Public and Private Water Utilities", Section 12 is a good reference for restoration and recovery. The following excerpt was taken from the "Emergency Planning Guidance for Public and Private Utilities", March 1999. The entire document can be found on the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Website at: http://www.oes.ca.gov/

The recovery process begins during the response phase. It is important to start damage inspections, reporting, and recordkeeping as soon as the plan is activated. The items below may assist the water utility in recovery activities.

Initial Recovery Activities

- Designate a disaster recovery coordinator (may or may not be EOC director) and notify all appropriate regulatory agencies.
- Complete detailed evaluations of all affected water utility facilities and determine priorities for permanent repair, reconstruction, or replacement at existing or new locations.
- Begin repair activities design and make bids for contractor services.
- Make necessary repairs to the system and untag repaired facilities and equipment.
- Restore all telecommunications, data processing, and similar services to full operation.

- Complete assessment of losses and costs for repair and replacement, determine approximate reimbursements from insurance and other sources of financial assistance, and determine how residual costs will be financed by the water utility.
- Define needs for additional staff, initiate recruitment process, and adopt temporary emergency employment policies as necessary.
- Execute agreements with vendors to meet service and supply needs.
- Reevaluate need for maintaining the emergency management organization; consider returning to the normal organizational structure, roles, and responsibilities when feasible.
- Collect cost accounting information gathered during the emergency and prepare request for Emergency Disaster Funds (follow FEMA and State OES requirements).
- Debrief staff to enhance response and recovery efforts in the future by identifying lessons learned, developing action plans and follow-up mechanisms, and providing employee assistance programs if needed.
- Prepare After-Action Reports as required. Complete reports within six months of the event (90 days for public utilities which are part of a city or county government.).
- Identify recommendations

Long Term Recovery Activities

- Initiate permanent reconstruction of damaged water utility facilities and systems.
- Restore water utility operations and services to full pre-event levels.
- Continue to maintain liaison as needed with external agencies.

Assistance Programs - The State of California Office of Emergency Services administers several programs designed to assist victims of a disaster. They include Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation Public Assistance (PA) administers state disaster relief programs under the Natural Disaster Assistance Act, and federal disaster assistance programs under various federal laws and regulations, including the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288 as amended), the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), and the State Administrative Manual. These regulations designate the State of California as "grantee" for all federal public assistance funding available to agencies of state government, local governments, and certain private non-profit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature to the general public, including water utilities. As grantee, the state is responsible for the processing of sub-grants to public assistance applicants in accordance with 44 CFR, parts 13, 14, and 206, and its own policies procedures. PA works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to process Damage Survey Reports. It dispatches inspection teams and conducts applicant briefings. This unit is led by OES, with support drawn from other state agencies. Under the Public Assistance Program, public and private non-profit water utilities may be eligible for public assistance to reimburse the work and associated costs of responding to and recovering from a disaster if the costs:

- Are a direct result of the declared event and not a pre-disaster condition or result of some other event;
- Are located within the area designated by FEMA as eligible for assistance;
- Are the legal responsibility of the eligible applicant; and

- Are not eligible for assistance under another federal program (this applies to permanent restoration work only).

Hazard Mitigation - Following a presidential disaster declaration, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is activated. The program's purpose is to fund projects which are cost-effective and which substantially reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering from a major natural disaster. Virtually all types of hazard mitigation projects are eligible provided they benefit the declared disaster area and meet basic project eligibility requirements. Types of eligible projects will be identified from those mitigation measures identified in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan, hazard mitigation team reports, and issues unique to the disaster event. The priorities of funding will be established and the program administered by OES.

Expenditure Documentation - One of the critical aspects of any major emergency or disaster is collecting information on the costs related to response and recovery. The ability of the utility to recover costs or receive disaster assistance from the state and federal governments is predicated on its eligibility and ability to document its costs.

10. Emergency Response Training

Training provides the means for staff involved in a response to acquire the skills necessary for them to fulfill their role during an emergency. Not only is training on the water utility's emergency response plan critical for effective implementation, individual training to perform certain functions expected in the plan is just as important. It is important for Water Utility management to create a training policy that emphasizes plan implementation, emergency management, and employee health and safety. The training policy can be an independent policy or part of an overall emergency preparedness policy for the utility. Individual roles established in the emergency response plan should dictate the type and level of training that is necessary.

Exercises and Drills

As a part of Sunnyslope County Water District's overall emergency preparedness periodic review of SSCWD Emergency Response Plan & Operations and Maintenance Procedures Manual which includes routine training drills, cross trained personnel, routine emergency equipment maintenance operation and testing. All key players are included in the exercises so everyone is familiar with emergency policies and procedures.

11. Resume Normal Operations

The steps that will be taken to resume normal operations and to prepare and submit reports to appropriate agencies will include identifying the nature of the emergency (e.g., earthquake causing water outage/leaks, fire or power outage causing water shortage/outage, sabotage resulting in facility destruction or water contamination).

a. Leaks or service interruption (result of earthquake, etc.)

- Isolate leak. Turn power or flow off, if necessary, to control leak.
- Repair or isolate break to allow service to the maximum system population possible. Disinfect as per attached AWWA Standards; increase system disinfectant residual as precaution, until normal service is resumed.
- Do bacteriological sampling until 3 good consecutive samples are confirmed.
- Reestablish normal service.

b. Low pressure (result of earthquake, fire, storm)
- Increase production, if possible, to maximize system output.
- Increase disinfection residual as precaution to potential contamination.

c. Power outage
- Place emergency generator online to provide minimum water pressure to system.
- Increase disinfectant residual as precaution to potential contamination.

d. Contamination
- Identify location and source of contamination.
- If contamination is from system source, isolate or treat source.
- If contamination is an act of sabotage, take appropriate action based on nature of contamination. Immediately contact local law enforcement and your regulatory agency (CDPH or LPA). Actions should be taken in consultation with the regulatory agency and could include shutting off water until all contaminants are identified.

e. Physical destruction of facility (sabotage)
- Immediately contact local law enforcement and regulatory agency for consultation.

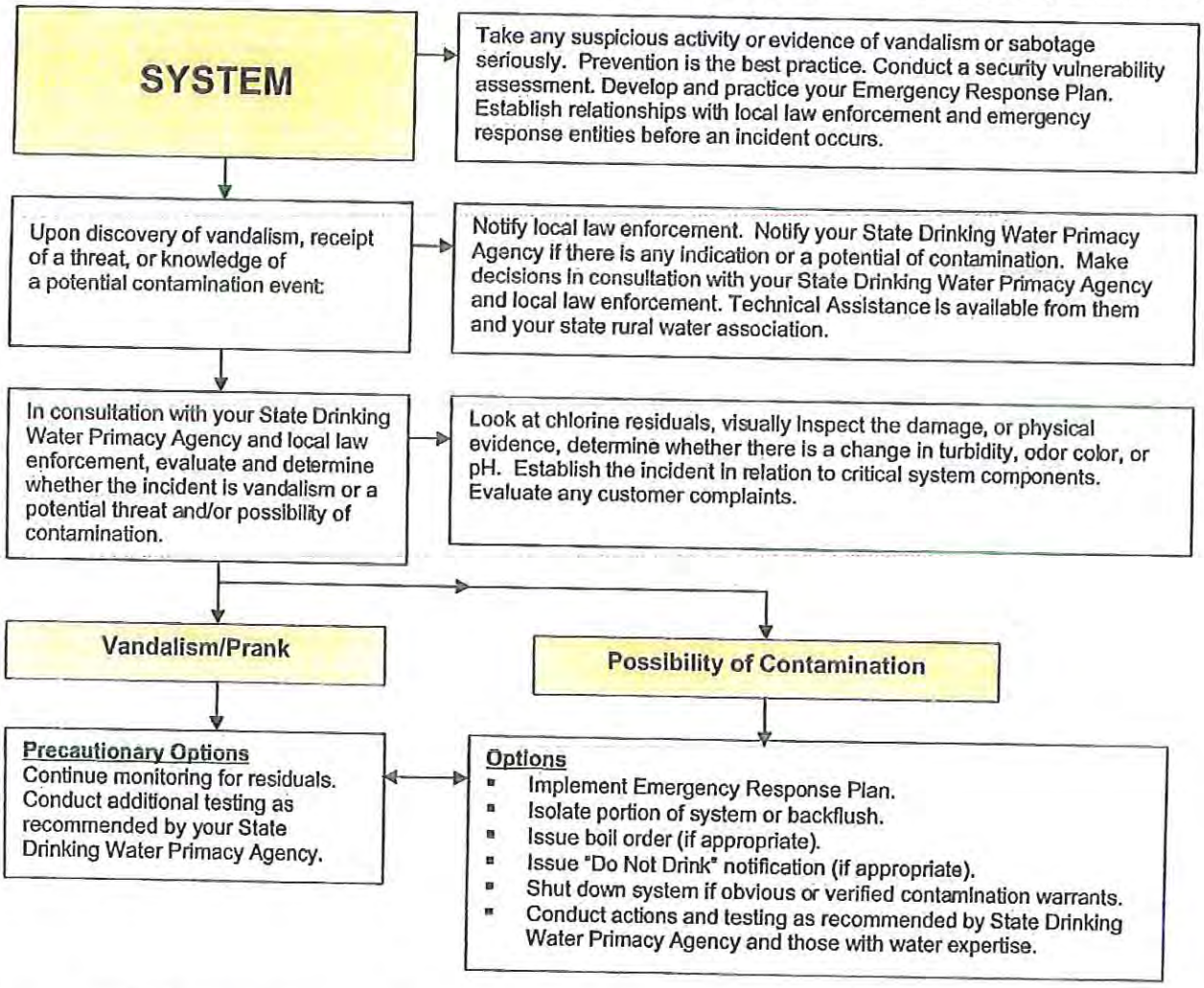
All significant water outages (widespread and lasting more than eight hours) or disinfection failure will be reported to the California Department of Public Health Services (CDPH) District Office or Local Primacy Agency (LPA) by telephone or equally rapid means. All emergencies will be documented along with action taken, and kept in the files of the water system office. Acts of sabotage will be reported to the local law enforcement agency.

- **For Additional Information see the corresponding sections within Sunnyslope County Water District Emergency Response Plan and Operation and Maintenance Procedures Manual.**
- **For further Emergency Resources See County of San Benito Emergency Operations Plan Resources Section.**

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency/Disaster Response Plan
(SEMS-NIMS)

A Utility Guide for Security Decision Making

These guidelines are designed to assist utilities in determining the level of secuity concern if a break-in or threat occurs at the water system and to assist the utility in appropriate decision making and response actions. These various steps and actions can be adjusted to meet the needs of specific situations and to comply with individual state requirements. Specific actions should be undertaken in consultation with your State Drinking Water Primacy Agency. Technical assistance is available from your state drinking water primacy agency and state rural water association for prevention initiatives such as vulnerability assessments, emergency response planning, and security enhancements.



- Do not disturb evidence. Document what you see. Keep notes and take photos as you go.
- Collect samples for future analysis and store them appropriately.
- Alert other officials as appropriate and keep the public informed (designate one spokesperson).
- Use the expertise in public drinking water supplies and public health in the decision making process.
- Preventive measures are the best practice to prevent such an incident.
- Prior communication with local law enforcement authorities and local emergency response entities prevents confusion and defines who has responsibility for what, when an incident occurs.

Professional Computer Solutions

A Division of

Bianchi, Kasavan & Pope, LLP

Certified Public Accountants & Business Consultants

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Voice (831) 638-2111 Fax (831) 638-2114

PRICE QUOTE

Sunnyslope County Water District

Aug 20, 2009

Desktop Computer $ 1,086.00

1 Intel Core2Duo E7400 2.8 GHz Dual-Core Processor
InWin-Mini Tower Case (Black) w/ 350W Power Supply
Asus P5KPL-SE Mainboard
4.0 GB DDR2-667 RAM
320 GB Hard Drive, Western Digital
Onboard Video (256 MB Shared), Audio, LAN (10/100 Mb)
Samsung 22X DVD+/-RW Optical Drive
Hyundai 19" LCD Monitor
Logitech S220 2.1 Speaker Set
Logitech Keyboard/Mouse (optical)
MS Windows XP Professional w/ SP3
MS Office 2007 Small Business Edition
- MS Outlook 2007
- MS Excel 2007
- MS Word 2007
- MS Powerpoint 2007
- MS Publisher
- MS Accounting Express 2008

Warranty: 1 Year Parts / 1 Year On-Site Labor

(Plus Shipping and Applicable Sales Tax)

Setup, Delivery, Installation, Configuration and Testing of Hardware & Software listed in this quote will be billed at a rate of $135 per hour.

ALL OF THE WORK IS TO BE PERFORMED BY PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER SOLUTIONS.

HARDWARE WARRANTY: - Unless otherwise specified, 12 Months Parts / On-Site Labor Provided by Professional Computer Solutions.

TERMS:

- **One half due upon placement of order.**
- **Balance due on delivery of system.**

TRAINING & ON-GOING SUPPORT: - Billed monthly at $135 per hour.

ESTIMATED DELIVERY DATE: - 1-2 weeks from placement of order.

THIS PRICE QUOTE IS VALID THRU – Sep 3, 2009.

If the above quote is accepted please sign and date below.
Please return a copy of this quote sheet with the appropriate Down Payment to Professional Computer Solutions.

Signature:_____ Date:_____

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency Response Plan
Power Failure

3570 Airline Office

When PG&E power is interrupted for more than 15 seconds the power transfer switch will change to generator power the emergency power generator will be activated.

During the operation of the emergency generator maintenance personnel will be required to monitor generator operating parameters and maintain sufficient diesel fuel levels to sustain operation.

Upon PG&E power return of more than 10 minutes the power transfer switch will again transfer to PG&E power and the generator will return to standby mode.

- Check generator oil and fluid levels.
- Refill all fuel tanks.

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency Response Plan
Power Failure

Sanitary Sewer

Main Lift Station Marks Drive.

- Check the main lift station on Marks Drive to see that the on site generator started and the lift pumps are operating properly.
- Check to see that the diesel fuel tank is kept full.
- If the on site generator will not function the backup main lift station can be operated using either the 150 KW portable generator at Well # 7 or the 75 KW portable generator at well # 8 using one of the following procedures.

See the following sections in the Sunnyslope County Water District Emergency Response Plan & Operation and Maintenance Procedures Manual

- **Emergency 150 KW Portable Generator use for the Backup Main Lift Station Section**

Or

- **Emergency 75 KW Portable Generator use for the Backup Main Lift Station**

Oak Canyon Lift Station

- Check the Oak Creek lift station for over flow condition.
- If pumping down the lift station is required to prevent overflow the lift station can be operated using either the 150 KW portable generator at Well # 7 or the 75 KW portable generator at well # 8 using one of the following procedure.

- **Emergency 150 KW Portable Generator use for the Oak Canyon Lift Station**

Or

- **Emergency 75 KW Portable Generator use for the Oak Canyon Lift Station**

Paullus Drive Lift Station

- Check the Paullus Drive lift station for over flow condition.
- If pumping down the lift station is required to prevent overflow the lift station can be operated using either the 150 KW portable generator at Well # 7 or the 75 KW portable generator at well # 8 using one of the following procedure.

- **Emergency 150 KW Portable Generator use for the Paullus Drive Lift Station**

Or

- **Emergency 75 KW Portable Generator use for the Paullus Drive Lift Station**

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency Response Plan
Power Failure

Sanitary Sewer
Power On

Return all equipment to normal run condition and check for proper operation.

- Lift stations = Oak Canyon, Paullus Drive, Marks Drive,
- Lift Pumps Pond 2, = South Ridgemark Ponds
- Force Main Lift Station Pond 4, = South Ridgemark Ponds
- Flow Meter = RM I (Old Ponds, Georges Drive)
- Flow Meter = RM II (New Ponds, Sonnys Way)
- Final Disposal Lift Pumps, = RM I (Old Ponds, Georges Drive)
- Aerators = RM I and RM II
- Reset timers
- Refill all fuel tanks to the top

Sunnyslope County Water District
Emergency Response Plan
Power Failure

Water
Wells #2, #5, #7, #8 and #11

- Visually check the water levels at each water tank.

Start the generators located at wells #2, #5, #7, #8 and #11 (Well 11 generator starts automatically) run the wells (if required). **See the following sections in the Sunnyslope County Water District Emergency Response Plan & Operation and Maintenance Procedures Manual under Emergency Generator Use for each Well.**

- Check to see that the chlorination equipment is operating properly.
- Check to see that the diesel fuel tanks on the generators are kept full.
- If diesel fuel is required refill with fuel trailer (contact Toro Petroleum at (831) 637-3300. Or 1285 Prospect Ave to refill Fuel Trailer).
- If chlorine is low, contact one of the following companies to order more.
- Sierra Chemical Co. (Sodium Hypochlorite 12.5%) (800)-777-8965
- Rick's Pool Service (Fresh Chlor) at (831) 637-1772. Or 337 Vista De Oro to order more.
- If required turn the City of Hollister Booster Pumps HAND-OFF-AUTO Switches located at Hillcrest and Memorial drive to the OFF position to prevent city water from being pumped into our system. Leave lockout tag and notify the City of Hollister Water Department.
- If required turn the City of Hollister Well pump located on the north side of Nob Hill Foods to the OFF position. Leave lockout tag and notify the City of Hollister Water Department.
- If required to maintain water level in the SSCWD system turn off the flow at the pressure reducing station on Santa Ana and La Baig. (Notify the COH)
- If required to maintain water level in the SSCWD system turn off the flow at the pressure reducing station at the San Benito County Maintenance Yard on Southside Road. (Notify the COH)

Power On
Return all equipment to normal run condition and check for proper operation.

- Booster Station (Enterprise & Airline)
- Well #2 and chlorinator
- Well #5 and chlorinator
- Well #7 and chlorinator
- Well #8 and chlorinator
- Well #11 and chlorinator (Well 11 generator should stop and return to normal operation automatically)
- Refill all fuel tanks.

- **For further Emergency Resources, See County of San Benito Emergency Operations Plan Resources Section.**

Emergency/Disaster Response Plan

PWS 3510003

Revision Date: May 13, 2011

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1. Introduction

Objective

To continue minimum service levels and mitigate the public health risks from drinking water contamination that may occur during a disaster or other emergency events and in order to provide reliable water service and minimize public health risks from unsafe drinking water during those events, the City of Hollister proposes the following plan that defines how it will respond to emergencies and/or disasters that are likely to affect its operation.

Disasters/emergencies that are likely to occur in the water system's service area that are addressed are: earthquake, major fire emergencies, water outages due to loss of power, localized flooding, water contamination, and acts of sabotage.

2. Planning Group Partners

City of Hollister has established emergency planning partnerships with other parties who have agreed to help the utility in an emergency situation. A list of these agencies and brief description of their emergency capabilities is provided in section "COH Telephone List"

3. Water System Information

System Identification Number	PWS 3510003	
System name and address	City of Hollister 375 Fifth Street Hollister CA 95023	
Connections/Population Served	6,050 service connections	22,500 population
Type of Source	6 Groundwater Wells	1 Surface Water Treatment Plant
Type of Treatment Provided	Disinfection treatment is provided using Sodium Hypochlorite 12.5% at Wells and LESSALT Surface Water Treatment Plant in addition adds Sodium Hydroxide 25% (Caustic Soda) for pH control.	
Number of Storage Tanks	3 Treated Water Tanks totaling 7,500,000 gallons	

Emergency Water Supply

Average Water Demand	2.7 mgd	
Max Water Demand	5.0 mgd	
Max Water Production	5.5 mgd	
Max Emergency Electrical Generator Water Supply Capacity	SSCWD Supply 4.55 mgd	City of Hollister Supply 5.6mgd
Days of Emergency Supply	Unlimited at Average Demand	Unlimited at Max Demand

Typical residential water usage in the United States is on the order of 300 to 500 gallons per residence per day, or 100 to 150 gallons per capita per day. Although these amounts can typically be significantly reduced during crisis situations, City of Hollister has found it useful to develop an estimate for the quantity of supplemental water required for a number of potential outage scenarios. These estimates are as follows:

Outage Period	Number of Customers (service connections) Affected	Quantity of water needed
1 hour	5300 connections 6000	110,416 gph
12 hours	5300 connections 6000	1,324,999 g/12hr
1 day	5300 connections 6000	2,650,000 gpd
2 days	5300 connections 6000	5,300,000 g/2days
1 week	5300 connections 6000	18,550,000 gpw

CITY OF HOLLISTER/SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT INTER-TIES			
COH/SSCWD Inter-tie Location	**Description**	**Flow Direction**	**(GPM Range) Actual**
Santa Ana & La Baig	Pressure Reduction Valve Water meters & totalizer 2" & 6" Meter	Flow to the COH Only	(0 - 1000 GPM) 250 - 600 GPM
Hillcrest & Memorial Booster Station	Pressure Reduction Valve, 2 Booster Pumps, Water meter & totalizer 8" Mag Meter	Flow to the COH can be pumped to SSCWD	(0 - 1000 GPM) 250 - 600 GPM
Sunnyslope & Memorial	Water meter & totalizer 8" Mag Meter	Flow to the COH can be pumped to SSCWD	(0 - 1000 GPM) 150-250 GPM
Sunset Dr. & Memorial	Water meter & totalizer 8" Mag Meter	Flow to the COH can be pumped to SSCWD	(0 - 1000 GPM) 150-250 GPM
San Benito County Public Works Yard	Pressure Reduction Valves Water meters & totalizers 2" & 6"	Flow to COH Only	(0 – 1000 GPM) 150-250 GPM

The Sunnyslope County Water District maintains a potable community water system that is capable of supplying water to City of Hollister during an emergency.

During Normal operations the exchange of water is as required by demand and metered through a series of five inter-ties between the City of Hollister and the Sunnyslope County Water Distribution Systems. This exchange includes the routine daily transfer of the City of Hollister's share of water from the LESSALT Water Treatment Plant. Additional flows to and from the Sunnyslope Distribution System are based on seasonal water supply demands.

These inter-ties typically involve pressure reduction valves, water meters and a booster pump station at one location with associated appurtenances.

A higher water pressure in the Sunnyslope County Water District Distribution System results in Hollister's share of LESSALT surface water to flow through the Sunnyslope Fairview Pressure Zone primarily through the Santa Ana and Hillcrest Pressure Reducing Valve Inter-ties. Flows can vary from 0 to 1000 GPM but typically are between 400-600 gallons per minute (GPM) range at Santa Ana and 100-300 GPM range at Hillcrest, Sunset and Sunnyslope. Seasonal demands also allow Sunset and Sunnyslope inter-ties to provide LESSALT water to the City.

Water can be transferred into the Sunnyslope system using the City of Hollister's booster pump station at Hillcrest and Memorial Drive or Airline Highway City Well #6 to pump water against the pressure gradient. The demand in the City's sub system west of Memorial Drive is first met then surplus water will flow back to the Sunnyslope system through the Sunset, Sunnyslope and Hillcrest inter-tie connections.

The San Benito County Public Works Inter-tie provides water from the Sunnyslope Ridgemark Water Pressure Zone though a series of pressure reducing valves to the City of Hollister Cienega Pressure Zone. Transfer at this site typically falls within the 0-300 GPM range depending on seasonal demands.

Zone Map

A map of the City of Hollister which identifies water well sources, inter-ties with the City of Hollister water distribution system, pressure zones, booster pumps, pressure reducing stations, and District owned wastewater facilities and also establishes emergency response zones. See section "Sunnyslope County Water District Zone Map".

Designated Responsible Personnel

For designated responsible personnel, chain of command, identified responsibilities, and additional resources see section" COH Employee Phone List."

Inventory of Resources

Equipment and system resources that are used for normal operations and available for emergencies; including maps and schematic diagrams of the water system, emergency equipment, equipment suppliers, mutual aid with planning group partners, repair parts and equipment are located at the City of Hollister Utility Division Office. Additional equipment and resources available include:

- Electrical generators
- Backhoe
- Air compressor
- High pressure hydro flushing equipment
- Utility vehicles equipped with tool, valve turners, lift gate, air compressor.
- Dump trailer
- Utility trailer containing repair equipment and supplies
- Welder and cutting torch
- Cell phones, two way radio communications
- Shop vacuums
- Pumps
- Emergency spill kits
- Mutual aid with the Sunnyslope County Water District, San Benito County Water District, San Benito County Public Works

The City of Hollister has established procedures for equipment maintenance. See Operation and Maintenance Procedures.

4. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS/NIMS)

The Standardized Emergency Management System/National Incident Management System (SEMS/NIMS) is the system required by Government Code §8607 (a) for managing response to multi-agency and multi-jurisdiction emergencies in California. The system was created for several purposes. First it allows rapid and effective coordination at the field level using the Incident Command System (ICS) to manage multi-agency response to an incident. Secondly, SEMS/NIMS create a common management structure at all levels of response, which allows entities to work with common terminology, staffing organizations, and facilities for more efficient interagency coordination. Thirdly, it creates an ordering process for requesting resources from the field through local government, to the County (Operational Area) to the state and eventually the federal government. It also allows each level of organization to track requests and resources that are dispatched to the incident or necessary for support. Local public agencies (cities, counties, special districts) must use SEMS/NIMS to be eligible for State funding of certain response-related personnel costs resulting from a disaster. State agencies are required by the law to utilize SEMS/NIMS during emergencies.

NOTE: Depending on the circumstances of the incident, when a request is made by the water system to local first response agencies, such as Fire or Law Enforcement, ICS will be implemented by these first response agencies to manage the resources at the site. Water system personnel that will interface with this response agency personnel, in the field, should understand their role in the ICS structure. Water systems can and will provide tactical and precautionary measures through their Emergency Operations Center or the Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM). It will be important to coordinate these activities with the field (Incident) through an Agency Representative or Technical Specialist in the ICS structure.

Water System Personnel may function in the ICS structure (Field Level) as an Agency Representative or Technical Specialist.

Five Principle Functions of SEMS/NIMS

Management - In a Water System Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the EOC Director has overall responsibility for all emergency functions. This person may initially be designated as the Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM) prior to the activation of an EOC. The EOC Director may retain and/or delegate authority for functions listed below.

In the field, under ICS, an Incident Commander or Unified Command is established depending on statutory authorities for the Incident. The Incident Commander's responsibility is the overall management of the incident.

Operations - The Operations Section is responsible for the management of all operations directly applicable to the primary mission established for the response. The Operations Section Chief activates and supervises organization elements in accordance with the Incident Action Plan and directs its execution.
For water utilities, coordinates emergency response activities at the water utility EOC level and implements the priorities established by management or the Incident Command. Operation Section staff include field coordinators, as necessary, linked to water utility personnel at other fixed facilities or assigned to incidents within the water utility. The field coordinator should receive and pass information up the chain of command, as well as, receive and coordinate requests for services and support.

Planning/Intelligence - Oversees the collection, evaluation, verification, and display of current information related to the emergency. This section is also responsible for preparing action plans and maintaining documentation related to the emergency. The information collected is needed to 1) understand current situation 2) predict probable course of the incident events 3) prepare alternative strategies and control operations for the incident.

Logistics - Provides facilities, services, and material in support of the Incident. Oversees the acquisition, storing, and distribution of essential resources and support services needed to manage the emergency. It tracks the status of resources. Logistics provides services to all field units in terms of obtaining and meeting their personnel, materials and equipment needs including communications.

Finance/Administration - The Finance/Administration Section is responsible for all financial, administrative and cost analysis aspects of the incident. Finance/Administration prepares vendor contracts, maintains records of expenditures for personnel and equipment, and maintains records and processes claims. It also provides preliminary estimates of damage costs and losses.

General Staff - Each function listed above should have a delegated Chief to manage the Section. Depending on the nature and scope of the emergency each Section can have several branches, divisions, groups, or units.

Command Staff - These positions report directly to and are directly subordinate to the Incident Commander or EOC Director. They are the Public Information, Liaison and Safety Officers.

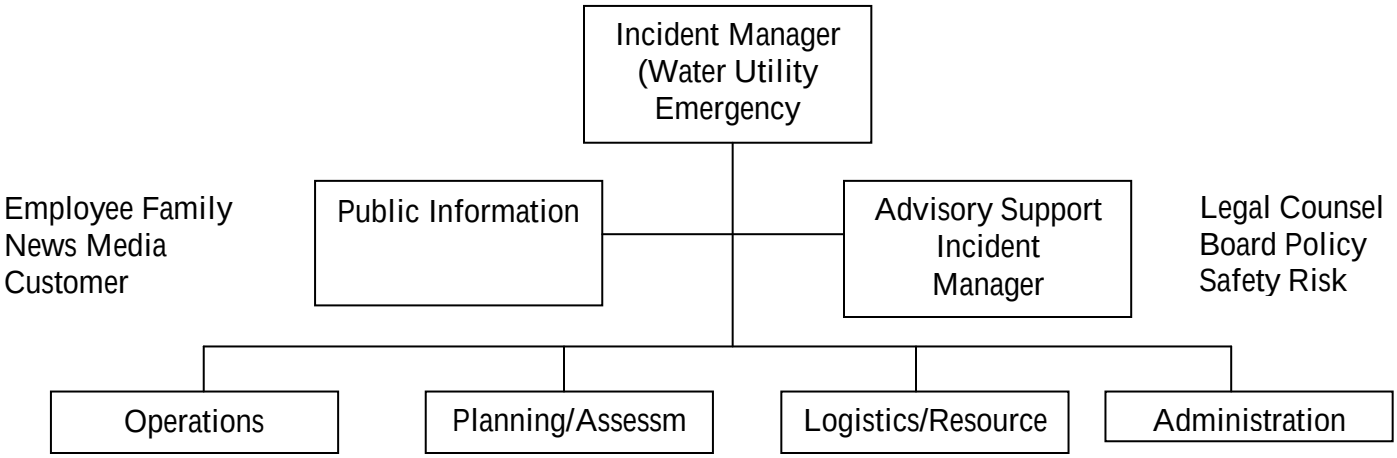
Water Utility Emergency Operations Center

Depending on the Magnitude of the Incident, Water Utilities may have to establish an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to manage its resources and coordinate with outside entities. An EOC is a physical location from which support for centralized emergency management can be performed. The essential functions necessary in the Water Utility EOC are described below:

- Establish an EOC Director to manage the Operations, Planning/Intelligence, Logistics, Finance/Administration Sections, and related sub-functions.
- Setting Priorities and developing Action Plans
- Coordination and support of all field level incident activities within the utility service area.
- Information gathering, processing, and reporting within the utility service area and to other levels of SEMS/NIMS
- Coordination with local government, operational areas, or regional EOCs as appropriate.
- Requesting Resources from higher SEMS/NIMS levels

Note: In general, at any level of activation, the Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM) should be aware of the following incident management principles:

- Establishing objectives and priorities for the incident
- Establish an Incident Action Plan (written or verbal)
- Awareness of his or her responsibility for the 5 primary functions of SEMS/NIMS
- Management, Operations, Planning, Logistics and Finance/Administration
- Ensure an effective span of control (only supervise 5-7 staff directly on an incident)
- Delegate authority and activate organizational elements within an Incident Command Structure only as necessary
- Provide for personnel accountability and a safe environment for staff
- Ensure effective communications



Distribution System
Water Quality
Distribution
Maintenance
Communication
Systems

Damage Assessment
EOC Operations
Interagency Liaison
Engineering Support

Personnel
Equipment
Materials
Other Supplies

Cost Accounting/Financial
Audit
FEMA Documentation

Section Leader Assignments

SECTION	PRIMARY	ALTTERNATE
Incident Manager	City Manager or Water Utility Emergency Response Manager (WUERM)	Director of Community Services
Operations	Utilities Supervisor	Ray Rojas
Planning/Assessment	Director of Community Services	Senior Engineer
Logistics/Resources	City Engineer	Senior Engineer
Administration	Admin. Manager Accounting	Personnel Administrator Human Resources

COMMAND STAFF	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE
Public Information	Public Education Coordinator	Customer Service Admin.
Advisory Support	Safety Coordinator	Assistant Safety Coordinator

City of Hollister Personnel

Name and title	Responsibilities during an emergency
WUERM	♦ **Overall management and decision making for the water/wastewater system.** ♦ **WUERM is lead for managing the emergency and contacting the regulatory agencies.** ♦ **WUERM contacts the public and news media** ♦ **All communications to external parties are approved by the WUERM**
	♦ **In charge of operating the water/wastewater system.** ♦ **Performs inspections, maintenance, sampling of the system and relaying critical information to the WUERM.** ♦ **Assess facilities, and provides recommendations to the WUERM.**
	♦ **In charge of running water treatment plant** ♦ **Performs inspections, maintenance, sampling of the WTP and relaying critical information to the WUERM.** ♦ **Assess WTP facilities and treatment provided and provides recommendations to the WUERM.**
	♦ **In charge of collecting samples, having samples analyzed by certified labs, receiving the results.** ♦ **Determines the quality of the water being served meets all drinking water and public health requirements.**
	♦ **Responsible for administrative and financial functions in the office.** ♦ **Cost accounting and tracking during emergencies.** ♦ **Oversee customer phone calls and maintains a log of complaints and calls.** ♦ **In an emergency, could provide a standard carefully pre-scripted message for customers who call with general questions.**
	♦ **Delivers water quality notices or door hangers** ♦ **Provides backup to water system operator.** ♦ **Conducts site inspections of all facilities.**
	♦ **Coordinate with all the other agencies PIOs.** ♦ **Report and work with the joint information center (JIC) if more than one agency is involved.**

Drinking Water Field Operations Branch - Chain of Command

The primary contact for the water system during any emergency is their District Engineer. Water Systems should contact their District Engineer in the event of any emergency. From the District Engineer, authority moves up the line to the Regional Engineer, Branch Chiefs, Assistant Division Chief, to finally the Chief of the Division.

Emergency Operations Center

The City of Hollister Police Department has been designated as the communication network Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The designated backup location is the City's Corporation Yard at 1321 South Street All City water utility vehicles contain copies of the COH Emergency Response Plan & Operation and Maintenance Procedures Manual. Emergency contact information for equipment suppliers is located in section "COH Employee Phone List" of this manual. The telephone and FAX will be the primary mode of communication in an emergency.

Personnel Accountability

The COH Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is designated as the personnel assembly area. During catastrophic emergency situations outside of working hours all personnel will first respond to personal emergencies then will report to the Emergency Operations Center. During working hours personnel will communicate with the Emergency Operations Center to report their status and receive instructions. If an employee fails to report their status an investigation into the location and safety of that employee will be initiated.

Family members are urged to contact the EOC for personnel updates and assistance.

Response Procedures

Personnel will, as quickly as possible, assess damage to water and wastewater system facilities, provide logistics for emergency repairs, monitor progress of repairs and restoration efforts, communicate with health officials and water users according to the "Emergency Notification Plan" on file with the regulatory agency (i.e., Department of Health Services (DHS) and document damage and repairs.

Other Agency Coordination

Coordination procedures with governmental agencies for health and safety protection; technical, legal, and financial assistance, and public notification procedures are continually being developed and updated through regulation and experience and will be added as necessary to this plan.

During an emergency it is important to contact and notify all the appropriate agencies and stakeholders that will be affected by the emergency. Some agencies will need to be notified

immediately while others may be needed later in the incident, depending on the event. The following is a list of agencies and stakeholders that a water system should have updated contact information. Since this list has many contact names and phone numbers, this information should be reviewed annually to ensure that current information is provided.

The initial notification response to any emergency should be to "911" for the needed first responder and then to the Department of Health Services-Drinking Water Program. The Department of Health Services – Drinking Water Program is the Drinking Water Primacy Agency in California and has regulatory jurisdiction over all public water systems in the state.

Contact to the CDPH-DWP should be to their District Engineer. If the water system is unable to contact the District Engineer (or one of their staff), the water system should use the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) Warning Center Phone Number: 1-800-852-7550, which is a 24/7 phone number. A second phone number for the OES Warning Center is 916-845-8911. A duty officer will answer the CA OES Warning Center phone call and refer to statewide emergency phone numbers. In order to assist the duty officer-it will expedite response if you request the California Department of Health Services (CDPH) duty officer. The CDPH duty officer will then call management staff in the Drinking Water Program to respond to the emergency.

Depending on the magnitude of the event, the following state agencies may also need to be contacted:

- Office of Emergency Services (OES) Warning Control Center.
- Department of Water Resources.
- Department of Fish and Game.
- Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- Department of Toxic Substances Control.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- USEPA
- Local County Health Department
- County Health Department
- County Environmental Health Departments
- Local Agencies/Facilities
- County and State Offices of Emergency Services
- Hospital and Critical Care Facilities
- Water District Customers

5. Initial Notifications

First Responders

911 - If the situation is an emergency that needs response from local fire, law enforcement, medical or hazardous materials team (HAZMAT), calling 911 should be the first immediate call.

Water system staff should be aware of where and how they are calling 911. If the water system staff calls "(831) 636-4100" from a cell phone, then the call is routed to the nearest California Highway Patrol Office, which may be in another city or county, and not in the immediate local 911 area. Typically a direct phone number for the local 911 can be provided to the water system-contact your local first responders to get this phone number for cell phones.

Local Police and Sheriffs

Water systems should establish an ongoing relationship with the local police and sheriff offices that serve their service area. It is good practice to get them familiar with water system facilities. If they are called out to an incident, they will then be familiar with some basic aspects of the water system. Water systems that have large service areas that cover several cities or large areas should have contacts for each police and sheriff agency in their service area.

Fire and Hazmat

If the emergency incident involves an unknown substance and possible contamination of the water system, the first responders will more likely be the local fire department and/or HAZMAT team. Most Hazmat teams are part of the local fire department, but some may be special teams under county or city jurisdiction.

Like law enforcement agencies, water systems should know all the fire departments and/or HAZMAT teams that serve their service area and maintain contacts with those agencies. Contact your local county Office of Emergency Services to obtain the local HAZMAT teams that have jurisdiction in your area.

Drinking Water Primacy Agency

California Department of Public Health Drinking Water Program has regulatory jurisdiction for public water systems and should be one of the first agencies to be contacted in almost all emergency events. Contact should be to the District Engineer. In most emergency events, it is not appropriate to leave a message on the District Engineers voicemail. If the water system is not able to contact the District Engineer-they should call the State Warning Center 24/7 phone number as described in Section 6.3. The District Engineer will be able to assist the water system in:

- Inspections of water treatment plants, storage facilities, watersheds (chemical contamination, sewage spills, erosion, and drainage diversions).
- Water Quality Sampling.
- Consulting with water system staff/operators.
- Providing technical assistance.

- Documenting the disaster's effect on the water system through photographs and reports.
- Keeping local officials advised of the current drinking water situation.
- Review plans and specifications for reconstruction projects, and issue amended permits as needed.
- Laboratory Sampling Analysis

a. Depending the magnitude of the event, the following state agencies may also need to be contacted:
   - Office of Emergency Services (OES) Warning Control Center.
   - Department of Water Resources.
   - Department of Fish and Game.
   - Regional Water Quality Control Board.
   - Department of Toxic Substances Control.

Federal Agencies

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) - If the event is a known terrorist incident or a direct written or phone threat against the water system, the FBI is to be contacted as soon as possible. There are four regional offices that have Key Asset Coordinators/Special Agents that should be contacted. The water system should report an emergency by calling the 24/7 phone numbers, which are listed below for each of the four regional offices in California. A link to the regional offices is also provided to allow water systems to check what region they should report an event.

San Francisco - (415) 553-7400 http://sanfrancisco.fbi.gov/

Los Angeles - (310) 477-6565 http://losangeles.fbi.gov/

Sacramento - (916) 481-9110 http://sacramento.fbi.gov/

San Diego - (858) 565-1255 http://sandiego.fbi.gov/

USEPA

The US Environmental Protection Agency Drinking Water Program is not a direct response agency. US EPA, through its "Superfund Response Program" has emergency response resources for incidents related to environmental chemical releases. These resources are not "first response" resources and should be requested through the SEMS/NIMS process.

County Health Department

The County Public Health Officer is responsible for all public health issues within their county. They should be notified of any event that could affect public health within their county. In the event of an emergency that will require financial and technical assistance through the CA Mutual Aide System, the County Public Health Officer will be one of the officials that can declare a "State of Emergency" and request assistance from the Regional and State OES. The County

Public Health Officer also will have access to disease surveillance data within the county. If you do not have the contact information of the current County Health Officer, contact your District Engineer.

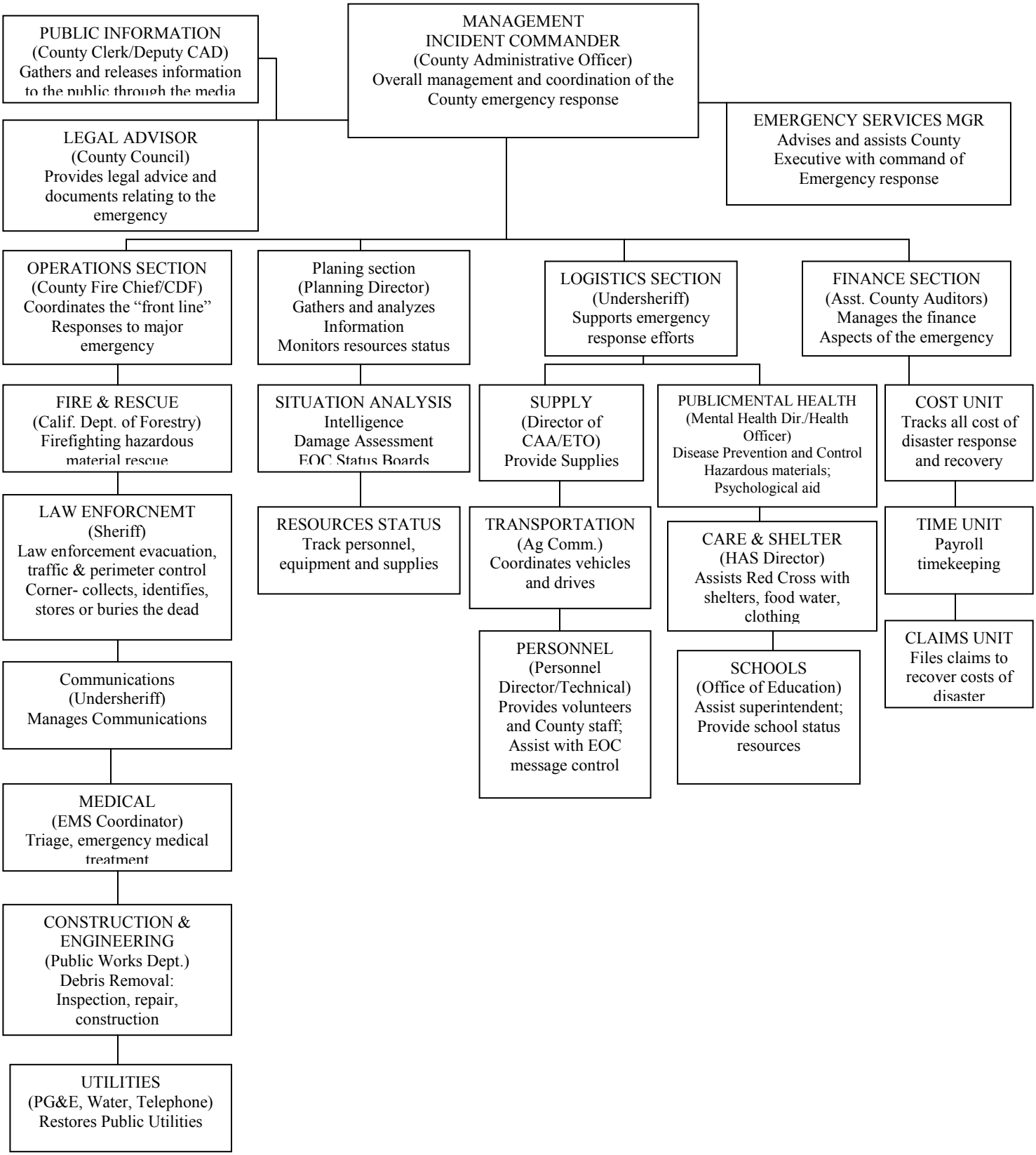
County Environmental Health Departments

Many County Environmental Health Departments have been delegated primacy for the small water systems serving less than 200 service connections within the county. The Environmental Health Departments have contacts with the Department of Health Services as well as many county HAZMAT teams. If you do not have the contact information of the current County Director of Environmental Health Department, contact your District Engineer.

County and State Offices of Emergency Services

The County and State Offices of Emergency Services (OES) provide support and coordination of resources during an emergency. Water systems should work with their County OES to establish requesting protocols for State OES resources utilizing SEMS/NIMS. If additional or specialized resources are needed during an emergency, OES should be able to dispatch those resources to the emergency.

San Benito County
Operational Area Emergency Organization



Hospital and Critical Care Facilities

It is important to know location and contact information for all the critical care facilities and hospitals in your service area. An emergency or contamination event in the water system can effect the operations of these facilities.

Customers

It is important that a water system be able to communicate with their customers. All means of communication need to be explored to effectively communicate with customers. The Water Quality Emergency Notification Plan (WQENP), as required under Section 116460, California Health and Safety Code, is a significant part of a water system plan to communicate with their customers. The WQENP should be included in the Appendix of the ERP. The WQENP is a standard form that contains specific information for the CDPH District Engineer and the County. Contact your District Engineer for the current WQENP form.

6. Response Procedures

Personnel will, as quickly as possible, determine the status of other employees, assess damage to water and wastewater system facilities, provide logistics for emergency repairs, monitor progress of repairs and restoration efforts, communicate with health officials and water users according to the "Emergency Notification Plan" on file with the regulatory agency (i.e., Department of Health Services (DHS) or Local Primacy Agency (LPA)), and document damage and repairs.

7. Public Notice Procedures

Public notice procedures should be developed before the disaster and not during the event. Public notices are a significant part of communicating with customers. Standard public notifications for water outage/low pressure problems, Boil Water Order (BWO), Unsafe Water Alert (UWA) or Do Not Drink Notices have been developed by CDPH for use during an emergency. Each utility will need to modify the standard forms with specific contact information and guidance to customers depending on the nature of the emergency event. In addition, water systems need to have copies of public notices in the appropriate languages used in their service areas.

A BWO, UWA or Do Not Drink Notice can be issued by one, or a combination of the following agencies:

- CDPH – Drinking Water Program (Designated personnel-District Engineer, Regional Engineer or Branch Chief).
- Local County Health Department (Designated personnel-County Health Officer or Director of Environmental Health Department for small water systems under county jurisdiction).

- Affected Water System (Designated personnel-responsible person in charge of the affected water system, i.e., Director of Water Quality, Manager, Director of Water Department, Director of Public Works, Owner, etc. The water systems ERP should identify the designated personnel in their ERP).

All public notifications (BWO, UWA or Do Not Drink Notices) should be coordinated with the CDPH District Engineer, County Environmental Health Department and the County Health Officer prior to issuing a public notice. However, any one of the three agencies should act immediately to issue a BWO or UWA, if delays will jeopardize public health and safety. The CDPH District Engineer or the water system must notify the County Health Department and the County Health Officer prior to or immediately after issuing a public notice. Notice must be given to a person, a message left on voicemail is not sufficient. Coordination of this notification should be identified in the ERP. Whenever a BWO/UWA has been issued, the CDPH DWP also needs to notify two other CA Department of Health Services Agencies- DHS Food and Drug and DHS Licensing and Certification. The CDPH DWP District Engineer will notify the other two CDPH agencies of the BWO/UWA issued.

The following standard public notices are provided in the Appendix of this manual.

Consumer Alert During Water Outages or Periods of Low Pressure

If a water system is experiencing power outages, water outages or low pressure problems, a consumer alert may be issued to the public. The notice provides consumers information on conserving water and how to treat the water with household bleach if the water quality is questionable.

Boil Water Order (BWO)

A BWO should be issued when minimum bacteriological water quality standards cannot be reasonably assured. To assure public health protection a BWO should be issued as soon as it is concluded by the designated personnel that the water supply is or may be biologically unsafe. Examples of these situations include:

1. Biological contamination of water supply system, including but not limited to:
    - Positive total or fecal coliform bacteriological samples;
    - Prolonged water outages in areas of ruptured sewer and/or water mains;
    - Failed septic tank systems in close proximity to ruptured water mains;
    - Ruptured water treatment, storage, and/or distribution facilities in areas of known sewage spills
    - Known biological contamination;
    - Cross-connection contamination problems;
    - Illness attributed to water supply.

2. Unusual system characteristics, including but not limited to:
    - Prolonged loss of pressure;
    - Sudden loss of chlorine residual;
    - Severe discoloration and odor;
    - Inability to implement emergency chlorination.
3. Implemented due to treatment inadequacies.

Unsafe Water Alert (UWA)/"Do Not Drink"

In the event a water quality emergency due to known or suspected chemical (non-bacteriological) contamination to a water system a UWA or "Do Not Drink" should be issued. Water should not be used for drinking and cooking, but may be used for sanitation purposes. Examples of these situations include:

1. Known or suspected widespread chemical or hazardous contamination in water supply distribution, including but not limited to:
    - Ruptured water distribution system (storage tanks, mains) in area of known chemical spill coupled with loss of pressure;
    - Severe odor and discoloration;
    - Loss of chlorine residual;
    - Inability of existing water treatment process to neutralize chemical contaminants prior to entering the distribution system.
2. Threatened or suspected acts of sabotage confirmed by analytical results, including but not limited to:
    - Suspected contamination triggered by acts of sabotage or vandalism.
3. Emergency use of an unapproved source to provide a supplemental water supply.

Unsafe Water Alert (UWA)/"Do Not Use"

In the event a known or suspected contamination event to a water system, where the contaminate may be chemical, biological or radiological a UWA or "Do Not Use" should be issued. Water should not be used for drinking, cooking, or sanitation purposes. Examples of these situations include:

1. Known or suspected widespread chemical or hazardous contamination in water supply distribution, including but not limited to
    - Terrorist contamination event.

The public information officer for a water system needs to be assigned before an emergency occurs. The water system public information officer (PIO) will need to coordinate with all the other agencies PIOs. If more than one agency is involved in an emergency, a joint information center (JIC) will probably be established. If a BWO or UWA is issued, the water system should notify the PIOs in the EOC immediately.

Media Notification

Dealing with and notifying the media is one of the most significant communication tasks. Any dealing with the media during an emergency should come from one unified source-typically from the EOC. If more than one source communicates with the media, there will be conflicting information that will give the appearance all the agencies involved in the emergency do not know what they are doing. The media is a good way to communicate with water system customers. Boil Water Orders, Unsafe Water Alerts, and other public notices can be distributed through the media. Again this is only effective if the information is coordinated through one source (the JIC) and one message is delivered to the public.

Cancellation of Public Notification

Once a BWO/UWA is issued, the only agency that can rescind the public notice is the drinking water primacy agency. CDPH DWP will not lift the BWO until two rounds, collected one day apart, of coliform bacteria samples have been analyzed and the results are negative. The two sets of sample results should be faxed to the CDPH DWP District Office for final approval before rescinding the BWO. Special chemical sampling will be required to rescind an UWA, please contact the CDPH DWP District Office to determine required sampling.

- See SSCWD public notices in Section "Public Notification" of this Manual.

8. Water Quality Sampling

NOTE: Laboratory protocols and procedures identified are still under development by Federal and State Agencies. This section will continue to evolve and updates will be provided as necessary.

During an emergency, there are several types of water quality sampling that may need to be analyzed depending on the actual event. If it is natural disaster, flood or power outage, sampling will probably only include bacteriological samples, turbidity and chlorine residual samples if the system is chlorinated. However, if the event is a terrorist act or contamination event, the sampling will include a full scan of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) chemical, radiological and microbiological (unless the actual contaminant used is known).

Laboratory Resources

In general there are four different types or ownership of laboratory facilities in California that can analyze drinking water samples, which are listed below:

1. Commercial/private laboratories
2. County Public Health Laboratories
3. State Department of Health Services Laboratories
4. Research Facility/Specialty Laboratories

In general, laboratories are grouped into two broad categories – chemical or biological. Chemical laboratories include: general environmental chemistry laboratories, radiological laboratories, and specialty laboratories that may be able to handle and analyze exotic contaminants, such as chemical weapons and radionuclides. Biological laboratories include: environmental microbiology laboratories and the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) that typically analyze clinical samples for pathogens and select biotoxins.

CDPH Laboratory

The CDPH Sanitation and Radiation Laboratories Branch (SRLB) is organized within the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (DDWEM). SRLB is the State's primary drinking water quality testing laboratory and is the only State laboratory capable of measuring environmental radiation. Its primary mission is to provide analytical services, reference measurements and technical support pertaining to the State's Drinking Water and Radiologic Health Programs.

SRLB has two laboratories. The Southern California Section is located in Los Angeles and performs microbiological, inorganic and organic testing in various water matrices. The Northern California Section, located in Richmond, carries out inorganic and organic analyses in water, and radiochemical testing in various environmental matrices in addition to water. The SRLB in conjunction with the CDPH Microbial Disease Laboratory (MDL) does microbiological analyses including biotoxins.

California Mutual Aid Laboratory Network (CAMAL Net)

The CDPH SRLB, in conjunction with the water utilities, USEPA Region IX laboratory in Richmond, Lawerence Livermore National Laboratory, and the California Department of Water Resources, have formed a laboratory network, CAMAL Net, to address laboratory capacity issues associated with possible drinking water related contamination events. CAMAL Net establishes a triage system to process samples when water systems or commercial laboratory methods are not available or the water system lacks capacity within their own lab. The CAMAL Net system will not handle any samples where field screening indicates that the sample may contain a CDC listed WMD agent. The list of WMD agents can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage at http://www.bt.cdc.gov/. Any request for analysis through the CAMAL Net system needs to be approved by the CDPH DWP District Engineer in your jurisdiction prior to collection of water quality samples to be processed.

Chemical Analysis Classification

The CDPH along with its stakeholders and federal partners are in the process of developing an algorithm to assist California water systems, public health agencies, law enforcement, and first responders with the identification of possible chemical agents in drinking water contamination events. A draft version has been developed and it is anticipated that a final version will be released in the near future. The final version will become an appendix to this document.

Biological Analysis Classification

The LRN for Bioterrorism has ranked laboratories (Level A, B, C or D) based on the type of safety procedures they practice.

- Level A Lab uses a Class II biosafety (BSL) cabinet
- Level B Lab is a BSL-2 facility + BSL-3 safety practices
- Level C Lab is a BSL-3 facility
- Level D Lab is a BSL-4 facility

- Level A Labs are used to rule out and forward organisms.
- Level B Labs are used for limited confirmation and transport.
- Level C Labs are used for molecular assays and reference capacity.
- Level D Labs are used for the highest level of characterization.

Currently, in California there are: 28 Level A labs, 10 Level B labs, 2 Level C labs. The two Level C laboratories are the LA County Public Health Laboratory, Los Angeles, CA and the CDPH MDL in Richmond, CA. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is also a Level C laboratory, but access to them is restricted. The only Level D laboratories available in the LRN are the national laboratories, such as those at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Defense. These laboratories test and characterize samples that pose challenges beyond the capabilities of the Level A, B, and C reference labs, and provide support for other LRN members during a serious outbreak or terrorist event. The most dangerous or perplexing pathogens are handled only at the Bio-Safety Level 4 laboratories at CDC and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID).

Natural Disaster

During a natural disaster, flood, earthquake, fire etc., sample collection and analysis will be available to the water system by their normal laboratory resources. Sampling will primarily consist of regulatory bacteriological samples and turbidity to show that the system has been flushed out. The water system may also be collecting chlorine residual samples throughout the system with a field chlorine test kit.

Terrorist Event/Contamination Event

Once a threat warning has occurred and the utility has deemed the threat confirmed, it will be necessary to collect water quality samples. The decisions made from the time of the threat warning to the time the threat is confirmed is specific to each individual event. This “credibility stage” as referred to in the EPA Response Toolbox may take the utility between 2 – 8 hours and should involve consultation with local first responders, CDPH DWP (Drinking Water Primacy Agency), local Health Department and regional FBI office.

Assuming the threat is confirmed and credible enough to warrant water quality sampling, several state and federal agencies are involved to collect samples, transport the samples to appropriate laboratory and analyze the samples. The water system's first step in this process is to contact the CDPH-District Engineer so they can notify the CDPH-SRLB of the incoming samples. The following steps are described in more detail below:

- Emergency Water Quality Sampling Kit (EWQSK)
- Sample Collection
- Laboratory Required for Analysis
- Sample Transport
- Sample Analysis

Emergency Water Quality Sampling Kit

Contains sample bottles needed for chemical, radiological and microbiological analysis (that could be split into 3 complete sample sets). The original sample kit was developed by Metropolitan Water Department to be used during a terrorist or contamination event. EPA reviewed the sample kit and provided a list of the sample bottles in the EPA Toolbox. The California Mutual Aid Laboratory Network (CAMAL Net) has also reviewed this kit and made some minor changes that will allow water quality samples to be collected under all conditions. The CAMAL Net version of the sample kit has been finalized for deployment. This kit will continue to evolve as the US EPA develops sampling protocols for these new constituents in drinking water. The estimated cost of one kit is approximately $200. The EWQSK should remain sealed before the sample is collected. Since some of the sample bottles contain reagents that expire, the bottles in each kit should be replaced annually.

CDPH-DWP will purchase the supplies to create enough EWQSK to supply 2-3 in each DWP District Office. If water systems do not want to purchase and maintain their own kits, then the DWP will provide one of these kits in the event of an emergency. Requests for these kits should be made to the District Engineer when the water system reports the incident. Travel time from the District Office to the water system should be incorporated in the water system's emergency response plan.

Sample Collection

Several types of samples may need to be collected depending on the event. The FBI will collect samples for the crime scene investigation. The water system needs to collect samples for public health to determine if the water is safe for consumption using the EWQSK for public health. The Department does not recommend that water system staff collect samples for the EWQSK due to liability issues. Several responding agencies are available for EWQSK sample collection – local HAZMAT, FBI, California National Guard Civilian Support Team (CST) or USEPA. Each agency has the proper personal protection material to minimize exposure to any possible agent. In addition, each agency has field screening kits that will provide a preliminary screen for several WMD agents that will help identify the required laboratory resources needed.

Laboratory

Depending on the results of the field screening and actual event, the required laboratories need to be notified and prepared to accept the samples. If an EWQSK (supplied by water system or CA DHS DWP) is used, the CAMAL Net and the LRN need to be notified and involved in the process for laboratory selection. The first step in this process is for the District Engineer working with the water system to contact SRL.

Sample Transport

Depending on the responding agencies, field screening, the ICS will decide how the samples will be transported to the appropriate lab. Since the samples may be used for the crime investigation, proper chain-of-custody must be maintained. The possible agencies and field screening, depending on the event, are: local HAZMAT, CHP, FBI, CST, or US EPA.

Sample Analysis

Once the samples are delivered to the appropriate laboratory, they may be split for analysis to different laboratories. The transport and laboratory testing protocols will be handled by the CDPH SRLB laboratory. Sample results will be shared through the ICS. Please note that sample analysis may take days to weeks to complete depending on the complexity of analysis.

9. Restoration and Recovery

The CA OES "Emergency Planning Guidance, Public and Private Water Utilities", Section 12 is a good reference for restoration and recovery. The following excerpt was taken from the "Emergency Planning Guidance for Public and Private Utilities", March 1999. The entire document can be found on the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Website at: http://www.oes.ca.gov/oeshomep.nsf/all/WaterUtilities/$file/H2o_.pdf

The recovery process begins during the response phase. It is important to start damage inspections, reporting, and recordkeeping as soon as the plan is activated. The items below may assist the water utility in recovery activities.

Initial Recovery Activities

- Designate a disaster recovery coordinator (may or may not be EOC director) and notify all appropriate regulatory agencies.
- Complete detailed evaluations of all affected water utility facilities and determine priorities for permanent repair, reconstruction, or replacement at existing or new locations.
- Begin repair activities design and make bids for contractor services.
- Make necessary repairs to the system and untag repaired facilities and equipment.

- Restore all telecommunications, data processing, and similar services to full operation.
- Complete assessment of losses and costs for repair and replacement, determine approximate reimbursements from insurance and other sources of financial assistance, and determine how residual costs will be financed by the water utility.
- Define needs for additional staff, initiate recruitment process, and adopt temporary emergency employment policies as necessary.
- Execute agreements with vendors to meet service and supply needs.
- Reevaluate need for maintaining the emergency management organization; consider returning to the normal organizational structure, roles, and responsibilities when feasible.
- Collect cost accounting information gathered during the emergency and prepare request for Emergency Disaster Funds (follow FEMA and State OES requirements).
- Debrief staff to enhance response and recovery efforts in the future by identifying lessons learned, developing action plans and follow-up mechanisms, and providing employee assistance programs if needed.
- Prepare After-Action Reports as required. Complete reports within six months of the event (90 days for public utilities which are part of a city or county government.).
- Identify recommendations

Long Term Recovery Activities

- Initiate permanent reconstruction of damaged water utility facilities and systems.
- Restore water utility operations and services to full pre-event levels.
- Continue to maintain liaison as needed with external agencies.

Assistance Programs - The State of California Office of Emergency Services administers several programs designed to assist victims of a disaster. They include Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation Public Assistance (PA) administers state disaster relief programs under the Natural Disaster Assistance Act, and federal disaster assistance programs under various federal laws and regulations, including the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288 as amended), the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), and the State Administrative Manual. These regulations designate the State of California as "grantee" for all federal public assistance funding available to agencies of state government, local governments, and certain private non-profit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature to the general public, including water utilities. As grantee, the state is responsible for the processing of sub-grants to public assistance applicants in accordance with 44 CFR, parts 13, 14, and 206, and its own policies procedures. PA works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to process Damage Survey Reports. It dispatches inspection teams and conducts applicant briefings. This unit is led by OES, with support drawn from other state agencies. Under the Public Assistance Program, public and private non-profit water utilities may be eligible for public assistance to reimburse the work and associated costs of responding to and recovering from a disaster if the costs:

- Are a direct result of the declared event and not a pre-disaster condition or result of some other event;
- Are located within the area designated by FEMA as eligible for assistance;
- Are the legal responsibility of the eligible applicant; and
- Are not eligible for assistance under another federal program (this applies to permanent restoration work only).

Hazard Mitigation - Following a presidential disaster declaration, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is activated. The program's purpose is to fund projects which are cost-effective and which substantially reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering from a major natural disaster. Virtually all types of hazard mitigation projects are eligible provided they benefit the declared disaster area and meet basic project eligibility requirements. Types of eligible projects will be identified from those mitigation measures identified in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan, hazard mitigation team reports, and issues unique to the disaster event. The priorities of funding will be established and the program administered by OES.

Expenditure Documentation - One of the critical aspects of any major emergency or disaster is collecting information on the costs related to response and recovery. The ability of the utility to recover costs or receive disaster assistance from the state and federal governments is predicated on its eligibility and ability to document its costs.

10. Emergency Response Training

Training provides the means for staff involved in a response to acquire the skills necessary for them to fulfill their role during an emergency. Not only is training on the water utility's emergency response plan critical for effective implementation, individual training to perform certain functions expected in the plan is just as important. It is important for Water Utility management to create a training policy that emphasizes plan implementation, emergency management, and employee health and safety. The training policy can be an independent policy or part of an overall emergency preparedness policy for the utility. Individual roles established in the emergency response plan should dictate the type and level of training that is necessary.

Exercises and Drills

As a part of City of Hollister Water Department overall emergency preparedness periodic review of COH Emergency Response Plan & Operations and Maintenance Procedures Manual which includes routine training drills, cross trained personnel, routine emergency equipment maintenance operation and testing. All key players are included in the exercises so everyone is familiar with emergency policies and procedures.

11. Resume Normal Operations

The steps that will be taken to resume normal operations and to prepare and submit reports to appropriate agencies will include identifying the nature of the emergency (e.g., earthquake causing water outage/leaks, fire or power outage causing water shortage/outage, sabotage resulting in facility destruction or water contamination).

a. Leaks or service interruption (result of earthquake, etc.)
   - Isolate leak. Turn power or flow off, if necessary, to control leak.
   - Repair or isolate break to allow service to the maximum system population possible. Disinfect as per attached AWWA Standards; increase system disinfectant residual as precaution, until normal service is resumed.
   - Do bacteriological sampling until 3 good consecutive samples are confirmed.
   - Reestablish normal service.

b. Low pressure (result of earthquake, fire, storm)
   - Increase production, if possible, to maximize system output.
   - Increase disinfection residual as precaution to potential contamination.

c. Power outage
   - Place emergency generator online to provide minimum water pressure to system.
   - Increase disinfectant residual as precaution to potential contamination.

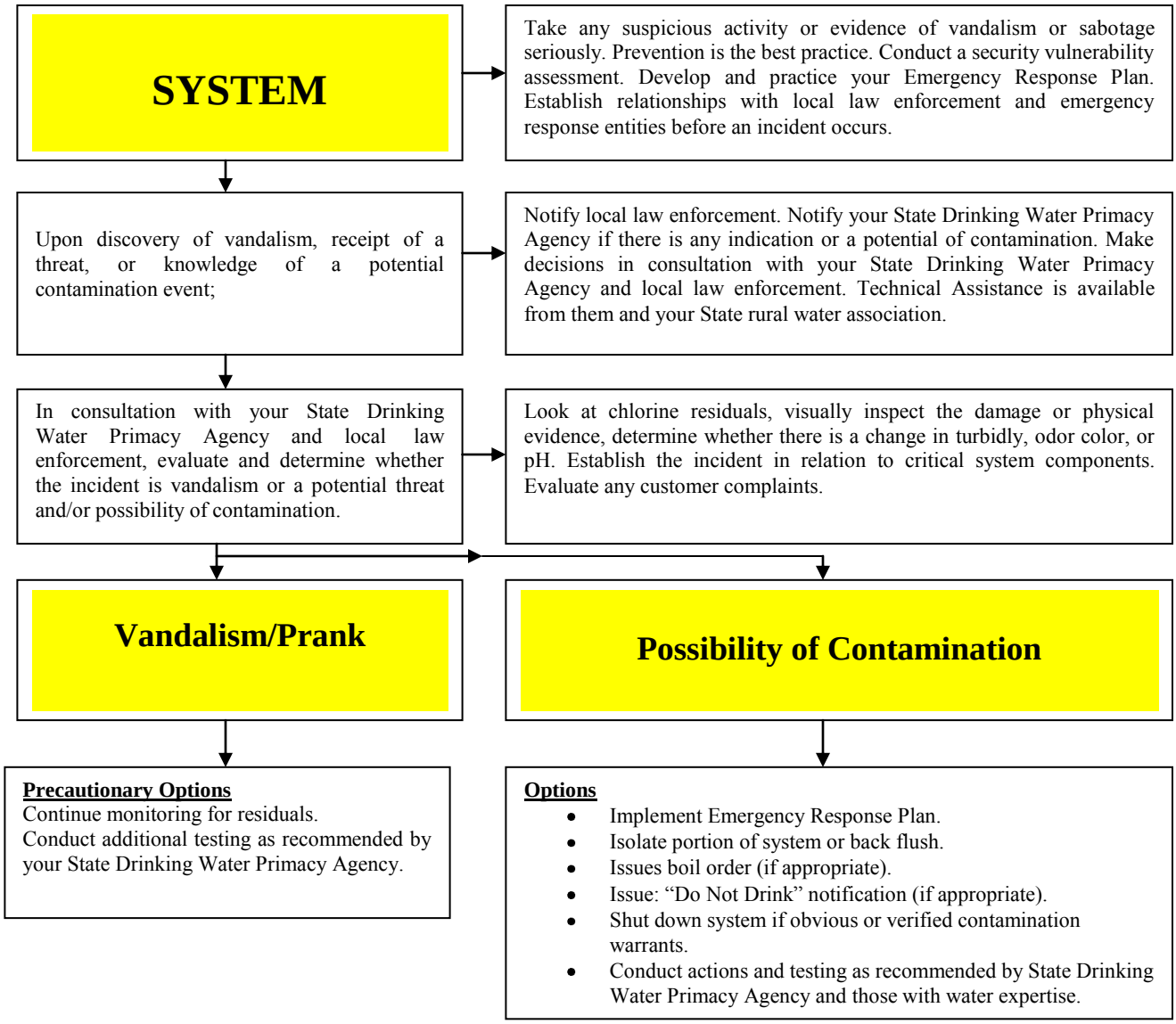
d. Contamination
   - Identify location and source of contamination.
   - If contamination is from system source, isolate or treat source.
   - If contamination is an act of sabotage, take appropriate action based on nature of contamination. Immediately contact local law enforcement and your regulatory agency (DHS or LPA). Actions should be taken in consultation with the regulatory agency and could include shutting off water until all contaminants are identified.

e. Physical destruction of facility (sabotage)
   - Immediately contact local law enforcement and regulatory agency for consultation.

All significant water outages (widespread and lasting more than eight hours) or disinfection failure will be reported to the California Department of Health Services (CDPH) District Office or Local Primacy Agency (LPA) by telephone or equally rapid means. All emergencies will be documented along with action taken, and kept in the files of the water system office. Acts of sabotage will be reported to the local law enforcement agency.

A Utility Guide for Security Decision Making

These guidelines are deigned to assist utilities in determine the level of security concern if a break-in or threat occurs at the water system and to assist the utility in appropriate decision making and response actions. These various steps and actions can be adjusted to meet the needs of specific situations and to comply with individual state requirements. Specific actions should be undertaken in consultation with your State Drinking Water Primacy Agency. Technical assistance is available from you state drinking water primacy agency and state rural water association for prevention initiatives such as vulnerability assessments, emergency response planning, and security enhancements.



- **Don not disturb evidence. Document what you see. Keep notes and take photos as you go.**
- **Collect samples for future analysis and store them appropriately.**
- **Alert other officials as appropriate and keep the public informed (designate one spokesperson).**
- **Use the expertise in public drinking water supplies and public health in the decision making process.**
- **Preventive measures are the best practice to prevent such an incident.**
- **Prior communication with local law enforcement authorities and local emergency response entities prevents confusion and defines who has responsibility for what, when an incident occurs.**

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COPY NUMBER	LOCATION
1	San Benito County Water District
2	San Benito County Water District
3	San Benito County Water District
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5	San Benito County Water District
6	South-Central California Area Office
7	Tracy Office
8	Tracy Office
9	Tracy Office
10	D-8470
11	D-8470
12	MP-200
13	MP-200
14	MP-430
15	MP-430
16	Central Valley Operations CVO-400
17	Central Valley Operations CVO-650
18	Commander, California Highway Patrol
19	County of San Benito Office of Emergency Services
20	County of Santa Cruz Office of Emergency Services
21	County of Monterey Office of Emergency Services

San Justo Dam
Emergency Action Plans

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, on this date acknowledge the San Justo Dam Emergency Action Plan as an integral part of emergency response notification and operation procedures that will be implemented in order to protect life during emergency conditions affecting San Justo Dam. The Emergency Action Plan was developed in accordance with Bureau of Reclamation "Emergency Planning and Exercise Guidelines," dated March 1995, and meet the requirements listed in the Reclamation Manual.

Upon annual revision and update of the Emergency Action Plan, signatures and dates on this certification page shall be revised in order to reflect changes in personnel and to keep the Emergency Action Plan officially current on an annual basis.

John S. Gregg
Manager
San Benito County Water District

November 22, 1999
Date

William H. Luce
Area Manager
South Central California - Tracy Area Office

11/2/99
Date

This Emergency Action Plan has been reviewed and meets the requirements of the Commissioner of Reclamation as stated in the Commissioner's Memorandum dated February 27, 1995.

Stephen R. Herbst
Regional Emergency Manager
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

9/30/99
Date

SAN JUSTO DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE

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REVISION SHEET

This copy includes the following revisions:

Revision No.	Date	Action
1	3/01/2000	Completely revised EAP to February 1995 Guidelines.
2	2/05/2002	Revised Communications Directory with new names and telephone numbers.
3	2/09/2004	Revised Communications Directory with updated names and telephone numbers.
4	5/24/2005	Revised Revision Sheet, Distribution List, and Communications Directory.
5	5/31/07	Revised Revision Sheet and Communications Directory pages Com-1 thru Com-5.

SAN JUSTO DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN - BASIC PLAN
SOUTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE

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I. GENERAL GUIDELINES

A. INTRODUCTION

San Justo Dam and Dike are zoned earth and rockfill structures that form San Justo Reservoir. The lake, with a capacity of 11,000 acre-feet, furnishes municipal, industrial, and irrigation water to Zone 6 of the San Benito County Water District (District) including the cities of San Juan Bautista and Hollister and numerous small community water systems.

San Justo Dam could present a significant hazard potential to the downstream area as a result of failure or misoperation. In the event of a dam failure, some loss of life and appreciable economic loss would probably occur.

Emergency preparedness is defined as being prepared ahead of time with a plan of action for use when unusual or hazardous situations arise. An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) was developed for San Justo Dam primarily for use by San Benito County Water District personnel who are responsible for operating the facility. The EAP defines "who does what, where, when, and how" in an emergency situation or unusual occurrence affecting San Justo Dam.

An emergency situation is an event that develops suddenly and unexpectedly. It demands immediate attention because it could endanger the structural integrity of the dam or endanger downstream property and persons.

An unusual occurrence is an event that takes place or a condition which develops that is not normally encountered in the routine operation of the dam and reservoir. It may endanger the dam, appurtenant structures, District personnel, or the public.

Certain conditions may develop at San Justo Dam that will require warning and evacuation of the population at risk located downstream. The EAP must be interconnected with local emergency operations plans (LEOP) and/or warning and evacuation plans/annexes developed by local public safety officials to help ensure warning and evacuation will be carried out in the event of an emergency situation at San Justo Dam.

Warning and evacuation planning and implementation are the responsibility of the downstream local authorities having jurisdiction in areas that will be inundated by flood releases from or failure of San Justo Dam and/or Dike.

This EAP is designed to help ensure:

- ✔ The public will receive and understand official information related to evacuation.
- ✔ The public will act in its own interest and evacuate dangerous areas when advised to do so by local authorities.

B. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The San Justo Dam EAP is intended to help emergency officials save lives and reduce property damage in the event of flooding caused by large releases from the dam, dam failure, or other types of events that present hazardous conditions. The EAP will guide San Benito County Water District personnel in identifying, monitoring, responding to, and/or mitigating problems involving dam failure, potential dam failure, damaging or life-threatening inflows and releases, or other serious conditions at San Justo Dam.

C. RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY

General information on the purpose of the project, directions for traveling to San Justo Dam, and the responsibility and authority for operations are described in the Standing Operating Procedures, Chapter

I: General Information. The responsibility and authority for the emergency management personnel is as follows:

1. **San Benito County Water District (SBCWD) Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**

   The SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will normally be the initial contact in the event of an unusual occurrence at San Justo Dam during normal working hours. The On-Call Supervisor will be the initial contact in the event of an unusual occurrence outside normal working hours. During an emergency event, the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will be notified by the employee reporting the unusual occurrence, or the On-Call Supervisor if after normal working hours. The SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, or On-Call Supervisor along with the SBCWD Manager, shall determine the nature and severity of the emergency and notify appropriate disaster preparedness agencies of the situation. They will take whatever actions deemed necessary to save the structure or lessen the impact of failure to downstream populations should failure occur.

2. **SBCWD Manager**

   The SBCWD Manager will be notified of the situation by the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, or On-Call Supervisor during an unusual event. As previously stated, the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, or On-Call Supervisor along with the SBCWD Manager shall determine the nature and severity of the emergency and notify appropriate disaster preparedness agencies of the situation. They will take whatever actions deemed necessary to save the structure, or to lessen the impact of failure to downstream populations should failure occur.

3. **SBCWD Incident Commander (IC)**

   If the Incident Command System is deemed necessary by the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor and the SBCWD Manager, an Incident Commander will be appointed to direct the operations toward responding to the emergency situation.

   The IC is responsible for the onsite monitoring of conditions at San Justo Dam and for ensuring that notifications to the appropriate emergency response agencies are made in a timely and accurate manner. The IC is also responsible for providing subsequent notification and protective action recommendations, accompanied by appropriate emergency public information to the appropriate emergency response agencies to assist them in making timely and accurate decisions regarding their warning and evacuation responsibilities.

   To assist in the above tasks, the IC will appoint the following personnel as needed:

   a. **Planning/Intelligence Officer** - gathers and assesses information related to the emergency situation and forecasts or projects where the emergency situation is headed.

   b. **Operations Officer** - implements priorities established by the Incident Commander in the operation of San Justo Dam with respect to the emergency situation.

   c. **Public Information Officer** - acts as liaison between SBCWD and the media, will coordinate press releases, may aid the Incident Commander in making the notifications to pertinent agencies, etc.

   d. **Logistics Officer** - obtains the resources (materials or personnel) to support the emergency operations.

   e. **Finance/Administration Officer** - tracks all costs related to the emergency operations, will coordinate requisitions and contracts.

4. **SBCWD Personnel**

During an unusual occurrence, the appropriate SBCWD personnel will be notified by the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor. During an emergency event, the appropriate SBCWD personnel will be notified by SBCWD Dispatch. The following is a listing of SBCWD personnel who will be notified:

District Manager
Data Processing Supervisor
Water Programmer III
Administrative Services Officer
Engineer

The SBCWD Personnel shall begin measures to mitigate the emergency condition as directed by the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor and the SBCWD Manager.

5. **South Central California Area Office Emergency Official (EO)**

The SCCAO EO will be responsible for ensuring that the San Benito County Water District has enough support to implement the Incident Command System if the situation warrants.

6. **San Benito County Office of Emergency Services**

The Office of Emergency Services is responsible for beginning the call-down sequences and initiating and coordinating emergency operations with other appropriate local, State, and Federal authorities as outlined in their local emergency operations plans or warning and evacuation plans specific to San Justo Dam.

7. **Local Authorities**

Responsible for carrying out warning and evacuation of populations at risk located downstream from San Justo Dam should conditions warrant.

D. EXERCISING AND UPDATING PLAN

1. **Exercising Plan**

Emergency incidents at dams or dam failures are not common events; therefore, training and exercises are necessary to maintain operational readiness, timeliness, and responsiveness. An emergency exercise program should include the following five components:

a. **Orientation Exercise** - The Orientation introduces participants to the EAP and procedures within the EAP. It may involve all levels of personnel from SBCWD to the Bureau of Reclamation. It may also include a review of past cases for lessons learned.

b. **Communications Drill** - The Drill tests single emergency response functions and usually involves actual field response, for example, a communications drill where actual phone calls would be made. The drill focuses on a single limited portion of the overall response system.

c. **Tabletop Exercise** - A discussion exercise that is based on an emergency situation. It creates an environment for coordinated problem solving and response with an ongoing discussion of appropriateness of actions taken and decisions made and clarification of roles and responsibilities. This is a low-stress exercise, often in combination with the Orientation Exercise, that is based on the EAP.

d. **Functional Exercise** - The Functional provides a realistic training experience for the

participants and can be an exercise of one particular function of the EAP or of all functions. It coordinates the emergency management teams, reinforces established policies, and evaluates resource capabilities. This is a high-stress exercise that involves a sequence of timed messages (bits of information that are given to the participants as the emergency unfolds) and simulated communication.

e. **Full-scale Exercise** - The Full-scale exercise is the closest experience to a real event. In this exercise, resources are deployed, real-time is used, and there is a very high stress level. A real emergency event may count toward a Full-scale Exercise.

For Reclamation and the dam operating organizations, the orientation exercise, communications drill, tabletop exercise, and functional exercise should receive the most emphasis in their emergency exercise schedules.

Orientation seminars should be conducted annually and prior to conducting any tabletop exercises. The Communications Drill should be performed quarterly and any resulting revisions be promptly distributed. Tabletop exercises should be conducted every 3 years for high hazard dams, as required in the Commissioner's *Policy for Establishing an Emergency Management Program at Reclamation Facilities*, dated February 27, 1995. The policy also states that Functional exercises be conducted every 6 years. Tabletop exercises should be conducted prior to any Functional exercises. Full-scale exercises should be considered as optional emergency exercise activities.

Key personnel from State and local emergency management agencies should be invited to participate in any training and exercises of the dam operating organization whenever possible and as appropriate.

Testing of monitoring and sensing equipment at remote/unattended dams should be included in emergency exercise activities.

Emergency exercises and equipment tests should be evaluated in writing; and the emergency action plan should be revised and corrected, as appropriate, for any identified deficiencies.

2. **Updating Plan**

Emergency action plans should be considered "living" documents. This means that:

a. They will never be complete.

b. They will be reviewed annually.

c. Reviews should include participation of local authorities when possible.

d. All updates should be made promptly. Updated pages should have the revision date printed as a footer.

Changes that may frequently require revision and update of emergency action plans include changes in personnel of involved organizations and changes in communications systems. As a minimum, review of office telephone numbers and appropriate personnel included in notification flowcharts should be conducted.

During the review of emergency action plans, a comprehensive evaluation of the adequacy of the plan should be made as well. This evaluation should include participation of local authorities and should be in addition to any emergency exercises that are conducted.

A random sampling of telephone numbers listed in the communications directory should actually be called quarterly and during any emergency exercises conducted in order to verify their

accuracy.

An evaluation should be made of any changes to the dam and/or flood plain. Changes should be noted in the emergency action plan. A notice and summary of the review should be sent to all participants.

II. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

A. DETECTION OF EVENT

Being able to detect an event at San Justo Dam is a mandatory first step for developing any emergency procedures. A detailed list and explanation of critical events or conditions that could be observed during developing emergency incidents are included in section "IV. Emergency Events and Initiating Conditions" of this plan.

B. DECISION MAKING

Once an event has been detected and analyzed at San Justo Dam, an effective transition into a clearly defined decision making process will occur as outlined in section "III. Response Levels System" of this Plan. The Response Levels System will assist the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, SBCWD Manager, and other involved personnel in making critical decisions and implementing procedures and responses. These actions will effectively provide for the public safety of populations at risk located downstream from San Justo Dam while also guiding dam operators in gathering data and taking action to manage and control the incident at the site.

When and if the Incident Command System is implemented, the SBCWD Incident Commander, as head of the emergency operations organization, will be the designated authority who will make needed decisions and who will authorize immediate expenditures so that repair work will not be delayed. To assist the SBCWD Incident Commander in making effective decisions regarding repair work on the dam or facility, Section IV.D. "Equipment, Materials, Labor, Engineering, and Underwater Examiners" of these plans includes a listing of resources for use during an emergency. The materials portion includes sources for clay, sand, gravel, stone, riprap, sandbags, cement, plastic sheeting, etc.

C. NOTIFICATION

Initial notification of a problem affecting San Justo Dam will be made in one of the following ways: via 911 if San Justo Dam appears to be in imminent danger of failing or is failing, via SBCWD Dispatchers, or via radio. If the problem warrants, the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor along with the SBCWD Manager, will implement the Incident Command System and appoint an Incident Commander who will assume responsibility for the problem and subsequent actions.

Once notified of an event, initial documentation of that event is critical. The following report forms are to be used when recording various emergency situations and unusual occurrences:

1. **Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report** - for reporting emergency events and unusual occurrences *other than* earthquakes, bomb threats, and oil and hazardous spills (Figure 1).

2. **Earthquake Damage Report** - for reporting earthquakes (Figure 2).

3. **Oil and Hazardous Spill Report** - for reporting oil and hazardous spills (Figure 3).

4. **Bomb Threat Report (Threatening Telephone Call Report)** - for reporting bomb threats and other threatening telephone calls (Figure 4).

In addition to these report forms, all persons involved, including their name, title, and phone number, and all agencies notified should be documented. Also, recommendations for corrective actions to be taken, source of funding required, and status of incident should be included in the report.

Notification to San Benito County Office of Emergency Services will be made according to procedures

developed and agreed to by all involved organizations, including Reclamation and other Federal, State, and local agencies, and incorporated into the Response Levels System for San Justo Dam.

The EAP for San Justo Dam includes a range of expected actions that the SBCWD IC, dam operating personnel, and other appropriate District and Reclamation personnel would implement for each response level and includes appropriate notifications that need to be made by every organization in the chain.

Both spontaneous and pre-scripted messages (see section "III. Response Levels System" of this Plan) will be disseminated to local 24-hour warning points during developing emergency incidents at San Justo Dam.

Emergency public information will be disseminated through designated local organizations. In most circumstances, a Public Information Officer (PIO) from the SBCWD IC's staff will represent SBCWD in development of public safety information to be disseminated to the population at risk. The PIO will also be the spokesperson for the organization. This person will provide continuing information updates to the media, as appropriate, during emergency incidents affecting San Justo Dam and appurtenant structures. The PIO will physically relocate to SBCWD's Emergency Operations Center after Response Level II has been declared in order to better facilitate coordinating the release of emergency public information with local authorities. The PIO may also serve as a Liaison Officer between the SBCWD IC and San Benito County Office of Emergency Services public safety official.

The SBCWD IC staff will keep a record of all occurrences at the dam or facility during emergency events. The records should contain the date, time, location of the observation, and the reservoir elevation. During periods of continuous monitoring, a reading should be taken at least every hour. During periods of flood, high runoff, or high water conditions, attendance at San Justo Dam would be 24 hours a day.

It is desirable for all officials receiving reports from dam operating personnel to maintain a diary and tape-recorded messages, if possible. Photographs are essential to provide complete documentation. Final reports should briefly include the following information:

Subject	What happened and type of incident
Time and date	Daylight or standard time
Location	Where the incident occurred
Summary of incident	Briefly describe the incident
Names and titles	List all contacts (successful or unsuccessful) and brief report of conversation
Agencies notified	Examples: local 24-hour warning point/County Sheriffs, Highway Patrol, County emergency management agency, State agencies, National Weather Service, or media
Status of incident	Completed and pending actions and/or decisions
Photographs	Include photographs for complete documentation

D. EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. Emergency Public Information will be disseminated to the public through designated local organizations.

2. The San Benito County Water District Incident Commander will designate a Public Information Officer during emergency operations. During most emergency operations for San Justo Dam, and if time permits, a request could be made to the South Central California Area Office or Mid-Pacific Regional Office for that office to provide an individual to assist with the responsibilities of the Public Information Officer.

3. The PIO will be the spokesperson for the organization and will provide continuing information updates to the media, as appropriate during emergency events affecting San Justo Dam and appurtenant structures.

4. The San Justo Dam PIO will physically relocate to the San Benito County Emergency Operations Center once it is activated to better facilitate coordinating the release of emergency public information with local authorities.

E. RESPONSE LEVELS SYSTEM

Emergency events occur with varying, sometimes unpredictable, degrees of severity. This means the event could be slowly developing and steadily tracked, or it could mean the event occurs with sudden, catastrophic results, which would require immediate and drastic action to evacuate people out of harm's way. For all developing emergency conditions, an attempt will be made to classify emergency events according to the following, ascending and progressive order of severity:

- ✔ Internal Alert - "something has happened..."
- ✔ RESPONSE LEVEL I - "get ready"
- ✔ RESPONSE LEVEL II - "Get Set!"
- ✔ RESPONSE LEVEL III - "GO!!"

Specific information on the Response Levels System is presented in section "III. Response Levels System" of this Plan.

As soon as an emergency event has been observed and identified at San Justo Dam, an Internal Alert will be activated. The SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor and the SBCWD Manager will determine whether or not the Incident Command System should be implemented. If the ICS is implemented, the Incident Commander will determine which one of the three Response Levels should be in effect. The IC will declare the next higher level as it occurs. However, if conditions are such that immediate declaration of Response Level III becomes necessary without passing through Response Levels I and II, the IC will immediately declare Response Level III and will directly notify San Benito County Office of Emergency Services' 24-hour warning point, the State Office of Emergency Services, and the National Weather Service that Response Level III has been declared. Response Level I or Response Level II will not be declared or passed through under these conditions.

Assignment of a specific response level for emergency events will be made based on the following criteria:

- ✔ Observation of the event
- ✔ Identification of the event

- ✔ Analysis of the event
- ✔ Severity of the event
- ✔ When the event occurs

F. EXPECTED ACTIONS

The Hazard Specific Appendix included in the EAP for San Justo Dam contains the expected actions of dam operations personnel, the SBCWD IC, and other appropriate District and Reclamation offices for each response level. The expected actions that would be implemented in response to emergency incidents affecting San Justo Dam by organizations having emergency responsibilities under the EAP begin on Page HAZ-9.

Reclamation defines expected actions as emergency response actions that responsible organizations would implement whenever emergency incidents affecting San Justo Dam occurs. The expected actions are tailored to fit the Internal Alert and three Response Levels.

G. EMERGENCY DURATION

The IC is responsible for declaring each response level to be in effect. Emergency situations at San Justo Dam require that status reports and situation assessments be provided to appropriate organizations for the duration of the incident. Upon declaration, each response level will be in effect for all agencies and/or individuals having assigned tasks in the San Justo Dam Hazard Specific Appendix whenever, and for however long, the following criteria apply:

1. As long as reservoir levels are other than "normal" and require emergency operations as specified for Response Level 1, 2, or 3.

2. As long as a threatening condition exists that has not been managed or controlled at the dam site and that requires continued emergency operations as specified for Response Level 1, 2, or 3.

3. As long as San Justo Dam operations are other than "normal" and require emergency operations as specified for Response Level 1, 2, or 3.

4. For as long as it takes the IC to decide to escalate to a higher Response Level as required or to downgrade to a lower Response Level.

5. For the period of time between initial declaration of Response Level 1, 2, or 3 and receipt of verbal notification to terminate ("close out") the response level.

H. EMERGENCY TERMINATION

The IC is responsible for deciding an emergency condition no longer exists at San Justo Dam. Together with local authorities, the IC will prepare and issue a news release which can be used by the media to broadcast to the general public, informing them that emergency conditions have ceased.

Information to be disseminated to the general public will include:

- ✔ Name and location of dam.

- ✔ Statement of conditions; suggested example: "Emergency conditions at San Justo Dam are under control. Evacuation of residents from inundation areas is no longer necessary."

- ✔ Advice as to when those residents who have evacuated inundation areas may safely return to their homes.

The process that will be used to declare that an emergency condition no longer exists at San Justo Dam and subsequent notification to the public is as follows:

1. Termination procedures for Response Level 1, 2, or 3 will be implemented when the threatening condition is managed or controlled at the dam site.

2. Termination of a Response Level is automatic if escalation to a higher Response Level is required.

3. Termination of a Response Level is automatic if downgrading to a lower Response Level is required.

4. Additional termination activities for Response Level 1, 2, or 3 will follow the established procedures of each individual agency involved.

III. RESPONSE LEVELS SYSTEM DEFINED

A. INTERNAL ALERT

An Internal Alert is just that: an internal alert. This first phase of the Response Level system only involves the personnel of San Benito County Water District and possibly Reclamation, if deemed necessary. In this level, something unusual has been discovered at the dam that could possibly evolve into something more serious. Once the unusual occurrence has been discovered or reported, it should be monitored closely by SBCWD personnel.

Declaration of an Internal Alert means that an internal alert will be conducted in which emergency response activities including internal notifications for affected organizations will be carried out.

This means that these organizations will observe and analyze the event, and that they will "be aware" that nothing "serious" is happening yet, but indications are that something unusual definitely is happening that could develop into a potentially significant threatening event only if it intensifies.

The Internal Alert and Response Level I are very similar in design. The difference lies in the fact that the Internal Alert involves procedures and activities that are solely internal to personnel of affected organizations.

The Internal Alert does NOT represent an emergency that would require external notifications, but may require increased surveillance.

Events that would prompt declaration of an Internal Alert do NOT pose a hazard either at the dam or to downstream populations at risk.

An Internal Alert will be declared and initiated after developing conditions have been observed, and it has been determined that declaration of the Internal Alert is necessary.

Any developing events that belong to an Internal Alert will be identified as being of a level of intensity where they can be managed and brought under control by dam operating personnel with no negative impacts downstream.

As more serious indicators are identified, Response Level I, Response Level II, or Response Level III will be declared.

B. RESPONSE LEVEL I

1. Definition

Response Level I is the least serious of the response levels and involves procedures and activities primarily, but not exclusively, internal to personnel of San Benito County Water District and Reclamation. Nothing serious has developed yet, but indications are that something definitely is happening that could progress into a potentially significant threatening event if it continues or intensifies.

Response Level I does not represent an emergency yet, but may be perceived as such by the media or general public. Level I means involved organizations need to "get ready" for emergency response activities. Nothing significant really needs to be done for Response Level I except to stay aware of the event after it is detected, and observe and analyze it for possible action.

The SBCWD IC will initiate and implement a "communications check" upon declaration of Response Level I. The communications check will include a notification to the South Central California Area Office Emergency Official, San Benito County Office of Emergency Services' 24-hour warning point, the State Office of Emergency Services, and the National Weather Service that Response Level I has been declared and that local emergency management officials of jurisdictions downstream may want to conduct their own communications check to their response organizations which may wish to go into an "alert" status.

Response agencies generally do not mobilize resources as a result of a declaration of Response Level I. The SBCWD IC will contact the South Central California Area Office Emergency Official via the Central Valley Control Center and relay the same information.

Response Level I does not pose a hazard, at the dam or to downstream populations at risk, at the time of observation.

Response Level I will be declared and initiated by the SBCWD IC after developing conditions have been assessed and evaluated, and it has been determined that declaration of Response Level I is necessary.

Any developing events that belong in Response Level I will be identified as being of a level of intensity that can be managed and controlled by the dam operating personnel and the South Central California Area Office, with no negative impacts downstream.

If more serious indicators develop and are identified, Response Level II will be declared by the SBCWD IC, or, if conditions warrant, Response Level III will be declared.

2. **Pre-scripted Message to be used for Response Level I**

> This is the San Benito County Water District, monitoring San Justo Dam. My name and title are _____. Conditions at the dam are _____ and this necessitates that I inform you that San Justo Dam is at a Response Level I. Teledyne and San Juan Oaks are immediately downstream of this facility.

Note: The pre-scripted message above is the minimum amount of information to be relayed. The person relaying the information may provide more information to the downstream entities and answer any questions they may have to aid them in assessing the situation.

C. RESPONSE LEVEL II

1. Definition

Declaration of Response Level II means that involved organizations should "Get Set!" because conditions are now more serious than those experienced in Response Level I but are still less serious than those that would be experienced in Response Level III.

For this response level, the dam has not failed, nor is failure imminent. The current condition of the structure is stable, but may become unstable, or releases will be such that they could become life-threatening, or a hazardous event has progressed to a point that the public may be at risk.

This means that the dam may yet be stable, or that releases may not actually impact populations

at risk if conditions diminish in intensity or are brought under control, but circumstances at the dam are such that populations at risk MUST BE placed on "standby" status which means notifications to populations at risk should include directions to standby and prepare to leave flood inundation areas for higher ground and safe shelter. Conditions could worsen that would require an evacuation if not brought under control effectively. It could also mean that the special populations at risk might start evacuating or that a voluntary evacuation may be in order; however, a total evacuation of the populations at risk is not yet required.

Upon notification that Response Level II has been declared, local emergency management officials and response agencies should mobilize response resources and position them at staging areas out of flood inundation areas.

Declaration of Response Level II could mean that conditions have gotten worse since declaration of Response Level I, or that conditions started out serious enough to warrant declaration of Response Level II without passing through Response Level I first.

Response Level II will be declared and initiated by the SBCWD IC after having assessed developing conditions and determined it necessary.

Notification will be made to the South Central California Area Office Emergency Official, the San Benito County Office of Emergency Services' 24-hour warning point, the State Office of Emergency Services, and the National Weather Service by the SBCWD IC anytime declaration of Response Level II becomes necessary. The San Benito County Office of Emergency Services' 24-hour warning point will notify appropriate public safety officials that Response Level II has been declared and that they should implement their expected actions for this response level. The National Weather Service will utilize their resources to distribute the appropriate information directly to the populations at risk via radio and television messages.

2. **Prescripted Message to be used for Response Level II**

> This is the San Benito County Water District monitoring San Justo Dam. My name and title are _____. Conditions at the dam are _____ and this necessitates that I inform you that San Justo Dam is at a Response Level II. Teledyne and San Juan Oaks are immediately downstream of this facility.

Note: The pre-scripted message above is the minimum amount of information to be relayed. The person relaying the information may provide more information to the downstream entities and answer any questions they may have to aid them in assessing the situation.

D. RESPONSE LEVEL III

1. Definition

Declaration of Response Level III means involved organizations must "GO!!" (initiate evacuation) because conditions at this response level will affect the populations at risk. This is the most dangerous response level.

Declaration and implementation of Response Level III means the situation is extremely serious and will be based on the certainty that life-threatening floodwater or a hazardous event will affect populations at risk. For this response level, major life-threatening releases will be made, major

structural damage to San Justo Dam will occur, the physical condition of the dam will have deteriorated such that stabilization is not possible and the dam will fail, or a hazardous event has become life threatening.

For Response Level III, one or more of the following emergency conditions will be present:

- ✔ Releases have become life-threatening.
- ✔ It has been determined that the dam will definitely fail.
- ✔ The dam is actually beginning to fail.
- ✔ The dam has failed.

Declaring this response level means populations at risk are in imminent danger and that evacuation of populations at risk in all, or a part of, the dam failure flood inundation area, or affected area is required and must take place immediately.

Declaring Response Level III may be as a result of worsening conditions since declaration of Response Levels I or II or because conditions have developed right away that are so serious an immediate declaration of Response Level III is warranted without passing through of the less serious response levels first.

For this condition, the SBCWD IC would immediately notify the South Central California Area Office Emergency Official, the San Benito County Office of Emergency Services' 24-hour warning point, the State Office of Emergency Services, and the National Weather Service that an evacuation is required. The San Benito County Office of Emergency Services' 24-hour warning point will notify appropriate public safety officials that Response Level III has been declared and that they should implement their expected actions for this response level. The National Weather Service will utilize their resources to distribute the appropriate information directly to the populations at risk via radio and television messages.

Response Level III will be declared and initiated by the SBCWD IC for all situations anytime that it becomes obvious, through analysis of threatening events, that immediate evacuation of all or part of the populations at risk located downstream from San Justo Dam is necessary.

Local authorities are responsible for advising the public on safe evacuation routes and where to go for safe shelter. Response organizations will fully mobilize and physically implement evacuation procedures for Response Level III.

2. **Prescripted Message to be used for Response Level III**

> This is the San Benito County Water District, monitoring San Justo Dam. My name and title are _____. Conditions at the dam are _____ and this necessitates that I inform you that San Justo Dam is at a Response Level III. Teledyne and San Juan Oaks are immediately downstream of this facility.

Note: The pre-scripted message above is the minimum amount of information to be relayed. The person relaying the information may provide more information to the downstream entities and answer any questions they may have to aid them in assessing the situation.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. ATTENDANCE AND COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES

San Justo Dam is not attended on a regular schedule. Dam operating personnel can be contacted by phone pager, by radio, through San Benito County Water District Dispatch, or South Central California Area Office listed in the "Communications Directory for Dams."

B. INUNDATION MAPS

Inundation maps are available showing the areas affected by exceptionally large water releases downstream of San Justo Dam (Figure 6).

The reservoir surcharge storage can safely store the entire PMF and therefore no failure of the dam or dike due to overtopping from inflow is addressed in this EAP.

The inundation study San Justo Reservoir Dam and Dike includes the following four breach scenarios due to piping failure:

1. Sunny- day failure of the dam under normal reservoir operation.
2. Failure of the dam at maximum reservoir water level from the PMF.
3. Sunny- day failure of the dike under normal reservoir operation.
4. Failure of the dike at maximum reservoir water level from the PMF.

The results of the above scenario indicate that the sunny day failure and PMF produce basically the same discharge. Therefore, two inundation maps are included in this EAP. These maps indicate the areas that would be inundated from a piping failure of the dam or dike with the PMF event.

C. WARNING SYSTEM

No audible warning system is installed at the dam. Warning of failure or notification of impending failure would be telephoned or radioed to the San Benito County Sheriff's Office which will implement Civil Defense procedures to warn downstream populations at risk.

D. EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, LABOR, ENGINEERING, AND UNDERWATER EXAMINERS

Heavy equipment is not available at the damsite. The San Benito County Water District, located 10 miles from the dam, has equipment available through local contractors and the Bureau of Reclamation.

1. Equipment

SAN BENITO IRRIGATION DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Wacker Compactor (1)
John Deere Backhoe (1) - 2WD
Wellcraft Boat (1)
Boat Trailer (1)
Evinrude Outboard, 7HP (1)
Pacer 3 in. Trash Pump (10)
Portable Generator, 2,000 KW (1)
Winch (1)
Air Blower (2)

Truck, Sterling, 6-Wheel Dump (8 cu yd) (1)
Lowboy, Walton, 32,000 lb.
Case Tractor with Attachments

SOUTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE (SCCAO) O&M

Air Compressor (2) - 125 cfm
Backhoe - Case 780 (1-1/2 cu yd loader bucket)
Bulldozer - Caterpillar D6
Bulldozer - TD 20E International (comparable to a D8 Caterpillar Dozer)
Loader - John Deere 544-A (1-1/4 cu yd bucket)
Loader - Furukawa FL320A (3-1/2 cu yd bucket)
Tractor - Ford 420 (front end bucket with rake)
Tractor - Ford (front end bucket with grass cutter)
Roller - Huber
Crane - P&H 325 25 ton
Crane - P&H 325 25 ton
Crane - Stinger II TC-60 5 ton (38 ft hydraulic boom)
Truck (2) - GMC 10-Wheel Dump (8 cu yd)
Truck - International 10-Wheel Dump (10 cu yd)
Truck - Auto car 10-Wheel Dump (10 cu yd)
Truck - GMC Flatbed
Truck - Dodge Water Tank (2600 gallons)
Tractor - GMC 44,500 GWM 80,000 GCW
Tractor - International 24,000 GVWR
Tractor - Ford C-7000 24,000 GVWR
Lowboy - Hyster 24,000 GVW 22,000 GAWR
Semi Trailer - 35 ton level deck
Semi Trailer - lowbed level deck, fixed gooseneck 40 ft 20 tons
Semi Trailer - Cargo 12 tons 28 ft long
Tilt Trailer - 15 ton gooseneck

TRACY OFFICE FISH SCREEN

Fork Lift (6000 lbs.)
Portable Air Compressor (90 cfm)
Potable Light Plant
2 - Portable Water Pumps (3-inch)

2. **Materials (cobbles, aggregate, riprap)**

AVAILABLE MATERIALS - SAN BENITO COUNTY
tons Riprap - Downstream of San Justo Dam

See **Section D.3-"Local Contractors."**

AVAILABLE MATERIALS - SCCAO

Riprap -Basalt Hill near San Luis Dam

3. **Local Contractors**
   Nichleson
   Don Chapin Construction (Equipment and Materials - sand, rock, and gravel)
   Lindsay and Company
   Teichert

4. **Oil or Hazardous Spill Clean-up Materials**

   AVAILABLE MATERIALS - SAN BENITO COUNTY
   None available

5. **Local Cleanup and/or Disposal Contractors**

   H&H Environmental Services
   220 China Basin
   San Francisco CA 94107
   (415) 543-4835

   O.H. Materials Co.
   1425 North Market Blvd., Suite 9
   Sacramento CA 95834
   (916) 928-1819

   Ramos Environmental Services
   1515 South River Road, PO Box 401
   West Sacramento CA 95961
   (916) 371-9312

   Romic Environmental Technologies
   (415) 324-1638

6. **Labor**

   O&M personnel are available at SCCAO and SBCWD.

7. **Engineering**

   Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical engineers are available at SBCWD, SCCAO, Regional Office and Denver Technical Service Center.

8. **Underwater Examiners**

   There is no longer a Mid-Pacific Region Dive Team; however, questions regarding the acquisition of a Contract Dive Team or another Region's Dive Team may be directed to the Facilities Engineering Branch, MP-430 at (916) 978-5220.

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SAN JUSTO DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN - HAZARD SPECIFIC PLAN
SOUTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE - TRACY OFFICE

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I. INITIATING CONDITIONS FOR EMERGENCY EVENTS

Emergency events are defined as any event that is extraordinary and must be enacted upon in a short time frame. Initiating conditions are events that can lead to emergency situations. Initiating conditions related to San Justo Dam are discussed in the Performance Parameters Technical Memorandums issued by the Technical Services Center.

Following is a listing of emergency events and corresponding initiating conditions for each of the three response levels.

II. EXPECTED ACTIONS FOR EMERGENCY EVENTS

The emergency events that immediately follow are not intended to reflect upon the integrity of San Justo Dam. Potential situations are not limited to these examples. For emergency events other than earthquakes or oil/hazardous substance spills, use the **Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report** (**Figure 1**) when recording and reporting the event. For earthquakes and oil/hazardous substance spills, use the **Earthquake Damage Report** (**Figure 2**) and the **Oil and Hazardous Spill Report** (**Figure 3**), respectively.

To help determine which Response Level, if any, to initiate, see section "I. Emergency Events and Initiating Conditions" starting on page HAZ-1. This section contains a listing of various emergency events and the initiating conditions for each Response Level of that event.

If an emergency situation not listed should occur, use and document the procedure which is judged to be most appropriate and revise the Emergency Action Plan as necessary.

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San Justo Dam Emergency Notification List
for
Hydrologic Events

SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will notify:

San Benito County Water District Dispatch ..... (831) 637-8218 (Office)
~~(831) 638-8568 (Pager)~~

Incident Commander will notify:

San Benito County Office of Emergency Services ..... (831) 636-4100

Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services ..... (831) 471-1190

Monterey County Office of Emergency Services ..... (831) 755-5010

California State Office of Emergency Services ..... (916) 262-1621

National Weather Service ..... (831) 656-1717

Bureau of Reclamation, Tracy Office Emergency Official ..... (209) 836-6201 (primary)
(209) 833-2617 (secondary)

INITIATING CONDITIONS FOR HYDROLOGIC EVENTS

HIGH RESERVOIR LEVELS

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
The reservoir elevation is above 503.28 feet.	The reservoir elevation is above 504.26 feet, which is the sill elevation of the spillway.	The reservoir elevation is at 505.25 feet, which is the elevation of the top of zone 1 material. Potentially significant flow through the dam and dike above the top of the Zone 1 material (through the pervious shell material) may be occurring.	The flows through the dam and dike above the top of the Zone 1 material are such that failure of the dam or dike is occurring.

Even during the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF), overtopping of the dam or dike is not anticipated. However, the water level in the reservoir could rise to within 2 feet of the crest of the embankments, which could result in failure due to:

- ✔ wave setup, run up, and splash over leading to erosion and eventual breaching.
- ✔ large flow through the embankment, passing over the top of the Zone 1 core, leading to erosion and eventual breaching.

A. **Hydrologic Events**

Events falling into this category of hydrologic events could be high reservoir levels (Reservoir Elevation ≥ 503.28 feet) or large discharges. Large discharges include controlled releases approaching or greater than -- cfs and for any uncontrolled discharges.

1. SBCWD Operators will notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor (O&M)** of the high reservoir conditions, pending large discharges, or any uncontrolled discharge. The Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will do the following:

   a. If the event is high reservoir conditions, then instruct the Inspections Team Leader to commence inspections of the dam and report back with the findings.

   b. Evaluate the situation and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the initiating conditions found in the Emergency Events and Initiating Conditions section starting on Page HAZ-1 and any findings of the Inspection Team Leader.

   c. Implement the Incident Command System (ICS) and appoint the Incident Commander (IC), if necessary.

   d. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.

   e. Complete the incident report.

Note: The SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will perform the duties of Incident Commander until such time as the role of Incident Commander is assumed by other SBCWD or Reclamation Personnel.

2. **Incident Commander (IC)**

   a. Monitor the situation and update Response Levels as needed based on the initiating conditions found in the Emergency Events and Initiating Conditions section starting on Page HAZ-1.

   b. Notify the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor of any changes in the Response Level.

   c. Notify the San Benito County OES of the Response Level declared as a result of the hydrologic event.

   d. Notify the California State OES of the Response Level declared as a result of the hydrologic event.

   e. Notify the National Weather Service of the Response Level declared as a result of the hydrologic event.

   f. Notify SCCAO Emergency Official of the Response Level declared and of any changes in Response Level.

   g. Appoint the following personnel and assign tasks as needed:

      1) Planning/Intelligence Officer

      2) Operations Officer

      3) Safety Officer

4) Public Information Officer

5) Logistics Officer

6) Finance Officer

h. Activate the Emergency Operations Center, if necessary.

i. Continue to monitor the situation and update the Response Level as needed.

j. Declare incident over when appropriate.

3. **Planning/Intelligence Officer** will do the following:

a. Develop an Incident Action Plan covering the next 8-24 hours, being sure to address the monitoring of the situation, reporting frequencies, collection of data, evaluation of data, equipment needs, staffing needs, etc.

b. Coordinate with the Inspections Team Leader.

c. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander.

4. **Operations Officer** will do the following:

a. Appoint the Maintenance Crews Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary.

b. Appoint the Facility Operations Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary.

c. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander.

5. **Inspections Team Leader**

a. Evaluate the situation and begin inspections of the dam as per the inspection checklists included in the Emergency Event Checklists for the Inspection Team Leader and other appurtenant structures.

b. Report back to the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor or the Planning/Intelligence Officer if the Incident Command System has been implemented with findings.

6. **Public Information Officer** will do the following:

a. Identify Public Information Officer Activities

1) Contact the jurisdictional responsible agency to determine what other external public information activities are being performed for this incident.

2) Take actions required to establish coordination of information acquisition and dissemination activities.

3) Compile the information obtained and maintain records.

b. Establish Incident Information Center as Required

1) Establish information center adjacent to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) where it will not interfere with EOC activities.

2) Contact Logistics Officer for any support required to set up information center.

c. Report to the Joint Information Center as Required

1) Report to the Joint Information Center in the impacted county.

2) Coordinate activities with County Public Information Officer.

d. Prepare Press Briefing

1) Identify from the Incident Commander (IC) any constraints on the release of information.

2) Select information to be releases (e.g., size of incident, agencies involved, etc.)

3) Obtain IC's approval for release. (The IC may give blanket release authority.)

4) Release information for distribution to the media.

5) Release information to press representatives at the Incident Information Center.

6) Post a copy of all information summaries on the EOC's message center and other appropriate incident locations.

e. Collect and Assemble Incident Information

1) Obtain the latest situation status information from appropriate team leaders.

2) Observe incident operations.

3) Hold discussions with incident personnel.

4) Identify special event information, e.g., evacuations, injuries, etc.).

5) Contact external agencies for additional information.

f. Provide Liaison Between Media and Incident Personnel

1) Receive requests from the media to meet with incident personnel and vice versa.

2) Identify parties involved in the request, e.g., Incident Commander for TV interviews, etc.

3) Determine if policies have been established to handle requests and, if so, proceed accordingly.

4) Obtain any required permission to satisfy request, e.g., Incident Commander.

5) Fulfill the request or advise the requesting party of inability to do so, as the case may be.

g. Respond to Special Requests for Information

1) Receive request for information.

2) Determine if the requested information is currently available and, if so, provide it to

the requesting party.

3) If information is not currently available, determine if it can be reasonable obtained by contacting incident personnel.

4) Assemble desired and available information and provide it to the requesting party.

h. Maintain and Complete an Incident Report

1) Record Public Information Officer actions in the Incident Report.

2) Collect and transmit information summaries and Incident Report to Incident Commander at the end of the operation.

San Justo Dam Emergency Notification List
for
Seismic Events

USBR Regional Office, MP-433 Earthquake Personnel will notify:

Operations and Maintenance Supervisor - ..... (831) 637-8218

On-Call Pager - (831) 638-8566

SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will notify:

Bureau of Reclamation, Tracy Office Emergency Official ..... (209) 836-6201 (primary)
(209) 833-2617 (secondary)

Incident Commander will notify:

San Benito County Office of Emergency Services ..... (831) 636-4100

California State Office of Emergency Services ..... (916) 262-1621

National Weather Service ..... (831) 656-1717

John Cook 916-978-5230

Liz Partridge 209-836-6278

INITIATING CONDITIONS FOR EARTHQUAKES
(Based on Inspection Team Findings)

Condition	Page
Large Releases	HAZ-4
Oil and Hazardous Substance Spills	HAZ-18
Seepage	HAZ-24
Abnormal Instrumentation Readings	HAZ-24
Slumping, Cracking, or Settlement	HAZ-25
Failure of Operating Equipment or Appurtenances	HAZ-26
Flow / Equipment Alarms	HAZ-27

B. **Earthquake**

In the event an earthquake is felt by San Benito County Water District personnel, San Justo Dam should be inspected for any visual damage. When documenting an earthquake, use the **Earthquake Damage Report (Figure 2)**.

1. **During normal business hours, the Regional Office, MP-430,** will typically be the ones to receive notification of an earthquake. Once they receive an earthquake notification, they will follow the procedures as outlined in the "Notification Procedures for On call Earthquake Personnel Manual," which includes the following:

   a. Run the QUAKE program and evaluate the earthquake.

   b. If the earthquake is greater than 3.7 in magnitude and the QUAKE program indicates that San Justo Dam is within a 0.05 g radius of the epicenter, then notify the San Benito County Water District Earthquake Contact that appears on the computer generated printout and have them inspect the facilities for any visible signs of damage.

   c. If the San Benito District Earthquake Contact reports back with any indication of damage as a result of the earthquake, contact the Bureau of Reclamation, Tracy Office Emergency Official and relay the information.

2. **After normal business hours, Central Valley Control Center (CVCC)** will typically be the ones to receive notification of an earthquake. Once they receive an earthquake notification, they will do the following:

   a. Run the QUAKE program and evaluate the earthquake.

   b. If the earthquake is greater than 3.7 in magnitude and the QUAKE program indicates that San Justo Dam is within a 0.05 g radius of the epicenter, notify the Mid-Pacific Regional Office (MPRO) On call Earthquake Contact to have them notify the San Benito County Water District Earthquake Contact that appears on the computer generated printout.

3. The **San Benito County Water District Earthquake Contact** (will most likely be the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor or the Assistant Operations and Maintenance Supervisor) will do the following upon being notified of an earthquake:

   a. Commence inspections of the dam and appurtenant structures, being sure to inspect the following:

      1) Both faces of the dam for cracks, settlement, or seepage;

      2) Abutments for possible displacement;

      3) Drains and seeps;

      4) Outlet works control house and gate chamber;

      5) Power supply and standby power unit;

      6) Visible reservoir and downstream areas for landslides;

      7) Other appurtenant structures.

   b. If any damage is noticed, notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor (O&M)** who will do the following (or who will ensure the following is done):

1) Evaluate the situation and declare the appropriate Response Level.

2) Implement the Incident Command System (ICS) and appoint the Incident Commander (IC).

3) Report back immediately to the MPRO On call Earthquake Contact or to the Regional Office, MP-430, to notify them of the damage.

4) Contact SCCAO Emergency Official of the Response Level declared and of any changes in Response Level.

5) Complete the incident report.

c. If the report from the Inspection Team Leader indicates no damage, then notify the Regional Office, MP-430, the next business day and give a "no damage" report.

4. The **Inspection Team Leader** will do the following:

a. Evaluate the situation and begin inspections of the dam as per the inspection checklists included in the Emergency Event Checklists for the Inspection Team Leader and other appurtenant structures.

b. Report back to the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor with findings.

c. Perform a follow-up inspection of the dam two weeks after the seismic event.

5. If the Incident Command System (ICS) is implemented, the **Incident Commander (IC)** will do the following:

a. Monitor the situation and update Response Levels as needed.

b. Notify the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor of any changes in the Response Level.

c. Notify the San Benito County OES of the Response Level declared as a result of the earthquake.

d. Notify the California State OES of the Response Level declared as a result of the earthquake.

e. Notify the National Weather Service of the Response Level declared as a result of the earthquake.

f. Notify SCCAO Emergency Official of the Response Level declared and of any changes in Response Level.

g. Appoint the following personnel and assign tasks as needed:

1) Planning/Intelligence Officer

2) Operations Officer

3) Safety Officer

4) Public Information Officer

5) Logistics Officer

6) Finance Officer

h. Activate the Emergency Operations Center, if necessary.

i. Continue to monitor the situation and update the Response Level as needed.

j. Declare incident over when appropriate.

6. **Planning/Intelligence Officer** will do the following:

a. Develop an Incident Action Plan covering the next 8-24 hours, being sure to address the monitoring of the situation, reporting frequencies, collection of data, evaluation of data, equipment needs, staffing needs, etc.

b. Coordinate with the Inspections Team Leader.

c. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander.

7. **Operations Officer** will do the following:

a. Appoint the Maintenance Crews Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary.

b. Appoint the Facility Operations Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary.

c. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander.

8. **Public Information Officer** will do the following:

a. Identify Public Information Officer Activities

1) Contact the jurisdictional responsible agency to determine what other external public information activities are being performed for this incident.

2) Take actions required to establish coordination of information acquisition and dissemination activities.

3) Compile the information obtained and maintain records.

b. Establish Incident Information Center as Required

1) Establish information center adjacent to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) where it will not interfere with EOC activities.

2) Contact Logistics Officer for any support required to set up information center.

c. Report to the Joint Information Center as Required

1) Report to the Joint Information Center in the impacted county.

2) Coordinate activities with County Public Information Officer.

d. Prepare Press Briefing

1) Identify from the Incident Commander (IC) any constraints on the release of information.

2) Select information to be releases (e.g., size of incident, agencies involved, etc.)

3) Obtain IC's approval for release. (The IC may give blanket release authority.)

4) Release information for distribution to the media.

5) Release information to press representatives at the Incident Information Center.

6) Post a copy of all information summaries on the EOC's message center and other appropriate incident locations.

e. Collect and Assemble Incident Information

1) Obtain the latest situation status information from appropriate team leaders.

2) Observe incident operations.

3) Hold discussions with incident personnel.

4) Identify special event information, e.g., evacuations, injuries, etc.).

5) Contact external agencies for additional information.

f. Provide Liaison Between Media and Incident Personnel

1) Receive requests from the media to meet with incident personnel and vice versa.

2) Identify parties involved in the request, e.g., Incident Commander for TV interviews, etc.

3) Determine if policies have been established to handle requests and, if so, proceed accordingly.

4) Obtain any required permission to satisfy request, e.g., Incident Commander.

5) Fulfill the request or advise the requesting party of inability to do so, as the case may be.

g. Respond to Special Requests for Information

1) Receive request for information.

2) Determine if the requested information is currently available and, if so, provide it to the requesting party.

3) If information is not currently available, determine if it can be reasonable obtained by contacting incident personnel.

4) Assemble desired and available information and provide it to the requesting party.

h. Maintain and Complete an Incident Report

1) Record Public Information Officer actions in the Incident Report.

2) Collect and transmit information summaries and Incident Report to Incident Commander at the end of the operation.

Note: If damage results in uncontrolled discharges or the need for large controlled releases, then proceed to Section "II.A. Hydrologic Events" of this Hazard Specific Plan.

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San Justo Dam Emergency Notification List
for
Oil & Hazardous Substance Spills

SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will notify:

National Response Center/Environmental Protection Agency ..... (800) 424-8802

California Department of Fish and Game (spills on water) ..... (800) 852-7550

California Highway Patrol (spills on land) 911

San Benito County Office of Emergency Services ..... (813) 636-4100

California State Office of Emergency Services ..... (916) 262-1621

California Department of Health Services - Daryl Noel ..... (916) 229-3148
(916) 933-7848 (home)

SBCWD Manager ..... (831) 637-8983

Incident Commander will notify:

San Benito County Office of Emergency Services ..... (831) 636-4100

California State Office of Emergency Services ..... (916) 262-1621

National Weather Service ..... (831) 656-1717

Tracy Office Emergency Official ..... (209) 836-6201 (primary)
(209) 833-2617 (secondary)

INITIATING CONDITIONS FOR OIL & HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SPILLS

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
An oil or hazardous substance spill has been reported on Reclamation property.	The oil or hazardous substance spill may potentially affect the populations at risk.	The oil or hazardous substance spill will affect the populations at risk.	Evacuations are necessary as a result of the oil or hazardous substance spill.

CAUTION: If identity and potential hazard in handling is unknown, wait for properly trained personnel and **do not attempt to handle**.

C. Oil and Hazardous Substance Spills

The following is a summary of how to respond to an oil or hazardous substance spill.

Always use the **Oil and Hazardous Spill Report** (**Figure 3**) when documenting a spill.

Caution: If identity and potential hazard in handling is unknown, call 9-1-1, wait for properly trained personnel, and do NOT attempt to handle.

1. As soon as a spill occurs, or is discovered, the SBCWD employee will notify their supervisor who will notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, or the SBCWD employee will notify the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor directly. The SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will do the following:

   a. Record spill data on the appropriate Oil and Hazardous Spill Report form.

      1) Pinpoint the source of spill, if possible.

      2) If the origin of the spill was not SBCWD and can be determined, contact the responsible entity and determine action to take.

      3) Determine nature (including but not limited to petroleum, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse, or oil mixed with wastes; industrial chemicals, herbicides, or pesticides) and quantity (minor = less than 1,000 gallons, medium = 1,000 to 10,000 gallons, major = more than 10,000 gallons).

   b. Make initial determination regarding the extent of effort and equipment required to contain the spill.

   c. Determine if and to what extent resources in the area may be affected by the discharge and assess the threat posed to the public health and make appropriate notifications.

      1) Based on the initiating conditions for oil and hazardous substance spills starting on Page HAZ-2, declare the appropriate response level and implement the Incident Command System, if necessary.

   d. Notify the following entities:

      1) National Response Center/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

      2) California Department of Fish and Game for spills on water.

      3) California Highway Patrol for spills on land.

      4) San Benito County Office of Emergency Services.

      5) California Office of Emergency Services.

      6) California Department of Health Services.

      7) SBCWD Water Quality

      8) SBCWD Superintendent of Water Operations

If SBCWD personnel cannot handle the spill with their own resources, then coordinate the clean-up with SCCAO.

Note: The National Response Center (NRC)/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) MUST be notified of the spill **within 2 hours from time spill is discovered.**

2. If the Incident Command System (ICS) is implemented, the **Incident Commander (IC)** will do the following:

   a. Monitor the situation and update Response Levels as needed based on the initiating conditions found in the Emergency Events and Initiating Conditions section starting on Page HAZ-1.

   b. Notify the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor of any changes in the Response Level.

   c. Notify the San Benito County OES of the Response Level declared as a result of the oil or hazardous substance spill.

   d. Notify the California State OES of the Response Level declared as a result of the oil or hazardous substance spill.

   e. Notify the National Weather Service of the Response Level declared as a result of the oil or hazardous substance spill.

   f. Notify the SCCAO Emergency Official.

   g. Appoint the following personnel and assign tasks as needed:

      1) Planning/Intelligence Officer

      2) Operations Officer

      3) Safety Officer

      4) Public Information Officer

      5) Logistics Officer

      6) Finance Officer

   h. Activate the Emergency Operations Center, if necessary.

   i. Continue to monitor the situation and update the Response Level as needed.

   j. Declare incident over when appropriate.

3. **Planning/Intelligence Officer** will do the following:

   a. Develop an Incident Action Plan covering the next 8-24 hours, being sure to address the monitoring of the situation, reporting frequencies, collection of data, evaluation of data, equipment needs, staffing needs, etc.

   b. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander.

4. **Operations Officer** will do the following:

   a. Appoint the Maintenance Crews Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary.

   b. Appoint the Facility Operations Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary.

c. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander.

5. **Public Information Officer** will do the following:

a. Identify Public Information Officer Activities

1) Contact the jurisdictional responsible agency to determine what other external public information activities are being performed for this incident.

2) Take actions required to establish coordination of information acquisition and dissemination activities.

3) Compile the information obtained and maintain records.

b. Establish Incident Information Center as Required

1) Establish information center adjacent to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) where it will not interfere with EOC activities.

2) Contact Logistics Officer for any support required to set up information center.

c. Report to the Joint Information Center as Required

1) Report to the Joint Information Center in the impacted county.

2) Coordinate activities with County Public Information Officer.

d. Prepare Press Briefing

1) Identify from the Incident Commander (IC) any constraints on the release of information.

2) Select information to be releases (e.g., size of incident, agencies involved, etc.)

3) Obtain IC's approval for release. (The IC may give blanket release authority.)

4) Release information for distribution to the media.

5) Release information to press representatives at the Incident Information Center.

6) Post a copy of all information summaries on the EOC's message center and other appropriate incident locations.

e. Collect and Assemble Incident Information

1) Obtain the latest situation status information from appropriate team leaders.

2) Observe incident operations.

3) Hold discussions with incident personnel.

4) Identify special event information, e.g., evacuations, injuries, etc.).

5) Contact external agencies for additional information.

f. Provide Liaison Between Media and Incident Personnel

1) Receive requests from the media to meet with incident personnel and vice versa.

2) Identify parties involved in the request, e.g., Incident Commander for TV interviews, etc.

3) Determine if policies have been established to handle requests and, if so, proceed accordingly.

4) Obtain any required permission to satisfy request, e.g., Incident Commander.

5) Fulfill the request or advise the requesting party of inability to do so, as the case may be.

g. Respond to Special Requests for Information

1) Receive request for information.

2) Determine if the requested information is currently available and, if so, provide it to the requesting party.

3) If information is not currently available, determine if it can be reasonable obtained by contacting incident personnel.

4) Assemble desired and available information and provide it to the requesting party.

h. Maintain and Complete an Incident Report

1) Record Public Information Officer actions in the Incident Report.

2) Collect and transmit information summaries and Incident Report to Incident Commander at the end of the operation.

III. EXPECTED ACTIONS FOR POTENTIAL HAZARDS/UNUSUAL OCCURRENCES

The unusual occurrences that immediately follow are not intended to reflect upon the integrity of San Justo Dam. Potential situations are not limited to these examples. For unusual events other than bomb threats, use the **Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report (Figure 1)** when recording and reporting the event. For bomb threats, use the **Bomb Threat Report (Figure 4)**.

To help determine which Response Level, if any, to initiate, see section "I. Emergency Events and Initiating Conditions" starting on page HAZ-1. This section contains a listing of various emergency events and the initiating conditions for each Response Level of that event.

If an unusual occurrence not listed should occur, use and document the procedure which is judged to be most appropriate and revise the Emergency Action Plan as necessary.

A. This section applies to the following types of unusual occurrences:

Abnormal seepage (New or increased springs, boggy areas, or boils)
Abnormal instrumentation readings
Slumping or cracking of the dams, dikes, or abutments

If any of the aforementioned unusual occurrences are reported, the employee on-duty will notify his or her supervisor of the situation who will in turn contact the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor. If the employee's supervisor cannot be contacted, then the employee will notify the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor directly. The employee on-duty will gather as much information as possible and document his or her findings on the **Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report**. When completed, this report is to be given to the SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor.

The **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor** will do the following:

1. Contact the SBCWD Operators to have them inspect, analyze, and report back.
2. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
3. Contact the SCCAO Emergency Official.
4. Based on the report of findings of the inspection, implement the Incident Command System, if necessary, and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the following initiating conditions.

<u>Note:</u> If downstream releases are possible, imminent, or have occurred as a result of the unusual occurrence, then proceed to Section "II.A. Hydrologic Events" of this Hazard Specific Plan.

a. **Initiating Conditions for Seepage**

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
New seepage or wet areas are observed, or changed conditions associated with existing seepage flows or wet areas are noted. The new or changed conditions involve minor, or no flow increases. There is no evidence of materials being transported by seepage flows.	Seepage flows are observed to be muddy or cloudy, or sediment deposits are noted in association with seepage flows. The flow that is apparently transporting the material is not noticeably increasing with time. New seepage or wet areas are observed, or changed conditions associated with existing seepage flows or wet areas are noted. There is no evidence of materials being transported by seepage flows.	Seepage flows are observed to be muddy or cloudy, or sediment deposits are noted in association with seepage flows. The flow that is apparently transporting the material appears to increasing with time. New seepage or wet areas are observed, or changed conditions associated with existing seepage flows, or wet areas are noted. There is evidence of materials being transported by seepage flows	A seepage flow is observed that is large, obviously transporting significant quantities of embankment material and is rapidly increasing with time. Failure of the dam or dike appears to be imminent.

b. **Initiating Conditions for Abnormal Instrumentation Readings**

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
Unusual changes in hydraulic piezometer readings are noted that are not explainable by changes in reservoir elevation or time of year.	There are confirmed abnormal instrumentation readings that are outside of the limits set forth in the Performance Parameter Technical Memorandums for San Justo Dam.	Upon further monitoring of the instrumentation, it appears the structural integrity of the dam or dike may be in jeopardy.	The instrumentation readings indicate that the structural integrity of the dam or dike is in jeopardy and that it is likely it will fail.

c. **Initiating Conditions for Slumping, Cracking, or Settlement**

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
Depressions, sloughs, or other unusual settlements or deformations develop at or in the vicinity of the dam or dike (upstream or downstream).	New minor cracks (lateral cracking with an offset or transverse cracking that extends beyond the high water line of the reservoir), slumps or sloughs that may affect the structural integrity are observed on the dam, dike, and/or appurtenant structures. Following a seismic event, new slumps, scarps, longitudinal cracks, or transverse cracks are observed on the dam or dike embankment, or a gap is noted at the spillway/dam embankment interface, but there is no apparent evidence of changes in the seepage performance of the dam or dike. One or more sinkholes are observed on the downstream face of the dam or dike, or in areas downstream of the dam or dike. There is no evidence of materials being transported by seepage flows.	New minor cracks, slumps, or sloughs have gotten larger and could pose a threat to the dam or dike. Severe cracking of the crest or spillway of the dam is visually observed after a seismic event. Slope movement from offsets in the surface cracking, bulging on the slope, displaced riprap and rockfill material, or separation of the spillway wall from the embankment is observed after a seismic event. Whirlpools or other signs that water is entering cracks in or near the embankment, abutment, or spillway/embankment contact is observed near the reservoir rim. One or more sinkholes are observed on the upstream face of the dam or dike. There is no evidence of materials being transported by seepage flows.	Cracks, slumps, or sloughs have become a threat to the structural integrity of the dam or dike and it is likely that it will fail. Ground settlement has become a threat to the structural integrity of the dam or dike and it is likely that it will fail. The erosion of embankment material caused by seepage flow has already caused major sinkholes or depressions in the embankment upstream of the seepage exit location to a degree that dam or dike failure appears to be imminent.

B. **Failure of Operating Equipment or Appurtenances**

In addition to the items on the Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report Form, also determine and record possible temporary repair, methods to disconnect, bypass or seal off faulty equipment, and whether or not to isolate area.

The **employee on-duty** will alert the **SBCWD Operators**, who will assess the situation, making any operational changes that are required and placing safety tags as necessary. If this is not an emergency situation, the control operators will write a work order to repair or replace any damages and the event will be concluded. If this is an emergency situation, the SBCWD Operators will do the following:

1. Call 911 if warranted.
2. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
3. Notify the SCCAO Emergency Official of the situation.
4. Disconnect, bypass, seal off, isolate area or other operation to reduce the danger.
5. Notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, who will:

    a. If necessary, implement the Incident Command System and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the following initiating conditions:

Initiating Conditions for Failure of Operating Equipment or Appurtenances

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
An operational accident has occurred with the operating equipment or appurtenances and it is undetermined what affect this could have on deliveries or the population at risk.	An operational accident has occurred with the operating equipment or appurtenances that could lead to loss of deliveries or cause potential threat to the downstream population at risk.	A major operational accident has occurred with the operating equipment or appurtenances, the result of which might pose a threat to the structural integrity of San Justo Dam.	The operational accident affecting the operating equipment or appurtenances is a threat to the structural integrity of San Justo Dam and it is likely they will fail.

Note: If downstream releases are possible, imminent, or have occurred as a result of the unusual occurrence, then proceed to Section "II.A Hydrologic Events" of this Hazard Specific Plan.

    b. Notify the San Benito County OES.
    c. Notify the California State OES.
    d. Contact repair crews, if necessary.

C. **Flow / Equipment Alarms**

The **employee on-duty** who first notices the flow / equipment alarm will immediately alert the **SBCWD Operators** who will verify the alarm. If the flow / equipment alarm is valid, then do the following:

1. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
2. Notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, who will:

    a. Notify the Bureau of Reclamation, Tracy Office Emergency Official.
    b. If necessary, implement the Incident Command System and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the following initiating conditions.

Initiating Conditions for Flow / Equipment Alarms

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
A high rate of flow alarm, valve malfunction alarm, or hydraulic fail alarm is communicated by Verbatim.	The operator verifies the alarms are valid.	The operator is not able to correct the problem, or a mechanic or electrician is required to correct the problem.	Flows are uncontrolled and the valves cannot stop the discharge, or the problem is a threat to the structural integrity of San Justo Dam and failure is imminent.

Note: **If downstream releases are possible, imminent, or have occurred as a result of the unusual occurrence**, then proceed to Section "II.A Hydrologic Events" of this Hazard Specific Plan.

c. Notify the San Benito County OES.

d. Notify the California State OES.

e. Notify the National Weather Service

D. **Demonstrations, Sabotage, Vandalism or Bomb Threat**

1. **Demonstrations**

If there is a demonstration at the dam, **employees** should:

a. Show restraint.

b. Lock all gates and doors.

c. Notify **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, either via his or her supervisor or directly, who will:

1) Notify San Benito County Sheriff and FBI at the following numbers:

San Benito County Sheriff	911
FBI	(916) 481-9110

2) Notify SBCWD Dispatch.

3) Provide any further instructions to employees involved.

2. **Sabotage or Vandalism**

If there is potential for downstream releases caused by an act of sabotage or vandalism on the dams, dikes, or associated facilities, use the following as a guide:

Employee on-duty will notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, either via his or her supervisor or directly, who will ensure the following tasks are completed:

a. Immediately conduct a general overall visual inspection of the dam to determine location and extent of damage.

b. Check area for further sabotage potential and any evidence that might aid in apprehending the saboteur.

c. Check to see if the saboteur has left the area.

d. Notify San Benito County Sheriff and FBI at the following numbers:

San Benito County Sheriff	911
FBI	(916) 481-9110

e. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.

f. If necessary, implement the Incident Command System and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the following initiating conditions:

Initiating Conditions for Sabotage or Vandalism

Internal Alert	Response Level I	Response Level II	Response Level III
A criminal action, such as sabotage or vandalism, has occurred and it is undetermined what affect this could have on the operation of the dam.	A criminal action, such as sabotage or vandalism, has occurred which affects the operation of the dam.	A criminal action, such as sabotage or vandalism, has occurred and poses a threat to the structural integrity of San Justo Dam.	A criminal action, such as sabotage or vandalism, has occurred, threatening the structural integrity of San Justo Dam, and it is likely that the dam will fail.

Note: If downstream releases are possible, imminent, or have occurred as a result of the unusual occurrence, then proceed to Section "II.A Hydrologic Events" of this Hazard Specific Plan.

3. **Bomb Threat**

If a bomb threat call is received, use the following checklist during and after the incident and use the **Bomb Threat Report** form (**Figure 4**):

a. Keep the caller on the line as long as possible. Ask the caller to repeat the message and record every word.

b. If the caller does not indicate the location of the bomb nor the time of detonation, the person receiving the call should ask the caller to provide this information.

c. It may be advisable to inform the caller that the building is occupied and the detonation of a bomb would result in death or serious injury to many innocent people.

d. Pay particular attention for any strange or peculiar background noises such as: motors running, background music (type), and any other noises that might give a remote clue as to the caller's location.

e. Listen closely to the voice (male or female), voice quality, accent, or speech impediment.

f. Immediately after the caller hangs up, contact the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, who will:
   1) Determine the action to be taken.
   2) Call 9-1-1 if deemed necessary.
   3) Notify SBCWD Dispatch.

4) Decide when to give an "all clear" for normal duty to resume.

g. If a suspicious package is found, **Do not touch**. It should be left for trained personnel to remove or disarm.

h. If a search is conducted for a bomb, do not use radios or cellular phones to transmit. The radio waves and/or cellular signals could cause detonation of an electric initiator such as a blasting cap.

E. **Landslides**

Any landslide that could move into the outlet works or spillway area or into the reservoir rapidly displacing large volumes of water would be especially dangerous to the dam. Landslides or potential landslides into the downstream channel which may impound water should also be reported. All landslides should be reported through the SCCAO Emergency Official to the Regional Geologist (MP-221) for the "Landslide Register" and a copy sent to the Regional Facilities Engineering Branch (MP-430).

1. For landslides occurring in the area, do the following:

a. Determine the:

1) Size.

2) Possible Cause.

3) Degree of effect on operation.

4) Probability of additional movement of disturbed area or of other slide areas.

5) Development of new slides.

6) Any other facts believed to be pertinent.

b. Report findings to **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, who will notify SBCWD Dispatch and the SCCAO Emergency Official.

2. For landslides occurring in the downstream channel, do the following:

a. Determine the:

1) Size (including percent across river channel).

2) Capability of immediately closing outlet works.

3) Other inflows.

4) Location in relationship to the toe of the dam and other appurtenant structures.

5) Availability or need for heavy equipment.

b. Report findings to SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, who will notify SBCWD Dispatch and the SCCAO Emergency Official.

F. **Fires**

For all types of fires, the employee who discovers the fire shall:

1. **Dial 9-1-1** and report location, extent and type of fire.
2. Report information to **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, who will:
   a. Have an SBCWD employee meet the Fire Department and lead them to the fire.
   b. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
   c. Contact the SCCAO Emergency Official.
3. Remain at the site to assist the Fire Department if needed.

G. **Fish and Wildlife Losses**

SCCAO employees who notice abnormal fish or wildlife losses should relay any pertinent information to the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor**, who will:

1. Notify the California Department of Fish and Game.
2. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
3. Notify SCCAO Emergency Official.

H. **Injury and Property Damage**

SBCWD Employees who witness a serious incident requiring medical attention or assistance from law enforcement agencies will **immediately contact 9-1-1**. Employees will then inform their supervisor of the incident.

The supervisor will notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor** who will:

1. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
2. Notify SCCAO Emergency Official.

I. **Criminal Actions**

SBCWD employees who come across a serious criminal action in progress should **immediately contact 9-1-1**. All criminal actions should be reported to your **supervisor** who will notify the **SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor** who will:

1. Notify SBCWD Dispatch.
2. Notify SCCAO Emergency Official.

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN - EMERGENCY CHECKLISTS FOR SAN JUSTO DAM

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I. EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLISTS

The following pages contain checklists that are to be used in the following emergency situations:

A. Hydrologic Events

B. Seismic Events

C. Oil and Hazardous Substance Spills

D. Other Hazards

1. Abnormal Seepage
2. Abnormal Instrumentation Readings
3. Slumping, Cracking, or Settlement
4. Failure of Operating Equipment or Appurtenances
5. Flow/Equipment Alarms
6. Criminal Acts, Sabotage, Vandalism

These checklists have been generated for the various positions within the Incident Command System and should be kept up-to-date and revised as necessary.

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San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

MID-PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE (MPRO)

SEISMIC EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the Hydrologic Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Follow the procedures outlined in the "Notification Procedures for Oncall Earthquake Personnel Manual."
	2.	Run the QUAKE program and evaluate the earthquake.
	3.	If the earthquake is greater than 3.7 in magnitude and the QUAKE program indicates that San Justo Dam and Dike are within a 0.05g radius of the epicenter, then notify the San Benito County Water District Earthquake Contact (will be the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor or the Oncall Supervisor - pager number (831) 638-8566) that appears on the computer generated printout and have them inspect the facilities for any visible signs of damage. Record Earthquake Contact's name and phone number(s): _____

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San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

CENTRAL VALLEY CONTROL CENTER (CVCC)

SEISMIC EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the Seismic Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Follow the procedures outlined in the "Notification Procedures for Oncall Earthquake Personnel Manual."
	2.	Run the QUAKE program and evaluate the earthquake.
	3.	If the earthquake is greater than 3.7 in magnitude and the QUAKE program indicates that San Justo Dam and Dike are within a 0.05g radius of the epicenter, notify the Mid-Pacific Regional Office (MPRO) On call Earthquake Contact to have them notify the San Benito County Water District Earthquake Contact (will be the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor or the Oncall Supervisor - pager number (831) 638-8566) that appears on the computer generated printout. Record Earthquake Contact's name and phone number(s): _____

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San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

SBCWD OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

HYDROLOGIC EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the Hydrologic Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	For HIGH RESERVOIR CONDITIONS, instruct Inspections Team Leader to commence inspections of the dam. Record Inspection Team Leader's name and phone number(s): _____
	2.	Evaluate the situation and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the initiating conditions (p. HAZ-1) and the findings from the Inspections Team Leader.
	3.	Implement the Incident Command System (ICS) and appoint the Incident Commander (IC), if necessary. Record IC's name, office code, and phone number: _____
	4.	Notify Data Processing Supervisor at (831) 638-8510, pager) or, after normal operating hours by calling (831) 637-0107.
	5.	Complete the incident report.

Note: The SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor will perform the duties of Incident Commander until such time as the role of Incident Commander is assumed by other Reclamation personnel.

EMERGENCY EVENT/UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE REPORT

For use when reporting emergencies or unusual occurrences **other than** earthquakes, oil and hazardous substance spills, and bomb threats. For any of the three aforementioned emergencies, use the appropriate report form. Because this is a general form, there will be sections that do not pertain to the emergency. Only fill out those sections that are applicable to the emergency.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Brief Description of Event: **(Include caller's name and phone number)** _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Pertinent Data

Size of Affected Area: _____

Extent of Damage: _____

Affect on Operations: _____

Possible Cause: _____

Rate of Discharge: _____

Appearance of Discharge: _____

Forebay Elevation: _____

Appearance of Forebay: _____

Forebay Rise Rate: _____ Tailbay Rise Rate: _____

Weather Conditions: _____

Injuries/Loss of Life: _____

Witnesses: _____

Other: _____

_____

_____

_____

San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

SBCWD OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

SEISMIC EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the Seismic Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1. Notify the Inspection Team Leader that ground acceleration of 0.05g or greater has been detected at SAN JUSTO Dam and Dike due to an earthquake and to commence inspections of the dam and dike. Record Inspection Team Leader's name and phone number(s): _____
	2. If the report from the Inspection Team Leader indicates **any damage**, do the following: _____ a. Evaluate the situation and declare the appropriate Response Level based on the initiating conditions (p. HAZ-1). _____ b. Implement the Incident Command System and appoint the Incident Commander (IC). Record Incident Commander's name and phone number(s): _____ _____ c. Report back immediately to the Mid-Pacific Regional Office (MPRO) Oncall Earthquake Contact or to the Regional Office . . . . . (916) 978-5220 _____ d. Complete the incident report using the **Earthquake Damage Report** (on back side of this checklist).
	3. If the report from the Inspection Team Leader indicates **no damage**, then notify the Regional Office, MP-430 the next business day and give a "no damage" report . . . . . (916) 978-5220

EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE REPORT

This form will be used by the examiner of the facility and by the Chief, Water O&M Branch, MP-430, when receiving a report of earthquake damage. To make a "no damage" earthquake report call (916) 979-2423. If damage has occurred or an emergency exists, call (916) 988-8114.

Date: _____ Time: _____
Person Reporting Information: _____
Representing: _____
Feature Affected: _____

Description of Earthquake Effects
On Structural Conditions

Type of Damage (slides, subsidence, etc.): _____
_____
Location: _____
Severity: _____
Movement (direction, magnitude): _____
Deflection or Settlement Readings: _____
Effect on Adjoining Structures: _____
Other: _____

On Hydraulic Conditions

Type of Effect (leakage or stoppage): _____
_____
Location: _____
Size of Affected Areas: _____
Estimated Flow or Change in Flow: _____
Nature of Discharge (incl. sediment): _____
Wave Action Damage: _____
Other: _____

Site Conditions

Water Surface Elevation: _____ Freeboard: _____
Tailwater Elevation: _____
Weather: _____
Other: _____

Action

Changes in Operation: _____
Emergency Repairs: _____
Surveillance: _____
Regional Assistance Needed (examination): _____
Public Information Provided: _____

Note: To facilitate analysis of conditions, a map should be prepared showing the location and extent of all damaged areas such as subsidence areas, seeped areas, springs, and any other pertinent data, including the dates of readings and site conditions at the time of observation. This map should be revised periodically to show changing conditions until they are stabilized.

San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor

OIL & HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SPILLS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the Oil/HAZMAT Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Record spill data on the **Oil and Hazardous Spill Report** (on back side of this checklist).
	2.	Based on the initiating conditions for Spills (p. HAZ-2), declare the appropriate response level and implement the Incident Command System. Record Incident Commander's name and phone number(s): _____
	3.	Make the following notifications: _____ a. NRC/EPA ..... (800) 424-8802 _____ b. California Dept. of Fish and Game (spills on water) ..... (800) 852-7550 _____ c. California Highway Patrol (spills on land) ..... 911 _____ d. San Benito County OES(..... 831) 636-4100 _____ e. California State OES ..... (916) 262-1621 _____ f. California Dept. of Health Services - Daryl Noel ..... (916) 229-3148 (916) 933-7848 (home) _____ g. SBCWD Operations and Maintenance Supervisor ..... (831) 637-8218 _____ h. USBR-Tracy Office Emergency Official ..... (209) 836-6201 (primary) (209) 833-2617 (secondary)
	4.	If the clean-up of the spill can not be handled by SBCWD personnel, contact the Bureau of Reclamation, Tracy Office Emergency Official and request assistance.

ROUTE TO MP-152

OIL AND HAZARDOUS SPILL REPORT

For use when reporting or receiving reports of discharge of a hazardous substance that could enter into inland waters. Upon occurrence or discovery of a spill, all available information should be reported to the following:

Date: _____ Time: _____

1. Person reporting spill: _____
   (Office) (Phone Number)
2. Date and time the spill: ( ) was discovered ( ) occurred: _____
3. Location of spill: _____
   (Facility) (County)
4. Type of spill material and severity: _____
5. Estimated volume: _____
6. Source of spill: _____
7. Cause of the spill: _____
8. Material released to: ( ) air ( ) ground ( ) water ( ) subsurface
9. Weather conditions: _____
10. Responsible polluter: _____
11. Address and telephone number: _____
12. Carrier identification: _____
13. Cleanup actions being taken: _____
    _____
14. Possible resources affected by spill: _____
15. Number and type of injuries or fatalities: _____
16. Have evacuations occurred? _____
17. Other agencies notified: _____
    _____
    _____
18. Additional information and comments: _____
    _____
    _____
    _____
19. Person receiving report: _____
    (Phone Number)

State Case No.:_____ Issued by: _____
NRC Case No.: _____ Issued by: _____

San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

INCIDENT COMMANDER (IC)

ALL EMERGENCY EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the specific Emergency Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Monitor the situation and update Response Levels as needed based on the initiating conditions (p. HAZ-1 to HAZ-5).
	2.	Notify by telephone and FAX the following of Response Level declaration and of any changes in Response Level: _____ a. Operations & Maintenance Supervisor ..... (831) 637-8218 _____ b. San Benito County OES ..... (831) 636-4100 _____ c. San Benito County OES FAX (Figure 5) ..... (831) 636-4104 _____ d. Santa Cruz County OES ..... (831) 471-1190 _____ e. Santa Cruz County OES FAX (Figure 5) ..... (831) 454-2710 _____ f. Monterey County OES ..... (831) 755-5010 _____ g. Monterey County OES FAX (Figure 5) ..... (831) 755-5004 _____ h. California State OES ..... (916) 262-1621 _____ i. National Weather Service ..... (831) 656-1717 _____ j. Tracy Office Emergency Official USBR ..... (209) 836-6201 or, (209) 833-2617 _____ k. Tracy Office FAX ..... (209) 836-6264
	3.	Appoint the following positions, as needed from San Benito County Water District or the Tracy Office USBR, and record names, office codes, and phone numbers of appointed personnel: a. Planning/Intelligence Officer _____ b. Operations Officer _____ c. Safety Officer _____ d. Public Information Officer _____ e. Logistics Officer _____ f. Finance Officer _____
	4.	Activate the Emergency Operations Center, if necessary.
	5.	Continue to monitor the situation and update the Response Level as needed.
	6.	Declare incident over when appropriate.

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San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

PLANNING / INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

ALL EMERGENCY EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the specific Emergency Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Develop an Incident Action Plan covering the next 8 - 24 hours, being sure to address the monitoring of the situation , reporting frequencies, collection of data, evaluation of data, equipment needs, staffing needs, etc.
	2.	Appoint the Inspections Team Leader and commence inspections of the dam, dike, and appurtenant structures, as necessary. Or, for a seismic event, coordinate with the Inspections Team Leader. Record Inspection Team Leader's name and phone number(s): _____
	3.	Maintain contact with the Incident Commander. Record Incident Commander's name and phone number(s): _____

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San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

OPERATIONS OFFICER

ALL EMERGENCY EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the specific Emergency Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1. Appoint the Maintenance Crews Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary. Record Maintenance Crews Team Leader's name and phone number(s): _____
	2. Appoint the Facility Operations Team Leader and assign tasks as necessary. Record Facility Operations Team Leader's name and phone number(s): _____
	3. Maintain contact with the Incident Commander. Record Incident Commander's name and phone number(s): _____

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San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

INSPECTIONS TEAM LEADER

NON-FLOOD RELATED HYDROLOGIC EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the specific Emergency Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Evaluate the situation and begin inspections of the embankment dam and dike as per the following inspection checklists.
	2.	Report back to the Planning/Intelligence Officer with findings. Record Planning/Intelligence Officer's name and phone number(s): _____

SEISMIC EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the specific Emergency Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Evaluate the situation and begin inspections of the embankment dam, dike, and other appurtenant structures as per the following inspection checklists.
	2.	Report back to the Tracy Office Emergency Official (EO) with findings . . . (209) 836-6201 (primary) (209) 833-2617 (secondary)
	3.	Perform a follow-up inspection of the embankment dam and dike two weeks after the seismic event.

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INSPECTION CHECKLIST

SAN JUSTO Dam

Date: _____ Time: _____ Res. El: _____ Inspector: _____

CREST
Surface Cracking _____
Surface Settlement _____
Sloughing _____
Alignment _____

RESERVOIR
Whirlpools _____
Air Bubbles _____

UPSTREAM FACE
Displacement of Riprap _____
Sink holes _____
Slumping _____
Cracking _____
Arc-Shaped Cracks (Scarp) _____
Bulging _____

ABUTMENTS
Sink holes _____
Slumping _____
Cracking _____
Arc-Shaped Cracks (Scarp) _____
Bulging _____

ABUTMENT CONTACTS _____

DOWNSTREAM FACE _____

Special Concerns: _____

Notes: _____

INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Dike

Date: _____ Time: _____ Res. El: _____ Inspector: _____

CREST
Surface Cracking _____
Surface Settlement _____
Sloughing _____
Alignment _____

RESERVOIR
Whirlpools _____
Air Bubbles _____

UPSTREAM FACE
Displacement of Riprap _____
Sink holes _____
Slumping _____
Cracking _____
Arc-Shaped Cracks (Scarp) _____
Bulging _____

ABUTMENTS
Sink holes _____
Slumping _____
Cracking _____
Arc-Shaped Cracks (Scarp) _____
Bulging _____

ABUTMENT CONTACTS _____

DOWNSTREAM FACE _____

Special Concerns: _____

Notes: _____

San Justo Dam
EMERGENCY EVENT CHECKLIST

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)

ALL EMERGENCY EVENTS

✔ Please check off tasks as they are completed. More detailed information about these tasks is located in the specific Emergency Events Section of the Emergency Action Plan.

	1.	Identify Public Information Officer activities.
	2.	Establish Incident Information Center as required.
	3.	Report to the Joint Information Center as required.
	4.	Prepare Press Briefing
	5.	Collect and assemble incident information.
	6.	Provide liaison between media and incident personnel.
	7.	Respond to special requests for information.
	8.	Maintain and complete an incident report on the **Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report** (on back side of this checklist).

EMERGENCY EVENT/UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE REPORT

For use when reporting emergencies or unusual occurrences **other than** earthquakes, oil and hazardous substance spills, and bomb threats. For any of the three aforementioned emergencies, use the appropriate report form. Because this is a general form, there will be sections that do not pertain to the emergency. Only fill out those sections that are applicable to the emergency.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Brief Description of Event: **(Include caller's name and phone number)** _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Pertinent Data

Size of Affected Area: _____

Extent of Damage: _____

Affect on Operations: _____

Possible Cause: _____

Rate of Discharge: _____

Appearance of Discharge: _____

Forebay Elevation: _____

Appearance of Forebay: _____

Forebay Rise Rate: _____ Tailbay Rise Rate: _____

Weather Conditions: _____

Injuries/Loss of Life: _____

Witnesses: _____

Other: _____

_____

_____

_____

SAN JUSTO DAM EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN - COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORY
SOUTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE

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SAN JUSTO DAM PERSONNEL

San Benito County Water District (Area code 831 unless otherwise noted)

Title	Name	Cell	Home Phone
District Manager/Engineer	Jeff Cattaneo	831-630-3972	831-634-1570
Deputy District Engineer	Dale Rosskamp	831-902-7303	831-635-0519
Operations and Maintenance Supervisor	Dave Meraz	831-524-3337	661-810-2217
Information/Systems Controls Supervisor	Jeff Ray	831-902-7300	831-637-0107
Electronic Technician	David Dungan	831-902-7306	831-636-3633
Manager of Administration & Finance	Sara Singleton		831-637-8567
Accountant	Natalie Sullivan		831-636-5388
Water Office Supervisor	Barbara Mirrione		
Water Programmer II	Anne Stull		
Office Specialist II	Kathy Hill		
Office Specialist II	Barbara Mauro		
Office Specialist II - Accounting	Monica Sanders		
Water Conservation Program Specialist	Shawn Novack		
Maintenance I	Leo Vasquez		
Engineer Technician	Ernesto Jimenez		
Human Resources/Administrative Analyst	Robin Call		
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Bill Caporgno	831-902-7293	831-524-6675
Water Resources Technician I	Michael Craig	831-902-7304	831-637-6682
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Greig Bryan		
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Bazilio Hernandez	831-902-7288	831-637-6319
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Mike Razo	831-902-0488	831-638-1771
Water Programmer I	Diane Wilks		
On-Call Supervisor		831-902-7583	
On-Call Personnel		831-902-7584	

San Benito County	Office
Sheriff's Department	9-1-1
Office of Emergency Services	9-1-1
Fire Department	9-1-1
Environmental Health	831-636-4035
Health Department	831-637-5367

State of California	Office
CA Department of Forestry - Hollister	831-637-4475
CA Department of Forestry - Dispatch	831-647-6223
Central Coast Water Quality Control Board	805-549-3147
Department of Health	831-655-6939
Department of Fish & Game	831-649-2870
Department of Fish & Game-24 hour number	831-649-2801
CA Highway Patrol - Gilroy Office	408-848-2324

Federal	Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation-San Francisco	415-553-7400
Environmental Protection Agency	916-445-3846
National Weather Service - 24 hour number	831-656-1717
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Ventura	805-644-1766
Bureau of Land Management - Hollister	831-630-5000

SAN JUSTO DAM

Central Valley Project, California

38° 43' - 120° 34'

A. **OPERATING AGENCY**

San Benito County Water District

Normal Communications:

Phone: SBCWD Office	831-637-8218	

Emergency Backup Communications:

Dale Rosskamp	831-902-7303	831-635-0519

Information/Systems Control Supervisor

Jeff Ray	831-902-7300	831-637-0107

District Manager/ Engineer

Jeff Cattaneo	831-630-3972	831-634-1570

On-call Personnel 831-902-7584

Radio: WNAF 417 156.120 MHZ

B. **DAM OPERATOR**

Normal Communications

Phone: SBCWD Office	831-637-8218

Emergency Backup Communications

On-call Suervisor	831-902-7583

C. **Route to Damsite**

From Hollister, California, proceed 3.4 miles West on State Highway 156, turn left on Union Road and proceed approximately 1.6 miles to the Dam Access Road. Turn right approximately 0.5 miles to the dam.

D. **Nearest Reclamation Supervisory Office Having Jurisdiction**

Normal Reclamation Communications

Tracy Office

Robert Edwards, Chief, Engineering O & M Division

16650 Kelso Road

Byron, CA 94514-1909 phone:209-836-6201 f: 209-836-6264

Emergency Communications

Elizabeth Partridge	home: 209-526-1471
Warren Feng	home: 510-651-5210
Joseph Pennino	home: 925-432-4433
Robert Edwards	home: 916-683-3005
Central Valley Control Center	916-979-3004

E. **Nearest Law Enforcement Office**

San Benito County Sheriff 9-1-1

SAN JUSTO DAM PERSONNEL

San Benito County Water District (Area code 831 unless otherwise noted)

Title	Name	Cell	Home Phone
District Manager/Engineer	Jeff Cattaneo	831-630-3972	831-634-1570
Deputy District Engineer	Dale Rosskamp	831-902-7303	831-635-0519
Operations and Maintenance Supervisor	Dave Meraz	831-524-3337	661-810-2217
Information/Systems Controls Supervisor	Jeff Ray	831-902-7300	831-637-0107
Electronic Technician	David Dungan	831-902-7306	831-636-3633
Manager of Administration & Finance	Sara Singleton		831-637-8567
Accountant	Natalie Sullivan		831-636-5388
Water Office Supervisor	Barbara Mirrione		
Water Programmer II	Anne Stull		
Office Specialist II	Kathy Hill		
Office Specialist II	Barbara Mauro		
Office Specialist II - Accounting	Monica Sanders		
Water Conservation Program Specialist	Shawn Novack		
Maintenance I	Leo Vasquez		
Engineer Technician	Ernesto Jimenez		
Human Resources/Administrative Analyst	Robin Call		
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Bill Caporgno	831-902-7293	831-524-6675
Water Resources Technician I	Michael Craig	831-902-7304	831-637-6682
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Greig Bryan		
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Bazilio Hernandez	831-902-7288	831-637-6319
Water Distribution Maintenance II	Mike Razo	831-902-0488	831-638-1771
Water Programmer I	Diane Wilks		
On-Call Supervisor		831-902-7583	
On-Call Personnel		831-902-7584	

San Benito County	Office
Sheriff's Department	9-1-1
Office of Emergency Services	9-1-1
Fire Department	9-1-1
Environmental Health	831-636-4035
Health Department	831-637-5367

State of California	Office
CA Department of Forestry - Hollister	831-637-4475
CA Department of Forestry - Dispatch	831-647-6223
Central Coast Water Quality Control Board	805-549-3147
Department of Health	831-655-6939
Department of Fish & Game	831-649-2870
Department of Fish & Game-24 hour number	831-649-2801
CA Highway Patrol - Gilroy Office	408-848-2324

Federal	Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation-San Francisco	415-553-7400
Environmental Protection Agency	916-445-3846
National Weather Service - 24 hour number	831-656-1717
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Ventura	805-644-1766
Bureau of Land Management - Hollister	831-630-5000

SAN JUSTO DAM
Central Valley Project, California
38° 43' - 120° 34'

A. **OPERATING AGENCY**
San Benito County Water District

O+M Manager Dave Meraz
Cell - 661-810-2217

Normal Communications:
Phone: SBCWD Office (831) 637-8218

Emergency Backup Communications:
Deputy District Engineer
~~Vacant~~ Dale Ross Kamy Pager/Cell No.: 831-524-5309 Home Phone: (831) ~~634-157~~0 635-0519

Information/Control Systems Supervisor
Jeff Ray Pager/Cell No.: (831) 638-8510 Home Phone: (831) 637-0107

District Manager/Engineer
~~John S. Gregg~~ Jeff Cattaneo Pager/Cell No.: (831) ~~638-5454~~ 630-3972 Home Phone: (831) ~~637-8983~~ 634-1570

On-call Personnel Pager/Cell No.: (831) 638-8566

Radio: WNAF 417 156.120 MHZ

B. **DAM OPERATOR**

Normal Communications:
Phone: SBCWD Office (831) 637-8218

Emergency Backup Communications:

On-Call Supervisor, ~~Pager~~ No.: (831) ~~638-8511~~

C. **ROUTE TO DAMSITE**
From Hollister, California, proceed 3.4 miles west on State Highway 156, turn left on Union Road and proceed approximately 1.6 miles to the Dam Access Road. Turn right approximately 0.5 miles to the dam.

D. **NEAREST RECLAMATION SUPERVISORY OFFICE HAVING JURISDICTION**

Normal Reclamation Communications

Tracy Office
Robert Edwards, Chief, Engineering O&M Division
16650 Kelso Road
Byron, CA 94514-1909
Phone: Office (209) 836-6201 Ext. 0
FAX (209) 836-6264

Emergency Communications

Elizabeth Partridge	(209) 526-1471 (Home)
Warren Feng	(510) 651-5210 (Home)
Joseph Pennino	(925) 432-4433 (Home)
Robert Edwards	(916) 683-3005 (Home)
Central Valley Control Center	(916) 979-3004

E. **NEAREST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE**
SAN BENITO COUNTY Sheriff
Phone: - (use 911 for emergencies)

SAN JUSTO DAM
Central Valley Project, California
38° 43' - 120° 34'

A. **OPERATING AGENCY**
San Benito County Water District

Normal Communications:
Phone: SBCWD Office (831) 637-8218

Emergency Backup Communications:
Deputy District Engineer
Vacant Pager/Cell No.: Home Phone: (831) 634-1570

Information/Control Systems Supervisor
Jeff Ray Pager/Cell No.: (831) 638-8510 Home Phone: (831) 637-0107

District Manager/Engineer
John S. Gregg Pager/Cell No.: (831) 638-5454 Home Phone: (831) 637-8983

On-call Personnel Pager/Cell No.: (831) 638-8566

Radio: WNAF 417 156.120 MHZ

B. **DAM OPERATOR**

Normal Communications:
Phone: SBCWD Office (831) 637-8218

Emergency Backup Communications:

On-Call Supervisor, Pager No.: (831) 638-8511

C. **ROUTE TO DAMSITE**
From Hollister, California, proceed 3.4 miles west on State Highway 156, turn left on Union Road and proceed approximately 1.6 miles to the Dam Access Road. Turn right approximately 0.5 miles to the dam.

D. **NEAREST RECLAMATION SUPERVISORY OFFICE HAVING JURISDICTION**

Normal Reclamation Communications

Tracy Office
Robert Edwards, Chief, Engineering O&M Division
16650 Kelso Road
Byron, CA 94514-1909
Phone: Office (209) 836-6201 Ext. 0
FAX (209) 836-6264

Emergency Communications

Elizabeth Partridge	(209) 526-1471 (Home)
Warren Feng	(510) 651-5210 (Home)
Joseph Pennino	(925) 432-4433 (Home)
Robert Edwards	(916) 683-3005 (Home)
Central Valley Control Center	(916) 979-3004

E. **NEAREST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE**
SAN BENITO COUNTY Sheriff
Phone: - (use 911 for emergencies)

SAN JUSTO DAM PERSONNEL

SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT (Area code 831 unless otherwise noted)

Title	Name	Home Nb	Cell Nb	Pager Nb
District Manager/Engineer	John S. Gregg	637-8983	831-801-4244	
Deputy District Engineer	Vacant			
Operation and Maintenance Supervisor	Dave Meraz		661-810-2217	
Information/Controls Systems Supervisor	Jeff Ray	637-0107	831-801-8783	
Electrical Technician	David Dungan	636-3633		
Administrative Services Officer	Shelley Giancola	636-8560	831-902-7709	
Accountant	Natalie Sulivan	636-5388		
Office Specialist II	Kathy Hill			
Office Specialist II	Barbara Mauro			
Office Specialist I	Monica Sanders			
Water Conservation Specialist	Shawn Novack			
Water Conservation Assistant	Leo Vasquez			
Irrigation Engineer	Mica Nitschke			
Water Resources Technician	Casey Meusel			
Groundwater Technician	Vacant			
Water Distribution/Maintenance III	Bill Caporgno	637-3803		
Water Distribution/Maintenance I	Micheal Craig	637-6682		
Maintenance III	Greig Bryan	389-4549		
Maintenance II	Bazilio Hernandez	637-6319		
Maintenance I	Mike Razo		831-801-6771	
Water Office Supervisor	Barbara Mirrione			
Water Programmer II	Anne Stull			
ON-CALL SUPERVISOR				831-638-8511
-CALL PERSONNEL				831-638-8566

SAN BENITO COUNTY

SAN BENITO COUNTY Sheriff's Department	911
Office of Emergency Services	911
Fire Department	911
Environmental Health	636-4035
Health Department	637-5367

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California Department of Forestry - Hollister	637-4475
California Department of Forestry - Dispatch	647-6223
Central Coast Water Quality Control Board	805-549-3147
Department of Health	655-6939
Department of Fish and Game	649-2870
Department of Fish and Game – 24-hour number	649-2801
California Highway Patrol – Gilroy Office	408-848-2324

FEDERAL

Federal Bureau of Investigation – San Francisco	415-553-7400
Environmental Protection Agency	916-445-3846
National Weather Service – 24 hour number	656-1717
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Ventura	805-644-1766
Bureau of Land Management – Hollister	630-5000

SOUTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE
Tracy Office

A. **NORMAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Tracy Office
Robert Edwards, Chief, Engineering O&M Division
16650 Kelso Road
Byron, CA 94514-1909
Phone: Office (209) 836-6201
FAX (209) 836-6264

B. **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

Elizabeth Partridge	209-526-1471 (Home)
Warren Feng	510-651-5210 (Home)
Joseph Pennino	925-432-4433 (Home)
Robert Edwards	916-683-3005 (Home)
Central Valley Control Center (24 hours)	916- 979-3004

MID-PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE

2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
(all numbers are within the 916 area code, unless otherwise noted)

Individual	Title	Work Phone	Home Phone
Kirk Rodgers	Regional Director	978-5000	624-2874
John Davis	Deputy Regional Director	978-5013	786-7155
Frank Michny	Assistant Regional Director, Technical Services	978-5012	633-4538
Katherine Thompson	Assistant Regional Director, Support Services	978-5011	933-3181
Ron Milligan	Operations Manager	979-2180	663-2912
Richard J. Woodley	Regional Resources Manager	978-5201	685-9558
Richard Kristof	Chief, Facilities Engineering Branch	978-5220	422-7183
Monte Bowman	Regional Safety Officer	978-5576	225-5307
Roger Pitts	Regional Security Officer	978-5577	543-3167
Anna Sandoval-Ryan	Regional Law Enforcement Officer	978-5600	489-4427

Central Valley Control Center (CVCC)	(24-hours) (916) 979-3004
REO Cellular Phone "A"	996-6575
REO Cellular Phone "B"	996-4144

Note: The Central Valley Control Center will contact the Regional Emergency Official (REO) on-duty who will coordinate response to the emergency and contact appropriate officials at the Denver Office and in the Commissioner's Office via the TSC Duty Officer.

IF the CVCC Controllers cannot be reached, Contact the REOs using the cellular phone numbers listed above.

MID-PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE

2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
(all numbers are within the 916 area code, unless otherwise noted)

Individual	Title	Work Phone	Home Phone
Kirk Rodgers	Regional Director	978-5000	624-2874
John Davis	Deputy Regional Director	978-5013	786-7155
Frank Michny	Assistant Regional Director, Technical Services	978-5012	633-4538
Katherine Thompson	Assistant Regional Director, Support Services	978-5011	933-3181
Ron Milligan	Operations Manager	979-2180	663-2912
Richard J. Woodley	Regional Resources Manager	978-5201	685-9558
Richard Kristof	Chief, Facilities Engineering Branch	978-5220	422-7183
Monte Bowman	Regional Safety Officer	978-5576	225-5307
Roger Pitts	Regional Security Officer	978-5577	543-3167
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Central Valley Control Center (CVCC)	(24-hours) (916) 979-3004
REO Cellular Phone "A"	996-6575
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Note: The Central Valley Control Center will contact the Regional Emergency Official (REO) on-duty who will coordinate response to the emergency and contact appropriate officials at the Denver Office and in the Commissioner's Office via the TSC Duty Officer.

IF the CVCC Controllers cannot be reached, Contact the REOs using the cellular phone numbers listed above.

CENTRAL VALLEY CONTROL CENTER (CVCC)

3310 El Camino Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825
(all numbers are within the 916 area code, unless otherwise noted)

Authorized Supervisors

Mike McKay	Team Leader, Hydro System Controller
Tom Ashley	Hydro System Controller
Paul Beitz	Hydro System Controller
Jack Bell	Hydro System Controller
Carl Blackburn	Hydro System Controller
Danny Corn	Hydro System Controller
Corey Danson	Hydro System Controller
Betty Ingram	Relief, Hydro System Controller
Richard Surber	Hydro System Controller
Ken Wakelee	Hydro System Controller
Terry Wilks	Hydro System Controller
Bruce Wright	Relief, Hydro System Controller

Control Center	979-3002, 979-3003, 979-3004, 979-3007
Controller Supervisor	979-3005
Fax Machine	979-3080

Note: The System Controller in CVCC will contact the Regional Emergency Official (REO) on-duty who will coordinate responses to the emergency and contact the appropriate officials.

CENTRAL VALLEY OPERATIONS OFFICE (CVO)

CVO-400: Water Operations Division
3310 El Camino Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

A team member of the Central Valley Operations Office, Water Operations Division is oncall 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To reach this party, contact the Central Valley Control Center at: **(916) 979-3004**.

RECLAMATION'S DUTY OFFICER

clamation's Duty Officer may be contacted by following this procedure:

1. Call the **Primary Duty Officer** at the following cellular phone number: **(303) 748-7220.** Be prepared to provide the following information:

   a. Name and title of person making the report.

   b. Time and date of incident.

   c. Type of incident and brief description of what happened.

   d. Location of incident, including project name, if appropriate.

   e. Current status of incident and what agencies/organizations have been notified/involved.

   f. Person and means of contact for additional information/status reports.

2. If the Duty Officer does not answer immediately, leave a detailed message by following the instructions provided by the phone's message system. Include a name and phone number where you can be reached.

3. If the Duty Officer does not return the call, or if a response is required in less than 15 minutes, call the **backup Duty Officer** at **(303) 748-7221.**

4. If the backup Duty Officer does not answer, leave another message. The Duty Officer and/or the backup may not be in a position to respond immediately, but one of them should return the call within 15 minutes.

5. If repeated efforts to contact the Primary and Backup Duty Officers are unsuccessful, notify both of the following, in order:

   a. Commissioner's Office:
   Jack Brynda (202) 513-0677 (Work)
   (202) 264-9090 (Home)
   (202) 302-7608 (Cell)

   * If Jack Brynda is unable to be reached, contact either Larry Todd at (202) 210-7588 or Jack Garner at (303) 517-9107 directly.

   b. DOI Watch Office: (202) 208-4108 or toll free (877) 246-1373 (24/7)

SAN JUSTO DAM
EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

FIGURES

Figure 1 Emergency Event/Unusual Occurrence Report

Figure 2 Earthquake Damage Report

Figure 3 Oil and Hazardous Spill Report

Figure 4 Bomb Threat Report (Threatening Telephone Call Report)

Figure 5 Emergency Event FAX Sheet

Figure 6 Inundation Map

EMERGENCY EVENT/UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE REPORT

For use when reporting emergencies or unusual occurrences **other than** earthquakes, oil and hazardous substance spills, and bomb threats. For any of the three aforementioned emergencies, use the appropriate report form. Because this is a general form, there will be sections that do not pertain to the emergency. Only fill out those sections that are applicable to the emergency.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Brief Description of Event: **(Include caller's name and phone number)** _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Pertinent Data

Size of Affected Area: _____

Extent of Damage: _____

Affect on Operations: _____

Possible Cause: _____

Rate of Discharge: _____

Appearance of Discharge: _____

Forebay Elevation: _____

Appearance of Forebay: _____

Forebay Rise Rate: _____ Tailbay Rise Rate: _____

Weather Conditions: _____

Injuries/Loss of Life: _____

Witnesses: _____

Other: _____

_____

_____

_____

FIGURE 1

EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE REPORT

This form will be used by the examiner of the facility and by the Chief, Water O&M Branch, MP-430, when receiving a report of earthquake damage. To make a "no damage" earthquake report call (916) 979-2423. If damage has occurred or an emergency exists, call (916) 988-8114.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Person Reporting Information: _____

Representing: _____

Feature Affected: _____

Description of Earthquake Effects*

On Structural Conditions

Type of Damage (slides, subsidence, etc.): _____

_____

Location: _____

Severity: _____

Movement (direction, magnitude): _____

Deflection or Settlement Readings: _____

Effect on Adjoining Structures: _____

Other: _____

On Hydraulic Conditions

Type of Effect (leakage or stoppage): _____

_____

Location: _____

Size of Affected Areas: _____

Estimated Flow or Change in Flow: _____

Nature of Discharge (incl. sediment): _____

FIGURE 2

ROUTE TO MP-152

OIL AND HAZARDOUS SPILL REPORT

For use when reporting or receiving reports of discharge of a hazardous substance that could enter into inland waters. Upon occurrence or discovery of a spill, all available information should be reported to the following:

California Office of Emergency Services, Nevada Division of Emergency Management, or Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
California Department of Fish and Game (for spills on water)
California (or Nevada) Highway Patrol (for spills on land)
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
County Office of Emergency Services or Local Fire Department
National Response Center (NRC)/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Date: _____ Time: _____

1. Person reporting spill: _____
(Office) (Phone Number)

2. Date and time the spill: ( ) was discovered ( ) occurred: _____

3. Location of spill: _____
(Facility) (County)

4. Type of spill material and severity: _____

5. Estimated volume: _____

6. Source of spill: _____

7. Cause of the spill: _____

8. Material released to: ( ) air ( ) ground ( ) water ( ) subsurface

9. Weather conditions: _____

10. Responsible polluter: _____

11. Address and telephone number: _____

12. Carrier identification: _____

13. Cleanup actions being taken: _____
_____

BOMB THREAT

Place this card under your telephone

QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. When is bomb going to explode? _____
   _____
2. Where is it right now? _____
   _____
3. What does it look like? _____
   _____
4. What kind of bomb is it? _____
   _____
5. What will cause it to explode? _____
   _____
6. Did you place the bomb? _____
   _____
7. Why? _____
   _____
8. What is your address? _____
   _____
9. What is your name? _____
   _____

EXACT WORDING OF THE THREAT:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Sex of Caller: M or F Race: _____

Age: ____ Length of call: _____

Number at which call is received:

_____

Time: _____ Date: ____/____/____

CALLER'S VOICE:

_____ Calm	_____ Nasal
_____ Angry	_____ Stutter
_____ Excited	_____ Lisp
_____ Slow	_____ Raspy
_____ Rapid	_____ Deep
_____ Soft	_____ Ragged
_____ Loud	_____ Clearing throat
_____ Laughter	_____ Deep breathing
_____ Crying	_____ Cracking voice
_____ Normal	_____ Disguised
_____ Distinct	_____ Accent
_____ Slurred	_____ Familiar

If voice is familiar, who did it sound like?

_____
_____

BACKGROUND SOUNDS:

_____ Street noises	_____ Factory machinery
_____ Motor	_____ Animal noises
_____ Crockery	_____ Clear
_____ Voices	_____ Static
_____ PA System	_____ Local
_____ Music	_____ Long distance
_____ House noises	Other _____
_____ Cellular	_____
_____ Office Machinery	_____

THREAT LANGUAGE:

_____ Well spoken (educated)	_____ Incoherent
_____ Foul	_____ Taped
_____ Irrational	_____ Message read by threat maker

REMARKS: _____
_____
_____
_____

Report call immediately to:

_____

Phone number _____

Date: __/__/__
Name: _____
Position: _____
Phone number: _____

FIGURE 5

EMERGENCY EVENT REPORT

FAX to: **San Benito County Office of Emergency Services 831-636-4104**
Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services 831-454-2710
Monterey County Office of Emergency Services 831-755-5004
Tracy Office - USBR 209-836-6264
immediately following phone call notification.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: ☐ San Justo Dam ☐ San Justo Dike ☐ Hollister Conduit ☐ Other

Caller's Name and Title: _____ Phone Number: _____

Brief Description of Event: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Location of Affected Area: _____

Extent of Damage: _____

Affect on Operations: _____

Rate of Discharge: _____

Weather Conditions: _____

Injuries/Loss of Life: _____

Witnesses: _____

DECLARATION OF RESPONSE LEVEL

☐ **Response Level I** - Response Level I does not pose a risk at the dam, or to downstream populations at risk at the time of the observation.

☐ **Response Level II** - Response Level II means that the dam is currently stable, but may become unstable, or a hazardous event has progressed to a point that the populations at risk may be affected.

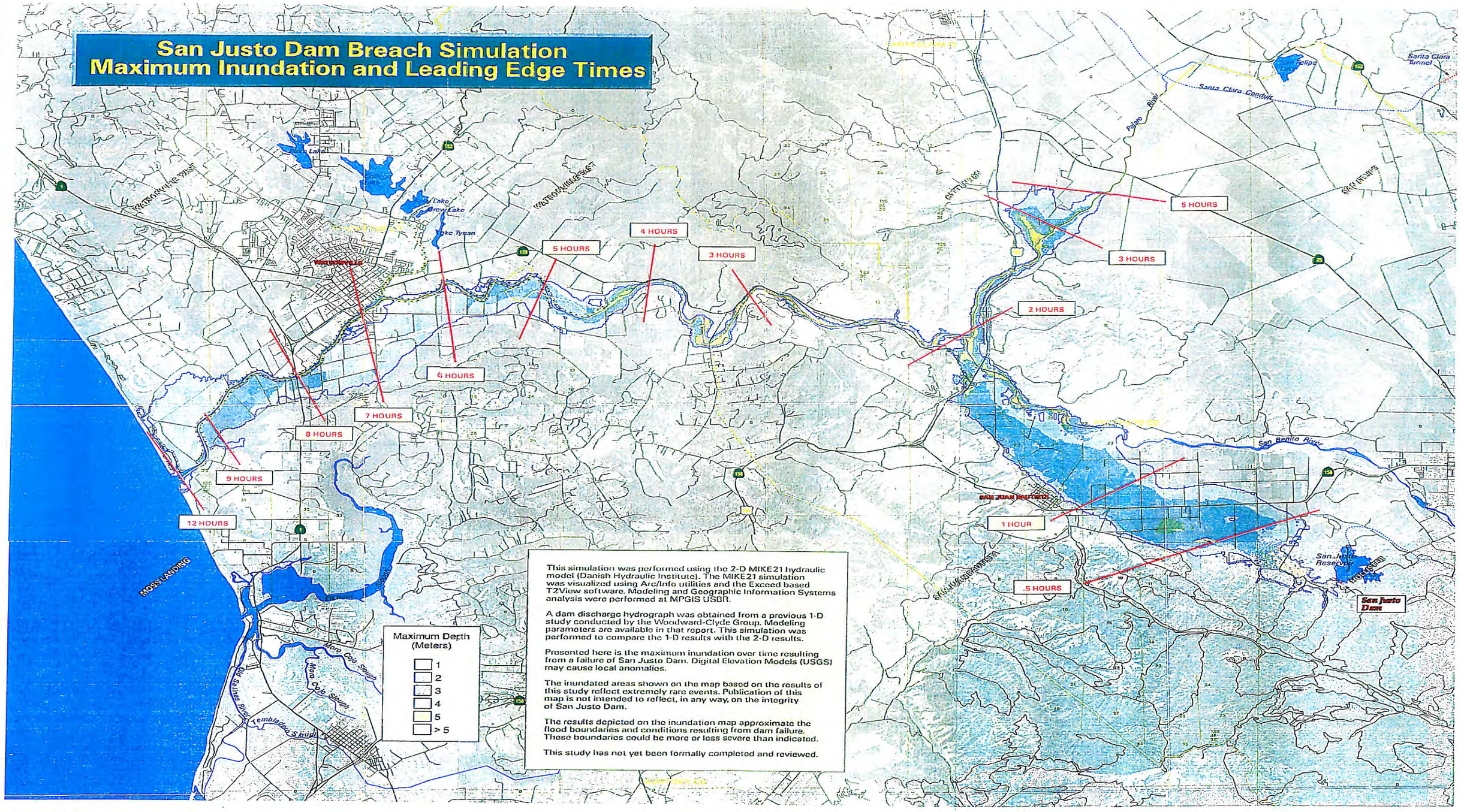
☐ **Response Level III** - Response Level III means that failure of the dam is imminent, or has failed, or a hazardous event will affect populations at risk.

FIGURE 5

FIGURE 6 - SAN JUSTO Dam Inundation Maps

FIGURE 6 - SAN JUSTO Dam Inundation Maps

San Justo Dam Breach Simulation
Maximum Inundation and Leading Edge Times



This simulation was performed using the 2-D MIKE21 hydraulic model (Danish Hydraulic Institute). The MIKE21 simulation was visualized using Arc/Info utilities and the Exceed based T2View software. Modeling and Geographic Information Systems analysis were performed at MPGIS USBR.

A dam discharge hydrograph was obtained from a previous 1-D study conducted by the Woodward-Clyde Group. Modeling parameters are available in that report. This simulation was performed to compare the 1-D results with the 2-D results.

Presented here is the maximum inundation over time resulting from a failure of San Justo Dam. Digital Elevation Models (USGS) may cause local anomalies.

The inundated areas shown on the map based on the results of this study reflect extremely rare events. Publication of this map is not intended to reflect, in any way, on the integrity of San Justo Dam.

The results depicted on the inundation map approximate the flood boundaries and conditions resulting from dam failure. These boundaries could be more or less severe than indicated.

This study has not yet been formally completed and reviewed.

- Highways
- 7.5 Min. Quads
- Roads
- Base Hydrography
- County Boundaries
- Levees

Time — Time to Leading Edge

Projection UTM-Zone 10
May,1999

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

This map was generated by the Mid Pacific Region Geographic Information Systems Service Center

MP GIS U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Sacramento, California

San Benito County
Drought Resilience Plan

Administrative Final



Prepared with funding from the:
California Department of Water Resources

Prepared for:
San Benito County

Prepared by:
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

February 25, 2026

San Benito County
Drought Resilience Plan

February 2026

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
CDAG	County Drought Advisory Group
CPOD	Community Points of Distribution
County	San Benito County
CVP	Central Valley Project
CWC	California Water Code
DRP	Drought Resilience Plan
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
HSC	Health and Safety Code
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
NGO	non-government organization
OES	San Benito County Office of Emergency Services
OSWCR	Online System of Well Completion Report
PCT	Project Coordination Team
PLSS	Public Land Survey Section
SAFER	Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience
SB	Senate Bill
SBCWD	San Benito County Water District
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
State	State of California
State Water Board	California State Water Resources Control Board
Task Force	Drought and Water Shortage Task Force
TDS	total dissolved solids
WRA	Water Resources Association
WRASBC	Water Resources Association of San Benito County

WSVE	DWR Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer

1. Introduction

The San Benito County (County) Drought Resilience Plan (DRP) documents how County, its Drought and Water Shortage Task Force (Task Force) members, and other entities with water supply and drought management responsibilities will address water supply vulnerabilities for two types of systems in the County: domestic wells, as defined in California Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 116681(i) and California Water Code (CWC) Section 10609.51(d) and state small water systems, as defined in HSC Section 116275(n) and CWC Section 10609.51(l). The County DRP was prepared pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 552: Drought Planning for Small Water Suppliers, State Small Water Systems, and Domestic Well Communities (Hertzberg; see Section 1.2 for additional detail). This County DRP was developed by the County with funding and technical support provided by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Program. Implementation of the County DRP is led by the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) in close coordination with other departments and County entities, including the County Department of Public Works the County Department of Environmental Health, and the San Benito County Water District (SBCWD).

1.1 Document Organization

Organization of this document draws from the California DWR's March 2023 *County Drought Resilience Guidebook* (DWR 2023a), a resource for counties to use to develop a County DRP specifically for state small water systems and domestic wells. Consistent with the guidebook, the County DRP is organized into six chapters, as follows:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction** provides an overview of the legislation relating to SB 552 and the development of the County DRP. This chapter also includes background on County demographics, geography, and an overview of domestic wells and state small water systems within the County's jurisdiction.
- **Chapter 2: County Drought and Water Shortage Task Force** provides an overview of the Task Force, including its development process and charter, membership, roles, purpose, and meeting frequency.
- **Chapter 3: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment** characterizes the vulnerability of domestic wells and state small water systems within the County to drought and water shortage. This chapter also presents the approach and data used to assess vulnerability. It highlights areas within the County that have a higher risk of drought and water shortage where domestic wells and state small water systems are present. Additionally, data gaps are identified to help inform potential long-term strategies.
- **Chapter 4: Short-Term Response Actions** details the proposed short-term response actions for emergency and interim drought solutions, including specific actions, local response triggers, and public engagement.
- **Chapter 5: Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions** details the proposed long-term mitigation strategies and actions for improving the water supply resilience of domestic wells and state small water systems.

- **Chapter 6: Implementation Considerations** presents a roadmap for implementing short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies/actions consistent with the mission and authority of involved agencies. This includes identifying agencies and entities responsible for implementation, the status of implementation, funding, authorization for implementation, and the anticipated schedule. This section also summarizes the level of multi-agency collaboration identified by agencies to support implementation.
- **Chapter 7: References** provides a list of references used in this plan.

1.2 Legislative Requirements

Signed into law September 2021 by Governor Gavin Newsom, SB 552 (Hertzberg)[1] obligated the State of California (State) and local governments to share the responsibility in preparing for and responding to a water shortage event. These new requirements are expected to improve the ability of Californians to manage future droughts and help prevent catastrophic impacts on drinking water for communities vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The bill outlines the new requirements for small water suppliers, county governments, DWR, and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to implement more proactive drought planning and be better prepared for future water shortage events or dry years.

SB 552 also implements legislation on Water Conservation and Drought Planning (SB 606 [Hertzberg] and Assembly Bill 1668 [Friedman], as amended; collectively referred to as the "2018 Legislation") passed by the State Legislature. The 2018 Legislation provides a new framework for urban water use efficiency; directives for eliminating water waste; additional requirements for strengthening local drought resilience for urban areas, vulnerable small water suppliers, and rural communities; and recommendations for improving agricultural water use efficiency and drought planning.

Water users protected under SB 552 include the following:

- **Small Water Supplier:** A community water system serving 15 to 2,999 service connections, inclusive, and that provides less than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually (CWC Section 10609.51(k)).
- **Community Water System:** A public water system that serves at least 15 service connections used by yearlong residents or regularly serves at least 25 yearlong residents of the area served by the system, as defined in HSC Section 116275(i) and CWC Section 10609.51(a).
- **State Small Water System:** A system for the provision of piped water to the public for human consumption that serves at least five, but not more than 14, service connections and does not

[1] In 2018, DWR convened a County Drought Advisory Group (CDAG) to assist in a vulnerability assessment and to develop recommended actions for improving drought planning for small water suppliers and rural communities. The CDAG consisted of representatives from counties and other local agencies, small water systems, tribes, academics, non-profit organizations, and other interested parties. The CDAG's recommendations were provided to the Legislature in March 2021 and served as the basis for SB 552. DWR has also established a standing drought and water shortage interagency task force, in coordination with the State Water Board and other relevant state agencies, to facilitate proactive state planning and coordination for pre-drought planning, emergency response, and post-drought management, consistent with SB 552. The interagency task force, called the Drought Resilience Interagency and Partners Collaborative, serves as a public forum with state and non-state agency members to advance drought strategies and continue building resilience to the increasingly arid conditions California faces. More information is available at: https://water.ca.gov/drip.

regularly serve drinking water to more than an average of 25 individuals daily for more than 60 days out of the year, as defined in HSC Section 116275(n) and CWC Section 10609.51(l).

- **Domestic Well:** A groundwater well used to supply water for the domestic needs of an individual residence or a water system that is not a public water system and that has no more than four service connections, as defined in HSC Section 116275(n) and CWC Section 10609.51(d).
- **Nontransient Noncommunity Water System:** A public water system that is not a community water system and that regularly serves at least 25 of the same persons over six months per year, as defined in HSC Section 116275(k) and CWC Section 10609.51(f).

For the water users protected under SB 552, this County DRP addresses water shortage vulnerabilities for domestic wells and state small water systems. Other water users protected under SB 552 not included in this County DRP have separate requirements to address water shortage vulnerabilities.

1.2.1 County Agency Requirements

This plan fulfills County requirements for preparation of a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed interim and long-term solutions for domestic wells and state small water systems stems within the County's jurisdiction (CWC Section 10609.70). While measures to protect small water suppliers and nontransient noncommunity water systems are not within the scope of this document, this plan considers integration opportunities consistent with the intent of SB 552. Applicable County requirements are:

- Establish a standing County Drought and Water Shortage Task Force (CWC Section 10609.70(a))
- Develop a plan that considers, at a minimum, each of the following (CWC Section 10609.70(b)):
    1) Consolidations for existing water systems and domestic wells
    2) Domestic well drinking water mitigation programs
    3) Provision of emergency and interim drinking water solutions
    4) An analysis of the steps necessary to implement the plan
    5) An analysis of local, state, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan

1.2.2 State Agency Involvement and Implementation

SB 552 defined a series of requirements for the State Water Board and DWR. These include the following:

State Water Resources Control Board (CWC Section10609.70(c)):

> *The state board shall work with counties, groundwater sustainability agencies, technical assistance providers, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and the public to address state small water system and domestic well community drought and emergency water shortage resiliency needs, including both of the following:*
>
> *(1) Proactive communication to domestic well communities before a drought occurs, such as information on local bottled water and water tank providers.*

(2) Funding for installation of basic drought and emergency water shortage resiliency infrastructure, such as well monitoring devices.

California Department of Water Resources (CWC Section 10609.80):

(a) The department shall take both of the following actions to support implementation of the recommendations of its County Drought Task Force:

(1) Maintain, in partnership with the state board and other relevant state agencies, the risk vulnerability tool developed as part of the County Drought Advisory Group process and continue to refine existing data and gather new data for the tool, including, but not limited to, data on all of the following:

(A) Small water suppliers and nontransient noncommunity water systems serving a school.

(B) state small water systems and rural communities.

(C) Domestic wells and other self-supplied residents.

(2) Update the risk vulnerability tool for small water suppliers and rural communities periodically, by doing all of the following:

(A) Revise the indicators and construction of the scoring as more data becomes readily available.

(B) Make existing and new data publicly available on the California Open Data internet web portal.

(C) In consultation with other relevant state agencies, identify deficits in data quality and availability and develop recommendations to address these gaps.

(b) (1) The department, in collaboration with the state board and relevant state agencies, shall establish a standing interagency drought and water shortage task force to facilitate proactive state planning and coordination, both for predrought planning and post-drought emergency response, to develop strategies to enhance collaboration between various fields, and to consider all types of water users.

(2) The interagency drought and water shortage task force shall include representatives from local governments, community-based organizations, nonprofit technical assistance providers, the public, and experts in land use planning, water resiliency, and water infrastructure.

1.3 San Benito County Overview

The County covers almost 1,400 square miles and is situated in the Central Coast region of California, within the Central Coast Ranges. The center of the County is located approximately 130 miles southeast of San Francisco and parallels the eastern portion of Salinas Valley. The County contains two cities, Hollister and San Juan Bautista, and several unincorporated communities, including Aromas, Tres Pinos, Ridgemark, Panoche, Paicines, and Bitterwater.

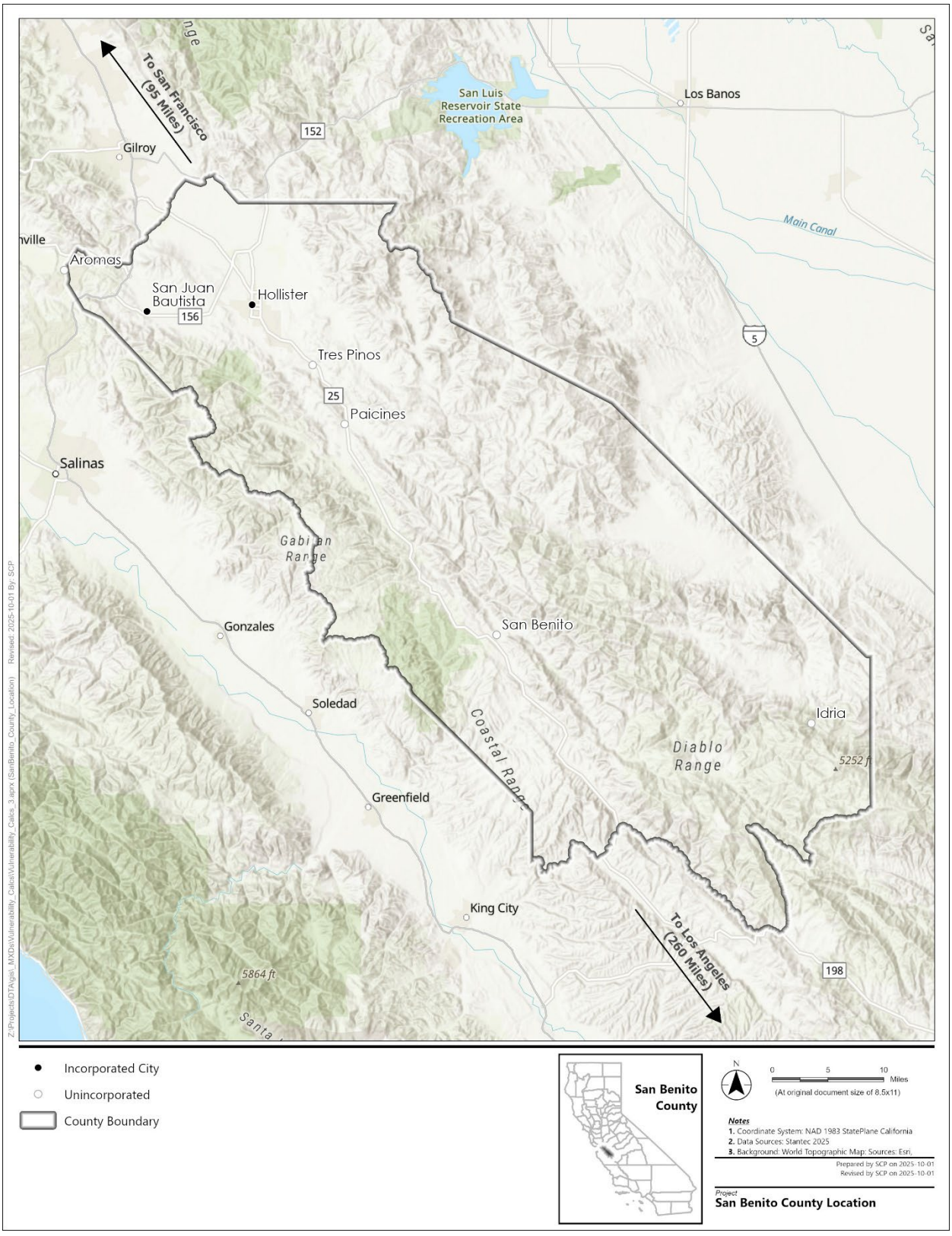


Figure 1-1. San Benito County Overview

1.3.1 Demographics

Selected demographics of the County are summarized below per the 2022 American Community Survey (US Census Bureau 2022).

- **Population:** As of 2022, the County had a population of 64,753 people. There was a 2.25 percent increase in the population between 2021 and 2022.
- **Age:** The County has a median age of 35.7 years. Around 25.3 percent of the population is under 18 years old, while 13.5 percent is 65 years and over.
- **Ethnicity:** The five largest ethnic groups in the County are White (Non-Hispanic) (31 percent), multiracial (Hispanic) (23.6 percent), White (Hispanic) (22.8 percent), Other (Hispanic) (12.9 percent), and multiracial (Non-Hispanic) (3.28 percent).
- **Household Income:** The median household income of San Benito is $104,451. The household median household income grew from $95,606 to $104.451; this is a 9.25 percent increase between 2021 and 2022.
- **Education:** The County has a lower average percentage of residents with an education level of a bachelor's degree or higher at around 26.9 percent, compared to 35.9 percent for California overall.
- **Poverty Level:** About 7.51 percent of the County's population live below the poverty line, a number that is lower than the national average of 12.5 percent. The largest demographic living in poverty are females ages 25 to 34, followed by females ages 35 to 44, and then males ages 25 to 34. The most common racial or ethnic group living below the poverty line in the County is Hispanic, followed by White.

1.3.2 Geography

The County spans the California Coast Ranges and is known for its agricultural productivity, natural amenities, and diverse vegetation. Notably, the County is home to Pinnacles National Park, a popular 41.6-square-mile destination renowned for its dramatic rock formations.

1.3.2.1 Topography

The County's topography varies significantly, characterized by a diverse mix of flat valleys, hills, canyons, and mountainous areas. Its elevation ranges from a minimum of 0 feet to a maximum of 5,240 feet above sea level. The County is home to the Diablo Range, a large mountain range spanning much of its eastern and southern boundaries. The Gabilan Range spans the County's western portion. The County's lower-lying regions feature the Hollister Valley and the San Juan Valley, both fertile areas conducive for agriculture. Pinnacles National Park is located along the western boundary of the County in the Gabilan Range; it is known for its towering rock formations and deep canyons. These topographic features define the County's landscape.

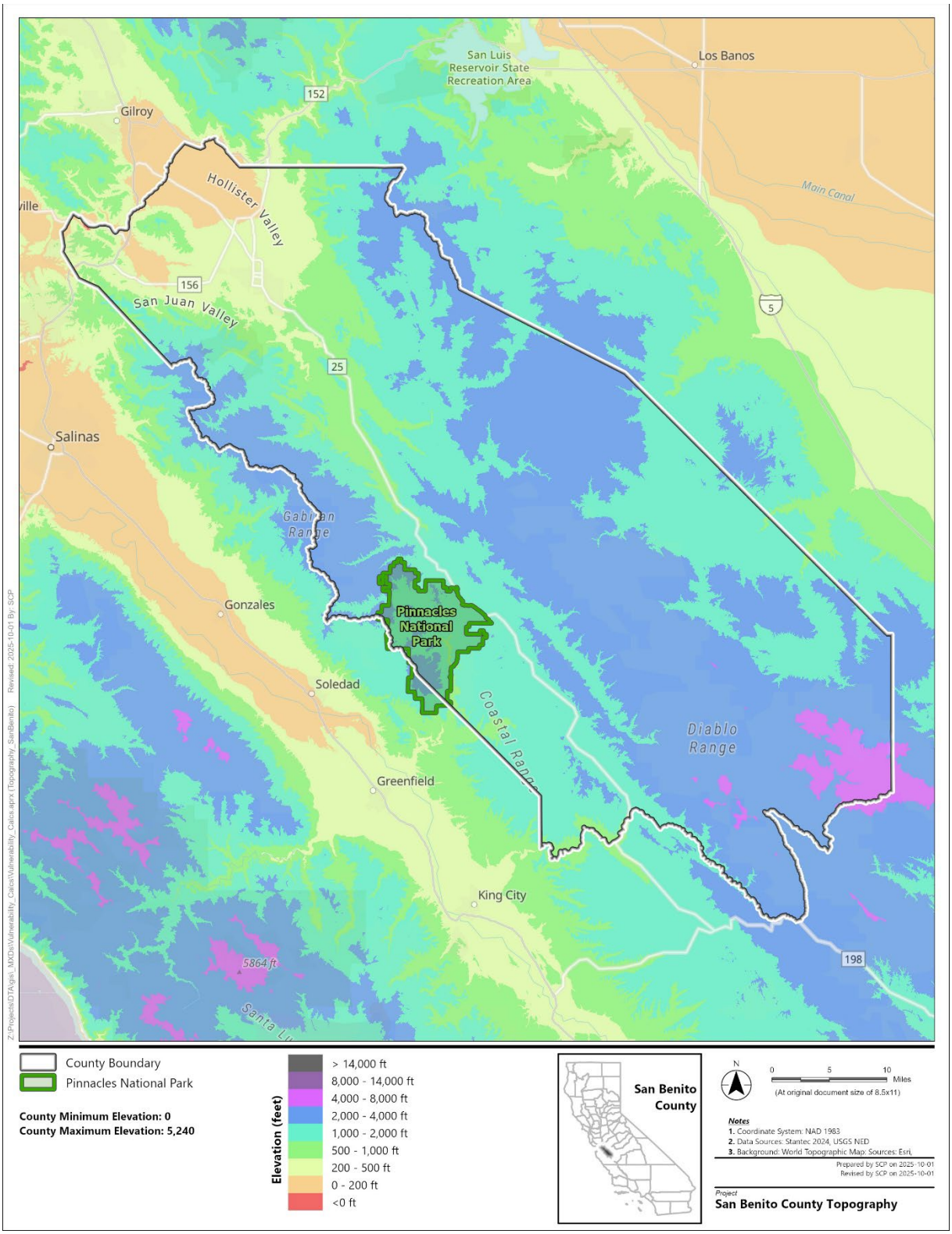


Figure 1-2. Topography of San Benito County

1.3.2.2 Geology

The County features diverse geology, shaped by tectonic activity, volcanic formations, sedimentary deposits, and faulting. Two major faults run through the County: the San Andreas Fault runs almost 750 miles through the County, while the Calaveras Fault runs 76 miles through Hollister. The Diablo Range on the eastern side of the County was formed by the accretion of ocean crust along a convergent boundary. It consists mostly of remnants of an old volcanic arc plus a mixture of serpentinite and greywacke sandstone of the Franciscan formation. This ocean crust material also underlies the sediments that form the San Benito River valley. The western portion of the County, including part of Pinnacles National Park, was transported by the lateral motion of continental crust along the San Andreas fault. Geothermal fields are found near Hollister.

The County encompasses all, or portions of, 13 groundwater basins as defined by DWR Bulletin 118 (DWR). Most of the basins within the County consist of unconsolidated alluvial deposits including sands, gravels, silts, and clays; these are bound by various geologic formations or structures. The North San Benito Subbasin, part of the Gilroy–Hollister Valley Groundwater Basin and largest basin in the County, consists of alluvial, nonmarine terrace, and nonmarine deposits. The County's basins rely on infiltration of local streamflow and precipitation for recharge (SBCWD and Valley Water 2021). Additional detail on groundwater basins is described in Section 1.3.3.6 "Groundwater" below.

1.3.2.3 Land Use

The County hosts a diverse mix of land uses including urban/suburban areas, farmland, federal lands, and Tribal lands as shown in Figure 1-3. The County's urban and suburban areas are predominantly located in its northern portions, specifically in the City of Hollister and San Juan Bautista. The County's local economy is driven by a robust agricultural industry, predominantly centered around row crops, orchards, and livestock production (San Benito County 2010). Agricultural land is concentrated in areas with fertile soils, primarily surrounding the communities of Hollister, San Juan Bautista, Tres Pinos, and Paicines. There are pockets of land owned by federal agencies, including the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM National Data 2024).

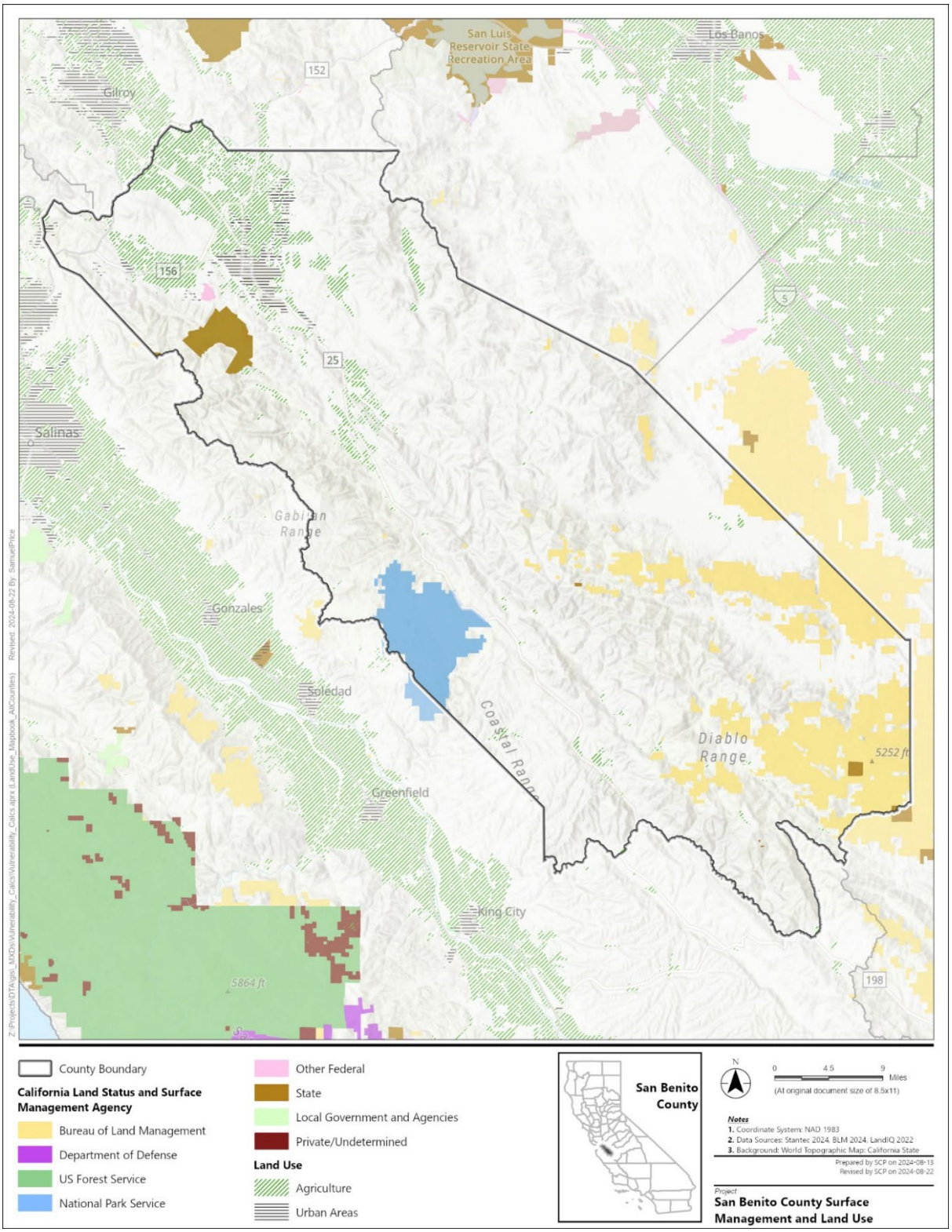


Figure 1-3. Land Use Management Within San Benito County

1.3.3 Water Landscape

SBCWD is responsible for managing water supplies throughout the County. The County's water supply landscape, including precipitation, hydrology, water supply, use, and management are described below.

1.3.3.1 Precipitation

Due to its proximity to the Central Coast, the County typically experiences a Mediterranean climate, which is characterized by mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. Rainfall is often more abundant in its coastal foothills and mountainous areas, particularly in the western regions, which receive higher precipitation from Pacific storms compared to the drier and flatter eastern sections of the County (San Benito County 2010). Precipitation within the County is highly seasonal. Most of the precipitation occurs between November and April, with almost no precipitation occurring during the summer. The County reports an annual average precipitation of approximately 12.66 inches. However, this precipitation can be highly variable from year to year. The County's annual precipitation was 15.48 inches in 2023, 20.34 inches in 2022, and 9.36 inches in 2021 (SBCWD 2024).

1.3.3.2 Hydrology

The Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) system, created by the U.S. Geological Survey, is a hierarchical land classification system that classifies and identifies hydrologic units, meaning the area of the landscape that drains to a portion of the stream network, based on topography. The County is divided into several HUC 8 watersheds, including portions of the Pajaro River Watershed, Salinas River Watershed, Panoche Creek Watershed, Upper San Benito Watershed, and the Diablo Range Watershed.

The County includes several significant bodies of water and rivers. Most notable is the San Benito River, a 109-mile-long stream flowing northwest between the Diablo and Gabilan Range. This river starts in the southeasternmost part of the County, and ends in the northwestern areas of the County, serving as a tributary to the Pajaro River. Tres Pinos Creek is a major tributary of the San Benito River and the Pajaro River forms part of the northern boundary of the County.

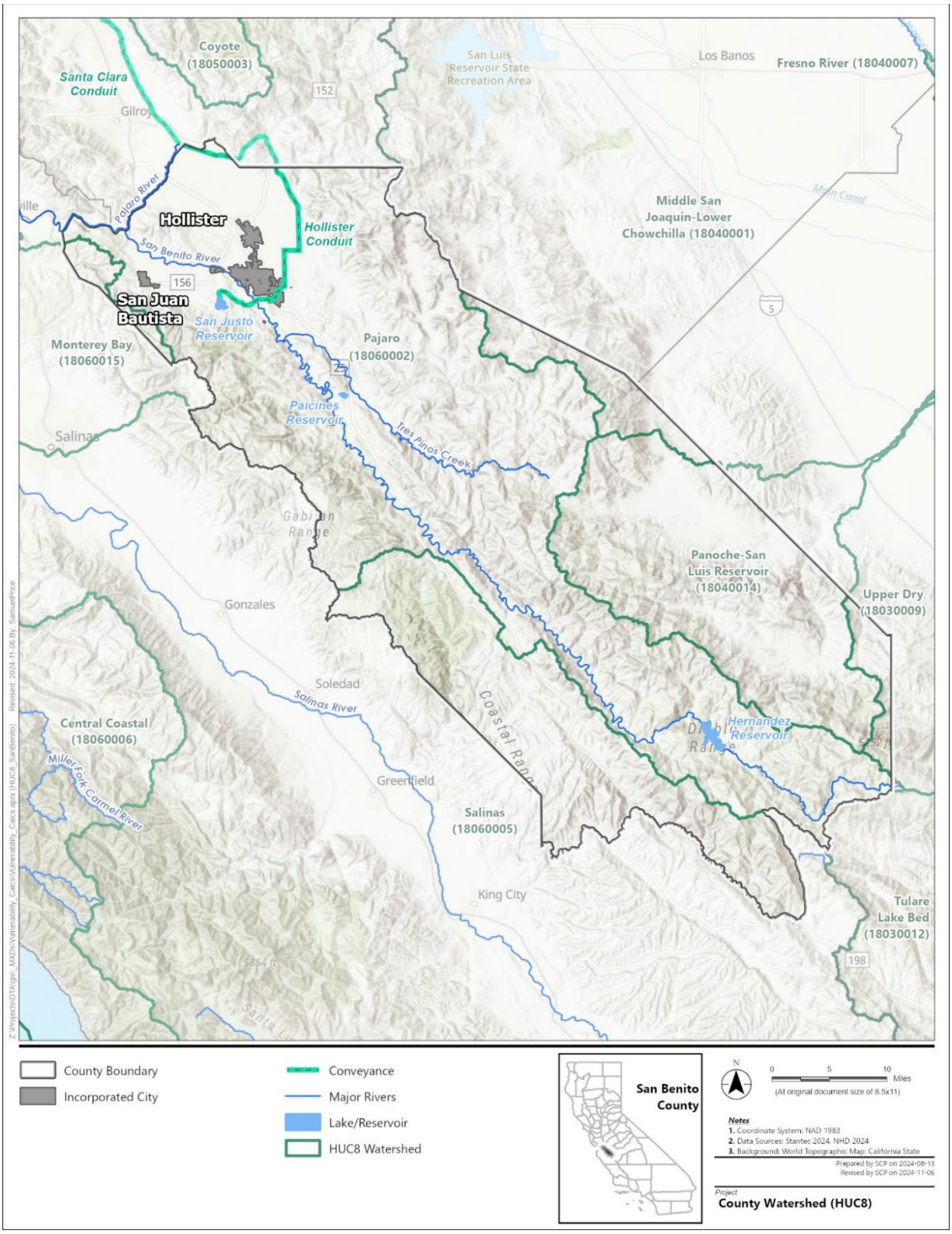


Figure 1-4. Hydrologic Subregions Within San Benito County

1.3.3.3 Water Supply

The County relies on a variety of water sources to meet its domestic, industrial, and environmental needs. The following sections outline the key supplies and systems that support each of these uses across the region.

- **Groundwater:** Groundwater is the primary source of the County's water. The County encompasses whole or parts of 13 groundwater basins as defined by DWR Bulletin 118, as discussed in more detail below, as well as fractured rock regions, whose supply is dependent on atmospheric conditions.
- **Surface Water:** Local surface water is derived from two reservoirs along the San Benito River: the Hernandez Reservoir and Paicines Reservoir. Both reservoirs are operated by SBCWD. The County is also home to three surface water reservoirs: the Hernandez Reservoir (approximately 18,000 acre-feet), the San Justo Reservoir (approximately 10,300 acre-feet), and the Paicines Reservoir approximately 2,000 acre-feet) (DWR 2024). These reservoirs play a significant role in the County's water supply for agricultural and municipal use.
    - **Imported Water:** The County receives a limited amount of water from the Central Valley Project (CVP), a federal water system operated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. In the northern portion of the County, the Hollister Conduit pressurized underground pipeline carries water from the San Luis Reservoir (approximately 8 miles northeast of the County boundary) to the San Justo Reservoir and to be delivered to municipal water providers and agricultural customers.
- **Recycled Water:** Collaborative effort between the City of Hollister and the SBCWD and primarily used for agricultural irrigation. Recycled water is only available in the Hollister Management Area.

1.3.3.4 Water Use

Water is used across various sectors in the County, including agriculture, urban areas, industry, environmental conservation, and recreation. Effective management is crucial to balance the needs of each industry and ensure sustainability. Primary water uses in the County are summarized below.

- **Agriculture:** Agriculture is the largest industry in the County and, consequently, the County's largest water user. The County contains over 500,000 acres of farmland, with most of it used for pastureland and cropland. The main type of crop production in the County consists of spinach, lettuce, wine grapes, broccoli, peppers, and miscellaneous vegetables and fruits. SBCWD's contract maximum for imported water supplies is up to 35,550 acre-feet for agriculture (City of Hollister, et al. 2023).
- **Domestic Water Supplies:** Domestic use includes water for residential purposes such as drinking, cooking, bathing, and landscaping. According to the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water dataset of public water systems in California, there are 31 community water systems, 17 noncommunity systems, and four non-public water systems in the County (State Water Board 2020). The largest urban water suppliers, those that provide water for municipal purposes to 3,000 or more customers within San Benito County, include: SBCWD, the City of Hollister, and Sunnyslope County Water District.

- **Industrial:** Industries in the County use water for manufacturing processes, cooling, cleaning, and other operational purposes. This is sourced by imported water (SBCWD and Valley Water 2021).

1.3.3.5 Water Management Actions

The County has adopted a coordinated approach to managing its water resources to support long-term sustainability. This helps address challenges such as drought, wildfire risk, and the demands of a growing population. The following is a list of water management actions currently underway in the County, as identified in the SBCWD Annual Groundwater Report (SBCWD and Valley Water 2025).

- **Conjunctive Use Programs:** Management of the North San Benito Subbasin involves the percolation of local surface water, wastewater, and CVP water. SBCWD also plays a key role in regional planning efforts that support conjunctive use programs, including the Urban Water Management Plan and Agricultural Water Management Plan, the San Benito Urban Areas Water and Wastewater Master Planning Project, the City of San Juan Bautista Regional Water and Wastewater Solution, the Accelerated Drought Response Project, the Zone 3 Operations Planning Tool, and Water Recycling with the City of Hollister.
- **Water Conservation Programs:** Water conservation initiatives in the County are carried out by the Water Resources Association (WRA). The WRA represents a collaborative partnership involving SBCWD, the City of Hollister, the City of San Juan Bautista, and the Sunnyslope County Water District. These programs incentivize efficient water use through turf removal, rebates, education, and improved irrigation practices.
- **Monitoring Program and Data Management System:** SBCWD is carrying out a preliminary study to evaluate the remote sensing solutions provided by OpenET, which employs satellite technology to calculate water usage of crops and other vegetation. The data management system enhancements also include cross-referencing monitoring sites in relation to location and monitoring regional groundwater levels and quality.
- **Monitoring Well Network:** The district added new monitoring wells to address data gaps of wells throughout the basin. Shallow monitoring wells are used to gauge water table depth in areas where riparian habitats may be affected by pumping. Response Plans: The SBCWD prepared an action plan to address wells that fall below the minimum threshold supply level and prepares the County in the event of any significant issues.
- **Water Quality Improvement Programs:** SBCWD has partnered with various organizations and agencies to decrease the load of nitrates and salts as a result of agricultural activities, as well as to regulate water softeners and the treatment and disposal of wastewater.
- **Long-term Funding:** SBCWD has been pursuing grant funding to continue to support water management activities.

1.3.3.6 Groundwater

Groundwater is a critical resource in the County, being the primary water source for domestic well and state small water system communities. The County's groundwater basins are areas underlain by permeable materials capable of storing and supplying significant amounts of water to wells.

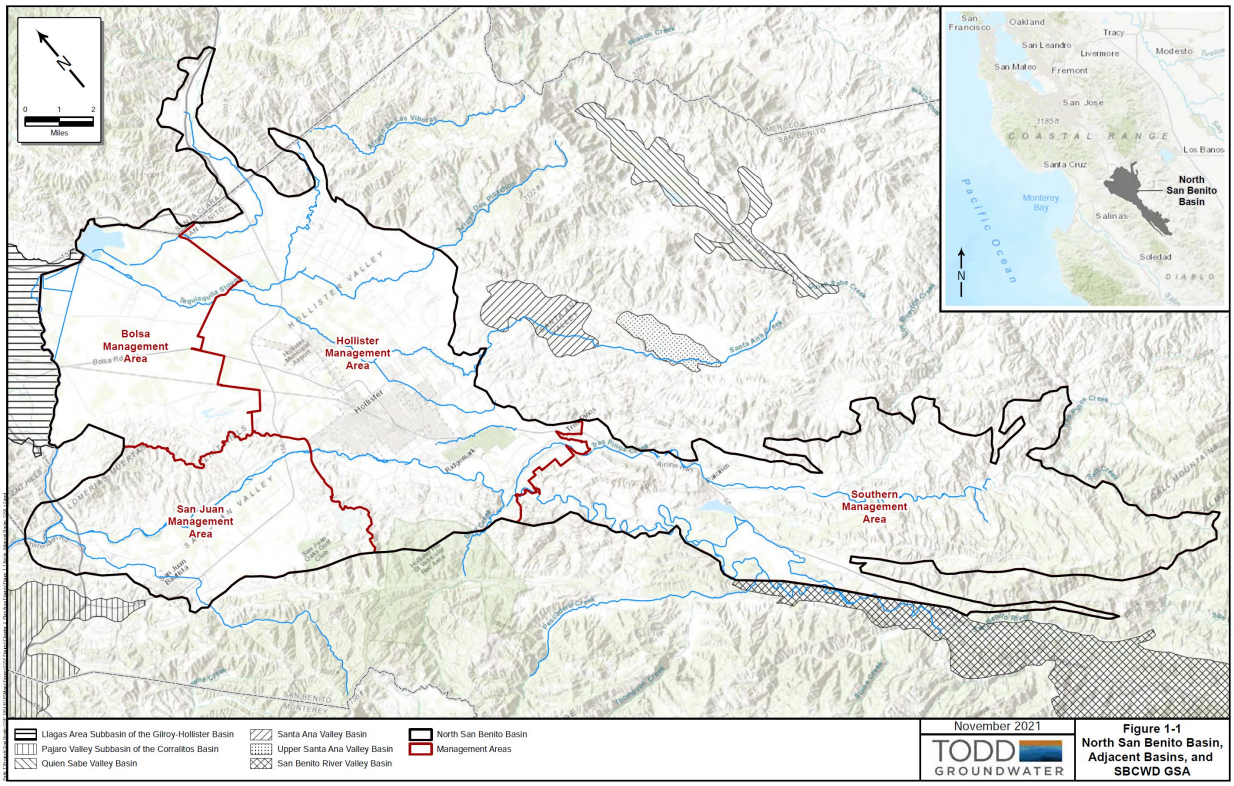
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Passed in 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) represents a statewide framework to protect groundwater resources over the long-term. SGMA led local public agencies, pursuant to CWC Section 10721(n), to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) in high- and medium-priority basins and to develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) to avoid undesirable results and mitigate overdraft within 20 years. Bulletin 118, California's official publication on groundwater, provides detailed information about the boundaries, conditions, and characteristics of these basins. The GSPs identify management actions to strengthen groundwater sustainability, including enhanced monitoring, agricultural efficiency improvements, groundwater trading system development, and aquifer recharge.

SBCWD is responsible for managing surface water and groundwater across the County. This involves the management and monitoring of water levels and quality in the basin, salt and nutrient levels in the water, groundwater recharge, and reporting. Analysis completed by DWR to support implementation of the SGMA classified thirteen Bulletin 118 Subbasins within the County, as identified in Figure 1-5. They are listed below with related GSA and GSP information:

- **High Priority:**
  - Corralitos–Pajaro Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-002.01): This critically overdrafted basin is managed by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency. The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Basin Management Plan Update, February 2014, was approved as an alternative to a GSP in 2019 (DWR 2019).
- **Medium Priority:**
  - North San Benito Groundwater Basin (DWR Basin Number 3-003.05): This basin was formed by consolidating the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Bautista Subbasins of the Gilroy–Hollister Basin and the Tres Pinos Basin. It provides the largest portion of groundwater for the County. Approved by DWR in 2023, the North San Benito Subbasin GSP (2021) was prepared to ensure sustainable management of the basin's groundwater supply. SBCWD and Santa Clara Valley Water manages the North San Benito Basin. The North San Benito GSP divided the basin into four management areas to support implementation (Figure 1-5).
- **Low Priority:**
  - Santa Ana Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-022)
  - Quien Sabe Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-024)
  - San Benito River Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-028)
  - Dry Lake Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-029)
  - Bitter Water Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-030)
  - Peach Tree Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-032)
  - Hernandez Valley (DWR Basin Number 3-031)
  - Panoche Valley (DWR Basin Number 5-023)
  - Vallecitos Creek Valley (DWR Basin Number 5-071)

The remainder of County groundwater supplies are in fractured rock regions (DWR 2024a).



Source: SBCWD and Valley Water 2021.

Figure 1-5. North San Benito Subbasin

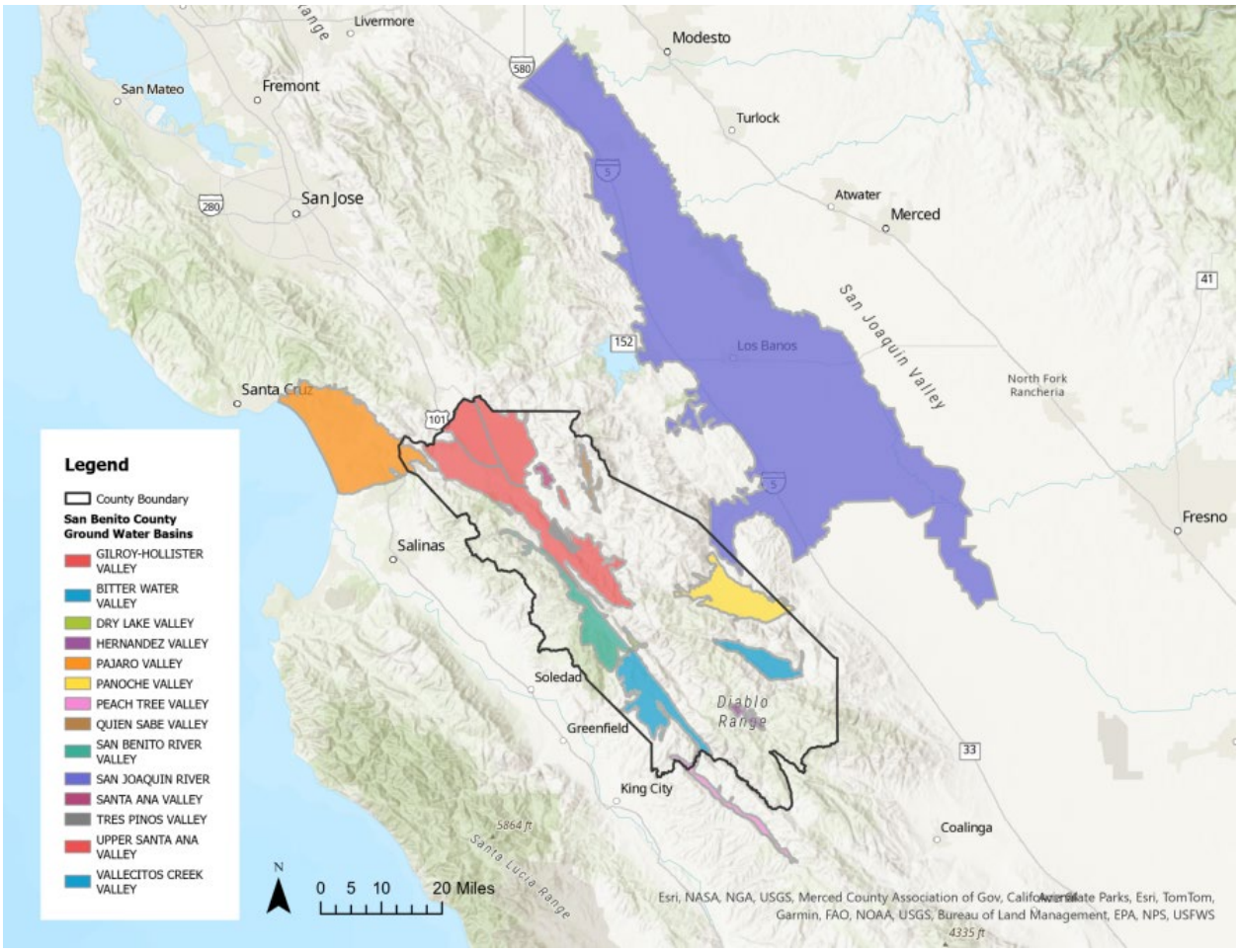
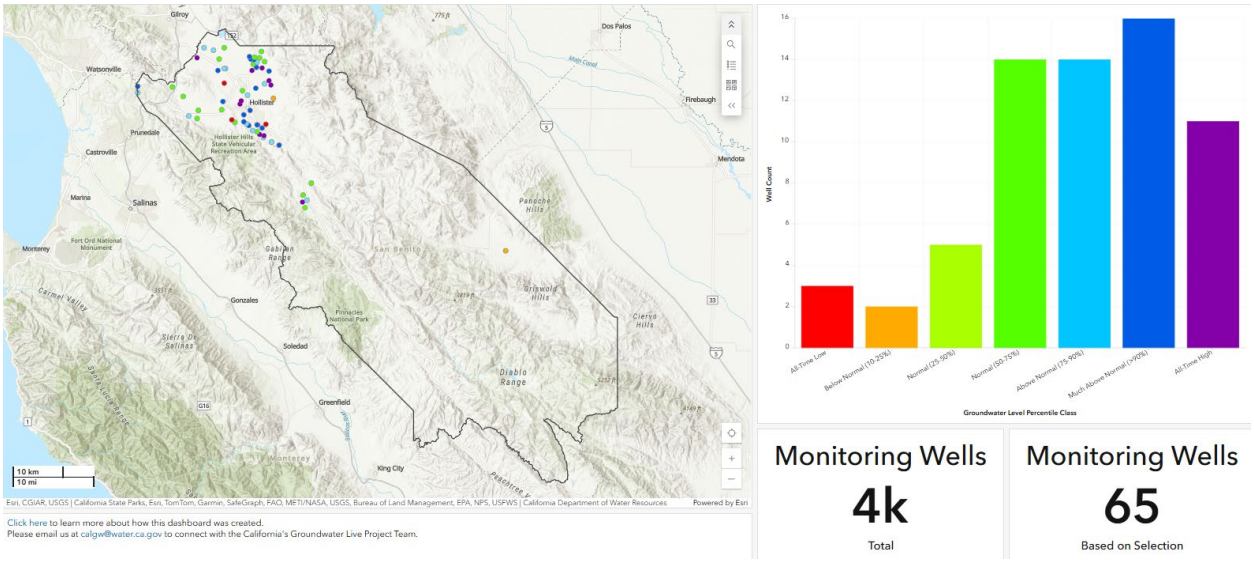


Figure 1-6. San Benito County Groundwater Basins

As required by the SGMA, each GSA is required to "develop a monitoring network capable of collecting sufficient data to demonstrate short-term, seasonal, and long-term trends in groundwater and related surface conditions, and yield representative information about groundwater conditions as necessary to evaluate Plan implementation" (California Code of Regulations Title 23 Section 354.34). There are 66 monitoring wells within the County, with most located in the northern portion of the North San Benito Subbasin. The monitoring wells measure groundwater level, subsidence, or streamflow measurements; this data is collected by the respective GSAs throughout their GSP for submittal to DWR through the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module. Figure 1-7 shows the location of the groundwater monitoring wells within the County and their current groundwater levels as of September 2025.Wells shown in the map and graph are classified by percentile, based on a comparison of the latest water level measurement at each well with measurements from the same month over the past decade. Blue and purple indicate above-average groundwater levels, and red or brown denote below-average conditions.



Source: DWR 2025a.

Figure 1-7. Location of Groundwater Monitoring Wells and Groundwater Levels

1.3.3.7 Water Systems Within San Benito County's Jurisdiction

California Water Code Section 10609.70 requires a County DRP that includes domestic wells and state small water systems. Figure 1-8 shows the location of domestic wells and state small water systems within the County, and Table 1-1 summarizes how many domestic wells and state small water systems are in the Bulletin 118 basins and fractured rock areas. In addition, the figure and table show domestic wells that are outside the County but still within groundwater basins that are within the County.

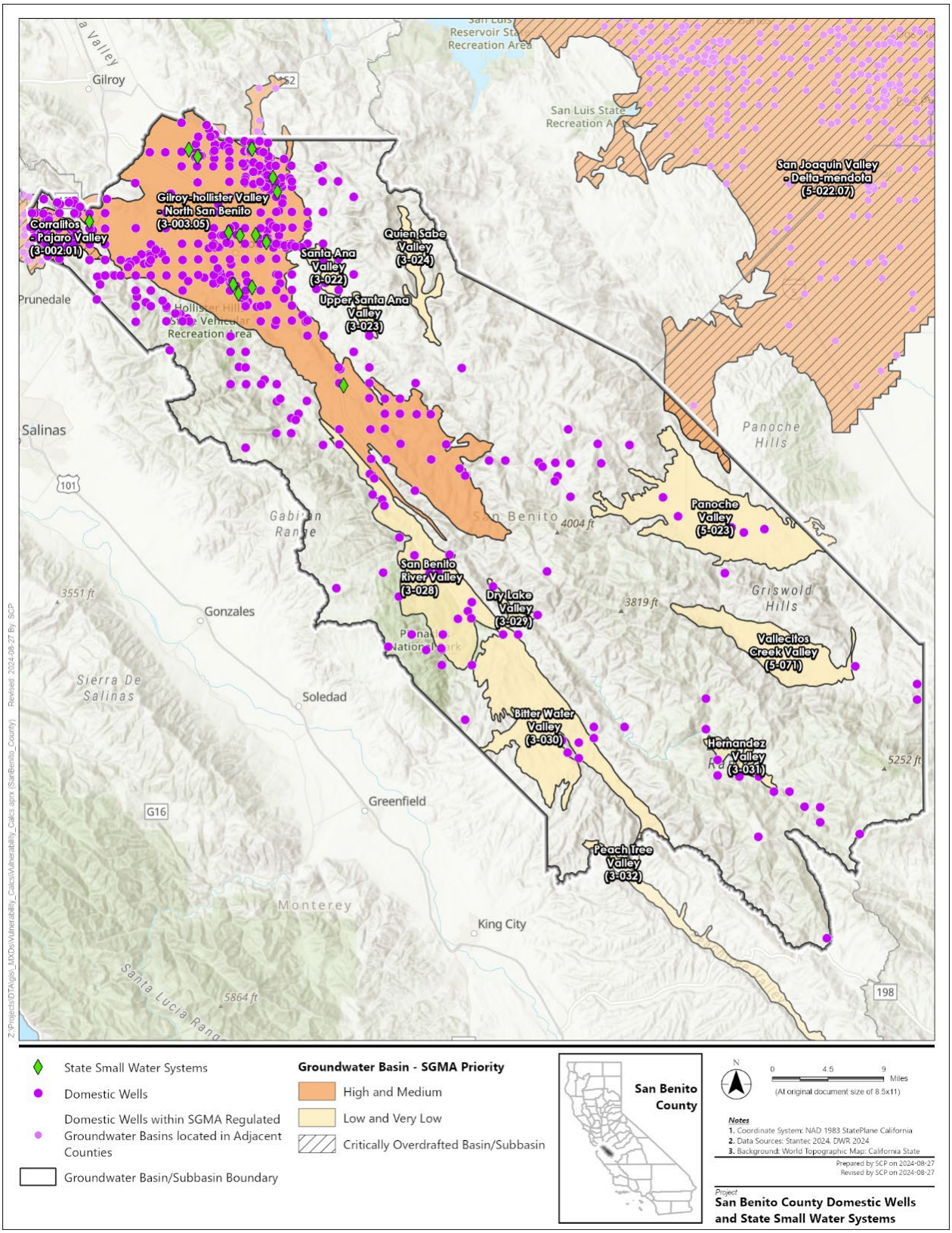


Figure 1-8. Locations of Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems in San Benito County

Table 1-1. Summary of Groundwater Basins, Domestic Wells, and State Small Water Systems in San Benito County

Bulletin 118 Basin ID	Groundwater Basin Name	SGMA Priority	Domestic Wells Drilled After 1977[1]	Domestic Wells Drilled Before 1977[1]	State Small Water Systems	Domestic Wells in Basin but Outside County
3-002.01	Corralitos - Pajaro Valley (*Critical Overdraf*t)	Partial	73	38	0	1,300
3-003.05	Gilroy–Hollister Valley - North San Benito	Partial	435	146	14	17
3-022	Santa Ana Valley	Full	2	2	0	0
3-023	Upper Santa Ana Valley	Full	0	0	0	0
3-024	Quien Sabe Valley	Full	0	0	0	0
3-028	San Benito River Valley	Full	13	7	0	0
3-029	Dry Lake Valley	Full	1	0	0	0
3-030	Bitter Water Valley	Partial	4	0	0	0
3-031	Hernandez Valley	Full	3	0	0	0
3-032	Peach Tree Valley	Partial	1	0	0	0
5-022.07	San Joaquin Valley - Delta-Mendota (*Critical Overdraf*t)	Partial	0	0	0	2,653
5-023	Panoche Valley	Partial	4	1	0	0
5-071	Vallecitos Creek Valley	Full	0	0	0	0
N/A	Fractured Rock Aquifer Wells	N/A	190	59	0	N/A
Total			**726**	**253**	**14**	**3,970**

Note: [1] Information presented in this table and figure are based on Well Completion Reports. Geographic information on Well Completion Reports may be inaccurate and/or place the well not at the actual well location. As a result, the number of domestic wells may be overestimated, and the placement of wells may not reflect actual locations.

Key: N/A = Not available SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

2. County Drought and Water Shortage Task Force

The County, through its OES, has established a Task Force for state small water systems and domestic wells as an alternative process to comply with CWC Section 10609.70. This alternative process is intended to facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within the County.

2.1 Task Force

Counties are required to establish a task force or other alternative process to facilitate "drought and water shortage preparedness" for state small water systems and domestic wells (Water Code section 10609.70(a)(1) and (2)). Water Code Section 10609.70(a)(2) provides, in pertinent part:

> *a county may establish an alternative process that facilitates drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county's jurisdiction. The alternative process shall provide opportunities for coordinating and communicating with the state and other local governments, community-based organizations, local water suppliers, and local residents on a regular basis and during drought or water shortage emergencies.*

2.2 Purpose

In compliance with the State law and as the regulatory agency for domestic wells and state small water systems in the County OES established the Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to:

- Facilitate development of a County DRP that supports drought and water shortage preparedness and responsiveness for domestic wells and state small water systems within the County's jurisdiction
- Facilitate coordination and communication on a regular basis as well as during drought or water shortage emergencies among the staff of relevant County departments, local water agencies, local water suppliers, groundwater sustainability agencies, and others representing the concerns of state small water systems and domestic wells
- Support implementation of drought and water shortage actions as identified in the County DRP

2.3 Task Force Structure

The Task Force consists of representatives from government agencies that have roles in drought condition monitoring, emergency services, hazard assessment, planning, operations, information coordination, or water resources management. The Task Force effort also includes a Project Coordination Team (PCT) subgroup, comprised of County OES staff, which oversees the Task Force and leads County DRP development and implementation.

The Task Force was established in 2024 and chaired by the County OES, who serve as the Task Force's primary contact lead. The membership of the Task Force includes representatives from the following entities:

- Aromas Water District
- City of San Juan Bautista
- City of Hollister: Environmental Programs, Public Works, Fire Department

- County Environmental Health, OES, Public Works, Agriculture
- County Board of Supervisors
- SBCWD
- Sunnyslope County Water District

2.4 Drought Task Force Responsibilities

The Task Force is an advisory body and does not have decision-making authority. It is intended to review and advise the PCT on the development of the County DRP and to assist in guiding its implementation. Task Force members are and were expected to:

- Attend scheduled Task Force meetings
- Review progress on the development of the County DRP, review and make recommendations on the Draft County DRP, and assist in the County DRP's subsequent implementation once adopted
- Review potential drought and water shortage risk, identify drought-related issues that may impact County residents, and provide input regarding short-term actions and long-term strategies to address identified issues
- Disseminate Task Force findings and recommendations to their respective agencies and organizations, as well as seeking feedback that can be shared during Task Force meetings
- Review current drought conditions and facilitate coordination and communication during drought or water shortage emergencies

The PCT, a subgroup of the Task Force that is comprised of County OES, is responsible for preparing and implementing the County DRP. The PCT convenes and serves as staff to the Task Force. The PCT also consults with other County departments, GSAs, state agencies, other local government and agency staff, community-based organizations, and the public, as needed to prepare the County DRP.

2.5 Task Force Meetings

The Task Force met regularly during the development of the County DRP and will continue to meet at least annually.

During development of the County DRP, the Task Force met four times to discuss the risk assessment, propose short-term action and long-term mitigation strategies, and review the Draft County DRP. The meetings were scheduled with advance notification to the Task Force members and included distribution of agendas and related materials for each meeting.

After the development and adoption of the County DRP, the Task Force is intended to meet annually for action planning, coordination, collaboration, or problem-solving needs, unless drought conditions necessitate more frequent meetings.

2.6 Decision-Making Structure

The decision-making structure for the County development and implementation of the County DRP is summarized below.

2.6.1 Drought Task Force

The Task Force is an advisory body and does not have decision-making authority. The Task Force provided input to the PCT in the development of the County DRP.

2.6.2 Project Coordination Team

The PCT, led by County OES staff, makes recommendations on the Draft County DRP to the Board of Supervisors and leads implementation of the adopted County DRP.

2.6.3 Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors is the decision-making body of the County. The Board of Supervisors is the appropriate body to adopt the County DRP and amend it if needed in the future.

2.7 Communication and Public Engagement

To assist in disseminating and collecting information to prepare the County DRP, the County implemented a variety of communication and engagement actions, including establishing a public-facing website to gather community input on the Draft County DRP. The webpage[2] provided background information on SB 552, an overview of the DRP development process, and access to the Draft County DRP for public review and comment. To broaden outreach efforts, the County also created and distributed an informational flyer to encourage additional feedback and participation from interested parties. Outreach tools and activities on the County DRP website can continued to be used to engage interested parties and the public during the implementation of the County DRP, including providing a mechanism for long-term engagement and assisting the County in responding to water shortage events.

[2] https://www.sanbenitocountyca.gov/departments/office-of-emergency-services-oes-and-emergency-medical-services/county-drought-resilience-plan

3. Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment

A drought and water shortage risk assessment (referred to as a risk assessment) was prepared in development of the County DRP as directed in CWC Section 10609.70(b). This risk assessment evaluated how potential hazards intersect with the County's domestic well, state small water system, and other community assets to characterize the vulnerability of domestic wells and state small water systems to water supply shortage. The outcomes from the risk assessment helped inform response plans which short-term actions to employ when a water supply shortage occurs, as well as long-term mitigation strategies and actions that reduce the vulnerability to water shortages. This chapter presents the risk assessment results for the County.

3.1 Terminology

The County Drought Resilience Plan adapted the following definitions from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Local Mitigation Planning Handbook (FEMA 2023) within the context of drought and water shortage planning:[3]

- **Community Assets**: The people, structures, facilities, and lifelines that have value to the community. The minimum assets considered as part of the SB 552 plan must include state small water systems and domestic wells, as well as the populations reliant on them.
- **Hazard**: A source of harm or difficulty created by a meteorological, environmental, geological, other event, or by hydrological and/or other environmental conditions. In the context of SB 552, hazards are the natural, human-made, and social processes that can lead to water shortages in the County.
- **Impact**: The consequences or effects of a hazard on the community and its assets related to drought and water shortages.
- **Risk**: The potential for damage, loss, or other impacts (e.g., water shortage) created by the interaction of hazards with community assets and their physical and social vulnerabilities.
- **Risk Assessment:** Product or process that collects information and assigns values to risks for the purpose of informing priorities, developing or comparing courses of action, and informing decision-making.
- **Vulnerability**: A description of which assets, including structures, systems, populations, and other assets within locations identified to be hazard prone, are at risk from the effects of the identified hazard(s). This includes both physical vulnerability and social vulnerability.

3.2 Risk Assessment Approach

The nature and severity of hazards that can cause water shortages vary at regional and local scales due to differences in conditions, such as precipitation patterns, groundwater levels, topography, geology, infrastructure, and regulatory frameworks. Communities lacking access to reliable water sources are most vulnerable to water shortage caused by such hazards. To address this, a thorough risk assessment

[3] While this County Drought Resilience Plan could make the County eligible for FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation and Hazard Mitigation Grant programs, this risk assessment does not replace FEMA's regulatory requirements.

was completed that considered many physical and social hazard indicators. The results and findings of that risk assessment were then used by the County and Task Force to develop actions and strategies to address water shortages (see Chapters 4 “Short-Term Response Actions” and 5 “Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions”).

The risk assessment was completed using the following approach:

1. **Describe Major Hazards:** The first step in the risk assessment was to describe the hazards in the County, which in the context of SB 552 are the natural, human-made, and social processes that can lead to water shortages in the County. For this risk assessment, drought, climate change, and water quality hazards were summarized and described. Indicators used in the risk assessment were developed in 2018 by the County Drought Advisory Group (CDAG) hosted by DWR. CDAG also assigned weight to each physical indicator to capture how some conditions impact drought versus others.
2. **Define the Scope and Community Assets:** This step identified the scope and objectives for asset protection for drought resilience planning purposes, and inventoried the associated assets.
3. **Conduct Risk Assessment using DWR Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer:** The DWR Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer (WSVE) Tool was used to identify areas within the County where domestic wells and state small water systems are vulnerable to water supply shortages and to characterize the hazards driving that vulnerability. This information was provided for County and Task Force review, feedback, and identification of data gaps for incorporation into the risk assessment.
4. **Summarize Risk Assessment Results:** The County's total physical and social vulnerability scores were used to identify the regions of water supply shortage vulnerability. Findings from the revised risk assessment were used by the Task Force to develop short-term actions and long-term strategies to improve water supply sustainability (Chapter 4 “Short Term Response Actions” and Chapter 5 “Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions.”

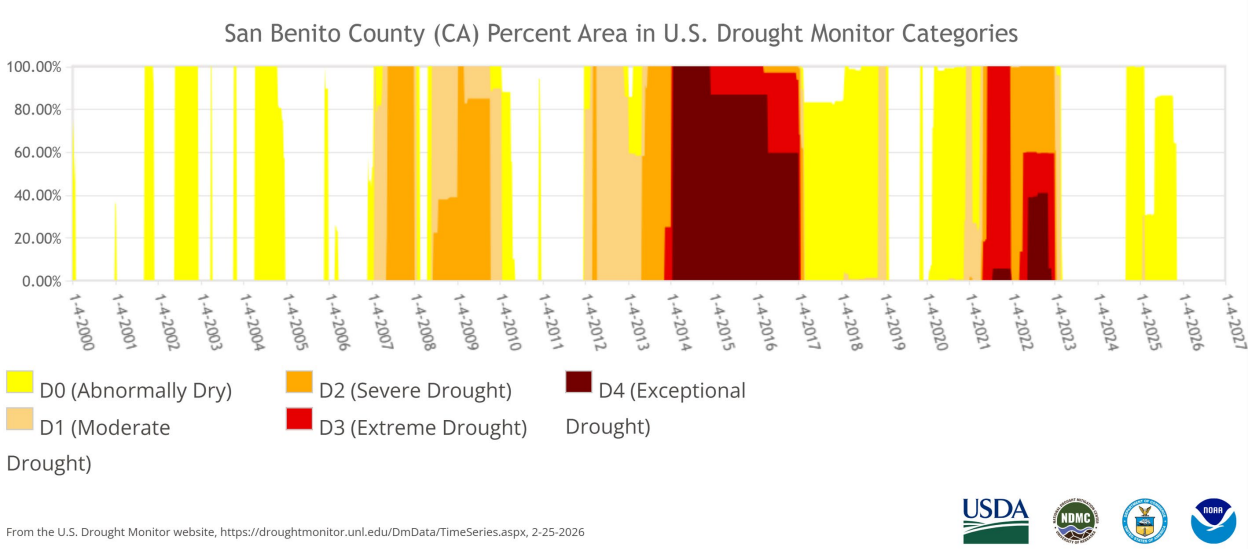
3.3 Hazards in San Benito County

This section summarizes the recent drought, projected climate change, current water quality, and groundwater hazards in the County. Section 3.4 provides more detail on the vulnerabilities related to these hazards.

3.3.1 Drought

Drought data for the County in the twenty-first century (as shown in Figure 3-1) was derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Figure 3-1 shows that the County has experienced extended periods of exceptional drought, most notably between 2014 and 2017. Since 2007, the County has fluctuated between severe or exceptional drought and drought-free conditions, sometimes within a one- or two-year period. These patterns and frequency of drought periods highlight the County’s vulnerability to drought. While the County is currently not in a drought, there are examples of drought rapidly onsetting, as shown in in the extreme and exceptional drought levels occurring in 2022 and 2023.



Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2024.

Figure 3-1. Occurrence of Drought in San Benito County

3.3.2 Climate Change

According to the California Fourth Climate Change Assessment Central Coast Region Report (Langridge 2018), climate change has increased both average temperatures and the frequency and intensity of heat waves or extreme heat events. While global temperature increases are between 1.8 and 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), local observed increases that affect neighborhoods and ecosystems are far more variable and often of greater magnitude. The climate assessment predicted changes over this century to include higher average temperatures with more warming in the summer than the winter and greater warming inland than in coastal regions. These expected changes translate into an annual average maximum temperature increase in the County of up to 8.2 °F by the end of the century (2070 to 2099), relative to the historical period (1961 to 1990).

Droughts in California are triggered by a lack of large winter storms (i.e., atmospheric rivers), and water shortages are further exacerbated by high temperatures that increase the evaporative loss of water from soils, rivers, canals, and reservoirs. Drought conditions, particularly when persisting for several years, can cause mental and physical stress on people, reduce the number of workable farm-labor days, and lead to deteriorated air and water quality (Greene 2018, Barreau et al. 2017). Historical data show that daily precipitation extremes have intensified in most areas of the country, including California. As the atmosphere warms, extreme precipitation events could become more frequent since storms can hold about 6 to 7 percent more water for each 1.8°F of warming. Climate model simulations that consider such effects suggest that this trend will continue. Simulations of future climate trends indicate only modest changes in annual precipitation accumulation with some shifts in the seasonality of precipitation that may be relevant for water management, e.g., less precipitation during November through January, and possibly more during February through May. Precipitation in the County is projected to increase slightly, but variability is expected to increase substantially. Projections also show that the wettest day of the year will become wetter relative to historical conditions.

There is also strong evidence that anthropogenic climate change—especially rising temperatures and periodic droughts—have made substantial contributions to the increase in acreage burned by wildfires in the American West.

3.3.3 Water Quality

As identified in the County General Plan, the County faces various water quality concerns across both its surface and groundwater resources. Groundwater quality in the County and its subbasins is highly mineralized and of marginal quality for drinking and agricultural purposes (San Benito County 2015). Threats to water quality as identified by the County are summarized below:

- **Regulated Facilities:** The Regional Water Quality Control Board oversees more than 123 facilities within the basin that have soil and groundwater contamination. Forty-five of the 123 facilities are active sites currently in or adjacent to the North San Benito Subbasin (44 in the County and one in Santa Clara County). These facilities include leaking underground storage tanks and soil and groundwater cleanup operations that require regular monitoring and reporting (SBCWD and Valley Water 2021).
- **Septic Systems:** Many homes and businesses in unincorporated areas of the basin use onsite wastewater treatment systems. These systems contribute to salt and nutrient levels in groundwater and may also introduce other contaminants.
- **Oil and Gas:** The Hollister Oil and Gas Field covers areas near Bolsa and San Juan in the basin. Hydrocarbons lie about 600 feet below the freshwater base and pose little threat to drinking water. The County approved a fracking ban in 2014, prohibiting hydraulic fracturing and related petroleum operations.
- **Non-Point Sources:** Non-point source pollution refers to contamination that does not come from regulated point sources. Instead, it arises from diffuse sources such as rain carrying pollutants to surface water or contaminants percolating into groundwater. For instance, nitrate loading from agricultural or landscaping activities can impact groundwater. Key Constituents of Concern identified in the 2021 North San Benito GSP include total dissolved solids (TDS); there are high levels of TDS throughout the basin. The average TDS concentration exceeds 500 milligrams per liter, the secondary maximum contaminant limit for drinking water.
- **Nitrate:** Agricultural and local wastewater disposal activities have contributed to high levels of nitrate throughout the basin, posing health risks and impacting drinking water quality.
- **Perchlorate and Selenium:** Although low in concentration, perchlorate and selenium identified in the basin are attributed to regulated facilities related to manufacturing and waste disposal.
- **Hardness:** Most of the groundwater throughout the basin is considered to be hard to very hard. Hardness, measured as total hardness (calcium carbonate) indicates elevated levels of calcium and magnesium ions in the water. Although it is naturally occurring, it can be influenced by human-induced sources that introduce calcium or magnesium into the groundwater. Hardness is indirectly connected to the rise in groundwater salinity in specific areas, which is a result of using water softeners.

- **Boron:** Boron is a natural element found in the basin, linked with marine clays and thermal springs. It evaporates from closed basins. Boron can originate from human-induced sources, since it is used in the production of glass, soaps, detergents, and flame retardants.
- **Metals:** Metals that naturally occur in the North San Benito Subbasin include iron, manganese, arsenic, and chromium. Long-term exposure to these metals can impact drinking water quality.

3.3.3.1 Community Assets

The scope of the County Drought Resilience Plan risk assessment is, at a minimum, to protect those reliant on domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems. Figure 3-2 shows the locations of domestic wells and state small water systems within the County.

Domestic well data has been obtained from the Online System for Well Completion Reports, DWR's well database drilled throughout the state (DWR 2025b). CWC Section 13751 requires anyone who constructs, alters, or destroys a water well, cathodic protection well, groundwater monitoring well, or geothermal heat exchange well to file a report of completion to DWR within 60 days of the completion of the work. State small water system data was obtained from the California State Water Resources Board Division of Drinking Water.

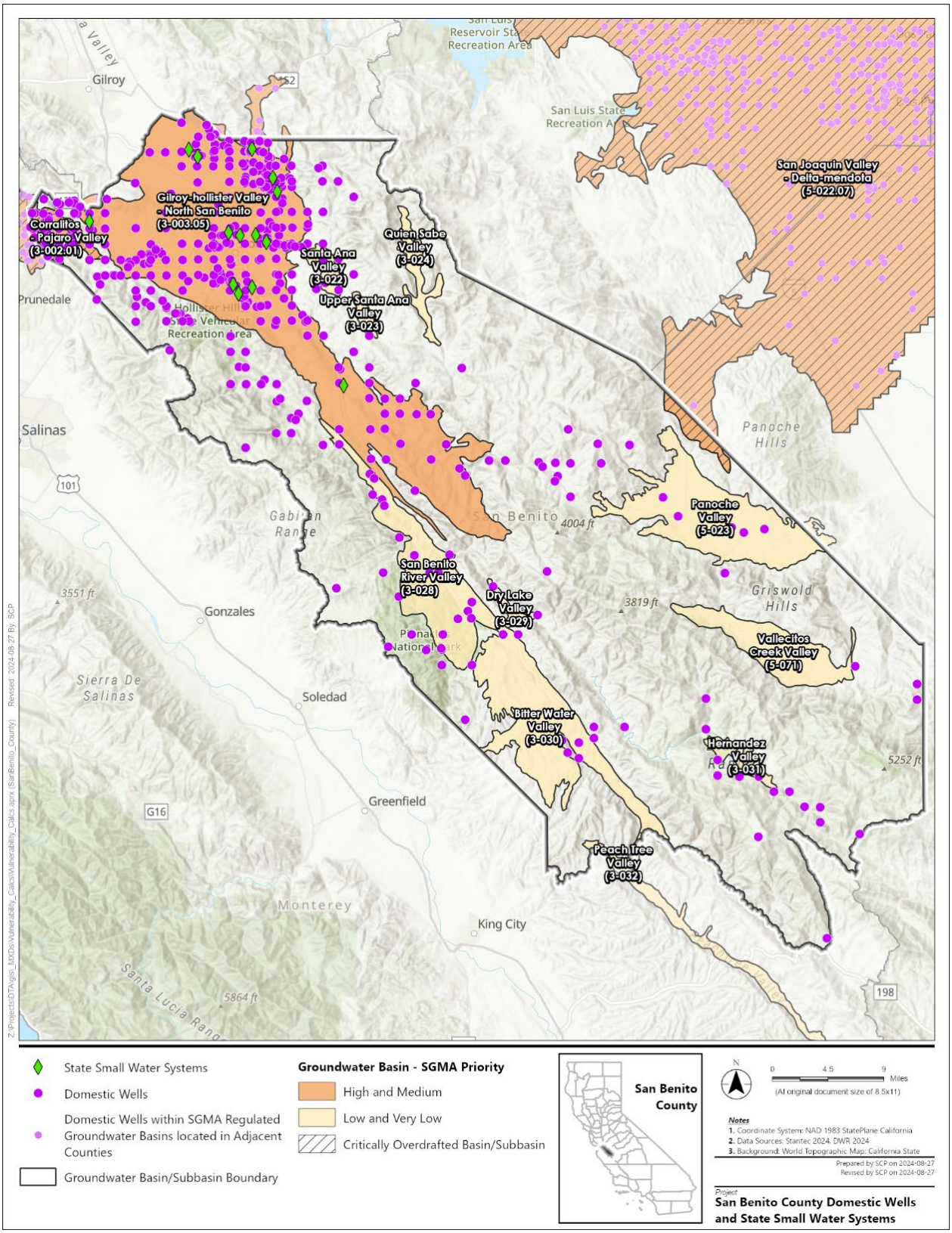


Figure 3-2. Locations of Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems

3.4 Risk Assessment

This risk assessment was developed using DWR's WSVE Tool (DWR 2024a). It summarizes where water shortages associated with domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems may be more likely to occur and characterizes the hazards driving vulnerability.[4] The WSVE Tool, developed by DWR in collaboration with CDAG,[5] is an online geospatial application that quantifies drought and water shortage risk using physical and social indicators, as described below. These indicators were selected by DWR and CDAG to reflect the hazards that could make a domestic well or state small water system vulnerable to water supply shortage. DWR periodically revises the WSVE Tool to incorporate improved data and/or updated methodology. The 2024 version of the WSVE Tool was used to complete the risk assessment for this County DRP. The detailed methodology is available on the WSVE Tool website: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/SB-552/SB-552-Tool.

3.4.1 Physical Vulnerability

The total physical vulnerability score was calculated at the Public Land Survey Section[6] (PLSS) scale by normalizing the indicator value between 0 and 1, with 1 representing the highest possible vulnerability. Normalized scores were multiplied by a weighting factor from 1 to 5 that was assigned by DWR and CDAG to capture how some indicators contribute more to water shortage vulnerability than others, as shown in Table 3-1. The indicators that are weighed most heavily are fractured rock areas (RC2c), dry domestic well susceptibility in basins (RC3a), domestic well density in fractured rock areas (RC3c), and reported household outage on domestic well (RC5a). Other important indicators impacting overall physical vulnerability scores include wildfire hazard potential (RC2b), water quality aquifer risk (RC2i), saltwater intrusion (RC2e), chronic declining water levels (RC2g), and surrounding land use (RC2j). The remaining indicators are not weighed as heavily and thereby have less influence on the physical vulnerability score.

[4] The detailed methodology that describes the WSVE indicators and corresponding values, data sources, and weighting factors is available on the WSVE website: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/SB-552/SB-552-Tool.

[5] DWR organized a CDAG in 2018 to assist DWR in the vulnerability assessment and development of recommended actions for improving drought planning for small water suppliers and rural communities. CDAG consisted of representatives from counties and other local agencies, small water systems, tribes, academics, non-profit organizations, and other interested parties. In addition to drought planning, CDAG efforts include addressing financial challenges faced by small water systems and encouraging collaboration between water systems to streamline water management efforts and resources.

[6] A Public Land Survey Section is a geographic delineation of an area equivalent to 1 square mile.

Table 3-1. Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer Indicators Used in the Development of Physical Vulnerability Score

Indicator Name[1]	Indicator Description	Indicator Weight
Climate Change Projections		
Temperature Shift (RC1a)	Projected change in maximum temperatures by mid-century	1
Projected Saltwater Intrusion in Coastal Groundwater (RC1b)	Spatial extent of projected 1-meter sea level rise by 2040 into coastal aquifers	1
Wildfire Risk (RC1c)	Projected area burned by 2035–2064	1
Current Environmental Conditions and Events		
Current Year's Precipitation (RC2a)	2024 water year precipitation as percent of normal (compared to 70 percent of normal)	2
Multiple Dry Years (RC2aa)	Count of dry years within the last five water years	2
Wildfire Risk (RC2b)	2023 USFS wildfire hazard potential	3
Fractured Rock Area (RC2c)	Fractured rock basin within the PLSS	3
Water Quality Aquifer Risk (RC2i)	SAFER Needs Assessment 2024 water quality composite score	3
Subsidence (RC2d)	Amount of subsidence as measured by remote sensing since 2015	2
Saltwater Intrusion (RC2e)	Presence of saltwater intrusion into coastal aquifer	3
Overdrafted Basin (RC2f)	SGMA critically overdrafted groundwater basin	2
Chronic Declining Water Levels (RC2g)	Amount of declining groundwater levels 2003–2024	3
Amount of Irrigated Agriculture (RC2j)	Proportion of irrigated agriculture in PLSS (2022)	3
Infrastructure Susceptibility		
Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility in Basins (RC3a)	Dry well susceptibility	5
Domestic Well Density in Fractured Rock Areas (RC3c)	Density of Well Completion Reports	5
Record of Shortage		
Reported Household Outages on Domestic Well (RC5a)	Presence of 1 or more households with reported outages in PLSS	5

Source: DWR 2024b.
Notes:
[1] Abbreviations are included next to Indicator Name (i.e., "RC1a") which align with WSVE Tool methodology
Key:
PLSS = Public Land Survey Section
SAFER = Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience Program
SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
USFS = US Forest Service

3.4.1.1 Physical Vulnerability Indicators

The risk assessment summarizes where water shortages associated with domestic wells and state small water systems may be more likely to occur. This section describes factors that are driving water shortage risk in greater detail. Identifying and characterizing these drivers of physical vulnerability help the County and the Task Force develop effective short-term actions and long-term strategies, along with their associated implementation.

Within the County, the indicators driving physical vulnerability are different depending on if the area is in an alluvial basin or a fractured rock basin. A majority of the domestic wells and state small water systems are located within the North San Benito Groundwater Basin, an alluvial basin located in the northwestern portion of the County. The vulnerability drivers in this area are water quality aquifer risk. Most of the remaining domestic wells are within fractured rock basins in the Gabilan and Diablo mountain ranges, where fractured rock geology and wildfire exacerbate risk.

Table 3-2 summarizes all physical vulnerability indicators within the County. The subsequent sections describe the three most significant contributors to physical vulnerability throughout the County (geology, wildfire risk, and water quality aquifer risk) in greater detail.

Table 3-2. Summary of Observed Conditions for Physical Vulnerability Indicators in San Benito County

Physical Vulnerability Indicator[1]	Observed Conditions
Climate Change	
Temperature Shift (RC1a)	Projected change in the maximum temperature by mid-century shows a 2.4°F (northwestern portion of the County, close to the water bodies) to 3°F (central/eastern portions) increase in average temperature throughout the County. Increased temperatures could increase water supply demands from users, evapotranspiration, and others, thereby increasing vulnerability to drought and/or water shortage impacts.
Saline Intrusion Projected (RC1b)	The County is not susceptible to sea level rise, due to its inland location.
Wildfire Risk (RC1c)	County projections show a significant increase in wildfire risk by 2064 throughout the County. Projected (future) increased wildfire frequency and severity heightens water source contamination, degrades watershed health, and damages water infrastructure, disrupting water supply and quality, thereby increasing vulnerability.
Current Environmental Conditions and Events	
Current Year's Precipitation (RC2a)	A dry water year depletes surface reservoirs and groundwater, reducing water supply and increasing vulnerability to water shortages. Precipitation data from the most recent water year's survey (2024) indicated that the County did not experience a dry year.
Multiple Dry Years (RC2aa)	Data show that most of County has been experiencing only one dry year in the last 5 years. Several small pockets in the northern and southern parts of the County have experienced 2 dry years. Multiple dry water years depletes surface reservoirs and groundwater, reducing the available water supply and increasing vulnerability to water shortages.
Wildfire Risk (RC2b)	Most of the western, central, and southern parts of the County are assigned the 'High' and 'Very High' USFS Wildfire Hazard Potential. As these groups show the current risk of wildfire, research shows that a higher risk contributes to higher physical vulnerability for water sources. Increased current risk of wildfire frequency and severity heightens water source contamination, degrades watershed health, and damages water infrastructure, disrupting water supply and quality, thereby increasing vulnerability.
Fractured Rock Area (RC2c)	Fractured rock is present across the central, south, and western parts of the County. Water availability in fractured rock areas is more difficult to monitor and therefore more uncertain for those relying on it as a source of water. Areas with fractured rock are considered due to high susceptibility to drought impacts.

Physical Vulnerability Indicator[1]	Observed Conditions
Water Quality Aquifer Risk (RC2i)	This index shows that potential groundwater contamination based off on existing water quality reports by water systems throughout the State. Areas of higher risk are indicated where concentrations of constituents are above regulatory thresholds. Some regulated constituents are scattered throughout the County that could increase physical vulnerability for different communities. Impaired groundwater quality limits its usability for drinking, agriculture, and industrial purposes, requiring costly treatment and reducing water availability, thereby increasing water shortage vulnerability.
Subsidence (RC2d)	Subsidence is the gradual sinking or settling of the ground, often caused by excessive groundwater pumping. Land subsidence increases vulnerability due to its ability to lower the water table and reduce well productivity. The County is not currently experiencing land subsidence, and no significant subsidence had been reported in the region.
Saltwater Intrusion (RC2e)	The County is not located along a coastline and therefore is not anticipated to experience saltwater intrusion.
Overdrafted Basin (RC2f)	The Corralitos–Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin is a critically overdrafted basin in the County. An overdrafted basin depletes groundwater reserves, increasing water shortage vulnerability by reducing available supply and stressing surface water sources.
Chronic Declining Water Levels (RC2g)	The County has seen slight groundwater decline (a score of 0.75, which indicates groundwater level decreases of up to 2.5 feet) within the Panoche Valley Groundwater Basin. Declining levels in groundwater indicate increased vulnerability due to the reduced available groundwater supply and imposed stress on surface water sources.
Amount of Irrigated Agriculture (RC2j)	The County is primarily farmed in its northern parts, as well as small areas in the south. The presence of agricultural activities could indicate competing demands on groundwater suppliers, as well as water quality concerns, both of which could create higher vulnerability for domestic wells and state small water systems, especially during a drought or water shortage event.
Infrastructure Susceptibility	
Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility in Basins (RC3a)	This factor analyzes locations where there are many wells susceptible to going dry if the current groundwater trends in the County continue. Data show an overall low likelihood of dry well susceptibility in the County even in the medium/high priority groundwater basin in the northern portion of the County.
Record of Shortage	
Reported Household Outage on Domestic Well (RC5a)	Areas that have already experienced outages are more likely to experience them during future dry years, due to combinations of aquifer sensitivity/fluctuations and shallow wells. There have been no household outages in the County as of September 2025.

Source:DWR 2024b.

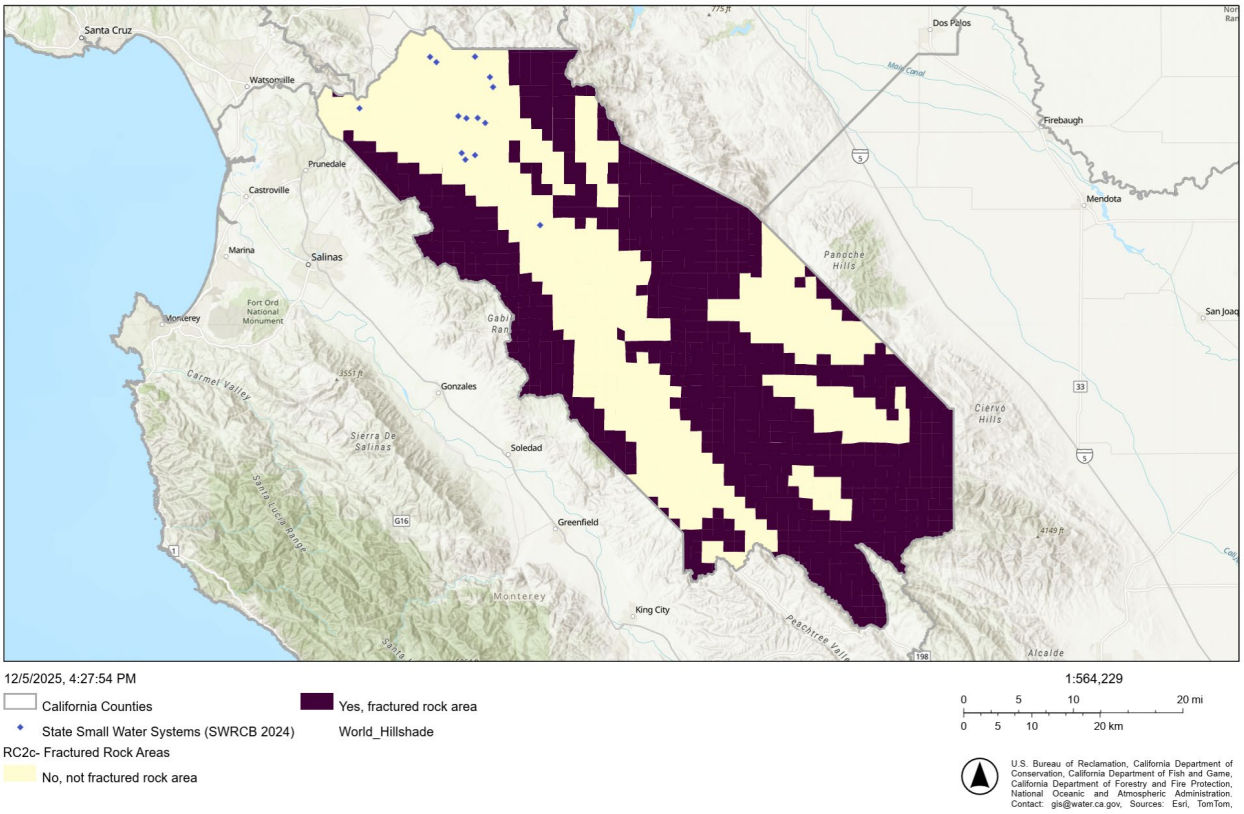
Notes: [1] Abbreviations are included next to Indicator Name (i.e., "RC1a") for clarity regarding the underlying methodology.

Key: °F = degrees Fahrenheit USFS WHP = US Forest Service Wildfire Hazard Potential

Geology (Fractured Rock Areas)

Fractured rock areas increase water supply vulnerability. Water supplies in these areas are complex to monitor and, as such, introduce uncertainty for those depending on them as a primary water source. The intricate network of fractures makes it difficult to gauge water quantity and sustainability accurately. This necessitates sophisticated monitoring approaches and comprehensive water management strategies to address uncertainties and enhance resilience in fractured rock environments. Domestic wells and state small water systems may not have the resources to implement these measures effectively.

Figure 3-3 shows the portions of the County within a fractured rock basin as a dark shaded area.



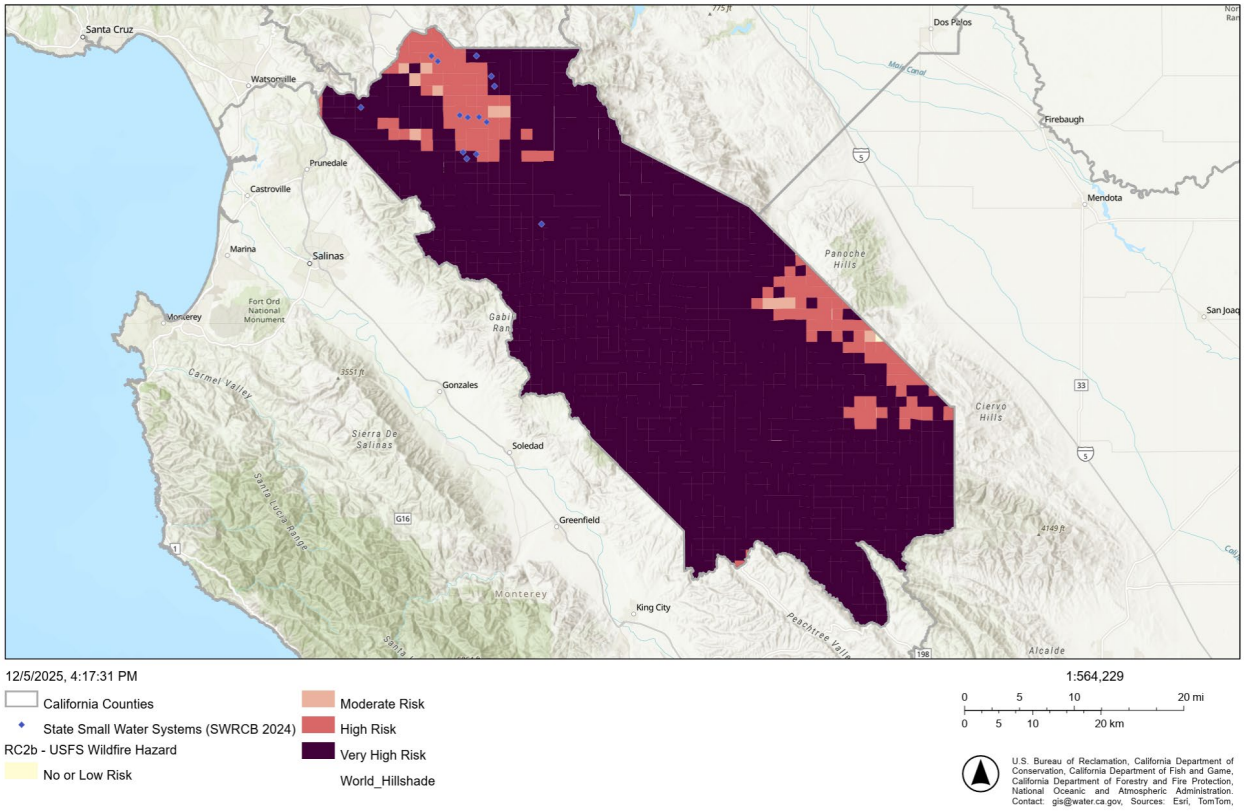
Source: DWR 2024a.

Figure 3-3. Geology Indicator Showing Fractured Rock Area in San Benito County

Wildfire Risk

The susceptibility of an area to wildfires based on topographic and ecological features can characterize the risk of a wildfire occurring. Wildfires damage or destroy natural infrastructure such as watersheds and natural reaches, as well as built infrastructure (e.g., pipelines and reservoirs). Wildfire impacts can adversely impact watersheds, leading to increased sedimentation, altered water quality, and potential contamination. The heightened risk contributes to the physical vulnerability of water sources, including groundwater.

Figure 3-4 shows the wildfire hazard potential in 2024 as recognized by United States Forest Service; darker shades indicate higher wildfire risk. A majority of the County has relatively high wildfire risk. Areas with very high wildfire hazard potential are primarily concentrated in the western, central, and southern areas of the County, which are more forest dense.



Source: DWR 2024a.

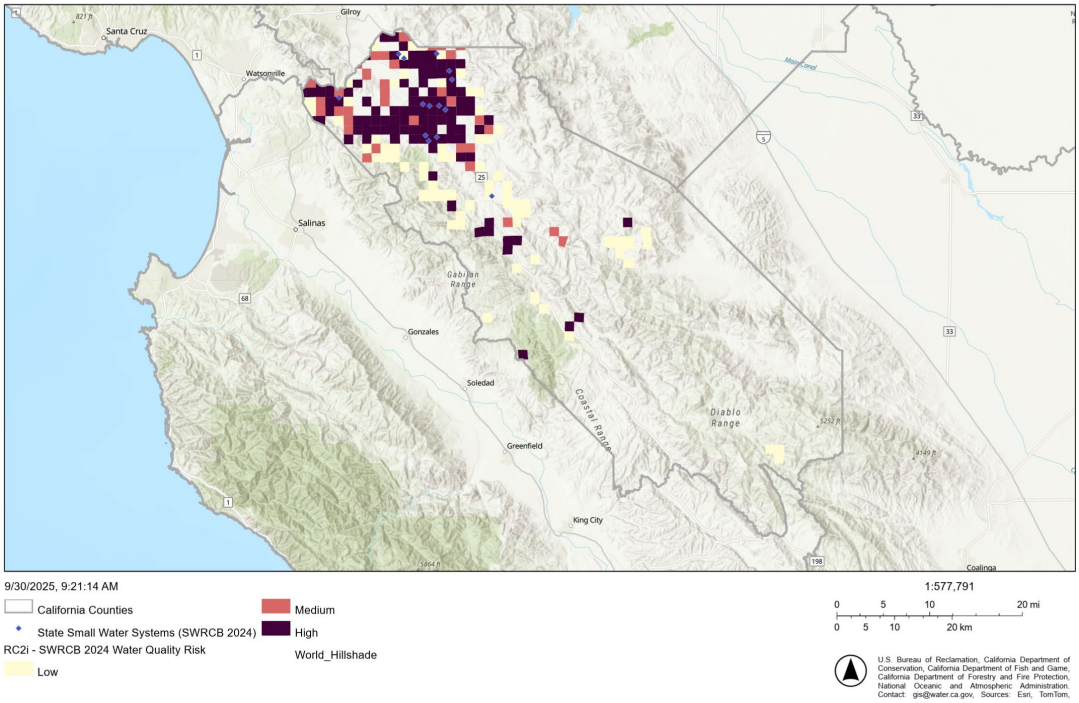
Figure 3-4. Wildfire Hazard Potential as Defined by the U.S. Forest Service

Water Quality Aquifer Risk

The presence of regulated constituents elevated at levels exceeding the prescribed thresholds increases the physical vulnerability of a water supply system. Such contaminants can compromise the safety and potability of the water, rendering it unfit for human consumption and various domestic uses. The contaminants may also impact the environment, such as affecting aquatic ecosystems, vegetation, and soil quality, cause infrastructure corrosion, reduce the reliability and longevity of water supply systems, and require costly repairs and maintenance efforts. These factors can all compound to render a domestic well or state small water system unable to deliver safe drinking water.

The groundwater water quality risk within the County was characterized using the 2024 Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Needs Assessment results. Established by the State Water Board as a result of the 2018 Budget Act, the SAFER Needs Assessment is an annual study that assesses California's water systems, with a particular focus on smaller water systems and domestic wells. This SAFER Needs Assessment evaluated the 20-year average (long-term) and 5-year average (recent conditions) of groundwater quality data to identify areas with potential contaminants. A PLSS was assigned a high water quality risk score if the long-term average or recent conditions for any potential contaminant was above the comparison concentration for any contaminant. A comparison concentration refers to a threshold value used to evaluate the potential impact of contaminants on water quality. The area was assigned a medium water quality risk score if the data was between 80 percent to 100 percent of the comparison concentration. Below 80 percent was assigned a low water quality risk score.

Figure 3-5 shows the potential groundwater water quality risk in the County based on the 2024 assessment, which was used to determine the vulnerability score. High water quality risk areas are concentrated around the north central area with some pockets in the central parts of the County.



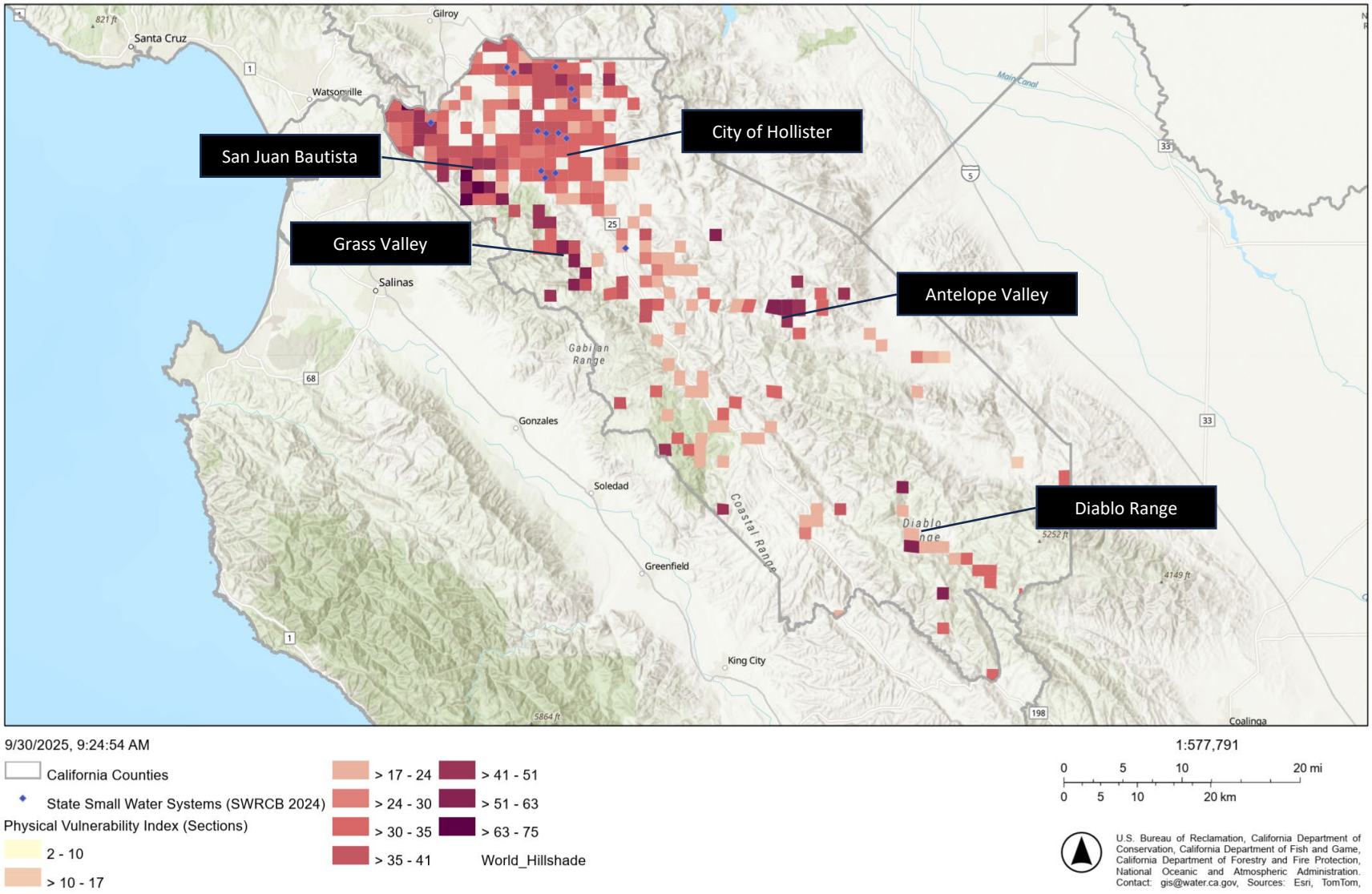
Source: DWR 2024a.

Figure 3-5. SAFER Water Quality Risk Assessed in 2024

3.4.1.2 Total Physical Vulnerability

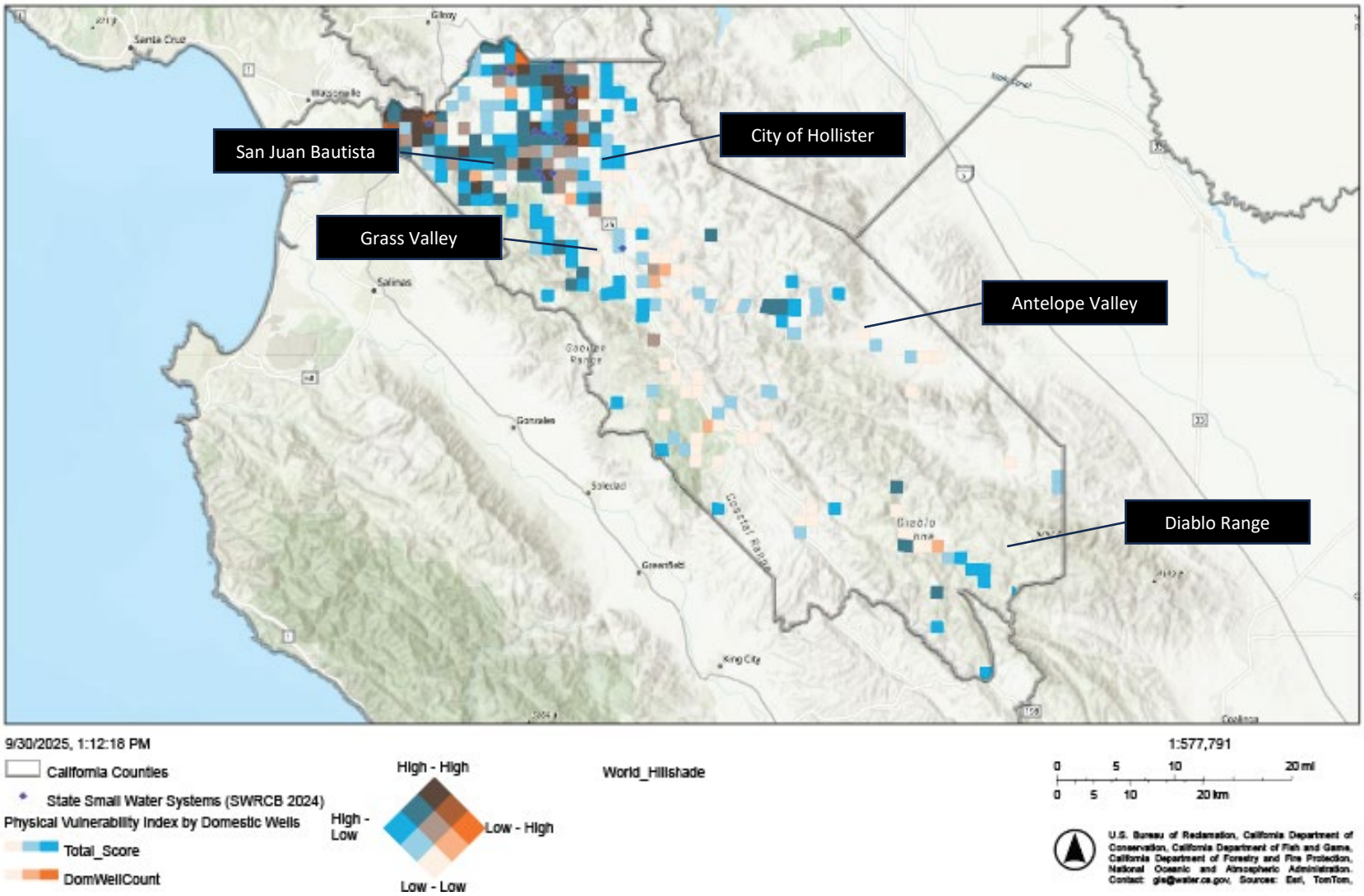
Total physical vulnerability scores within the County are shown in Figure 3-5, with darker shaded areas (or PLSSs) indicating higher physical vulnerability scores. If an area is not shaded, it means there are no domestic wells or state small water systems within the PLSS, and physical vulnerability was not scored. Higher physical vulnerability scores are concentrated near the northwestern portion of the County within the North San Benito Subbasin, including the areas surrounding Grass Valley and the cities of San Juan Bautista and Hollister. South of this region, there are also notable indications of physical vulnerability near Slacks Valley, Pinnacles National Park, and the Diablo Range.

Figure 3-7 shows how physical vulnerability within the County intersects with the location of domestic wells and state small water systems. Darker shades indicate a higher presence of domestic wells within an area with high physical vulnerability. Orange areas have a higher physical vulnerability, but minimal domestic wells, and blue areas have a high presence of domestic wells but low physical vulnerability. This figure shows where short-term actions and long-term mitigation strategies are most likely to be needed. These areas are in the northern region of the County, notably around the cities of San Juan Bautista and Hollister.



Source: DWR 2024a.

Figure 3-6. Physical Vulnerability to Drought and Water Supply Shortage in San Benito County



Source: DWR 2024a.

Figure 3-7. Intersection of Physical Vulnerability and Density of Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems in San Benito County

3.4.2 Social Vulnerability

Social vulnerability is also an important factor in assessing the risk of water supply shortage and the need for mitigation through short-term actions and long-term strategies as certain communities and individuals may lack access to resources or services during a drought. The WSVE Tool's total social vulnerability score was calculated at the Census Block Group[7] scale by normalizing the indicator value between 0 and 1 and summing the values together without additional weighting. The WSVE Tool results present a spatial representation of social and economic factors, as listed in Table 3-3, that can affect water shortage vulnerability in the County. It should be noted that the social vulnerability score only includes data availability from the U.S. Census and therefore does not represent the full extent of populations that are often understood to be at higher vulnerability (DWR 2024b).

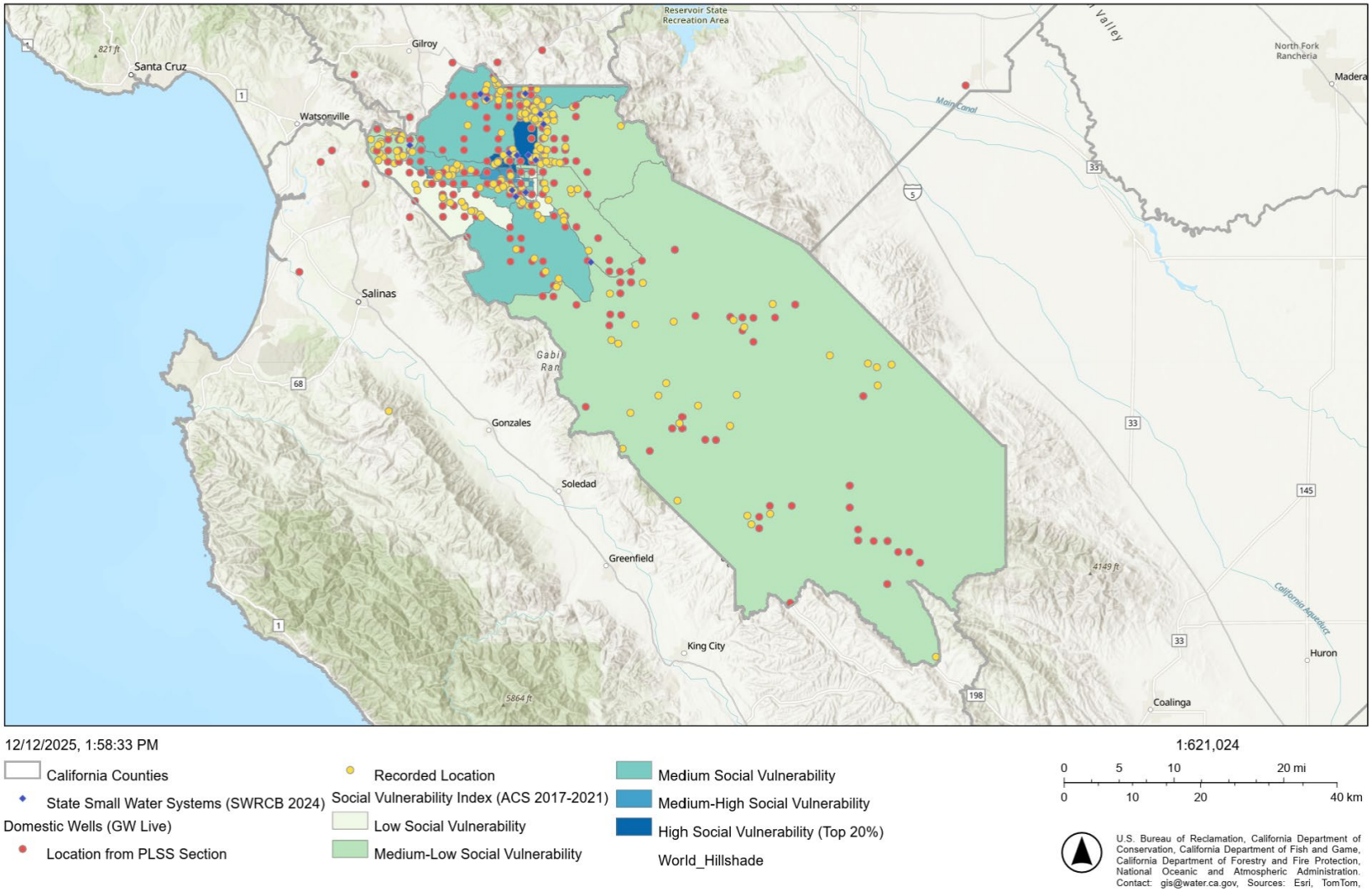
Table 3-3. Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer Indicators Used in the Development of Social Vulnerability Score

Indicator Name	Indicator Description
Socioeconomic Status	
Poverty Level	Percent of persons below two times the poverty level
Unemployment	Percent of persons aged 16 years of age or older that are unemployed
Per Capita Income	Per capita income
Language and Education	
Education Attainment	Percent of persons without a high school diploma
English Language Proficiency	Percent of persons who speak little to no English
Demographics	
Elderly Population	Percent of persons 65 years of age or older
Non-Adult Population	Percent of persons 17 years of age or younger
Disability	Percent of persons 5 years of age or older with a disability
Single-Parent Households	Percent of single-parent households
Housing and Transportation	
Multi-Unit-Housed Population	Percent of households that are multi-unit structures
Mobile Home–Housed Population	Percent of housing units that are mobile homes
Crowded Conditions	Percent of households with "crowded" conditions
No Vehicle Access	Percent of households with no vehicle available
Group Quarters	Percent population living in group quarters
Race and Ethnicity	
Persons of Color	Percent of persons that identify with a race other than White or identify ethnically as Hispanic or Latino

[7] A Census Block Group is a geographic unit with a population between 600 and 3,000 people that is the smallest geographical unit that the U.S. Census Bureau publishes data collected from a fraction of households.

3.4.2.1 Total Social Vulnerability Score

Total social vulnerability scores in the County are depicted in Figure 3-8, with darker shaded areas indicating higher vulnerabilities. Comparing the social vulnerability scores in Figure 3-8 with the physical vulnerability scores in Figure 3-6 helps characterize how social vulnerability may overlap with the physical vulnerability of domestic wells and state small water systems.



Source: DWR 2024a.

Figure 3-8. Social Vulnerability Scores by Census Block Group in San Benito County

3.5 Risk Assessment Results

In consideration of the County's physical and social vulnerability scores, and coordination with the County and the Drought Task Force, regions with high physical vulnerability and domestic well density were identified and delineated (Figure 3-9). Dark brown shades indicate a higher presence of domestic wells within an area with high physical vulnerability. Blue areas have a higher physical vulnerability but minimal domestic wells, and orange areas have a high presence of domestic wells but low physical vulnerability. State small water system locations are represented as blue diamonds. Additional information about these regions is summarized in Table 3-4 This section summarizes the risk assessment results, including the County's total physical and social vulnerability scores, followed by discussions of the individual indicators driving physical vulnerability. Figure 3-9 and Table 3-4 were used to develop short-term actions and long-term strategies that can be applied to address water shortage vulnerability across the County.

- **A. Communities within the North San Benito Basin and Santa Ana Valley Basin:** There is a high presence of domestic wells and 14 state small water systems that are vulnerable to water supply shortage within the North San Benito and Santa Ana Valley Groundwater Basins in the rural agricultural communities surrounding Hollister, San Juan Bautista, and Grass Valley. Water quality issues are primarily driving vulnerability due, in large part, to the significant agricultural operations in the region. These areas also have a mix of medium-to-high social vulnerability.
- **B. Communities within the Corralitos–Pajaro Valley Basin:** Located near the unincorporated community of Aromas, the northwestern corner of the County is characterized by a high concentration of domestic wells. The region faces significant groundwater challenges, primarily due to the overdraft conditions in the Corralitos–Pajaro Valley Basin. This chronic overdraft, in addition to poor water quality and high wildfire risk, contributes to the region's heightened vulnerability. This part of the County has a medium-low social vulnerability score.
- **C. Western fractured rock basins in the western portion of the County within the Gabilan Range:** There is a large cluster of domestic wells vulnerable to water supply shortage along the western edge of the County. This can be attributed to the complexities of the fractured rock basin within the Gabilan Range, which poses challenges to groundwater storage and extraction. This area's high susceptibility to wildfires also strains water supply systems and exacerbates vulnerability. It is also important to note that this region has medium-low to medium social vulnerability.
- **D. East-central fractured rock basins near Antelope Valley and Las Aguilas Canyon.** There is a significant cluster of domestic wells located within a fractured rock basin in the east-central part of the County. Similar to its western counterparts in the County, the higher vulnerability score in this region is also driven by high wildfire and water quality aquifer risks. These areas have a medium-low social vulnerability score.
- **E. South-central portion of the County within the Diablo Range and the Hernandez Valley Basin:** South-central San Benito County, within the Diablo Range, also contains a number of domestic wells vulnerable to water supply shortage. Vulnerability in this region is primarily driven by fractured rock geology and high wildfire risk. Notably, this area of the County is more prone to temperature increases and has experienced three to four multiple dry years over the past five years. These areas also have medium-low social vulnerability.

Table 3-1. Summary of Risk Assessment Findings in San Benito County

Area with Water Shortage Vulnerability and Domestic Wells/State Small Water Systems	Physical Vulnerability Indicators	Social Vulnerability Score
A. Communities within the North San Benito Basin and Santa Ana Valley Basin	• Water quality aquifer risk • Presence and amount of irrigated agriculture • High wildfire risk	Medium to High
B. Communities within the Corralitos–Pajaro Valley Basin	• Overdrafted basin • Water quality aquifer risk • High wildfire risk	Medium-Low
C. Western fractured rock basins in the western portion of the County within the Gabilan Range	• High wildfire risk • Fractured rock basin	Medium to Medium-Low
D. East-central fractured rock basins near Antelope Valley and Las Aguilas Canyon	• High wildfire risk • Fractured rock basin • Water quality aquifer risk	Medium-Low
E. South-central portion of the County within the Diablo Range and the Hernandez Valley Basin	• Fractured rock basin • High wildfire risk • Temperature increase	Medium-Low

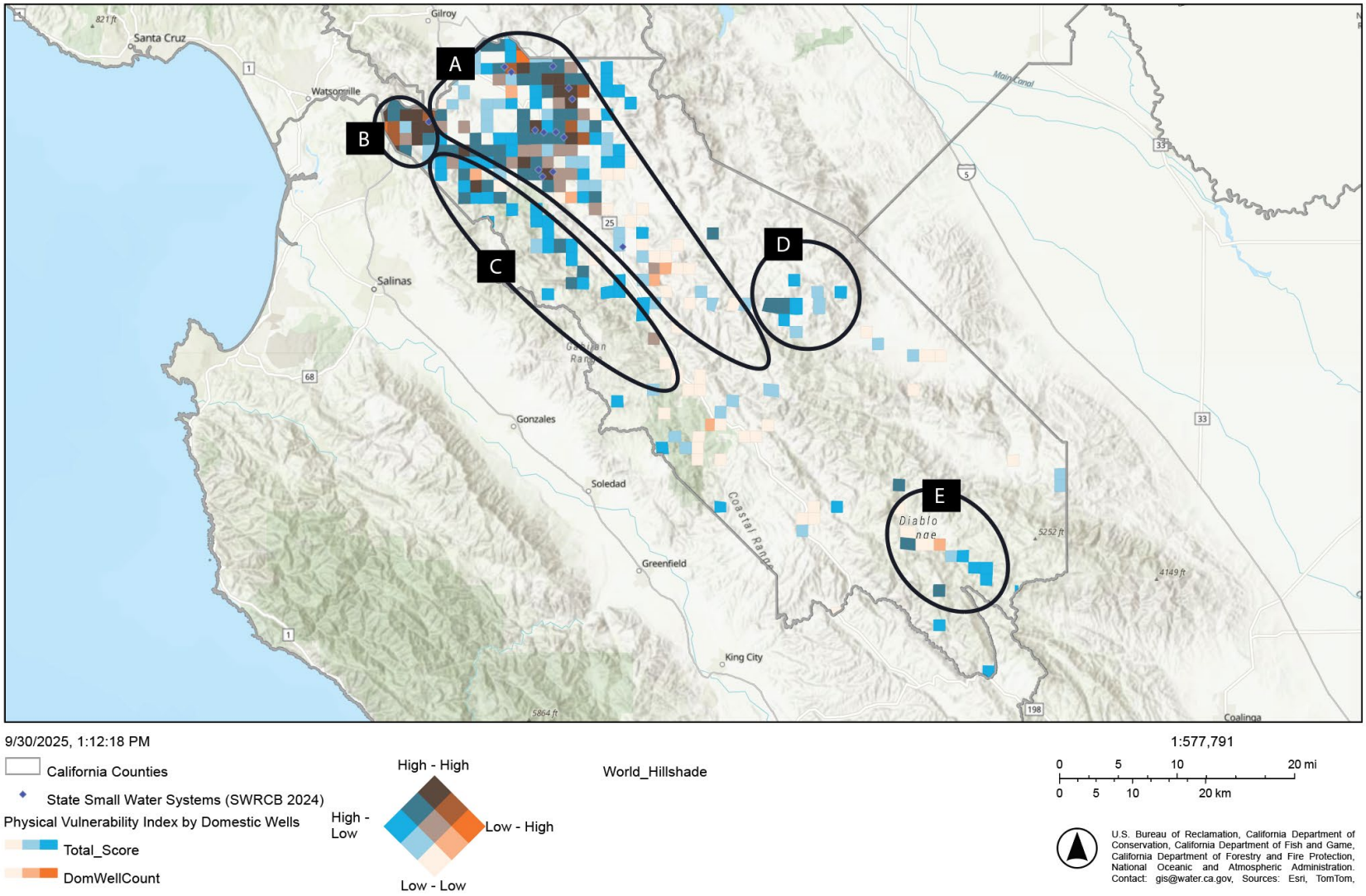


Figure 3-9. Summary of Risk Assessment Findings Showing Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability and Domestic Wells/State Small Water Systems in San Benito County

3.6 Risk Assessment Gaps

Understanding gaps in the risk assessment (1) helps identify physical and social vulnerabilities that may exist but are not effectively captured using the methodology applied and data available, (2) focuses future efforts to improve future risk assessments, and (3) allows communities to develop long-term continuous monitoring and improvement plans. This proactive approach helps build resilience over time. The County, the Task Force, and other stakeholders during the development of the County DRP identified that the domestic well locations in DWR's Online System of Well Completion Report (OSWCR) database is used in the WSVE Tool may have discrepancies. Domestic well entries are filtered to display wells constructed after 1977. Although the WSVE Tool filters out wells that have been replaced or abandoned in the analysis, there may still be discrepancies since changes in well status are not always reported to the State.

4. Short-Term Response Actions

The risk assessment presented in Chapter 3, "Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment," provided insight into regions within the County supplied by domestic wells and state small water systems that may be susceptible to droughts and water shortages, and the potential underlying causes. Based on the outcomes of that assessment, the County OES, SBCWD, Sunnyslope Water District, Aromas Water District, and Hollister Water District identified the following short-term response actions to help address the effects during the early stages and ongoing drought conditions and water shortage events that could occur in the County. In the context of this County DRP, short-term response actions are defined as actions taken during and after a water shortage emergency to reduce the impacts of existing and ongoing drought and water shortage impacts, often addressing immediate and basic public safety needs.

This section describes the short-term response actions included in the County DRP and the Drought and Water Shortage Emergency Response Process developed as part of the County DRP to assist with implementing short-term response actions.

4.1 Legislative Direction

SB 552 requires that each County develop a drought and water shortage plan that includes proposed interim solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells, per CWC Section 10609.70 (**emphasis added** as related to short-term response actions and this section of the County DRP):

> *(b)* ***A county shall develop a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed interim*** *and long-term* ***solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county's jurisdiction.*** *The plan may be a stand-alone document or may be included as an element in an existing county plan, such as a local hazard mitigation plan, emergency operations plan, climate action plan, or general plan. A county shall consult with its drought task force or alternative coordinating process as established by this section in developing its plan. A county shall consider****, at a minimum****, all of the following in its plan:*
>
> *(1) Consolidations for existing water systems and domestic wells.*
>
> *(2) Domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.*
>
> ***(3) Provision of emergency and interim drinking water solutions.***
>
> *(4) An analysis of the steps necessary to implement the plan.*
>
> *(5) An analysis of local, state, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan*

4.2 San Benito County Short-Term Response Actions

Short-term response actions are summarized in Table 4-1 and further described in this section. The short-term response actions provide emergency and interim drinking water supplies and streamline permitting and coordination for new or replacement wells during a water shortage event. The identified short-term response actions are not exhaustive and may be modified in the future as needed.

Table 4-1. San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan Short-Term Response Actions

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead and Supporting Agencies
STRA-01	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Dedicated Water Filling Stations	County staff should identify existing public facilities (e.g., fire stations, public institutions, parks, etc.) that can allow domestic well and state small water systems users to fill water in the event of a water shortage emergency.	County OES (Lead) County Public Health Services (Support)
STRA-02	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Packaged and Bottled Water Supplies	In the event of a state or federally declared water shortage emergency or by direction of the County Board of Supervisors, County staff should distribute packaged or bottled water to domestic wells and state small water system users at existing CPOD locations.	County OES (Lead) County Public Health Services (Support)
STRA-03	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Partnerships and Mutual Aid Agreements	County staff should coordinate with non-governmental organizations, nonprofit/community-based organizations, cities, water districts, and school districts to provide packaged and bottled water supplies for bulk water distribution during a water shortage event.	County OES (Lead) County Public Health Services (Support)
STRA-04	Permit Streamlining and Coordination	Expedited New or Replacement Well Approval During Water Shortage	SBCWD staff should, within its jurisdiction, continue to implement expedited permit authorization for construction of replacement wells in the event of a water shortage emergency.	SBCWD (Lead) County OES (Support)

Key:
County = San Benito County
County DRP = San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan
CPOD = Community Points of Distribution
OES = Office of Emergency Services
STRA = Short-Term Response Action

4.2.1 Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies

Providing emergency and interim drinking water supplies includes the provision of temporary water supplies until a longer-term, more permanent water supply is secured or the water shortage emergency ends. Emergency and interim drinking water supplies are used during water shortage emergencies to meet basic health and safety needs. These services can be provided on a local level through local government and/or through non-governmental organizations (NGO) and community groups, if applicable.

4.2.1.1 Dedicated Water Filling Stations (STRA-01)

In response to acute water shortages impacting domestic well and state small water system users, the County should identify and establish dedicated water filling stations through strategic partnerships and agreements with local agencies and public facilities to ensure timely and equitable access to emergency water supplies. Once identified, these locations should be clearly communicated to the public through online platforms and other accessible channels. These stations should be strategically identified to ensure equitable access across affected areas, especially regions that are more susceptible to water shortage. Clear signage, public communication, and logistical support, such as water containers and transportation assistance (if and when funding is available), could also accompany the deployment of these stations to increase their effectiveness and accessibility.

Ideal sites should be accessible, secure, and already equipped with basic infrastructure that provides potable water. Potential options, subject to further discussion and approval by the County, may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **County or City Halls:** These locations often have water infrastructure and can function as a dedicated water filling station.
- **Fire Stations:** Fire stations are well distributed and have water access, especially in more rural parts of the County.
- **Community or Recreation Centers:** These locations are familiar to residents, have ample space for vehicles, and can support large-scale operations.
- **Public Institutions:** Libraries or school campuses typically have parking, restrooms, and water access.
- **Parks with Potable Water Access:** Some parks have water hookups and can serve as temporary sites for dedicated water filling stations.

The facilities described above would be activated for emergency water supplies using the process described in the "Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan." Locations, operating hours, and other information regarding these dedicated water filling stations would be communicated using the process described in the Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan.

4.2.1.2 Packaged or Bottled Water Supplies During a Drought and Water Shortage Emergency (STRA-02)

This short-term response action outlines the process for distributing emergency and interim drinking water supplies to affected domestic well users and state small water system communities. These activities are anticipated for events lasting up to four weeks. Unless otherwise noted, implementation of these activities is subject to declaration of a State or federal emergency consistent with the County DRP

or by direction of the County Board of Supervisors. The following sections outline the drought or water shortage conditions that initiate the activation of the Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan and describe the procedures for distributing water to physically vulnerable domestic well and state small water system communities.

Drought or Water Shortage Stages

Declaring a drought or water shortage is important as it communicates a potential or ongoing emergency, activates mutual aid agreements, and is the first step in accessing State and federal resources that may be available to assist the County in implementing short-term response actions. Federal and State authorities have their own processes for declaring a drought or water shortage emergency, and County staff should understand current processes and be aware of potential revisions. A federal disaster declaration may make resources from FEMA available. The state can also make an emergency declaration which makes State resources available. An emergency declaration by federal or State authorities influences the implementation of the short-term response actions identified in this County DRP. In the event of a federal or State disaster declaration, the County should consider how to leverage additional resources to activate the short-term response actions identified in this County DRP.

This County DRP outlines a process for classifying water shortage stage, detailed in Appendix A "Water Shortage Emergency Response Process." This process uses indicators of water supply (Appendix A, Table A-1) with defined criteria that place the County in one of three water shortage stages: Readiness, Alert, and Emergency. These indicators and activation considerations were used to develop actions to address a water shortage. The information in the table is not exhaustive and is intended to show potential indicators of water supply conditions.

- In the **Readiness Stage**, there is no major drought or potential for water shortage. In this stage, County staff completes its County DRP adaptive management planning described in Section 6.2 "Implementation Roadmap."
- In the **Warning Stage**, drought or the potential for water shortage exists, but there is no active water shortage emergency. In this stage, County staff increases communication and outreach activities and initiates coordination with other entities. County staff may consider recommending that the Task Force and/or the County Board of Supervisors activate the County's water conservation policies outlined in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan.
- If a State or federally declared water shortage emergency is imminent or actively occurring, the County is in the **Emergency Stage**. In this stage, County staff, in coordination with the Task Force and County Board of Supervisors, would declare a water shortage emergency and activate the Water Distribution Plan described in the following section, "Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan."

Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan

The Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan outlines the process for distributing emergency and interim drinking water supplies to affected domestic well users and state small water system communities. This includes the following steps: Activation, Notification, Distribution, and Information Collection. Unless otherwise noted, implementation of these activities is subject to declaration of a state or federal emergency consistent with the County DRP or by direction of the County Board of Supervisors.

1. **Activation:** Activation of the Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan is subject to recommendation by County OES and approval by the Board of Supervisors. Activation is informed by an assessment conducted by County OES that includes:

   - Cause of the water shortage emergency
   - Affected geographic area and demographics of the affected population
   - Emergency and interim water supply type(s)
   - Estimated duration of need

   County OES, following review of the assessment, may authorize activation administratively, through the County Board of Supervisors, or other applicable authorities.

2. **Notification**: County OES will serve as the lead agency managing notification to the affected community on how and where to get emergency water supplies. Depending on the demographics of the affected community, information, materials, and other notifications should be required for non-English speaking communities. The notification method may vary depending on the cause of the water shortage emergency (climate-influenced, wildfire, etc.). Anticipated notification methods may include:

   - Agency website (https://www.sanbenitocountyca.gov/departments/office-of-emergency-services-oes-and-emergency-medical-services)
   - Email
   - U.S. Mail
   - Broadcast media (radio/television)
   - County Alert (SBCAlert)
   - Door hangers, fliers, information kiosks
   - Public outreach meetings and other existing meetings

   Notification methods may include coordination/collaboration with other partner agencies and organizations, such as:

   - Neighborhood associations
   - Nonprofit organizations
   - Schools and religious or community groups

3. **Distribution:** In areas where the other emergency and interim drinking water supplies are unavailable, the County should provide packaged or bottled water (i.e., 1- to 5-gallon jugs and individual bottled waters) to affected domestic well and state small water system users during a State or federally declared water shortage emergency. Typically, the County would partner with local grocery stores (e.g., Safeway, Grocery Outlet) to distribute packaged or bottled waters. All vendors must be approved by the California Department of Public Health Food and Drug Branch as commercial bottled water vendors. Packaged or bottled water would be distributed at existing Community Points of Distribution (CPOD) locations throughout the County in areas that

were identified as vulnerable listed below in Table 4-2. These sites were selected based on their geographic distribution and their capacity to accommodate large numbers of people accessing commodities by truck, car, or bus.

Table 4-2. San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan

Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerabilities	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution	Cooperating Organizations
A. Communities within the North San Benito Basin and Santa Ana Valley Basin	San Juan Bautista: • Bulk water delivery and packed water distribution at Anzar High School (2000 San Juan Highway, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045) or San Juan School (100 Nyland Drive, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045) • Dedicated water filling stations as identified by the County (STRA-01) Hollister: • Bulk water delivery and packed water distribution at the County Workforce Development Office (1161 San Felipe Road, Hollister, CA 95023), San Benito Public Health (351 Tres Pinos Road, Hollister, CA 95023) or San Benito High School (1220 Monterey Street, Hollister, CA 95023) • Dedicated water filling stations as identified by the County (STRA-01)	• Anzar High School • San Benito County Public Health • San Benito County OES • County Workforce Development • Other locations as identified by the County
B. Communities within the Corralitos–Pajaro Valley Basin	• Bulk water delivery and packed water distribution at Aromas School (365 Vega Street, Aromas, CA 95004) • Dedicated water filling stations as identified by the County (STRA-01)	• Aromas School
C. Western fractured rock basins in the western portion of the County within the Gabilan Range	• Bulk water delivery and packed water distribution at the San Benito County Fairgrounds/Bolado Park (9000 Airline Highway, Tres Pinos, CA 95075) • Dedicated water filling stations as identified by the County (STRA-01)	• San Benito County Public Health • San Benito County OES
D. East-central fractured rock basins near Antelope Valley and Las Aguilas Canyon	• Bulk water delivery and packed water distribution at the San Benito County Fairgrounds/Bolado Park (9000 Airline Highway, Tres Pinos, CA 95075) • Dedicated water filling stations as identified by the County (STRA-01)	• San Benito County Public Health • San Benito County OES
E. South-central portion of the County within the Diablo Range and the Hernandez Valley Basin	• Bulk water delivery and packed water distribution at any of the locations described above (depending on location[s] of water shortage[s])	• San Benito County Public Health • San Benito County OES

Key: OES = Office of Emergency Services

4.2.1.3 Partnerships and Mutual Aid Agreements (STRA-03)

In previous water shortage emergencies, County staff have partnered with NGOs, including the American Red Cross and the Community Water Center to assist with providing interim drinking water supplies to domestic well users and state small water system communities. In some instances, NGOs may provide direct assistance to affected domestic well users and state small water system communities without assistance from County staff. In these circumstances, County staff would coordinate with the NGOs to track coverage and needs. County staff could also consider coordinating with nonprofit/community-based organizations, cities, water districts, and school districts by establishing formal mutual aid agreements to streamline emergency response efforts, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and ensuring timely access to shared resources during water shortage events.

4.2.2 Permit Streamlining and Coordination

As drought or water shortage conditions worsen and the production or quality of water at domestic wells or state small water systems declines, well owners may be able to install a new well or rehabilitate an existing one to ensure continued water supply reliability. Streamlined permitting allows counties and agencies to quickly implement emergency water solutions. Delays in permitting can hinder timely access to water for domestic well users and state small water system communities.

4.2.2.1 Expedited New or Replacement Well Approval During Water Shortage (STRA-04)

SBCWD oversees the well permit process and ensures that all new or modified wells comply with local and state groundwater protection standards. SBCWD also works in coordination with County Environmental Health and other regulatory bodies to align permitting with groundwater sustainability goals.

SBCWD has already implemented a streamlined well permitting process during water shortage emergencies and can usually approve new or rehabilitated well permits within a few days of submission under this process. SBCWD also provides clear procedures and contact information for applicants, helping streamline the process for residents seeking well permits. Since SBCWD is the lead agency for reviewing and approving well permits in the County, it reduces the need for applicants to navigate multiple agencies independently. SBCWD's streamlining process does not relax permitting criteria related to water supply, such as proximity to other wells or water quality requirements—not appropriately considering water supply criteria could worsen a water supply shortage for other groundwater users or exacerbate an ongoing water shortage.

5. Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions

The risk assessment presented in Chapter 3, "Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment," demonstrates potential localized and regional water supply concerns, including the density of domestic wells in fractured rock areas as well as wildfire and water quality risks. While risks that impact the basic public health and safety of residents can be addressed through short-term response actions, long-term mitigation strategies and actions mitigate and potentially prevent the conditions that lead to water shortage emergencies. Long-term mitigation strategies and actions aim to reduce drought and water shortage vulnerabilities for domestic well and state small water system communities. When implemented, long-term mitigation strategies and actions can reduce the extent and cost of emergency response actions but cannot eliminate the need for emergency response actions.

5.1 Legislative Direction

SB 552 requires that each County develop a drought and water shortage plan that covers long-term solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells, per CWC Section 10609.70 (**emphasis added** as related to long-term mitigation strategies and actions and this section of the County DRP):

> *(b)* ***A county shall develop a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed*** *interim and* ***long-term solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county's jurisdiction.*** *The plan may be a stand-alone document or may be included as an element in an existing county plan, such as a local hazard mitigation plan, emergency operations plan, climate action plan, or general plan. A county shall consult with its drought task force or alternative coordinating process as established by this section in developing its plan. A county shall consider****, at a minimum****, all of the following in its plan:*
>
> ***(1) Consolidations for existing water systems and domestic wells.***
>
> ***(2) Domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.***
>
> *(3) Provision of emergency and interim drinking water solutions.*
>
> *(4) An analysis of the steps necessary to implement the plan.*
>
> *(5) An analysis of local, state, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan*

5.2 San Benito County Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions

As shown in Table 5-1, eight long-term mitigation strategies and actions have been identified and are organized into four categories: domestic well drinking water mitigation programs, system consolidation, regional water infrastructure investment, and data gaps. Each long-term mitigation strategy and action category and their ability to help address domestic well and state small water system vulnerabilities will be described in the subsequent sections following Table 5-1.

Table 5-1. San Benito County Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead and Supporting Agencies
LTMSA-01	Domestic Well Drinking Water Mitigation Programs	Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment	County staff should review and consider as-needed updates to the County DRP Risk Assessment to incorporate updated information and revisions to the WSVE Tool.	County OES (Lead)
LTMSA-02	Domestic Well Drinking Water Mitigation Programs	Water Shortage Prevention: Assistance with State Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells	SBCWD staff should provide well drillers with information to assist in determining location and depth, including depths below minimum thresholds if necessary, as defined in the GSP and connect them to GSA resources. For communities outside the GSA, County Water District staff could help facilitate access to well sampling vendors to ensure consistent water quality monitoring	SBCWD (Lead) County Environmental Health (Support)
LTMSA-03	Domestic Well Drinking Water Mitigation Programs	Communication and Outreach: Enhance Access to Resources and Support	SBCWD staff should explore opportunities to partner with other County departments and water districts to expand the WRASBC website to consolidate water-shortage-related information and resources, including educational workshop opportunities, for domestic well or state small water systems users.	SBCWD (Lead) Misc. County Departments (Support)
LTMSA-04	Domestic Well Drinking Water Mitigation Programs	Shallow Well Replacement	SBCWD Staff should assist domestic well and state small water system communities by providing informational resources on replacing shallow wells that have run dry in the past or may do so in the future.	SBCWD (Lead)
LTMSA-05	Domestic Well Drinking Water Mitigation Programs	Drinking Water Supplies: Water Hauling and Storage Tanks	As funding becomes available, County staff should explore acquiring equipment to establish programs to provide temporary, mobile bulk water hauling and storage tanks for domestic well and state small water system users that currently lack these resources during water shortage emergencies.	County OES (Lead) SBCWD (Support)
LTMSA-06	System Consolidation	Potential System Consolidation Opportunities	County staff should continue to support domestic well and state small water system communities by monitoring and evaluating the feasibility of additional system consolidations and identifying funding opportunities as needed.	County Public Works (Lead) SBCWD (Support)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead and Supporting Agencies
LTMSA-07	Regional Water Infrastructure Investment	Regional Water Project Integration	During development project approval, SBCWD staff should consider opportunities for more coordinated regional planning to help strengthen water supply resilience for domestic wells and state small water systems.	SBCWD (Lead)
LTMSA-08	Data Gaps	Dry Well Reporting and Abandonment	In order to better track wells that have gone dry, SBCWD staff should revise the permitting process so that new well permits feature an additional field to identify replacement wells for domestics wells and state small water systems, along with reason for well replacement.	SBCWD (Lead)

Key:
County = San Benito County
DWR = California Department of Water Resources
GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
LTMSA = Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions
OES = Office of Emergency Services
WRASBC = Water Resources Association of San Benito County

5.2.1 Domestic Well Drinking Water Mitigation Programs

Based on hydrologic conditions and increased demand for groundwater resources in dry and drought years, certain relatively shallow groundwater wells or groundwater wells in certain locations may be more susceptible to water shortage conditions, given that these wells could run dry more frequently. In some instances, GSPs include domestic well drinking water mitigation programs to protect drinking water access for vulnerable communities. The North San Benito GSP and the Corralitos–Pajaro Valley GSP Alternative did not conduct a vulnerable well analysis or establish domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.

CWC Section 10609.70 (b)(2) requires counties to consider domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.[8] The intention of these domestic well drinking water mitigation programs is to establish the necessary protocols and processes to ensure that residents within the County's jurisdiction have access to resources to reduce water shortage risks or mitigate the impacts of dry wells.

This County DRP groups domestic well drinking water mitigation programs into four main categories, adapted from the guidance in DWR's *County Drought Resilience Guidebook* (DWR 2023a). These categories include: (1) identifying wells that may be impacted by means of a thorough drought and water shortage risk assessment; (2) developing proactive strategies to prevent water shortages, (3) establishing options for mitigation such as shallow well replacement; (4) and enhancing drinking water supply.

5.2.1.1 Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment (LTMSA-01)

The drought and water shortage risk assessment documented in Chapter 3, "Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment," is a key component of a drinking water mitigation program. It helps define the areas and populations with domestic wells and small water systems with higher vulnerabilities to water shortage. It also characterizes what conditions may be driving water shortage vulnerabilities. Both can help inform the components of a domestic well drinking water mitigation program.

The risk assessment completed and documented in Chapter 3, "Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment," was used to help select the components of the domestic well drinking water mitigation program documented in this County DRP. County staff should periodically review and update the risk assessment as needed to incorporate the latest data, evolving drought conditions, and enhancements to tools including the WSVE Tool. These updates can help ensure that vulnerability analyses remain accurate and actionable, particularly for domestic well and state small water system communities.

5.2.1.2 *Water Shortage Prevention: Assistance with State Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells (LTMSA-02)*

Accurate siting and depth selection are essential to prevent premature well failure, avoid drilling into zones with poor water quality, and ensure compliance with GSP requirements. While the GSP establishes minimum thresholds for drilling new wells, exceptional circumstances, such as prolonged drought or localized groundwater decline, may require drilling below these minimum thresholds to ensure access to reliable water supply. By proactively sharing this information with well drillers, SBCWD can help domestic well owners and promote long-term groundwater reliability across the basin.

[8] CWC Section 10609.70(b)(2) uses the term, "domestic well drinking water mitigation programs." For the purposes of this County DRP, these programs are considered to be inclusive of both domestic wells and state small water systems.

SBCWD staff can also assist domestic well communities by providing other GSA resources, such as groundwater reports, data on water levels and quality trends, and guidance on interpreting these findings. This information can help domestic well and state small water system users better understand local groundwater conditions.

5.2.1.3 Communication and Outreach: Enhance Access to Resources and Support (LTMSA-03)

Educational outreach to domestic well users and state small water systems in San Benito County plays a key role in preventing water shortages and promoting long-term groundwater sustainability. While SBCWD plays a vital role in managing groundwater and supporting water resilience across the region, it is equally important that the services and resources they provide are widely known and accessible to the public. Many domestic well and state small water system users may not be aware of the tools, data, and support available to them through SBCWD. This lack of awareness can leave communities vulnerable during droughts, water shortages, or even contamination events. Improving public awareness through targeted outreach, clear communication, and accessible platforms can help ensure that residents are informed, engaged, and able to take advantage of available resources and programs.

Centralizing water shortage information and expanding access to technical or financial resources helps ensure that all residents, especially those in rural or underserved areas, can respond effectively to water challenges. SBCWD should explore partnerships to expand the Water Resources Association of San Benito County (WRASBC) website as a centralized hub for water shortage information. This could include maps of CPOD and water filling stations, water quality testing options, and point-of-use treatment guidance. Educational workshop opportunities on topics such as emergency preparedness and water conservation can also be published on the WRASBC website. For communities outside the GSA, SBCWD should continue to serve as a connector to link domestic well and state small water system users with sampling vendors, technical assistance providers, and funding opportunities. By consolidating these resources, SBCWD can empower residents to take proactive steps in managing their water supply and mitigate the risk of water shortage.

5.2.1.4 Shallow Well Replacement (LTMSA-04)

Shallow well replacement directly mitigates water shortage vulnerabilities that are likely to occur. Although the County has not historically experienced widespread issues with wells running dry, it is still important to proactively consider resources to support shallow well replacement as part of its domestic well drinking water mitigation strategy. Shallow domestic wells are inherently more vulnerable to groundwater level fluctuations caused by over pumping, prolonged drought, or climate change impacts. For this long-term mitigation strategy and action, SBCWD should consider the following actions to support shallow well replacement:

1. Provide informational resources on replacing shallow wells that have run dry in the past or may do so in the future. This can include conditions to monitor failing wells, who to contact in the event of a well failure, and a list of vendors that can help drill a new well.
2. Assist with acquiring financial support via grants for drilling a replacement well by connecting domestic well or state small water system communities to potential grants or other financial resources.
3. Provide well drillers with guidance on the appropriate drilling depth based on groundwater information using GSP groundwater data.

5.2.1.5 Drinking Water Supplies: Water Hauling and Storage Tanks (LTMSA-05)

As funding becomes available, the County should explore acquiring equipment to establish a program for temporary, mobile bulk water hauling to support domestic well users and state small water systems. A mobile water hauling program can serve as a critical resource during water shortage emergencies. Essential equipment for a bulk water hauling program would include potable water trucks, pumping and transfer equipment, storage areas, disinfection and monitoring tools, and a centralized dispatch system for coordinating deliveries and emergency response. On the receiving end, some domestic well users and state small water systems may lack adequately sized water storage tanks to receive hauled water. As such, the County should also explore options to assist these users in obtaining or upgrading storage capacity, either through direct support, partnerships, or grant programs. By investing in specialized mobile bulk water hauling equipment and infrastructure, the County can proactively address water insecurity and reduce emergency response costs.

5.2.2 System Consolidation

System consolidation is the physical or managerial joining of two or more water systems. This section identifies potential consolidation opportunities for domestic wells and state small water systems. The County has already taken steps to explore system consolidation options to improve water reliability and operational efficiency, particularly with small community water systems. Sunnyslope County Water District, in partnership with SBCWD, is currently leading a major system consolidation initiative supported by $17 million in State funding (DWR 2023b). This funding, provided through DWR, is aimed at addressing critical water quality and reliability issues in underrepresented communities. Of the total funding, $13.2 million has been allocated specifically to the County to support the consolidation of four failing small water systems, as described below. The remaining funds are designated for similar efforts in neighboring Monterey County. The consolidation will improve access to clean reliable drinking water, replace aging infrastructure, and strengthen regional water resilience in the face of ongoing drought and groundwater depletion.

1. **Best Road Mutual Water Company:** Best Road Mutual Water Company is a small water utility company in the City of Hollister serving the Heatherwood, Fox Hills Estates, and Fischer subdivisions. This consolidation effort will allow Sunnyslope County Water District to succeed Best Road Mutual Water Company and supply potable water to 48 existing customers of the Best Road Mutual Water Company. System consolidation was driven by failing wells, poor water quality, and low production in drought years.
2. **Venture Estates Mutual Water Company:** Venture Estates Mutal Water Company serves the Harben Way area in Hollister. While Ventura Estates serves 18 residences, making it larger than a state small water system, it is small enough that it falls under state oversight for community water systems.
3. **Stonegate Subdivision (County Service Area #31):** The Stonegate Subdivision falls within County Service Area 31 and comprises 74 residential parcels. The well historically delivers poor water quality and lacks the reliability needed to support the community's long-term water needs, particularly during periods of drought or increased demand.
4. **Tres Pinos Water District:** The Tres Pinos Water District serves 121 parcels, with eight being commercial, in the community of Tres Pinos in the County. Tres Pinos Water District has faced

challenges with aging infrastructure and limited water supply, especially during drought conditions.

Figure 5-1 provides a visual overview of how the small systems will be integrated, showing how the separate service areas will be unified with a water service network aimed at improving reliability, water quality, and operational efficiency. System consolidation is underway, with construction anticipated to be completed by October 2026.

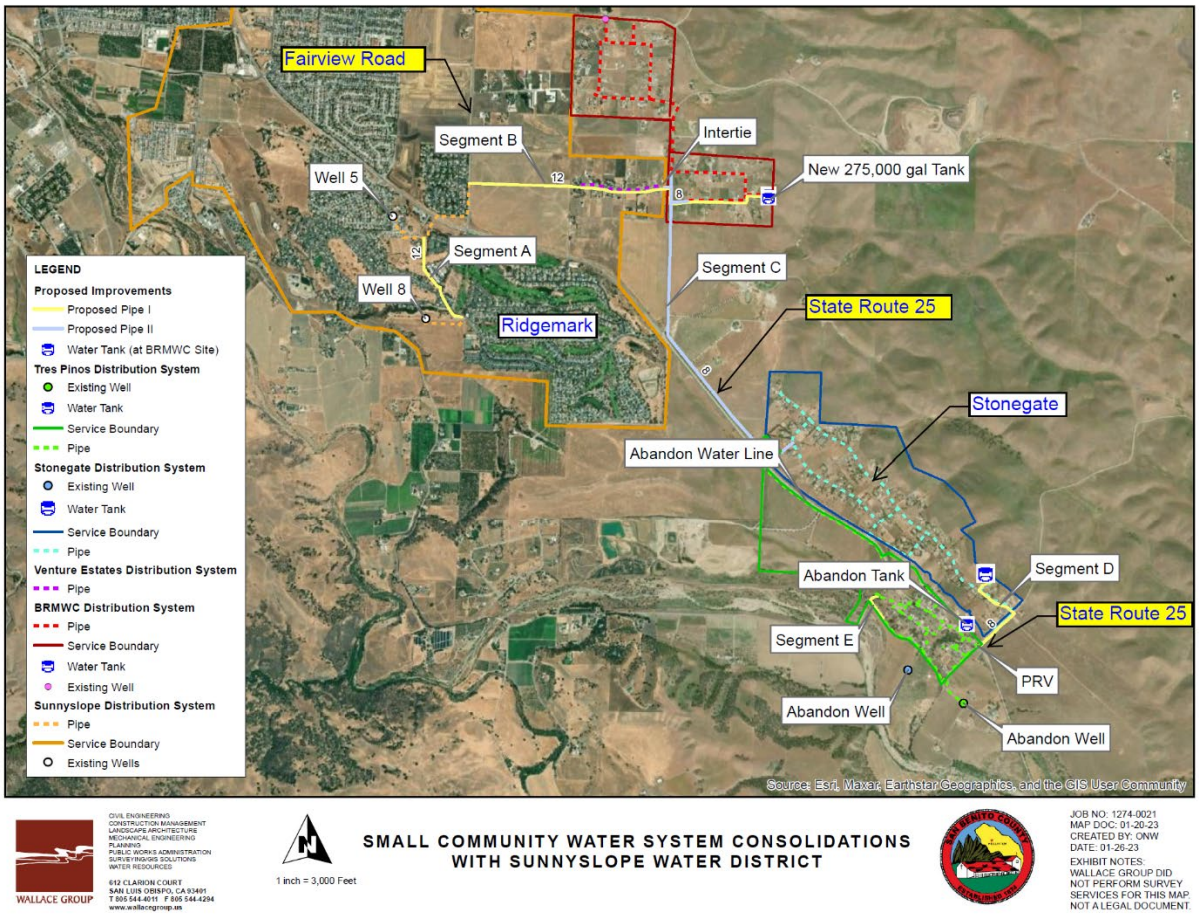


Figure 5-1. Small Community Water System Consolidations with Sunnyslope Water District

5.2.2.1 Potential System Consolidation Opportunities (LTMSA-06)

In the context of domestic wells and state small water systems, these systems can be consolidated with each other and/or a larger water system. System consolidation can improve water supply reliability by broadening water supply sources and/or the numbers of users. With more users in a singular system, operating and maintaining that system can be more cost effective compared to smaller or individual systems.

There are opportunities for system consolidation involving domestic wells and state small water systems in San Benito County, particularly where these systems fall within or near the service boundaries of existing community water systems. While a community water system is not required to provide water service to domestic well and state small water system communities, their proximity may increase the feasibility of system consolidation. Consolidation in these areas could improve water quality and

reliability by connecting often under-resourced systems to more comprehensive infrastructure. Policy or institutional hurdles may be less onerous if domestic wells and state small water systems are in an existing service area. Identifying these opportunities, especially in areas that are more vulnerable to water shortages or contamination risks, can help the County advance long-term water security goals.

Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems in Community Water System Service Areas

Table 5-2 presents community water systems that likely have domestic wells and/or state small water systems in their service areas. Due to the uncertainty of the domestic well location data, this table may not reflect all community water systems with domestic wells or state small water systems in their service areas. The information in this table highlights where outreach and additional analysis by County Public Works staff with these community water systems may be most effective.

Table 5-2. Community Water Systems with Domestic Wells and/or State Small Water Systems Likely Within Their Service Area

Community Water Systems with Domestic Wells Likely in Their Service Areas[1, 2]	Approximate Domestic Well Count	Number of State Small Water Systems Likely in Their Service Areas[2]
Aromas Water District	51–100	0
Tres Pinos Water District	0–50	0
City of Hollister	26–50	2
City of San Juan Bautista	0–25	0
Dunneville Estates County Service Area #50	0–25	0
McCloskey Road LLC	0–25	1
Sunnyslope County Water District	26–50	1
Casa de Fruta Orchards	0–25	1
Ashford Highlands Mutual Water Company	0–25	1
Rancho San Joaquin Mutual Water Company	0–25	1
McMahon Road Mutual Water Company	0–25	1
San Justo Mutual Water Company	0–25	1
Union Heights Mutal Water Company	0–25	0
Creekbridge Mutual Water Company	0–25	0
San Juan Oaks Mutual Water Company	0–25	0

Notes:

[1] The number of domestic wells within a community water system's service area are presented as a range, since the exact number may be inaccurate due to unknown or unverified well locations.

[2] Domestic wells and state small water systems within a community water system's service area are based on the established service area boundary are do not reflect the proximity to existing water delivery infrastructure. Additional analysis would be needed to determine the proximity of domestic wells and state small water systems to existing water delivery infrastructure.

Groupings of Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems near Community Water Systems

The proximity of domestic wells and state small water systems to service areas of community water systems was also evaluated to identify system consolidation opportunities. Domestic wells and state small water systems that are within 1 mile of a community water system are highlighted as potential consolidation opportunities (Figure 5-2). Table 5-3 summarizes those areas of consolidation opportunity, including the number of domestic wells and state small water systems in each area and the nearby

community water systems. Note that some of the areas of system consolidation opportunity highlighted in Figure 5-2 may also overlap with domestic wells and state small water systems within a community water system's boundary as described above.

Additional system consolidation opportunities may exist beyond the areas outlined below. County staff will remain engaged and responsive to all emerging opportunities as they arise.

Evaluating Consolidation Opportunities in the County

With additional resources, County staff, in collaboration with other water districts, should work with domestic well owners, state small water systems, and community water systems to further evaluate the opportunity or develop a plan for physical system consolidation, where appropriate. This evaluation could include outreach to the above systems areas to better understand the system consolidation opportunities (e.g., interest in and willingness to consolidate, water supply availability and water quality constraints, water delivery infrastructure (distance to, components and capacities, etc.), potential for funding and financing for a system consolidation study and infrastructure, points of contact, and other considerations).

Table 5-3. Areas with Opportunity for Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems Consolidation

Area of System Consolidation Opportunity	Approximate Number of Domestic Wells	Number of State Small Water Systems	Community Water Systems that Could Be Involved in Consolidation with Domestic Wells or State Small Water Systems	Physical Vulnerability Score
Area A: Communities around Spring Grove Road	82	2	Rancho San Joaquin Mutual Water Company McMahon Road Mutual Water Company Springwood Estates Mutual Water Company Comstock Mutual Water Company	High
Area B: Communities near North Hollister	64	4	City of Hollister Sunnyslope County Water District	Medium-High
Area C: Communities south of Hollister	20	3	Creekbridge Mutual Water Company Sunnyslope County Water District San Justo Mutual Water Company	Medium-High

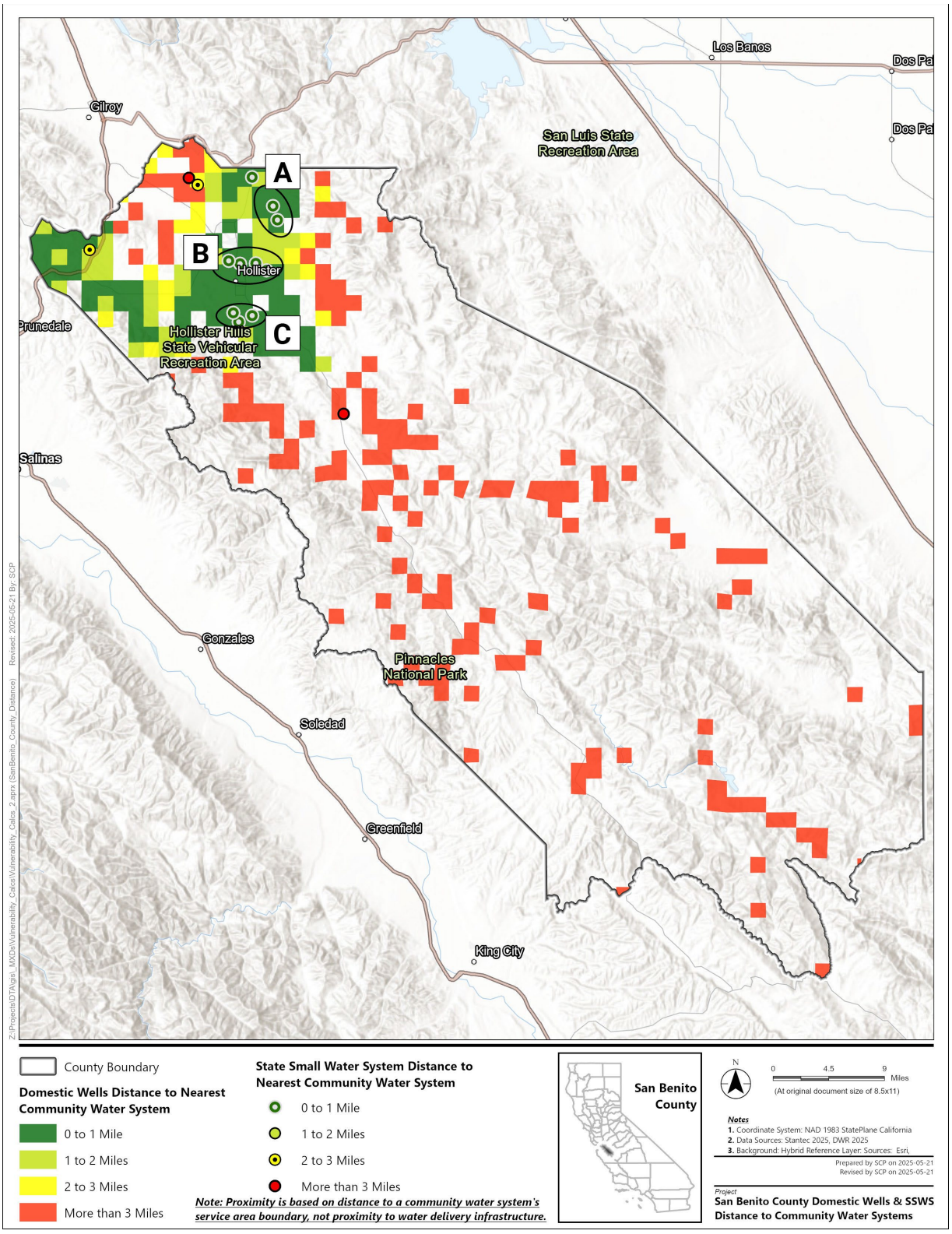


Figure 5-2. Areas with Opportunity for Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems Consolidation

5.2.3 Regional Water Infrastructure Investment

Many regional and County planning efforts intersect with the County DRP, creating a coordinated framework for addressing water scarcity, climate adaptation, and infrastructure resilience. These efforts include integrated groundwater management under SGMA, climate action planning, and long-range planning policy that address future growth. Together, they reinforce the County DRP's goals to build long-term drought resilience across the County. The long-term mitigation strategies and actions in this section describe how County and SBCWD staff could integrate into regional planning and regional water infrastructure to help enhance the water supply reliability of domestic well and state small water system communities. Additional information on the near-term integration into regional planning or water infrastructure is included in Chapter 6.

5.2.3.1 Regional Water Project Integration (LTMSA-07)

During the development project approval process, particularly for proposals involving new or independent water systems, SBCWD staff should actively identify opportunities for coordinated regional water planning. This may include recommending that state small water systems or domestic wells be interconnected with larger, more established systems when feasible. Such integration can improve operational efficiency, enhance water supply reliability, and reduce long-term maintenance and compliance challenges for domestic well and state small water system users. By promoting regional connectivity and shared infrastructure, SBCWD can help ensure sustainable water management and strengthen resilience against drought and other supply disruptions.

5.2.4 Data Gaps

The content in this County DRP used available data to support (1) evaluation of the vulnerability of domestic wells and state small water systems to water shortages, and (2) development and alignment of effective short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions. Access to new or more accurate/complete data, along with continued discussion with the Task Force, would help improve future planning efforts, including updates to the risk assessment. This section details the long-term mitigation strategies and actions, as identified in Table 5-1, that would provide new or improved data for use in future planning efforts.

5.2.4.1 Dry Well Reporting and Abandonment (LTMSA-08)

The risk assessment in Chapter 3, "Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment," considers the presence of any dry domestic wells located within a particular block group. While the risk assessment and discussion with the Drought Task Force indicate that the County is not highly susceptible to dry wells, it remains essential to document and monitor this risk. Reporting dry wells supports proactive water resource planning and helps safeguard domestic well and state small water system communities. DWR's OSWCR allows domestic well communities to report problems with their wells that impact water supplies (DWR 2025b).

However, not all domestic well and state small water systems users may report when their wells run dry, leaving the original dry well unreported and excluded from official records. To address this gap, SBCWD should consider integrating dry well reporting into the well permitting process, both for new wells and replacements. This would allow for systematic tracking of dry well occurrences, helping to identify drought impacts and inform proactive mitigation strategies. Such data could also support regional planning efforts, including updates to the GSP, hazard mitigation planning, and coordination with state small water systems that may be experiencing similar impacts

6. Implementation Considerations

The short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions identified and described in Chapter 4, "Short-Term Response Actions," and Chapter 5, "Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions," represent the range of in-progress and proposed activities. Implementation of these short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions often (1) falls under the authorities and jurisdictional responsibilities of SBCWD and multiple County departments and other local and State public agencies, and (2) requires the involvement of other interested parties. To implement these short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions, and contribute to continued improvement of water supply reliability for domestic well and state small water system communities, this section describes the implementation steps designed to assist the County with:

- Ongoing water supply monitoring and interagency collaboration
- Outlining short-term response action and long-term mitigation strategy and action implementation responsibility, status, and resource needs
- Identifying opportunities to align the County DRP with other County policy and County and regional planning documents
- Incorporating adaptive management
- Identifying funding opportunities

6.1 Legislative Direction

SB 552 requires the County to develop a drought and water shortage plan that analyzes the steps to implement the plan and funding sources available to support implementation, per CWC Section 10609.70 (**emphasis added** as related to plan implementation and this section of the County DRP):

> *(b) A county shall develop a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed interim and long-term solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county's jurisdiction. The plan may be a stand-alone document or may be included as an element in an existing county plan, such as a local hazard mitigation plan, emergency operations plan, climate action plan, or general plan. A county shall consult with its drought task force or alternative coordinating process as established by this section in developing its plan. A county shall consider, at a minimum, all of the following in its plan:*
>
> *(1) Consolidations for existing water systems and domestic wells.*
>
> *(2) Domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.*
>
> *(3) Provision of emergency and interim drinking water solutions.*
>
> ***(4) An analysis of the steps necessary to implement the plan.***
>
> ***(5) An analysis of local, state, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan***

6.2 Implementation Roadmap

The County DRP describes existing and proposed short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions that, when executed, help the County meet its objectives under CWC Section 10609.70 (b) (1), (b) (2), and (b) (3). Implementing these short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions will require resources and clear roles and responsibilities. The identified short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions include existing or new activities to be implemented under existing authorities and funding of County departments as well as activities that are dependent on appropriation of funds from local, State, or federal resources. This section presents the implementation roadmap for this County DRP; identification of ongoing monitoring and collaboration with County and SBCWD staff; and conduct of management oversight, prioritization, and resource identification needs. Many identified short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions have funding and resource requirements beyond what is currently available to the County.

6.2.1 Monitoring and Collaboration

Supply monitoring and interagency collaboration support County DRP implementation by evaluating water supply reliability and maintaining ongoing coordination and collaboration among County departments, related organizations, and the Task Force. County and SBCWD staff may regularly conduct a variety of monitoring activities, as outlined in Table 6-1. These activities may be superseded by the activities described in Section 4.2.1.2 “Packaged or Bottled Water Supplies During a Drought and Water Shortage Emergency” if a drought or water shortage emergency has occurred.

Table 6-1. San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan Monitoring and Collaboration Activities

Activity	Description	Lead Agency	Timing
Task Force Meeting	County staff to schedule and facilitate a minimum of one Task Force meeting annually to review current drought conditions, coordinating response efforts, and evaluating the implementation and progress of short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions. Discussion shall support County staff, in collaboration with its Task Force, with identifying potential activation of water shortage response measures as described in this plan if deemed necessary.	County OES	Once a year
Water Supply Monitoring and Coordination	SBCWD to monitor physical risk factors and water supply conditions as associated with domestic well and state small water system communities	SBCWD	As needed
GSA Coordination	County staff to meet with SBCWD and the Pajaro Valley Management Agency prior to the GSA's release of the basin/subbasin GSP Annual Report (Water Code Section 10728). May include additional coordination based on water supply conditions.	SBCWD	Once a year
GSA Coordination	County staff to engage, where applicable, with SBCWD, Pajaro Valley Management Agency , and other technical groups/committees where those activities assist to inform or implement actions that complement the County DRP.	County OES	As needed
County DRP Website Update	County OES to update the website content and resource materials. This includes any contact info, list of resources (vendors, links to external websites, etc.), and other website content. Website to be hosted on OES webpage within County website.	County OES	Once a year prior to Task Force meeting, and as water supply conditions merit

Key:
DRP = Drought Resilience Plan
GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP = Groundwater Sustainability Plan
OES = Office of Emergency Services
SBCWD = San Benito County Water District

6.2.2 Oversight, Timeline, and Resource Needs

Table 6-2 details the implementation of the County DRP short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions, including the responsible and coordinating entities, implementation priority and status, and resource requirements. The identified short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions have been assigned to County departments and agencies pursuant to each agency's regulatory and policy authorities. For the short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions that fall outside of the County's regulatory and policy authorities, County OES, as lead agency of the County DRP, should provide administrative oversight and act in a collaborative role to ensure the implementation of these activities, as appropriate. The information in Table 6-2 may change outside the County DRP process and should be regularly updated.

Table 6-2. San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan Implementation Matrix

Action and/or Strategy Identification and Title	Lead Agency	Supporting Agency	Activation Timeline[1]	Status[2]	Additional Resource Requirements[3]		
					Staff Time	County Budget	Outside Funds
STRA-01: Dedicated Water Filling Stations	County OES	County Public Health Services	Near-Term	Available	Yes	No	No
STRA-02: Packaged and Bottled Water Supplies	County OES	County Public Health Services	Mid-Term	In Progress	Yes	No	No
STRA-03: Partnerships and Mutal Aid Agreements	County OES	County Public Health Services	Mid-Term	In Progress	Yes	No	No
STRA-04: Expedited New or Replacement Well Approval During Water Shortage	SBCWD	County OES	Near-Term	In Progress	Yes	No	No
LTMSA-01: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment	County OES		Long-Term	Proposed	Yes	No	No
LTMSA-02: Water Shortage Prevention: Assistance with State Small Water Systems and Domestic Well Monitoring	SBCWD	County Environmental Health	Mid-Term	In Progress	No	No	No
LTMSA-03: Communication and Outreach: Enhance Access to Resources and Support	SBCWD	Misc. County Departments	Near-Term	Proposed	Yes	Yes	No
LTMSA-04: Shallow Well Replacement	SBCWD		Mid-Term	In Progress	Yes	No	No
LTMSA-05: Drinking Water Supplies: Water Hauling and Storage Tanks	County OES	SBCWD	Long-Term	Proposed	Yes	Yes	No
LTMSA-06: Potential System Consolidation Opportunities	County Public Works	SBCWD	Long-Term	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-07: Regional Water Project Integration	SBCWD		Long-Term	Proposed	Yes	No	No
LTMSA-08: Dry Well Reporting and Abandonment	SBCWD		Near-Term	Available	Yes	No	No

Notes

[1] The activation timeline column represents the anticipated timeline for the action or strategy to start and includes:

- Near-term: Action or strategy is already in progress or anticipated to begin within the next two years.
- Mid-term: Action or strategy is predicted to begin within two to five years.
- Long-term: Action or strategy is projected to begin five or more years in the future.

[2] The status column is intended to represent implementation status and is categorized as follows:

- Available: Action or strategy may be available for implementation due to near-term timeline and availability of required resources.
- In progress: Action or strategy is currently being implemented.
- Proposed: Action or strategy is proposed for future implementation, either due to timeline or resourcing.

[3] The resource requirement column identifies anticipated additional resource requirements such as additional staff time, County budget, and/or outside funds (e.g., grants, financing, federal funding, and future State funding) beyond what the County currently has available to implement the identified actions and strategies.

Key:
OES = Office of Emergency Services
SBCWD = San Benito County Water District

6.3 Regional Planning Alignment for Implementation

Coordination by County and SBCWD staff within these other regional and County planning efforts will support implementation and also help ensure these plans and projects consider domestic wells and state small water systems. The information and actions contained in this document provide mutual benefits towards realizing goals and objectives of other County and regional planning efforts that may impact domestic well and state small water communities. Table 6-3 describes recommended policy alignment and/or integration actions that promote implementation of short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions identified in this County DRP through coordinated efforts with other related County and regional planning efforts.

Table 6-3. San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan Policy Alignment and Integration

Related Planning Effort	Status	Lead Agency	Intersection with the County DRP	Policy/Integration Action
County and City General Plans	Adopted between 2015 and 2023	County Planning Department, City of Hollister Planning Department, City of San Juan Bautista Planning Department	The County DRP builds on the County and municipal General Plans by identifying drought vulnerabilities in areas planned for growth and ensuring water supply reliability aligns with future development. Future growth, land use, and infrastructure policies should be informed by areas not served by centralized public water systems.	County and City Planning Departments to review risk assessment and consider Short-Term Response Actions and Long-Term Mitigation Strategy and Actions for future General Plan updates
San Benito County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan	Adopted February 2023	County OES	The County DRP complements the plan by offering water-specific mitigation strategies that can be integrated into broader hazard response efforts. Strategies for drought resilience, emergency response, and long-term water security should account for the unique vulnerabilities and needs of communities served by domestic wells and state small water systems.	County OES to review risk assessment and identify any gaps in planning, coordination, or resources to strengthen future mitigation strategies.
Emergency Operations Plan	Adopted January 2023	County Office of Emergency Services	The County DRP supports operational response readiness by identifying actions to take during a water shortage emergency. Areas with a high concentration of domestic wells and state small water systems should be prioritized in planning efforts due to their heightened vulnerability to water supply disruptions and drought impact.	County OES to incorporate the Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Plan into the Emergency Operations Plan
North San Benito Groundwater GSP	Adopted November 2021	San Benito County Water District	There is a high concentration of domestic wells located in the North San Benito Groundwater Basin. The County DRP involved collaboration with the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SBCWD) to help bridge planning efforts between emergency response and long-term sustainability.	County OES to continue coordination with SBCWD for management of shared groundwater supplies and ensure consistency with other water management plans

Related Planning Effort	Status	Lead Agency	Intersection with the County DRP	Policy/Integration Action
San Benito Urban Area Water Supply and Treatment Master Plan	Adopted October 2023	City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, San Benito County, SBCWD, Sunnyslope County Water District	The County DRP identifies vulnerable areas and populations at risk from drought. The San Benito Urban Areas Water Supply and Treatment Master Plan Update identifies long-term water supply deficits during drought periods and recommends infrastructure improvements. It also includes climate change adaptation strategies/ emergency response planning that could support domestic wells and state small water systems.	Each agency to review areas of vulnerability, with a focus on domestic wells and state small water systems
Hollister Urban Area Water Management Plan	Adopted July 2021	City of Hollister, Sunnyslope County Water District, SBCWD	The County DRP aligns drought preparedness, groundwater sustainability, and emergency water supply strategies to support long-term reliability for both urban systems and vulnerable rural communities.	Each agency to review areas of vulnerability, with a focus on domestic wells and state small water systems
Pajaro River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan	Memorandum of Understanding established 2004	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, SBCWD, Santa Clara Valley Water District	The County DRP complements watershed-scale climate adaptation initiatives by addressing water resilience at a County level.	Each agency to review drought and water shortage emergencies for domestic and state small water system communities as a component of IRWMP
Pajaro Valley Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Alternative	Adopted 2021	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency	A significant concentration of domestic wells is located within the Pajaro Valley Basin portion of the County, where groundwater levels and water quality are increasingly impacted by drought conditions. The County DRP supports long-term groundwater sustainability, reduces overdraft drifts, and supports coordinated regional efforts to protect domestic well and state small water system communities.	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency to review vulnerability data on domestic well and state small water system communities to inform monitoring and project prioritization

Key:
DRP = Drought Resilience Plan
IRWMP = Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
OES = Office of Emergency Services
SBCWD = San Benito County Water District

In addition to aligning with regional policy, integration of domestic wells and state small water systems into regional water infrastructure projects is also essential to support implementation. Table 6-4 summarizes current projects and assesses each project's potential to enhance supply reliability for domestic wells and state small water systems, as well as the entities involved in their development and implementation. While these projects represent efforts to enhance water supply reliability, this is not an exhaustive list; additional opportunities may exist or arise. County and SBCWD staff should continue monitoring regional planning efforts for other coordinated water infrastructure opportunities.

Table 6-4. Regional Water Projects with Applicability to Domestic Wells and/or State Small Water Systems

Regional Water Infrastructure Projects	Project Description	Applicability to Domestic Wells and State Small Water Systems	Lead Agency
North County Project[1]	Test wells drilled in March 2021 as part of the North County Project have been incorporated into the North San Benito GSP's monitoring network for groundwater levels and quality. Detailed data collection is underway, including ground surface elevation, screened intervals, and baseline hydrogeologic conditions, to support long-term basin management and sustainability assessments.	Moderate: Improves groundwater monitoring	SBCWD
ADRoP[2]	ADRoP includes the construction of aquifer storage and recovery wells, which enhance groundwater reliability during droughts. The project also expands the West Hills Water Treatment Plant and builds transmission pipelines, improving regional water supply resilience.	High: Increases groundwater storage	SBCWD
City of San Juan Bautista Regional Water and Wastewater Solution[3]	This project involves importing water from the West Hills Water Treatment Plant to San Juan Bautista to replace groundwater use.	Low: Indirectly offsets groundwater demand	San Juan Bautista City of Hollister
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise[4]	This project consists of raising the B.F. Sisk Dam to address seismic concerns and increase water storage capability in the San Luis Reservoir.	Low: Indirectly offsets groundwater demand	US Bureau of Reclamation DWR

Source:
[1]SBCWD and Valley Water 2025.
[2] SBCWD 2025.
[3]San Juan Bautista 2025.
[4] Reclamation 2025.
Key:
ADRoP = Accelerated Drought Response Project
DWR = California Department of Water Resources
GSP = Groundwater Sustainability Plan
SBCWD = San Benito County Water District

6.3.1 Adaptive Management for the Drought Resilience Plan

The County DRP will be updated periodically or in response to updated information or changing conditions to ensure findings, short-term response actions, and long-term mitigation strategies and actions are appropriate and relevant. At a minimum, this County DRP will be reviewed and updated by County staff every five years, depending on the availability of funding. The County DRP may also be revisited after major droughts, water shortage events, changes in GSA status, as well as when new data, strategies, policies, or requests from the Task Force arise. The County OES is responsible for initiating and coordinating any County DRP updates.

Updates to the County DRP may include: (1) reviewing the risk assessment findings in light of new and improved information that characterizes water supply vulnerability, (2) evaluating progress on short-term response action and long-term mitigation strategy and action implementation, (3) updating any communications and outreach materials and information, (4) updating Task Force details, and (5) revising the County DRP content to incorporate any changes.

6.4 Funding Opportunities and Assistance Programs

County DRP implementation could involve a variety of activities both for County staff and for community partners including plan administration, management, and updates; submitting funding applications and administering agreements; outreach and communications; coordination with other agencies and entities; Task Force engagement; managing assistance programs; development and construction of infrastructure and associated operations; and other efforts. Those activities require funding—both short-term for projects with a finite schedule and long-term for ongoing activities. As SB 552 does not provide funding for implementation activities, this County DRP analyzed local, State, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan.

A combination of funding and support sources could be used to support County DRP implementation with various agencies and entities involved in securing and administering each source. These might include grants, loans, agency staff time, services provided by others (e.g., in-kind work, technical or training assistance through a State or federal agency). The availability of these internal and external funding sources will impact the success and timeliness of the County DRP implementation.

Tracking and applying for grants or other funding sources to implement short-term response actions or long-term mitigation strategies and actions typically require additional staff time and resources that may not always be available. County OES staff are currently identifying, tracking, analyzing, and applying for potential grant opportunities. However, additional support and resources could be beneficial to help secure adequate funding to implement the short-term response actions or long-term mitigation strategies and actions.

Domestic well, state small water system, and domestic surface water user communities are also limited in their ability to access reliable funding due to limited staff, reserves, and flexibility. They may find that it is cost- and resource-prohibitive to implement drought or water shortage solutions by themselves, that solutions frequently require participation or involvement of other entities, and that it is challenging to prepare for, navigate, apply for, and administer the various local, State, and federal funding mechanisms that could be available at any given time. These system owners/operators may need assistance. Note that the County does not have the authority to require domestic well, state small water system, or domestic surface water user communities to implement any actions to enhance their resilience.

Table 6-5 provides a compilation of funding opportunities and assistance programs that may be available to assist in the implementation of the short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions identified for the County, as listed in Section 4.2, “San Benito County Short-Term Response Actions” and Section 5.2, “San Benito County Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions.” Table 6-5 may be used as a basis for developing future funding strategies, but it is neither a complete list nor an exhaustive one. Additionally, as available funding sources are constantly changing, funding needs, timing, and potential opportunities must be evaluated and balanced prior to commitment to implementation.

Table 6-5. Funding Opportunities and Assistance Programs for Drought Resilience Plan Implementation

Agency	Program	Description
County	General Fund	The County General Fund is primarily supported by discretionary revenues such as sales and property taxes. Allocation of these funds is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, allowing flexibility to support a range of County priorities and services.
California State Library	California Grants Portal *(https://www.grants.ca.gov/)*	Searchable webpage with information on State funding opportunities (input and updated by State administering agencies and departments). Grants Portal hosts State funding opportunities offered on a competitive or first-come basis (other types of grants are not listed).
State Water Board	County-wide and Regional Funding Programs (SAFER) *(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/funding_solicitation.html)*	Grant funding to implement regional programs that address drought-related and/or contamination issues for domestic wells and state small water systems serving DACs and low-income households.
State Water Board	Small Community Funding Program *(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/sustainable_water_solutions/)*	Funding and assistance to help DACs providing drinking water service to less than 10,000 people and having a median household income of less than 80% of the statewide median household income with technical assistance needs, interim water supplies, and implement eligible drinking water capital improvement projects.
State Water Board	Domestic Water Wells and State Smalls Program *(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/drinking_water_well.html)*	Assistance to disadvantaged individuals or households served by a domestic well or state small water systems with a water quality issue.
State Water Board	Drinking Water SRF *(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/fundingincentives.html)*	Drinking Water SRF webpage specific to funding and incentives for consolidation and regionalization projects.
State Water Board	Financial Assistance Funding: Grants and Loans Website *(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/)*	Information on grant and loan programs (State Water Board and other agencies).
California DWR	Technical Assistance *(https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Technical-Assistance)*	Technical guidance and assistance resources to local and regional organizations through 4 regional offices.

Agency	Program	Description
California Department of Water Resources	Grants and Loans *(https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans)*	Information on grant and loan programs that support integrated watershed management activities addressing environmental stewardship, water supply reliability, flood risk, groundwater sustainability, drought, and more.
California Financing Coordinating Committee	California Financing Coordinating Committee Funding Information *(https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/)*	Information on grants, loans, and bond financing for infrastructure projects from 4 State agencies (State Water Board, DWR, CA Department of Housing and Community Development, CA Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank) and 2 federal agencies (U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, USDA Rural Development) also has information on and links to the California Rural Water Association and Rual Community Assistance Corporation and tabs for funding fairs, infrastructure funding programs, and additional funding programs.
California Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation	Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program *(https://lci.ca.gov/climate/icarp/)*	Information on planning and implementation of grant programs, technical assistance, and other resources to support planning for and adapting to climate change.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Integrated Drought Information System	Funding Opportunities *(https://www.drought.gov/drought-in-action/funding-opportunities)*	Information on and links to funding offered by the National Integrated Drought Information System and its partners related to drought early warning research across many sectors and fields including science, education, and technology. Webpage also includes links to other drought-related federal funding opportunities.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants *(https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness)*	Funding for eligible long-term solutions that reduce the impact of disasters in the future. Information on many funding/assistance opportunities.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Rural Utilities Service Water and Environmental Programs: Water and Environmental Grant and Loan funding *(https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs)*	Technical assistance, training, and financing to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems in rural communities (populations of 10,000 or less).

Agency	Program	Description
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants *(https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants)*	Funding to prepare for or recover from an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program *(https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program)*	Funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and stormwater drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas; for qualified applicants not otherwise able to obtain commercial credit on reasonable terms.

Key:
DAC = disadvantaged community
DWR = California Department of Water Resources
SAFER = Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience
SRF = State Revolving Fund

In analyzing potential funding sources, this County DRP identified the issues, topics, questions, and suggestions listed below:

- **Administration and Coordination:** County OES may serve as the lead coordinating agency for implementation. Additional support from other County departments and partner agencies (e.g., SBCWD, Environmental Health) will be needed to strengthen capacity and ensure cross-agency collaboration.
- **Staffing and Capacity Needs:** Dedicated staff are essential to track funding opportunities, manage applications, and administer awarded grants. This includes developing a funding strategy for short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions and identifying/securing resources to implement and periodically update that strategy. These costs may be covered through grant reimbursements, local cost-share agreements, or separate funding sources. SBCWD may also need additional capacity to track and monitor existing water resources beyond the GSA basin.
- **Funding Constraints and Strategy:** Many State and federal programs are competitive and income based. Given limited resources and competing priorities, successful pursuit of funding for short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions will require active engagement from cross-agency coordination and the Task Force to develop compelling proposals.
- **Adaptability and Strategic Alignment:** Short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions should remain flexible to account for climate variability, population shifts, and evolving grant criteria. Aligning projects with funding agency priorities and forming strategic partnerships will enhance competitiveness and long-term resilience.

7. References

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Appendix A: Water Shortage Emergency Response Process

Water Shortage Emergency Response Process

Appendix A outlines the Water Shortage Emergency Response Process, which is designed to help the County monitor water supply conditions that affect domestic wells and state small water systems. The purpose of this process is to identify actions appropriate for each stage of a water shortage, helping to mitigate potential impacts on these vulnerable water sources.

The emergency response process defines three stages of water shortage: Readiness, Warning, and Emergency. Table A-1 presents key indicators related to water supply conditions and activation considerations used to assess the current status. While the table provides examples of potential indicators and considerations, it is not exhaustive. The County may rely on additional indicators not listed in Table A-1.

To support each water shortage stage, the County has aligned specific actions and designated lead agencies, as shown in Table A-2. Further details on these actions can be found in Chapter 4 “Short-Term Response Actions” of the County Drought Resilience Plan. The County retains discretion to implement additional activities beyond those listed in Table A-2 and will determine the most appropriate strategies based on the nature of the shortage.

Table A-3 includes contact information for agencies that may be involved in the emergency response process.

Table A-1. Water Shortage Indicators and Activation Considerations in San Benito County

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Warning Stage Indicators and Activation Considerations	Emergency Stage Indicators and Activation Considerations
U.S. Drought Monitor[1]	The U.S. Drought Monitor is a map updated weekly that shows location and intensity of drought across the country, and uses a 5-category system, from Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions to Exceptional Drought (D4). The County can use this resource to understand the prevalence and severity of drought within the County and surrounding areas.	If U.S. Drought Monitor classification reaches Severe Drought (D2) or worse within the County, initiate Warning Stage review. Combine with other indicators before activation.	If classification reaches Extreme (D3) or Exceptional (D4) drought, heighten monitoring of all other indicators; the County is to activate Emergency Stage only if corroborated by supply or impact data. An Extreme or Exceptional drought classification may not solely indicate that a water shortage emergency is occurring or imminent.
Public Water System Shortage Stage	Public water system is required to maintain a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (or have one within an Urban Water Management Plan) that specifies stages of water shortage tied to projected water supply shortfalls. The Drought Stages that public water systems use may be a proxy for overall drought conditions within the County.	Public water system's water shortage stage could alert the County to consider whether the Warning Stage is warranted for domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems. Public water systems that use the same groundwater supplies are a better direct proxy than those that rely on different types of water supplies.	Water Shortage Contingency Plans include an Emergency Stage that is only used when water supply shortages are imminent. If a public water system in the County is in an Emergency Stage, especially if the system uses the same groundwater supplies as domestic wells, local small water systems, or state small water systems, this should be an Emergency Stage activation consideration.
Water Quality	Water quality data from water systems available to the County could indicate water quality issues. The presence of potential water quality issues that may result in water supplies being unusable can be used to establish a water shortage stage. Note that other hazards such as droughts or wildfires can exacerbate poor water quality conditions and should also be considered in combination with this indicator.	Indicators include water quality observations that are noted as being of concern (for unregulated chemicals or those without an established water quality level) or measured water quality that is outside of established standards (maximum contaminant levels, primary or secondary standards, etc.) without a boil-water notice or other intervention limiting use in place will initiate Warning Stage review.	Observed water quality that is outside public health standards (maximum contaminant levels, primary or secondary standards, etc.) and/or a boil-water notice or intervention limiting use is in place will activate the Emergency Stage.

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Warning Stage Indicators and Activation Considerations	Emergency Stage Indicators and Activation Considerations
Applications for Replacement Well Permits	Water quality data from water systems available to the County could indicate water quality issues. The presence of potential water quality issues that may result in water supplies being unusable can be used to establish a water shortage stage. Note that other hazards such as droughts or wildfires can exacerbate poor water quality conditions and should also be considered in combination with this indicator.	If the County is in a drought condition (U.S. Drought Monitor, Public Water System, or others) and there is an increase in replacement well permit applications, then the County should evaluate if the new applications are due to water shortages for domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems and initiate Warning Stage.	If after evaluating the dry well reports, the County finds that the features of the dry well (e.g., depth, age) are consistent with other wells in the area, that may indicate the potential for widespread water shortages; consider Emergency Stage activation
Dry Well Reports	California has a dry well reporting system that well owners or operators can use to report a dry well. The County can use this to help identify where a water shortage is occurring.	Any dry well reports submitted within the County should activate evaluation of the cause of the water shortage to determine if the cause is due to an isolated issue (e.g., very shallow well, aging infrastructure, etc.) and if the cause was exacerbated by drought. If consistent with area-wide well characteristics and drought impacts, initiate Warning Stage.	If after evaluating the dry well reports, the County finds that the features of the dry well (e.g., depth, age) are consistent with other wells in the area, that may indicate the potential for widespread water shortages; consider Emergency Stage activation
GSA Monitoring	GSAs in SGMA priority basins are required to do regular monitoring (typically in October and April) of groundwater conditions as part of their reporting. The County can use data from these monitoring programs, if available to the County, to inform a water shortage stage.	If monitoring or analysis by a GSA indicates a decline in groundwater levels below an established threshold (such as a MT or Measurable Objective, as defined in the associated GSP) that could cause water supply issues, then initiate Warning Stage review.	Consider Emergency Stage if monitoring or analysis by a GSA that results in the GSA implementing response actions to avoid water shortages, and domestic wells, local small water systems, or state small water systems supplies could be impacted in that area.
Non-Drought Hazards	Other hazards that could result in a water shortage include wildfires, earthquakes, floods, and power outages (either planned or unplanned), and the County should monitor conditions following a hazard event. Water supply impacts of some of these hazards can be worsened by drought conditions, and such events can also influence other indicators such as water quality.	Initiate Warning Stage review if hazards temporarily interrupt domestic well, local small water system, or state small water system supplies for up to 2 days.	Activate Emergency Stage if hazards interrupt domestic well, local small water system, or state small water system supplies for an extended period (3 or more days), including public safety power shutoffs.

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2024.
Key:
GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP = Groundwater Sustainability Plan
MT = Minimum Threshold
NGO = Non-Governmental Organization
SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
U.S. Drought Monitor = United States Drought Monitor

Table A-2. Water Shortage Emergency Response Process

Water Shortage Stage	Description	San Benito County Actions1	Lead Agency
Readiness	No major drought or potential water shortage	Annual Drought Task Force Meeting to discuss County DRP Implementation and review water supply health	OES
		Proactive long-term mitigation strategy communications and outreach	OES, SBCWD
		Conduct annual water supply assessment	SBCWD
		Annual website update	OES
Warning	Drought or other hazard occurring could cause a water shortage	As-needed Drought Task Force Meeting	OES
		Conduct outreach related to voluntary water conservation strategies	SBCWD
		Conduct outreach to share available resources for water shortage mitigation	SBCWD
		As needed, coordinate with relevant organizations: SBCWD, water districts, other County departments, NGOs	County OES
Emergency	Water shortage is occurring or is imminent	Initiate Drought Task Force Meeting	County OES
		Activate Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Process for area(s) experiencing water shortage	Couty OES

Notes:

[1] Not all short-term response actions identified by the County are explicitly listed in this table as some may be grouped together. All short-term response actions are described in the San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan Chapter 4.

Key:

NGO = Non-Government Organization

OES = San Benito County Office of Emergency Services

SBCWD = San Benito County Water District

Table A-3. Contact Information for Agencies Involved in the Emergency Response Process

Agency	Name/Role	Contact Information
Office of Emergency Services	Kris Mangano, Emergency Services Manager	Email: kmangano@sanbenitocountyca.gov Phone: (831) 636-4168
San Benito County Water District	Dana Jacobson, General Manager	Email: djacobson@sbcwd.ca.gov Phone: (831) 637-8218
Hollister Fire Department	Charlie Bedolla, Fire Marshall	Email: charlie.bedolla@hollister.ca.gov Phone: (831) 636-4300
Sheriff's Office	Sheriff	Email: info@sbcsheriff.org Phone: (831) 636-4080



San Benito County Drought Resilience Plan
Administrative Final

Prepared for:
San Benito County

Prepared by:
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

February 25, 2026

Appendix F
SBCWD Ordinance No. 2015-04

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT DECLARING A WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY AND IMPLEMENTING THE DISTRICT'S WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLANS

The San Benito County Water District Board of Directors does hereby resolve as follows:

PURSUANT to California Water Code Section 350 et seq., the Board of Directors has conducted duly noticed public hearings to establish the criteria under which a water shortage emergency may be declared.

WHEREAS,
The District is a water purveyor to the City of Hollister and the Sunnyslope County Water District for municipal purposes and to agricultural customers in San Benito County for irrigation purposes; and

WHEREAS,
Much of California experienced record dry conditions in January 2014 through January 2015, registering historic lows on the Northern Sierra, Upper Sacramento River and San Joaquin precipitation indices; and

WHEREAS,
The Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in him by the state Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in the State of California due to current drought conditions; and

WHEREAS,
The District receives water from the Central Valley Project (CVP) as a federal contractor and it has been projected by the Bureau of Reclamation that south of the Delta contractors will receive a zero allocation for agricultural water users and Municipal and Industrial (M&I) customers will only receive 25% of historical allocations this year;

WHEREAS,
The demand for water service is not expected to lessen;

WHEREAS,
As stated in the Hollister Urban Area Water Management Plan 2010, when the combined total amount of water supply available to the District from all sources falls at or below the Stage II triggering levels, the District will declare a water

shortage emergency. The water supply would not be adequate to meet the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers without depleting the District's water supply to the extent that there may be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, fire protection, and environmental requirements. These conditions are likely to exist until precipitation and inflow dramatically increases.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District that a water shortage emergency condition exists that threatens the adequacy of the water supply, until the water supply is deemed adequate. The Board of Directors hereby implements the following interim Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

1. Interim Overuse Policies Applicable to Agricultural and M&I San Felipe Customers (Contract and Small Parcel): Overuse of water will result in a reduction of water available to other users who are entitled to their allocation and will require that the District locate and purchase water on the open market to compensate for the overused water. If an Agricultural or M&I customer overuses their applicable water allocation, the District shall discontinue water service by closing the customer's valve. The customer will be billed their applicable water rate and power rate for usage in addition to a minimum regulatory conservation charge up to $2,000/Acre-Foot). This charge is not imposed upon a parcel as an incident of property ownership but is a regulatory charge on water users who choose to overuse water allocations. The charge is intended to recover the District's costs for locating and purchasing water in the open market to back-fill the District's supplies so that other District customers' allocations will not be impacted.

2. Changing Account Service Type**:** Customers will not be allowed to change account service type. However, the District has the discretion to authorize changing of account service type when such is deemed justified under the circumstances.

3. Transfer of Water from Agricultural Contract Customers to Agricultural Small Parcel Customers: Agricultural Contract customers will be allowed to transfer 2014-2015 rescheduled water and 2015-2016 water to small parcel customers. Transfers will only be allowed to agricultural small parcel customers with permanent crops (e.g. trees and vines) who meet either of the following criteria: 1) parcels are designated "high boron", 2) customer has no access to well water.

4. Voluntary Conservation: While the conditions at present warrant a Stage II action, the District is initially implementing a Stage I voluntary conservation action with a Demand Reduction Goal of 20 percent. As the District continues to

monitor the water supply and conditions, the Board may choose to modify the action level.

5. Miscellaneous**:** Any and all provisions of the Water User's Handbook that are in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby suspended during the term of this interim Resolution. This Resolution shall be reviewed periodically but not later than the first meeting in March, 2016, to determine whether a water shortage condition and emergency exists and whether the policies set forth herein should continue in effect. In the event a court of law determines that any provision of this Resolution is invalid, such determination shall not invalidate the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors shall periodically conduct proceedings to determine additional restrictions and regulations which may be necessary to safeguard the adequacy of the water supply for domestic, sanitation, fire protection, and environmental requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Board is authorized to sign this Resolution on behalf of this Board and District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District this 1st day of April, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS: Tonascia, Flores, Tobias, Bettencourt & Huenemann

NOES: DIRECTORS: None

ABSENT: DIRECTORS: None

ABSTAIN: DIRECTORS: None

/s/Joseph A. Tonascia
Joseph A. Tonascia
President

ATTEST: */s/Sara Singleton*
Sara Singleton
Assistant Manager

Appendix G
Water Conservation Plan

FILE: WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

DUPLICATE OF ORIGINAL
ON FILE IN THE
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK,
CITY OF HOLLISTER

ORDINANCE NO. 755

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HOLLISTER PROHIBITING WATER WASTE AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 752 OF THE CITY OF HOLLISTER

The City Council of the City of Hollister does ordain as follows:

Section 1: Definitions.

"Non-essential water use" is the indiscriminate or excessive dissipation of potable water which is unproductive or does not reasonably sustain economic benefits or life forms.

"Water waste" is the indiscriminate, unreasonable or excessive running or dissipation of potable water.

Section 2: Regulations. All water users shall immediately cease and desist from non-essential and wasteful use of water within the City. Non-essential and wasteful use of water includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Indiscriminate or excessive water use which allows excess water to run to waste.

(b) Individual washing of cars, buildings or exterior surfaces without the use of a quick acting, positive shut-off nozzle.

(c) Use of potable water to irrigate turf, lawns, gardens or ornamental landscaping between 9:00 o'clock A.M. and 5:00 o'clock P.M. by means of other than drip irrigation or hand watering without quick acting, positive shut off nozzle.

(d) Use of potable water to wash sidewalks or roadways when sweeping provides a reasonable alternative.

(e) Water waste caused by easily correctable leaks, breaks or malfunctions after a reasonable time. Exceptions may be made by the Director of Public Services of the City of Hollister for corrections which are not feasible or practical.

(f) Use of potable water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill, unless no other source of water or method can be used.

(g) Restaurant water service unless upon request.

(h) Hydrant flushing except when required for public health and safety.

The regulations contained in this Section shall not apply to City water allocated to the Sunnyslope County Water District.

Section 3: Administration. The Director of Public Services of the City of Hollister shall be responsible for the implementation of this Ordinance. The Director shall report to the City Council all factors which affect the implementation of this Ordinance and shall maintain a separate file of any requests for variances from the regulations set forth in this Ordinance.

Section 4: Variances. The regulations set forth in this Ordinance may be modified in writing by the Director of Public Services on written request therefore without formal application or hearing when the modification is consistent with the City's water conservation goals and where the strict application of the regulations of this Ordinance would cause health or safety problems or extreme hardship. In the event an application for modification is denied, the applicant may seek review by the City Council by filing a request for modification with the Clerk of the City of Hollister within ten (10) days of the date of written denial by the Director of Public Services.

Section 5: Violations. The Director of Public Services shall provide any water user who fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance with written notice of violation and an opportunity to correct such noncompliance. The notice of violation shall:

(a) Be posted at the site of the noncompliance or delivered to the water user.

(b) State the time, date and place of violation.

(c) State the general description of the violation.

(d) State the means to correct the violation.

(e) State the date by which correction is required.

(f) A copy of the notice shall be mailed to the address of the user.

In the event any water user shall fail or refuse to correct a violation within the time specified in the Notice, such refusal shall be referred to an appropriate law enforcement agency for investigation and prosecution.

Any water user violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars ($500.00) or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months or by both such fine and imprisonment. A water user shall be deemed to be guilty of a separate offense for each and every day during any portion of which any violation of this Ordinance is committed, continued or permitted.

Section 6: Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect any other provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable. The City Council of the City of Hollister hereby declares that they would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, sub-section, sentence, clause, phrase, part or portions thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, sub-sections, sentences, clauses, phrases, parts or portions thereof, be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 7: Ordinance No. 752 of the City of Hollister is hereby repealed.

Section 8: This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days from and after its final passage. Prior to the expiration of fifteen (15) days from the final passage hereof, the Clerk of the City of Hollister shall cause this Ordinance to be published once in the Free Lance, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Hollister.

This Ordinance was read and introduced on the 16th day of July, 1990, and passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Hollister on the 6th day of August, 1990, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Gonzalez, Hallberg, Escover, Kuckenbaker, and Mayor Light.

NOES: Councilmembers None.

ABSENT Councilmembers None.

ABSTAINING: Councilmembers None.

Mayor of the City of Hollister

ATTEST:

Clerk of the City of Hollister

SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
3416 AIRLINE HIGHWAY
HOLLISTER, CA 95023-9702

ORDINANCE NO. 45

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT DECLARING A WATER SUPPLY EMERGENCY PROHIBITING WATER WASTE AND ESTABLISHING WATER RATIONING RULES

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Sunnyslope County Water District as follows:

SECTION I
PURPOSE, FINDINGS, AND AUTHORITY

A. Statement of Purpose and Findings: The Sunnyslope County Water District enacts this ordinance to restrict water waste and unnecessary use of water by reason of a present urgency situation caused by drought and threatened water supply shortage. The overall objective is to reduce water usage by 20% district wide.

B. Authority: This ordinance is enacted pursuant to the provisions of Section 31026, et seq. of the California Water Code, which authorizes county water districts to restrict the use of water during any emergency caused by drought or other threatened or existing water shortages and to prohibit the wastage of district water or the use of district water during such periods.

C. Findings:

(1) The lack of rain for the previous three years together with an abnormally low water table has created a water shortage in the Sunnyslope County Water District. A water table study has been performed by the district and is available at the district office.

(2) Greater per capita water consumption increases the entire district's vulnerability to a severe drought.

(3) Water hook-ups and water consumption has steadily increased over the previous three drought years and continues to increase into the present potential drought year. Water district records indicate that from July, 1985 to June, 1989, water connections have increased by 34%.

(4) Water conservation has proven to be a successful mechanism to reduce water consumption. Conservation efforts will provide an interim water supply, reduce drought vulnerability, reduce sewer flows, and ease the impact of the previous drought years, all of which is required to meet the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Sunnyslope County Water District.

SECTION II
DEFINITIONS

A. Definition of Water Waste: "Water waste" is deemed to be the indiscriminate, unreasonable, or excessive running or dissipation of potable water. Water waste is prohibited by the terms of this ordinance.

B. Definition of Non-essential Water Use: "Non-essential water use" is the indiscriminate or excessive dissipation of potable water which is unproductive or does not reasonably sustain economic benefits or life forms given the present shortage of potable water. Non-essential water use is prohibited by the terms of this ordinance.

SECTION III
RESTRICTIONS ON WATER WASTE

A. Prohibition: All residential and non-residential customers including individuals, commercial enterprises, and governmental entities receiving water from the Sunnyslope County Water District shall cease and desist from wasteful and non-essential uses of water within the district boundaries. The district shall impose and enforce mandatory prohibitions

against water waste. Water waste and non-essential uses shall include those uses defined in Section II-A and B above and shall further include the following:

(1) Indiscriminate or excessive water use which allows excess to run to waste.

(2) Individual washing of cars, buildings, or exterior surfaces without use of quick acting, positive shut-off nozzles.

(3) Use of potable water to irrigate turf, lawns, gardens, or ornamental landscaping between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by means other than drip irrigation or hand watering without quick acting, positive shut-off nozzles.

(4) Use of potable water to wash sidewalks or roadways where airblowers or sweeping provides a reasonable alternative.

(5) Water waste caused by easily correctable leaks, breaks, or malfunctions after a reasonable time within which to correct. Exceptions may be made by the Sunnyslope County Water District Manager for corrections which are not feasible or practical.

(6) Operation of decorative fountains even if they use a re-circulating system.

(7) Use of water for construction purposes, such as consolidation of backfill unless no other source of water or method can be used.

(8) Restaurant water service unless upon request.

(9) Hydrant flushing except where required for public health and safety.

(10) Refilling existing private pools except to maintain water levels.

B. The prohibitions contained herein shall not apply to the district water allocated to the City of Hollister.

SECTION IV
ADMINISTRATION

A. Implementation: The district's manager shall be charged with implementation of this ordinance. The manager shall report to the board all factors which affect the implementation of this ordinance and shall maintain a separate file of any requests for variances from the prohibition set forth in this ordinance.

B. Alternative If Purpose of Ordinance is Not Met: In the event that the rationing measures set forth in this ordinance are not sufficient to meet the district's overall intent of reducing water usage by 20%, the district shall consider the adoption of a mandatory water rationing ordinance. Such ordinance which shall impose a use/penalty fee upon the water user, calculated at the rate of ($.30 per gallon), and shall apply to all water users who use water in excess of the maximum ration set forth in said succeeding ordinance.

SECTION V
VIOLATIONS

A. Notice of Violation: Should any individual or entity fail or refuse to comply with the provisions of this ordinance, the district's manager or his agent shall provide that person or entity with written notice of the violation and an opportunity to correct the noncompliance. This notice shall be in writing and shall:

(1) Be posted at the site of the noncompliance.
(2) State the time, date, and place of violation.
(3) State a general description of the violation.
(4) State the means to correct the violation.

(5) State a date by which correction is required.
(6) A copy of the written notice shall further be mailed to the site of the violation.

B. Should an individual or entity fail or refuse to correct the violation within the time specified in the written notice, said refusal shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for prosecution as a misdemeanor, which shall be punished by being imprisoned in the county jail for not more than 30 days or by a fine of not more than $600.00 or by both such fine and imprisonment. The district shall be entitled to pursue any other remedy available at law or equity to abate the nuisance.

SECTION VI
RATIONING VARIANCE

The prohibition set forth in this ordinance may be modified in writing by the district manager upon written request without formal application or hearing when the modification is consistent with the district rationing and water conservation goals and where the strict application of the requirements of this ordinance would cause health or safety problems or cause extreme hardship. In the event that a variance applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the district manager, the applicant may seek further relief before the district board of directors by filing a request for a variance within ten days from the date of receiving the decision from the district's general manager.

SECTION VII
TERMINATION OF WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

The provisions of this ordinance declaring a water supply emergency and imposing present water use restrictions shall have no force and effect on or after February 14, 1991, except, however, that this date may be extended from time to time by resolution of the board of directors upon findings that the present water supply emergency has not ended.

SECTION VIII
INVALIDITY

Should any provision of this ordinance be found by a court of law to be unconstitutional, unlawful, or invalid, such court decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION IX
PUBLICATION

This ordinance shall be published once in full in a newspaper of general circulation printed in the district within ten days after adoption.

SECTION X
URGENCY EFFECT

The provisions of this ordinance shall have urgency effect and shall become effective on 12:01 a.m. Feb. 14, 1990.

On motion of director Anderson, and seconded by director Hailstone, the foregoing ordinance is adopted this 13 day of February, 1990, by the following vote.

AYES: DIRECTORS: Nelson, Hailstone, Williams & Anderson

NOES: DIRECTORS:

ABSENT: DIRECTORS: Churchill

President

I, BRYAN YAMAOKA, Secretary to the Board of Directors of the Sunnyslope County Water District, hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an ordinance duly adopted this 13 day of February, 1990.

Witness my hand and seal of the Board of Directors this 13 day of February, 1990.

Bryan Yamaoka
BRYAN YAMAOKA, Secretary

(SEAL)

Attest:

Secretary

San Benito County Resolution 92-82. Water Conservation Plan

- Provides guidelines to deal with water shortage conditions, including droughts.
- Prohibits certain water uses categorized as wasteful and establishes mandatory conservation measures for wastewater usage.
- Requires the use of water-saving plumbing fixtures for all new construction and for existing structures, where replacements, additions or relocations of plumbing fixtures are proposed.
- Encourages the installation of dual distribution systems for irrigation and the use of reclaimed water to the maximum extent feasible.
- Recommends water-conserving measures applicable to agriculture, including irrigation audits, prescribed irrigation schedules etc.
- Provides a detailed, water-efficient landscape plan applicable to all new and rehabilitated landscaping for public projects and private development, including golf courses. Developer-installed landscaping in residential projects is also subject to these provisions.



FINAL

WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

Adopted by Board of Supervisors - July 7, 1992
Resolution 92-82

SAN BENITO COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE)
FINAL SAN BENITO COUNTY)
WATER CONSERVATION PLAN)
_____)

RESOLUTION NO. 92-82

WHEREAS, On February 26, 1991, the Board passed and adopted Ordinance Number 594, "*An Urgency Ordinance Requiring the Development of a Water Conservation Plan and Requiring the Issuance of Building Permit to Conform to the Water Conservation Principles*";

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the ordinance provides for the preparation and adoption of a Preliminary Water Conservation Plan. The "*San Benito County Preliminary Water Conservation Plan*" was adopted by the Board on June 4, 1991;

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the ordinance states: "Upon the completion of the county-wide hydrologic study, the board shall hold a public hearing to consider all relevant evidence on creating a Final Water Conservation Plan";

WHEREAS, The San Benito County Ground-Water Investigation was completed by the consultant Luhdorff and Scalanini in October, 1991;

WHEREAS, California Government Code (Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of Article 10.8) requires that a copy of the adopted Final Plan be sent to the State by January 31, 1993;

WHEREAS, on July 7 _____, 1992, at a duly notice public hearing and considering the evidence presented at the hearing, the Board considered the content of the Final Water Conservation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Benito hereby adopts the Final San Benito County Water Conservation Plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Benito, State of California at the meeting of said board on the 7th day of July, 1992, by the following vote.

AYES: **SUPERVISORS:** M.Graves,Kesler,C.Graves,Bowling,Scagliotti
NOES: **SUPERVISORS:** None
ABSENT: **SUPERVISORS:** None

By: _____ 7/7/92
Chair
San Benito County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST

John R. Hodges
JOHN R. HODGES, Clerk of the Board

By: Denise R. Thome
Denise R. Thome, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM
San Benito County Counsel

By: _____ 6/30/92
Date

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San Benito County
Final Water Conservation Plan

SECTION 1

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This plan provides guidelines to deal with water shortage conditions which often exist within parts of California including the County of San Benito. This plan was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on July 7, 1992 (Resolution 82-82). This plan was adopted pursuant to Ordinance #594.

SECTION 2

FINDINGS

The Board of Supervisors finds, determines and declares as follows:

(a) San Benito County faces and has faced in recent years the tremendous pressure of residential growth.

(b) The demand for water service by water district and property owners is not expected to lessen.

(c) San Benito County relies extensively on groundwater for its water supply for all uses. Also, San Benito County received water from the federal water project known as the San Felipe Project. The San Felipe Project primarily supplies agriculture at the present time. It is the Board's intent that all runoff be used to the maximum extent feasible to recharge groundwater resources.

(d) The supply of water in California, particularly in the County of San Benito, is in jeopardy due to the present drought. The drought has not only affected the replenishment of the ground water but affects the supplies available to the San Felipe project as evidenced by recent cutbacks in the proposed supply.

(e) The County of San Benito is geographically in an area that is historically subject to periodic droughts of lengthy duration. Currently, we are in the fifth year of a devastating drought.

(f) For the foregoing reasons, the amount of water supply available to the County to serve the citizens is not and will not be adequate to meet the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers without depleting the water supply of the County to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption,

sanitation, fire protection and all other beneficial uses, and that these conditions are likely to continue to exist.

SECTION 3

DEFINITION OF PERSON

The following term is defined for the purpose of the plan:

(a) "Person" shall mean any individual person and any firm, partnership, corporation, business entity, district, agency, city, county and any other entity or organization.

SECTION 4

PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN USES

(a) No person shall waste water as used herein. The term "waste" means:

1. Use of potable water to irrigate grass, lawns, ground cover, shrubbery, crops, vegetation and trees between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in such a manner as to result in runoff for more than five (5) minutes.

2. Use of potable water to wash sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, open ground or other hard surfaced areas by direct application where sweeping will accomplish the same results.

3. Allowing potable water to escape from breaks within the persons' plumbing system for an unreasonable period of time after the break is discovered and reported.

4. Use of potable water for sewer system maintenance or fire protection training except as necessary.

5. Use of potable water for any purpose in excess of the amounts allocated below for each class of service.

SECTION 5

LIMITS ON CERTAIN USES

The following classes or uses are hereby created:

(a) "Single family residential" which consists of water service to land improved with structures designed to serve as a residence for a single family.

(b) "Multiple family residential" which consists of water service to land improved with structures designed to serve as or residence for more than a single family.

(C) "Non-residential" which consists of water service to land improved with structures designed to serve for other than residential uses. Commercial, recreational, charitable, agricultural and cultural uses are included within this class.

SECTION 6

WATER SAVING DEVICES

Any plumbing fixture in any existing structure which is replaced, added or moved must conform with the following criteria (all new construction shall adhere to these guidelines as well):

(a) Toilets must be ultra low flow toilets and use no more that 1.5 gallons of water per flush.

(b) Shower heads must use no more than 2.5 gallons of water per minute (ultra low flow shower heads).

(c) Kitchen and lavatory faucets must use no more than 2.0 gallons of water per minute.

(d) Flushometer type toilets and urinals shall be of a design that does not exceed 2.0 gallons per flush.

(e) All faucets in residential sinks and lavatories shall be equipped with faucet aerators and shall be of a design that limits the maximum flow to two gallons per minute. Water faucets for uses other than residential shall have aerators and limit the flow to a maximum of four gallons per minute and shall be equipped with automatic shut-off valves or be operated by front button or pedal valves.

(f) Fountains: No persons shall use water to operate or maintain levels in decorative fountains, unless such water is recycled in the fountain.

SECTION 7

MANDATORY CONSERVATION MEASURES ON WATER WASTE

(a) Repair of plumbing, sprinkler and irrigation systems. Any person who is the owner, manager, or person responsible for the day-to-day operation of any premises shall take action to initiate steps to repair any leaking, broken or defective water pipes, faucets, plumbing fixtures, other water service appliances, sprinklers, watering or irrigation systems, or distribution systems within a reasonable time after such person first learns of such leaks, breaks, or defects, and shall thereafter diligently and promptly pursue such repair work to completion.

(b) Washing of vehicles. No person shall use a water hose to wash any car, truck, boat, trailer, bus, recreational vehicle, camper, aircraft, tractor, or any other vehicle, or any portion thereof, unless the hose is equipped with an automatic shutoff nozzle.

(c) Cleaning of Structures. No person shall use potable water through a hose to clean the exterior of any building or structure unless such hose is equipped with a shutoff nozzle.

(d) Cleaning of Surfaces. No person shall use potable water through a hose to clean any sidewalk, driveway, roadway, parking lot, or any other outdoor paved or hard surfaced area, except where necessary to protect public health or safety. The use of a bucket is not prohibited at any time for cleaning food, grease, oil, or other stains or spillage from surfaces.

(e) Water Spillage. No person shall cause, suffer, or permit water to spill into streets, curbs, or gutters. No person shall use any water in any manner which results in runoff beyond the immediate area of use.

(f) Swimming Pools and Spas. No person shall empty and refill a swimming pool except to prevent or repair structural damage or to comply with public health regulations.

SECTION 8

RECLAIMED WATER

As appropriate, the installation of reclaimed water irrigation systems (dual distribution systems) may be required to allow for the current and future use of reclaimed water.

Irrigation systems shall make use of reclaimed water unless a written exception has been granted by the local water agency, stating that the reclaimed water meeting standards is not available and will not be available in the future. The reclaimed water irrigation systems shall be designed in accordance with the requirements of local and state regulatory agencies.

California Administrative Code Title 22, Division 4 provides the statutory requirements for wastewater reclamation and the California Department of Health Services has developed "Guidelines for Use of Reclaimed Water." This water conservation plan hereby encourages the use of reclaimed water to the maximum extent feasible.

Reclaimed water means water which, as a result of treatment of domestic wastewater, is suitable for a direct beneficial use or a controlled use that would not otherwise occur. Beneficial use of reclaimed water in San Benito County include, but are not limited to the following:

- o Spray irrigation of crops, landscaping, and golf courses.
- o Surface irrigation of crops.
- o Recreational impoundment.
- o Landscape impoundment.
- o Groundwater recharge.
- o Construction purposes such as soil compaction and dust control.
- o Mining purposes such as dust control and mineral processing.

SECTION 9

AGRICULTURAL

In regards to a water conservation plan, we would look to the farm bureau and Agricultural Commissioner and the agricultural community to offer recommendations for this section.

Agricultural water use is an important element of water conservation planning. The following should be considered by the agricultural community:

1. Irrigation audits can be designed to take into account a variety of crop evapotranspiration needs.
2. Crop tolerances to mineral and chemical concentrations in the soil and soil texture and quality must be taken into account when designing a water conservation program for agriculture.
3. Current irrigation water losses to deep percolation, runoff, and spray evaporation can be minimized with prescribed irrigation schedules.

SECTION 10

WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION

Landscapes are essential to the quality of life in California. They provide areas-for recreation and can enhance the environment. In addition, landscapes offer people respite and psychological benefits as well as cultural and social framework and character. With careful planning and maintenance, our landscapes can be safe. attractive, useful, and environmentally sound.

It is the intent of this Plan to promote the values and benefits of our landscapes while recognizing the need to invest water, an increasingly limited resource, and our other resources as efficiently as possible.

This Water Efficient Landscape Plan has been prepared in response to the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act, Assembly Bill 325, Statutes of 1990, Chapter 1145.

The purpose of this Plan is to establish a structure for designing, installing, and maintaining water efficient landscapes in new projects. Provisions for water management practices and water waste preventions for established landscapes are also included.

Some of the features included in the Plan are:

* Calculation of a water budget and estimated water use.
* Appropriate plant selection and grouping in hydrozones.
* The use of reclaimed water.
* Landscape meters, automatic controllers, and rain switches.
* Design plans for landscape, irrigation, and grading including a water conservation concept statement.
* Monthly irrigation schedules.
* Schedules for ongoing maintenance.
* Water management practices and waste water prevention for existing landscapes.
* Soil tests.
* Education about water efficient landscapes provided.

II. APPLICABILITY

This Plan applies to all new and rehabilitated landscaping for public projects and private development projects including golf courses. Developer-installed landscaping in single-family residence, duplex, and triplex projects is subject to the Plan.

Homeowner-provided landscaping at single family residence, duplex. and triplex lots is excluded.

III. PROVISIONS FOR NEW OR REHABILITATED LANDSCAPES

All new and rehabilitated landscaping for projects listed above shall be subject to the following provisions.

A. Maximum Allowable Water Budget

For design purposes, a maximum allowable water budget is the upper limit of annual water use for the established landscaped area. It is based upon the area's average year climate and the size of the landscaped area. While this figure represents the maximum amount of water to be used on the landscaped area, designing a project to use less water is encouraged whenever possible.

The basic formula for calculating a project's maximum allowable water budget is:

MAWB = (ETo) (0.8) (LA) (0.62)

MAWB	=	Maximum Allowable Water Budget (gallons per year).
Eto	=	Reference Evapotranspiration (inches per year).
0.8	=	Allowable Percentage.
LA	=	Landscaped Area (square feet).
0.62	=	conversion factor (to gallons per square feet).

THE VARIABLES

Reference Evapotranspiration (Eto)
Evapotranspiration (ET) is the amount of water that evaporates from the soil and transpires from the plants. Reference evapotranspiration (Eto) is a standard measurement of a large field of four- to seven-inch tall, cool season grass that is well watered. The historical average (normal) Eto of Hollister can be found in Appendix F

0-8: The Allowable Percentage (AP)
The allowable percentage for this calculation is 0.8. it is a factor based on an average plant mix and an average irrigation efficiency. The allowable percentage adjusts the standard measurement of Reference Evapotranspiration to produce the maximum amount of water budgeted annually for the landscape. For more information about the derivation of the allowable percentage, see Appendix E.

Landscaped Area (LA)
The landscaped area is the entire parcel less the building pad, driveways, non-irrigated portions of parking lots, hardscapes- such as decks and patios, and other non-porous areas.

Conversion Factor (0.62)
To calculate the maximum allowable water budget in gallons per year, the conversion factor is 0.62.

To convert gallons per year to 100-cubic-feet per year, another common billing unit for water, divide gallons per year by 748. (748 gallons = 100 cubic feet.)

EXAMPLE CALCULATIONS OF A MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE WATER BUDGET

SITE: Landscaped area of 50,000 square feet in Oakland, California.

MAWB = (ETo) (0.8) (LA) (0.62)
MAWB = (41 inches) (0-8) (50,000 square feet) (0.62)
Maximum Allowable Water Budget = 1,016,800 gallons per year

Portions of landscaped areas in public and private sites such as parks, golf courses, or school yards where turf provides a playing surface or serves other recreational purposes may require additional water. A statement to that effect shall be included with the landscape design plan, designating areas to be used for such purposes and the amount of water required.

B. Estimated Water Use

The estimated water use of a project is the amount of water for the year to be used for the established landscape based upon the area's average year climate, the size of the landscaped area, the mix of plants selected, and the efficiency of the irrigation system.

The estimated water use for a landscaped area is composed of the sum of the estimated water use of all hydrozones in that landscaped area. A hydrozone is a subarea of the landscaped area having similar water use that is served by one valve or set of valves with the same settings. Here is a formula that can be used to estimate water use of a project:

EWU	=	(ETo) (KI/IE) (LA) (.62)
EWU	=	Estimated Water Use (gallons per year)
ETo	=	Reference Evapotranspiration (inches per year)
KI	=	Landscape coefficient
IE	=	Irrigation Efficiency
LA	=	Landscaped Area (square feet)
0.62	=	conversion factor

THE VARIABLES

The Landscape Coefficient (KI)

A landscape coefficient or aggregate plant factor is a factor used to modify ETo, based upon the estimated water use of a plant or group of plants. For purposes of this Plan, the landscape coefficient of low water using plants is 0.3, for average water using plants Is 0.5, and for high water using plants is 0.8. The landscape coefficient for cool season turf grass such as Kentucky bluegrass is 0.8. For warm season grasses such as bermuda, the landscape coefficient is 0.6.

Irrigation Efficiency (IE)

Irrigation efficiency is derived from estimates of equipment and design efficiency and management efficiency using the following formula:

IE = design efficiency x management efficiency

The minimum irrigation efficiency for purposes of this Plan is 0.65. Greater irrigation efficiency can be expected for large, flat, simply designed irrigation systems such as athletic fields.

The other variables, ETo, LA, and 0.62 are the same as in the Maximum Allowable Water Budget calculation.

The formula for the estimated water use of the project is the same as the maximum allowable water budget formula, except the allowable percentage of 0.8 is replaced by the landscape coefficient and irrigation efficiency factors. Thus, the maximum allowable water budget represents the upper limit of annual water use for the landscaped area based on average plant mix and average irrigation efficiency. The estimated water use represents an estimate of how much water that landscaped area will need for the year based upon the specific mix of plants and the estimated efficiency of irrigation system used for that project.

C. Plant Selection and Grouping

Plants shall be selected appropriately based upon their adaptability to the climatic, geologic, and topographical conditions of the site.

Plants having similar water use shall be grouped together in distinct hydrozones.

As long as the above criteria are met, any plants can be used in the landscape, providing the estimated water use of the project does not exceed the maximum allowable water budget.

D. Fire Resistive Plants

The selection of fire resistive plants (low fuel volume plants) is especially important in fire prone areas of California. These are plants with less flammable parts: more leaf than wood and less woody undergrowth.

For more information, contact your local fire department or the nearest California Department of Forestry office listed in your telephone directory under State of California.

E. Soils

Soils shall be amended for improving water holding properties as noted in the soils report. An organic mulch at least three inches deep shall be applied to all planting areas, except in turf or groundcover plantings.

F. Reclaimed Water

As appropriate, the installation of reclaimed water irrigation systems (dual distribution systems) shall be required to allow for the current and future use of reclaimed water.

Irrigation systems shall make use of reclaimed water unless a written exemption has been granted by the local water agency, stating that reclaimed water meeting all health standards is not available and will not be available in the foreseeable future. The reclaimed water irrigation systems shall be designed in accordance with the requirements of local and state regulatory agencies.

G. Irrigation Systems

When creating the irrigation design, the following criteria shall be followed:

1) Runoff and Overspray. Soil types and infiltration rate shall be considered when designing irrigation systems on slopes and level terrains. All irrigation systems shall be designed to avoid runoff, seepage, low head drainage, overspray, or other similar conditions where water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, walks, roadways, or structures. Proper irrigation equipment and schedules, including features such as repeat cycles, shall be used to closely match application rates to infiltration rates therefore minimizing runoff.

   Special attention shall be given to avoid runoff on slopes greater than 10 percent and to avoid overspray in planting areas with a width less than ten feet, or in median strips.

   No overhead spray irrigation systems that are subject to wind drift shall be installed in median strips less than ten feet wide.

2) Water Coverage and Uniformity. For the purpose of determining the maximum allowable water budget, irrigation efficiency shall be assumed to be 0.65. Some projects will exceed this level of efficiency. When calculating the estimated water use of the project, irrigation efficiency shall be at least 0.65.

3) Equipment.

Meters. Separate landscape meters shall be installed for the irrigation system, except for single family homes.

Controllers. Automatic control systems are required for all projects and must be able to accommodate all aspects of the design.

Valves. Plants which require different amounts of water shall be irrigated by separate valves. If one valve is used for a given area, only plants with similar water use shall be used in that area. Anti-drain (check) valves shall be installed in strategic points to minimize or prevent low-spot drainage, runoff, and subsequent erosion from low elevation sprinkler heads.

Sprinkler heads. Heads and emitters shall have consistent precipitation rates within each control valve circuit. Sprinkler heads shall be selected for proper area coverage, precipitation rate, operating pressure, adjustment capability, and ease of maintenance.

Miscellaneous Devices. All systems shall conform to local backflow and cross connection codes. Rain sensing override devices are required on all irrigation systems. Moisture sensing devices are encouraged where appropriate.

H. Water Features

Recirculating or reclaimed water shall be used for decorative water features. Functional water features (such as swimming pools) and decorative water features shall be shall be included in the landscaped area calculation and considered as a high water using hydrozone. Pool and spa covers are encouraged when appropriate.

I. Maintenance

Landscapes shall be carefully and competently maintained to ensure water efficiency and high quality appearance. A regular maintenance schedule shall include but not be limited to checking, adjusting, and repairing the irrigation equipment; resetting the automatic controller; aerating and dethatching turf areas: replenishing mulch; fertilizing; pruning, weeding, and removing litter in all landscaped areas.

J. Water Management

Water management practices at a minimum shall be in accordance with the State of California Landscape Water Management Program (Landscape Irrigation Audits.) Whenever possible, irrigation scheduling shall incorporate evapotranspiration data such as that from the California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) weather stations to apply the appropriate levels of water for different climates. Landscape irrigation audits shall be conducted by certified landscape irrigation auditors at least once every five years.

Whenever possible, landscape irrigation shall be scheduled between 8:00 pm and 8:00 am to avoid irrigating during times of high wind or high temperature.

K. Public Education

1) Publications. Information shall be provided to all new, single family residential home owners regarding the design and installation of water efficient landscapes. Information about the efficient use of water shall be provided to water users throughout the community.

2) Model Homes. At least one model home in each project subject to this Plan shall be used as a demonstration of the principles of water efficient landscapes described in this Plan. Signs shall be used to identify the model as an example of a water efficient landscape and featuring elements such as plant zones, irrigation equipment and others which contribute to the overall water efficient theme.

IV. PROVISIONS FOR EXISTING LANDSCAPES

These provisions apply to unincorporated San Benito County area water purveyors.

A. Water Management

All existing large, landscaped areas (one acre or more), including golf courses, green belts, common areas, multi-family housing, schools, businesses, parks, cemeteries, parks, and publicly owned landscapes shall be audited at least every five years. If the project's water bills indicate that they are using less than or equal to the maximum allowable water budget for that project site, an audit shall not be not required.

B. Water Waste Prevention

Wasteful runoff, seepage, low head drainage, overspray, or other similar conditions where water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, walks, roadways, or structures shall be prohibited.

V. PROJECT SUBMITTAL/DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURES

Each project submittal requires the following elements:

A. Water conservation concept statement.
B. Maximum allowable water budget calculation.
C. Landscape design plan, Including estimated water use calculation.
D. Irrigation design plan.
E. Irrigation schedules.
F. Maintenance schedules.
G. Landscape irrigation audit schedule.
H. Grading design plan.
I. Soil test

A. Water Conservation Concept Statement

A Water Conservation Concept Statement is a one-paged checklist and narrative summary of the entire project submittal package. See Appendix B for a suggested format for a water conservation concept statement. A copy of the Water Conservation Concept Statement shall be sent to the local water agency along with the Certificate of Substantial Completion.

B. Maximum Allowable Water Budget

For design purposes, the maximum allowable water budget is the upper limit of annual water use for the established landscaped area. See Provisions Section IIIA for more information.

C. Landscape Design Plan

The landscape design plan shall be drawn on project base sheets at a scale that shall accurately and clearly identify:

* Landscape materials, trees, shrubs, groundcover, turf, etc. Planting symbols shall be clearly drawn and plants labeled by botanical name, common name, container size, spacing, and quantities of each group of plants indicated.
* Property lines and street names.
* Streets, driveways, walkways, and other paved areas.
* Pools, ponds, water features, fences, and retaining walls.
* Existing and proposed buildings and structures including elevation if applicable.
* Natural features including rock outcroppings, existing trees, shrubs, etc. that will remain.
* Tree staking, soil preparation details, and any other applicable planting and installation details.

* A calculation of the total landscaped area: including the entire parcel less the building pad, driveways, the non-irrigated portions of parking lots, hardscapes-such as decks and patios, and other non-porous areas.
* Designation of hydrozones: a subarea of the landscaped area having similar water use that is served by one valve or set of valves with the same settings. A hydrozone may be non-irrigated, for example a naturalized area.
* A calculation of the estimated water use of the landscaped area. The estimated water use shall not exceed the maximum allowable water budget. See Provisions Section IIIB for more information.

D. Irrigation Design Plan

The Irrigation design plan shall be drawn on project base Sheets. It should be separate from, but use the same format as, the landscape design plan.

1) The scale shall be the same as that used for the landscape design plan.
2) The irrigation design plan shall accurately and clearly identify:
   Location of separate landscape meters.
   * Location, type, and size of all components of the irrigation system, including automatic controllers, main and lateral lines, valves, sprinkler heads, moisture sensing devices, rain switches, quick couplers, and backflow prevention devices.
   * Static water pressure at the point of connection.
   * Flow rate (gallons per minute), precipitation rates (inches per hour), and design operating pressure (psi) for each station.
   * Reclaimed water irrigation systems as described in the Provisions Section IIIF.
3) Irrigation systems shall be designed to be consistent with hydrozones.

E. Irrigation Schedules

An annual irrigation program with monthly irrigation schedules shall be required for the plant establishment period, for the established landscape, and for any temporarily irrigated areas.

The irrigation schedule shall include run time (in minutes per cycle) and frequency of irrigation for each station. The irrigation schedule shall provide the amount of irrigation water (in hundred cubic feet, gallons, or in whatever billing units the local water supplier uses) recommended on a monthly basis. The total amount of irrigation water recommended in the irrigation schedule for the established landscape shall not exceed the project's maximum allowable water budget.

F. Maintenance Schedule

A schedule for ongoing maintenance shall be prepared, reflecting maintenance tasks including those listed in Provisions Section III 1.

G. Landscape Irrigation Audit Schedules

Landscape irrigation audits, described in Provisions Section III J, shall be scheduled and conducted at least every five years.

H. Grading Design Plan

The grading design plan shall be drawn on project base sheets. It should be separate from but use the same format as the landscape design plan. The grading design plan shall indicate finished configurations and elevations of the landscaped area, including the height of graded slopes, pad elevations, and finish grade.

I. Soil Test

A soils report shall be prepared and submitted with the plans. As a minimum, the following shall be included:

1) Determine soil texture, indicating the percentage of organic matter.
2) Approximate soil infiltration rate (either measured or derived from soil texture/infiltration rate tables.) A range of infiltration rates should be noted where appropriate.
3) Measure of Ph, and total soluble salts.
4) Recommendations for improving soil conditions to maximize water use efficiency.

A copy of the entire project submittal package shall be delivered to the owners site manager along with the record drawings and any other information normally forwarded to the owner/site manager. A copy of the water conservation concept statement shall be sent to the local water district.

VI. CERTIFICATION

Upon completion of the installation of the landscaping and the irrigation system, an irrigation audit shall be conducted prior to the final field observation. A licensed landscape architect, designer, or contractor shall conduct a final field observation and shall provide a certificate of substantial completion which shall specifically include reference to the landscaping, automatic irrigation system and the irrigation audit, along with a punch list of any observed deficiencies to the Owner of Record. Certification shall be accomplished by completing the Certificate of Substantial Completion form in Appendix E and delivering it to the county and to the local water supplier.

SECTION 11

MANDATORY ENFORCEMENT

(a) The provisions of this plan shall be enforced by the Planning Director and Building Official or his or her designee. Building permits shall only be issued in compliance with this plan.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

"allowable percentage": The allowable percentage for determining the maximum allowable water budget is 0.8. This represents a factor including consideration of an average landscape coefficient and irrigation efficiency. See page 10 for a more complete discussion.

"amendment": Additions to the soil, such as compost, leaf mold, peat moss, ground bark, which improve aeration and drainage of clay soils and help hold water in sandy soils.

"anti-drain valve": A valve located under a sprinkler head to hold water in the system so it does' not drain out of the lower elevation sprinkler heads.

"application rate": The depth of water applied to a given area in one hour, usually measured in inches per hour.

"automatic controller": A mechanical or solid state timer, capable of operating valve stations to set the days and length of time of a water application.

"backflow prevention device": A safety device used to prevent pollution or contamination of the water supply due to the reverse flow of water from the irrigation system.

"distribution uniformity": A measure of how evenly water is applied over an area. (scientific: The ratio of the average low quarter depth of irrigation water infiltrated to the average depth of irrigation water infiltrated, expressed as a percent.)

"emitter": Fittings that deliver water slowly through small openings from the lateral line to the plant.

"established landscape": The point at which plants in the landscape have established themselves into the adjacent soil.

"establishment period": For purposes of this Plan, the first year after installing the plant in the landscape. The actual establishment period varies depending upon the plant species, the development of the plant's root system, soil conditions, and other environmental factors.

"estimated water use": The amount of water the designer estimates that the project will need on an annual basis. The estimated water use cannot exceed the maximum allowable water budget. See Provisions Section III B for a suggested formula and more information.

"evapotranspiration": The quantity of water evaporated from adjacent soil surfaces, transpired by plants, and retained in plant tissue during a specific time.

"flow rate": The rate at which water flows through pipe fittings and valves.

"fire resistive plants (low volume fuel plants)": Those with less flammable parts: more leaf than wood and less woody undergrowth.

"hydrozone": A portion of the landscaped area having plants with similar water needs that are served by a valve or set of valves with the same setting. A hydrozone may be non-irrigated, for example, a naturalized area.

"infiltration rate": The rate of water entry into the soil expressed as a depth of water per unit of time in inches per hour. The infiltration rate changes with time during an irrigation.

"irrigation efficiency": The measurement of the amount of water beneficially used divided by the amount of water applied.

"landscape coefficient": The functional equivalent of a crop coefficient in agriculture. When multiplied lames Eto, it estimates the amount of water required to maintain landscape plants in good condition.

"landscape irrigation audit": A process to perform site inspections, evaluate irrigation systems. and develop efficient irrigation schedules.

"landscaped area": The entire parcel less the building pad, driveways, non-irrigated portions of parking lots, hardscapes such as decks and patios, and other non-porous areas.

"lateral line": The water delivery pipeline that supplies water to the emitters or sprinklers from the main line.

"main line": The pipeline that delivers water from the water source to the lateral lines.

"mature landscape": See "established landscape".

"maximum allowable water budget": For design purposes, the upper limit of annual water use for the established landscaped area. It is based upon the area's average year climate and the size of the landscaped area.

"moisture sensing device": A device that measures the moisture condition of the soil in a variety of ways.

"mulch": Any material such as leaves, bark, or straw left loose and applied to the soil surface to prevent evaporation.

"operating pressure": The pressure at which a system of sprinklers operates. (Static pressure minus pressure losses.) This is usually indicated at the base or nozzle of a sprinkler.

"overspray": When sprinklers deliver water beyond the landscaped area, wetting pavements, walks, structures, or other non-landscaped areas.

"percolation": The movement of water through the soil.

"potable water": Water which is meant for human consumption.

"precipitation rate": The rate at which water is applied, usually expressed in inches per hour.

"pressure compensating bubbler": A sprinkler head useful for watering trees and shrubs with water basins: produces a reduced flow of water that bubbles on the soil.

"quick coupling system": A sprinkler system which uses permanently installed valves and sprinklers that can be moved from valve to valve.

"rain switch or rain shut off valve": Measures rainfall and automatically shuts off the irrigation system when water reaches a certain level.

"reclaimed water": Treated or recycled water of a quality suitable for non-potable uses such as landscape irrigation; not intended for drinking.

"record drawing": A set of reproducible drawings which show significant changes in the work made during construction and which are usually based on drawings marked up in the field and other data furnished by the contractor.

"reference evapotranspiration (Eto)": A standard measurement of evapotranspiration for a large field of 4- to 7 inch tall, cool season grass that is well watered.

"run off": Water which is not absorbed by the soil or landscape to which it is applied. Run Off occurs when water is applied at too great a rate or when there is a severe slope.

"soil texture": The classification of soil based on the percentage of sand, silt, and clay in the soil.

"sprinkler head": A device which discharges water through a nozzle.

"static water pressure": The pipeline or municipal water supply pressure when water Is not flowing.

"station": An area served by one valve or set of valves that operate simultaneously.

"turf": A surface layer of earth containing grass with its roots.

"valve": A device used to control the flow of water in the irrigation system.

"water conservation concept statement": A one-paged checklist and narrative summary of the project. See Appendix D for a sample statement.

APPENDIX B: SAMPLE WATER CONSERVATION CONCEPT STATEMENT

Project Site:
Project Number:
Project Location:

Landscape Architect/Designer/Contractor:

Included in this project submittal package are:
(Check indicating completion)

A. A Maximum Allowable Water Budget
   Reference ET (inches per year)
   Landscaped Area (square feet)
   Water Budget (gallons or cubic feet per year)
B. A Landscape Design Plan
   Estimated Water Use (gallons or cubic feet per year)
C. An Irrigation Design Plan
D. Irrigation Schedules
E. A Maintenance Schedule
F. A Landscape Irrigation Audit Schedule
G. A Grading Design Plan
H. A Soil Test

Description of Project:

APPENDIX C: SAMPLE CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION

Project Site: Project Number:

Project Location:

Preliminary Project Documentation Submitted: (check indicating submittal)

A. Maximum Allowable Water Budget
   reference ET (inches per year)
   landscaped area (square feet)
   water budget (gallons or cubic feet per year)
B. Landscape Design Plan estimated water use (gallons or cubic feet per year)
C. Irrigation Design Plan
D. Irrigation Schedules
E. Maintenance Schedule
F. Landscape Irrigation Audit Schedule
G. Grading Design Plan
H. Soil Test

Post-installation Inspection: (Check indicating substantial compliance)

A. Plants installed as specified
B. Soils amended as noted in soils report
C. Irrigation system installed as designed
   dual distribution system for reclaimed water
   minimal run off or overspray

Project submittal package and a copy of this certification has been provided to owner/manager and local water agency

I/we certify that work has been installed in accordance with the contract documents.

Contractor Signature Date State License Number

I/we certify that based upon periodic site observations, the work has been substantially completed in accordance with the Water Efficient Landscape Plan and that the landscape planting and irrigation installation conform with the approved plans and specifications.

Landscape Architect Signature Date State License Number

(Certificate of Substantial Completion, continued)
I/we certify that I/we have received all of the contract documents and that it is our responsibility to see that the project is maintained in accordance with the contract documents.

_____

Owner Signature Date

APPENDIX D: EXAMPLE CALCULATIONS FOR MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE WATER BUDGET AND ESTIMATED WATER USE

These two examples are for the same project in Fresno, California. While the total amount oil water will vary from one place in the state to another, the proportions of high, average, and low water using plants, will remain the same. These examples demonstrate that the following plant combinations are allowed within the water budget.

20% high water using plants; 40% average; 40% low

30% high water using plants; 20% average; 50% low
MAWB=(Eto) (0.8) (LA) (0.62)
EWU=(Eto) (KI/IE) (LA) (0.62)

MAWB=Maximum Allowable Water Budget (gallons per year)
Eto= Reference Evapotranspiration (inches per year)
0.8= Allowable Percentage
LA= Landscaped Area (square feet)
0.62=Conversion Factor (to gallons per square feet)

EWU=Estimated Water Use (gallons per year)
KI=Landscape Coefficient
IE=Irrigation Efficiency

PROJECT SITE ONE: Landscaped area of 50,000 square feet in Fresno California

MAWB = (Eto) (.8) (LA) (.62)
= (51 inches) (.8) (50,000 square feet) (.62)
Maximum Allowable Water Budget=1,264,800 gallons per year

EWU = (Eto) (KI/IE) (LA) (.62)

Hydrozone 1 (H1) is 20% of LA with KI .8(high water using plants)
Hydrozone 2 (H2) is 40% of LA with KI .5(average water using plants)
Hydrozone 3 (H3) is 50% of LA with KI .3(low water using plants)

(H1) = (51 inches) (.8/.65) (10,000 square feet) (.62) = 389,169 gal.
(H2) = (51 inches) (.5/.65) (20,000 square feet) (.62) = 486,461 gal.
(H3) = (51 inches) (.3/.65) (20,000 square feet) (.62) = 291,876 gal.

Estimated Water Use = (H1)+(H2)+(H3) =1,167,506 gallons per year

EWU of 1,167,506 is less than MAWB of 1,264,800

PROJECT SITE TWO: Landscaped area of 50,000 square feet in Fresno, California

MAWB = (ETo) (.08) (LA) (.62)
= (51 inches) (.8) (50,000 square feet) (.62)

Maximum Allowable Water Budget = 1,264,800 gallons per year

EWU = (ETo) (KI/IE) (LA) (.62)
Hydrozone 1 (H1) is 30% of LA with KI .8(high water using plants)
Hydrozone 2 (H2) is 20% of LA with KI .5(average water using plants)
Hydrozone 3 (H3) is 50% of LA with Ki .3(low water using plants)

(H1)= (51 inches) (.8/.65) (15,000 square feet) (.62) = 583,753 gal.
(H2)= (51 inches) (.5/.65) (10,000 square feet) (.62) = 243,230 gal.
(H3)= (51 inches) (.3/.65) (25,000 square feet) (.62) = 364,846 gal.

Estimated Water Use = (H1)+(H2)+(H3) = 1,191,829 gallons per year

EWU of 1,191,829 is less than MAWB of 1,264,800

APPENDIX E: DERIVATION OF THE ALLOWABLE PERCENTAGE

This allowable percentage is derived from the following formula:

$$AP\ (0.8) = \frac{\text{average KI (0-5)}}{\text{average IE (0-65)}}$$

The average landscape coefficient (average KJ) is a functional equivalent of a crop coefficient for landscapes. When multiplied times Eto, ft estimates the amount of water required to maintain landscape plants in good condition. Since species and site conditions vary at a project location, a range of KI values will occur, representing high (0-8), average (0.5), and low (0.3) water requiring conditions.

When water requirements are averaged across a project, an average landscape coefficient results. For purposes of this formula, the value for the average 10 is 0.5. This represents a balance between high, moderate, and low. water use conditions.

Average Irrigation Efficiency (average IE) is derived from estimates of equipment and design efficiency (0-8 to 0.85) and management efficiency (0.8 to 0.85) using the following formula:

IE = design efficiency x management efficiency

The average irrigation efficiency for purposes of this formula is 0.65.

Therefore, 0.5 (KI)/ 0.65 (IE) = 0.8 (AP)

APPENDIX F: REFERENCE EVAPOTRANSPIRATION

In inches (Historical data extrapolated from 12-month normal year Eto maps and U.C. Publication 21426)

County: **San Benito**
City: **Hollister**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. Eto
1.5	1.8	3.1	4.3	5.5	5.7	6.4	5.9	5.0	3.5	1.7	1.1	45.1

County: **Monterey**
City: **King City**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. Eto
1.7	2.0	3.4	4.4	4.4	5.6	6.1	6.7	6.5	5.2	2.2	1.3	49.6

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Appendix H
Retailer Water Rates

Utility Billing

Friday, 1 May 2026 Mist 53° English | Español

Water / Sewer Service

To Start Water & Sewer Service the City of Hollister requires:

- A Utility Start/Stop Form (link to form below)
  - Utility Start/Stop Form (English)
  - Utility Start/Stop Form (Spanish)
- A closing statement, mortgage statement, grant deed, or rental agreement
- A government issued photo ID
- A $150 deposit (Master Card, Visa, Discover, cash, check, money order or cashier's check)

All items must be received in our office before 3:00pm for same day service or in advance of the day you are requesting services. We are unable to back date service requests. You can also leave an envelope with all of the items in our overnight drop box located directly in front of our office. Anything left in the overnight drop box will be processed the following business day.

Our office is located at 327 Fifth Street, our office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm (Closed for Lunch hour 12pm - 1pm). Phone number 831.636.4301.

Current Water/ Wastewater (Sewer) Rate Information, as of January 1, 2018.

Meter Service Charge
Consumption Charge
Monthly Service

Meter Size / Charge No HFC Allocation
5/8" - $13.29 (Most Single Family Residential Dwellings have 5/8" meters)
3/4" - $13.29
1" - $28.16
1-1/2" - $52.68
2" - $78.95
3" - $155.53
4" - $232.13
6" - $461.93
8" - $713.61

Single Family Residential

$3.38 - 0 to 9 hcf
$5.54 - 10 to 15 hcf
$6.34 - over 15 hcf

All Other Classes
$4.39 for every hcf

Wastewater (Sewer) Rates

Customer Class	Fixed Charge	Qty Charge ($/hcf)
Single Family	$80.38	
Multi-Family	$70.07	
Mobile Home	$49.17	
Low Strength	$46.23	$8.70
Moderate Strength	$95.74	$10.37
Schools	$1.73 (Monthly Rate per Student)	

Septage Customers	$0.26 (Rate per Gallon)	
Street Sweeping Rate	$2.40	

To Stop Water or Sewer Service: Please complete the Start/Stop Water Service Form and return it to Finance Utility Payment Center for processing at 327 Fifth Street, email it to hollisterbilling@hollister.ca.gov, fax to 831.636.4369, or mail it to 327 Fifth Street, Hollister, CA 95023.

Information

- Water Shutoff Policy
- Política de Desconexión del Agua - SB998

Forms

Payments can be made online or over the phone by calling 833.208.7230.

Online Utility Bill Payment

Click on the link above to pay your Utility Bill Online using Visa or MasterCard. (A $1.25 Processing Fee is charged by (ECH) Electronic Clearing House). Dog Licenses CANNOT be paid by using Utility Bill Pay Online. Currently Dog License Payments are NOT available online. Payments can also be made by phone at 1-833-208-7230.

Sunnyslope Water District

Summary of Rates & Fees

Updated on September 24, 2025

Sunnyslope County Water District is committed to providing high-quality service at the lowest practical cost. The schedules below replace prior water, wastewater, and capacity fee schedules to reflect the most recent Board-directed updates.

Water Rates (Effective FY 2025 – FY 2029)

On May 28, 2024, the Sunnyslope County Water District Board of Directors approved a multi-year schedule of water rate adjustments following the completion of a comprehensive Water and Wastewater Rate Study. The adopted schedule includes revised monthly service charges, private fire line charges, and volumetric consumption rates, effective beginning August 1, 2024, with annual updates through July 1, 2029. These changes were implemented to ensure that revenues are sufficient for fund operations, maintenance, and long-term capital improvements while meeting the District's financial reserve and debt coverage requirements.

Monthly Water Base Service Charges (by meter size):

Meter Size	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
5/8"	$36.21	$39.11	$42.24	$45.62	$49.27
3/4"	$36.21	$39.11	$42.24	$45.62	$49.27
1"	$36.21	$39.11	$42.24	$45.62	$49.27
1 1/2"	$65.91	$71.19	$76.89	$83.05	$89.70
2"	$101.55	$109.68	$118.46	$127.94	$138.18
3"	$214.43	$231.59	$250.12	$270.13	$291.75
4"	$380.77	$411.24	$444.14	$479.68	$518.06
6"	$778.80	$841.11	$908.40	$981.08	$1,059.57
8"	$1,669.92	$1,803.52	$1,947.81	$2,103.64	$2,271.94

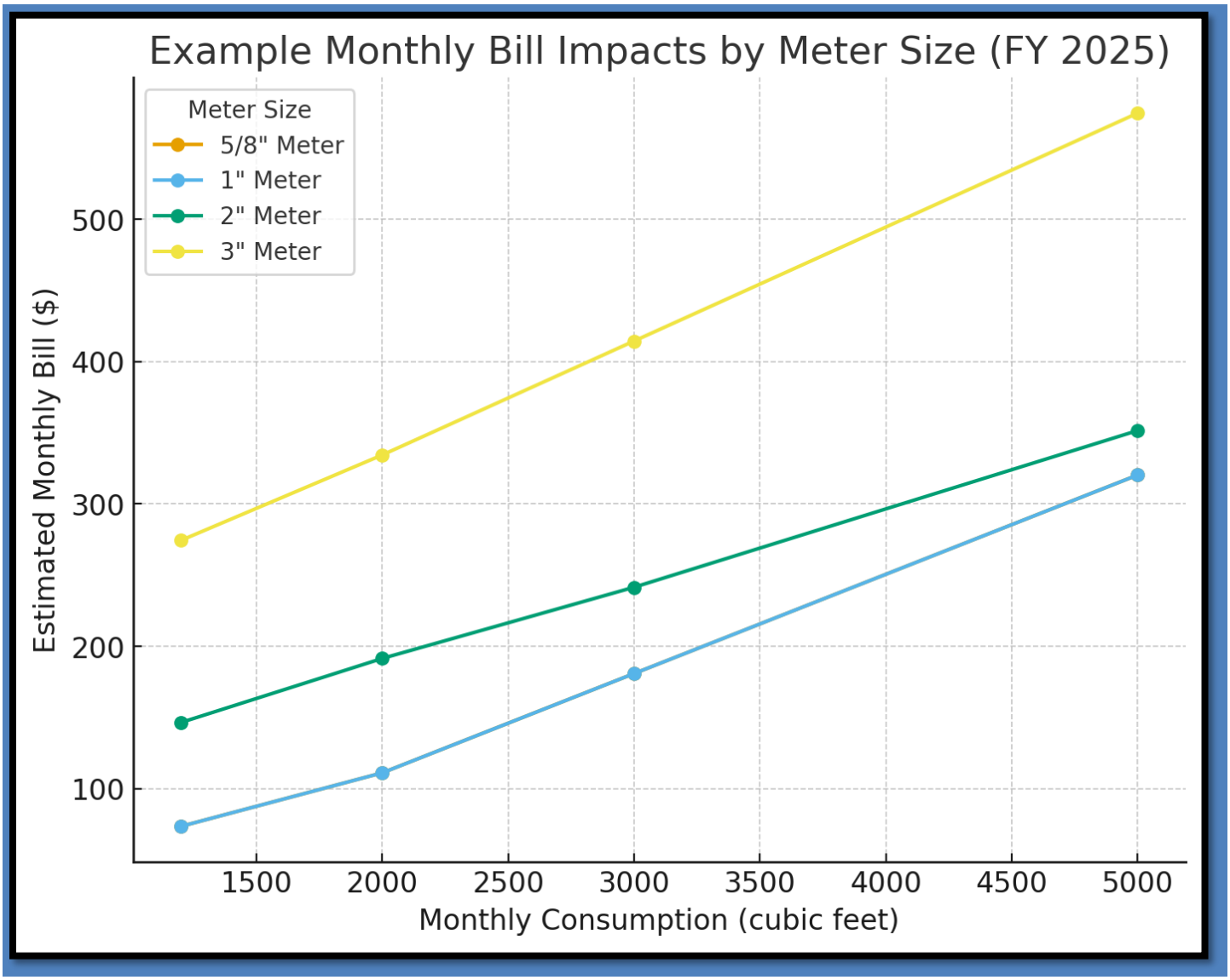
Private Fireline Base Charges (monthly):

Fireline Size	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
1"	$8.27	$8.94	$9.66	$10.44	$11.28
1 1/2"	$11.62	$12.55	$13.56	$14.65	$15.83
2"	$17.42	$18.82	$20.33	$21.96	$23.72
3"	$38.21	$41.27	$44.58	$48.15	$52.01
4"	$74.07	$80.00	$86.40	$93.32	$100.79
6"	$202.77	$219.00	$236.52	$255.45	$275.89
8"	$424.76	$458.75	$495.45	$535.09	$577.90

Volumetric Consumption Charges per hundred cubic feet (HCF):

Class / Tier	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
SFR - Tier 1 (First 1,000 cu ft)	$3.77	$4.08	$4.41	$4.77	$5.16
SFR - Tier 2 (1,100–2,000 cu ft)	$5.78	$6.25	$6.75	$7.29	$7.88
SFR - Tier 3 (> 2,100 cu ft)	$6.99	$7.55	$8.16	$8.82	$9.53
Non-SFR (all use)	$5.09	$5.50	$5.94	$6.42	$6.94

Note: One cubic foot of water is equivalent to approximately 7.48 gallons of water. So, 1 HCF is equivalent to approximately 748 gallons of water.



Example Monthly Bill Impact Chart Explanation

This chart illustrates how a customer's monthly water bill changes with different levels of water consumption and meter sizes. It combines the fixed monthly service charge (based on meter size) with volumetric charges (based on usage) to show the total estimated bill. The purpose is to help customers understand how both their water use and meter size affect their overall monthly costs under the District's adopted rate structure.

Wastewater Rates (Effective FY 2025 – FY 2029)

The District charges residential sewer customers a monthly service charge plus a monthly volume charge based on average winter water consumption. Non-residential sewer customers are billed on actual metered water usage. These rates were approved by the Board of Directors on August 6, 2013 (Ordinance No. 74) and remain in effect. In drought years, the District caps the increase in average winter water usage in accordance with Ordinance No. 71 (effective May 3, 2012).

Wastewater Rates:

Customer Class	Monthly Sewer Rates
Single Family (flat per month)	$95.93 plus $5.64 per HCF
Multifamily (flat per unit per month)	$72.98 per unit plus $5.64 per HCF*
Commercial & Industrial (per hcf)	$12.14 per HCF of metered water use
Cottages, Motels, Trailer Parks, Laundries, etc. (per hcf)	$9.20 per HCF of metered water use

HCF- Hundreds of Cubic Fee (based on metered water usage)

Upcoming Wastewater Rate Changes

The Sunnyslope County Water District Board of Directors approved new wastewater rates on My 28, 2024 as part of the District's Water and Wastewater Rate Study. These changes simplify residential billing by moving to a flat monthly charge per dwelling unit and update non-residential volumetric rates. The new schedule is anticipated to take effect beginning January 1, 2026, following customer notification. Once implemented, customers will see wastewater charges reflect the updated structure while maintaining fairness and long-term financial stability for the District's operations and capital improvements.

Water Capacity Fees (Effective September 23, 2025)

On September 23, 2025, the Board of Directors approved updated Water Capacity Fee rates based on the Raftelis Capacity Fee Study dated August 25, 2025. The new schedule applies a Hybrid methodology using an Equivalent Meter (EM) basis of 305 gallons per day, resulting in a fee of $8,399 per EM. Meter-based fees were recalculated accordingly to provide fairness and proportionality between new and existing customers. These fees replace the prior capacity charge schedule (effective July 1, 2023) and align with the District's growth-pays-for-growth policy.

Water Capacity Fees:

Meter Size	Water Capacity Fee
5/8"	$8,399
3/4"	$8,399
1"	$8,399
1 1/2"	$16,798
2"	$26,877
3"	$58,793
4"	$105,827
6"	$218,374

Equivalent Meter (EM) basis: 1 EM = 305 gpd. The calculated fee is $8,399 per EM; meter-based fees shown above apply accordingly.

Sewer Capacity Fees (Effective July 1, 2020)

The water and sewer capacity charges (connection fees) were approved by the Board of Directors on August 6, 2013, by Ordinance No. 75. The current sewer capacity charges became effective July 1, 2020, and may be adjusted annually by the Board of Directors using the Engineering News Record (ENR) index. These charges have not changed since adoption.

Sewer Capacity Fees:

Customer Classification	Sewer Capacity Charge	Installation Fee	Total
Single-Family Residential	$21,125.00	$25.00	$21,150.00
Multi-Family Residential	$15,850.00 per unit	$25.00 each	—
2-Family Unit	$31,700.00	$50.00	$31,750.00
3-Family Unit	$47,550.00	$75.00	$47,625.00
Cottages, Motels, Trailer Parks, Laundries, etc.	$TBD	$TBD	$TBD
Commercial and Industrial	$TBD	$TBD	$TBD

Miscellaneous Rates and Fees Effective February, 18 2015

The District also maintains a schedule of miscellaneous rates and fees**,** most recently updated and approved by the Board of Directors on February 18, 2015 (Resolution No. 536). These charges include customer deposits, penalties, and service-related fees that recover the cost of specific administrative or operational activities. Examples include refundable deposits for new service accounts, late payment penalties, call-out charges for after-hours service, reconnection fees for accounts shut off due to non-payment, returned check/ACH fees, and property lien filing charges. These fees are designed to ensure that costs associated with individual customer actions are borne by those customers rather than by the District's general ratepayers.

Miscellaneous Rates and Fees:

Deposits Required (Refundable after 3 years of good payment history)**:**			
Total Deposit	**Water Deposit**	**Sewer Customer of:**	**Sewer Deposit**
$ 400.00	$ 125.00	Sunnyslope	$ 275.00
$ 300.00	$ 125.00	City of Hollister	$ 175.00
$ 800.00	**Fire Hydrant Deposit**		
Delinquent Account Penalty:			
Late Fee of 10.0% (basic one-time penalty), PLUS 0.5% continuing penalty on unpaid balance			
Miscellaneous Fees:			
$ 175.00	**Call-Out Fee:** Charged when District staff is called out to turn water on or off after normal working hours.		

$ 50.00	**Reconnection Fee :** Charged when water service is shut-off for non-payment and must be paid before water service is restarted.
$ 30.00	**Returned Check (or ACH) Fee:** Charged when a payment is returned by the bank as uncollected for any reason.
$ 10.00	**Administrative Collection Fee:** Charged when a shut-off notice (60 days past due) or door hanger delivery is processed on a past due account.
$ 50.00	**Property Lien Filing Fee:** Charged when the District files a lien for a balance due on a delinquent account.

Questions?

For questions about rates, fees, or how they apply to your project or account, please contact Sunnyslope County Water District Billing Department at (831) 637-4670, or via email at billing@sunnyslopewater.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 38

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA ACCEPTING A WATER RATE STUDY, PROPOSING A WATER RATE INCREASE, SETTING THE DATE AND TIME FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED INCREASE, AND DIRECTING STAFF TO GIVE NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII D, SECTION 6 OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

WHEREAS, the City's wastewater treatment plant discharges its treated effluent under the strict guidance of a permit issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (the "NPDES Permit"); and

WHEREAS, the wastewater plant was not designed to meet the all of the requirements of the NPDES Permit; and

WHEREAS, the plant has, for many years, discharged effluent with sodium, chloride, and total dissolved solids concentrations that exceed the concentrations allowed under the NPDES Permit; and

WHEREAS, dating back to before 2007, the City has been subject to ongoing fines for its ongoing violations of the NPDES Permit; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the City agreed to comply with the Administrative Order on Consent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency requiring that the City take certain steps to remedy its violations; and

WHEREAS, in order to reduce the amount of sodium, chloride, and total dissolved solids concentrations in the water sourced for its water system, the City is committed to importing surface water from the San Benito County Water District ("SBCWD") to blend with the groundwater currently used in the City's drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the City has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with SBCWD pursuant to which SBCWD has agreed to provide the City with treated surface water from SBCWD's West Hills Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, to transport this treated surface water to the City's water distribution system, a new water line from the San Benito County Water District West Hills Treatment Plant will be required; and

WHEREAS, the MOU requires that the City pay SBCWD for (i) the construction costs of the new water line and (ii) the ongoing costs associated with obtaining, treating and distributing the treated surface water that SBCWD provides to the City; and

WHEREAS, the costs of operating, maintaining, and improving the City's water system are funded by water rates collected from the City's water customers; and

WHEREAS, the existing rates are insufficient to fund the costs associated with accessing this new source of treated surface water and purchasing that water; and

WHEREAS, the City engaged Bartle Wells and Associates ("BWA") to determine the water rates that will be required to fund the City's water enterprise in light of the terms of the MOU and the capital and operational costs associated with the new source of treated surface water; and

WHEREAS, BWA has produced its Water Rate Study, dated May 21, 2022, which is on file in the Office of the City Clerk, available for public inspection, and incorporated herein by reference (the "BWA Study"); and

WHEREAS, the City is in the process of applying for federal and state grants and loans to defray a part of the costs of constructing the water line; and

WHEREAS, in order to qualify for state and federal assistance, the City must be able to demonstrate that it has sufficient financial resources (and water rate authority) to operate its drinking water system and to fund wastewater treatment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to initiate proceedings to adopt the water rates described in the BWA Study; and

WHEREAS, a proposed rate table (the "Water Rate Study") is set forth in Attachment "A" to this Resolution, which is incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, Article XIII D, Section 6 of the California Constitution, which was adopted by the people as a part of Proposition 218, requires that the City Council hold a protest hearing before adopting increased water rates; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA NOW HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS:

1. That the recitals in this Resolution and the accompanying staff report are true and correct and are hereby made a part of this Resolution.
2. That the BWA Study is accepted.
3. That the water rates set forth in the BWA Study and the Rate Table are hereby proposed.
4. That 6:00 PM on July 19, 2022 in the City Council Chambers located at 311 Second Street, San Juan Batista, CA 95045 and virtually by web conference, is set at the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed rates (the "Public Hearing").
5. That at the Public Hearing the City Council will hear testimony from all interested persons regarding the proposed water rates.
6. That staff is directed to mail notice of the Public Hearing to water customers in the manner set forth in Section 53755(a)(1) of the California Government Code.

7. That staff is directed to accept written protests as set forth in Exhibit "B" to this Resolution, which is hereby approved and is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of San Juan Bautista at a Special meeting held on the 24th day of May, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Jordan, Flores, Freeman

NOES: Edge, Freels

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Leslie Q. Jordan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Don Reynolds, Acting Deputy City Clerk

Attachment: May 21, 2022 Water Rate Study

Guidelines for Acceptance and Tabulation of Protests

Reso 2022-36

Attachment "A"

Proposed Water Rate Table

May 21, 2022 rate Study

1.3 Summary of Water Rate Recommendations

Table 1 shows a summary of proposed water rate recommendations.

Table 1 - Proposed Water Rates

Water Rates	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27
	Existing	*Proposed*	*Proposed*	*Proposed*	*Proposed*	*Proposed*
Volumetric Rate $/1000 gallons	**$6.35**	$7.05	$8.04	$9.17	$9.63	$10.12
Monthly Base Rate	**$55.76**	$65.91	$75.15	$85.68	$89.97	$94.47

A pass through is proposed for changes to the rates charged by SBCWD for its services.

Attachment "B"

Guidelines for Acceptance and Tabulation of Protests

SECTION 1: Definitions.

Unless the context plainly indicates another meaning was intended, the following definitions shall apply in construction of these guidelines.

A. "Customer" means a person show on the City's records as being responsible for paying water charges.
B. "Parcel" means a County Assessor's parcel that receives water services and is subject to the proposed water charges.
C. "Parcel Owner" means an owner of a parcel, including a tenant of a parcel who is entitled to submit a protest pursuant to Section 53755 of the Government Code or is described in Article XIII D, Section 2(g) of the California Constitution.
D. "Record Owner" means the person or persons whose name or names appear on the County Assessor's last equalized assessment roll as the owner of a parcel.

SECTION 2: Protest Submittal.

A. Written protests against the proposed charge may be submitted to the City Clerk, by:
   (i) Delivery to the Office of the City Clerk located at 311 Second Street, San Juan Batista, CA 95045 during published business hours; or
   (ii) Mail to the City Clerk at the following address: City Clerk, City of San Juan Batista, PO Box 1420, San Juan Batista, CA 95045; or
   (iii) Personally submitting the protest at the public hearing.

B. Protests, including those submitted by mail, must be *received* by the City no later than the close of the public testimony portion of the public hearing.

C. The City cannot accept protests via fax or email.

D. The City Council welcomes all interested persons to comment orally at the public hearing. However, unless accompanied by a written protest, oral comments at the public hearing do not qualify as a formal protest. Notwithstanding the forgoing; if, as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the public is prohibited from attending the hearing in person and is required to participate remotely, the City Council will set aside a time prior to the close of the public testimony portion of the public hearing during which the City Clerk will accept an oral protest that will be treated as a written protest so long as all information (aside from signature) required of a written protest is provided orally.

SECTION 3: Protest Contents.

A. A written protest must include:
   (i) A statement that it is a protest against the proposed increase to the water charges.
   (ii) The name of the Parcel Owner or Customer that is submitting the protest.
   (iii) Identification of assessor's parcel number, street address, or utility account number of the parcel or account with respect to which the protest is made.
   (iv) Original signature and legibly printed name of the person submitting the protest.

B. If a protest is submitted in connection with a parcel by a Parcel Owner who is neither the Record Owner of the parcel nor the Customer shown on the City's records, then the person may attach evidence of ownership or tenancy to the written protest. In connection with tabulation and verification of protests, the City reserves the right to request such evidence of ownership or tenancy from any such person. Such evidence, if requested by the City via a letter mailed prior to the announcement of the tabulation results, must be submitted to the City within ten days of the date the request is mailed in order for the protest to be valid.

C. Except as provided in Section 2(D), written communications that do not include all of the elements set forth in the preceding paragraph will be treated as written comments on the proposal, but will not be counted as formal protests.

SECTION 5: Protest Withdrawal.

Any person who submits a protest may withdraw it by submitting to the City Clerk a written request that the protest be withdrawn. The withdrawal of a protest shall contain sufficient information to identify the affected parcel and the name of the person who submitted both the protest and the request that it be withdrawn.

SECTION 6: Multiple Protests.

A. Each Parcel Owner or Customer may submit a protest.
B. For the Parcel-Based Count: Only one protest will be counted per parcel as provided by Government Code Section 53755(b).
C. For the Account-Based Count: Only one protest will be counted per account.
D. If a person submitting a protest is both a Parcel Owner (as defined in Section 1(C) of these guidelines) and a Customer, that person's protest will be counted as both a protest for their parcel and a protest for their account.

SECTION 7: Transparency, Confidentiality, and Disclosure.

A. Once a protest is opened during the tabulation, it becomes a disclosable public record, as required by state law and will be maintained in District files for two (2) years.

SECTION 8: Invalid Protests.

The City Clerk shall not accept as valid any protest if he or she determines that any of the following is true:

A. The protest does not state its opposition to the proposed charges.
B. The protest does not name a Parcel Owner or Customer of the parcel identified in the protest.
C. The protest does not identify a parcel or account served by the City that is subject to the proposed charge.
D. The protest does not bear an original signature of the Parcel Owner or Customer with respect to, the parcel identified on the protest. Whether a signature is valid shall be entrusted to the reasonable judgement of the City Clerk. A signature is not required for a protest submitted pursuant to Section 2(D).
E. The protest was altered in a way that raises a fair question as to whether the protest actually expresses the intent of a parcel owner or tenant to protest the charges.
F. The protest was not received by the City Clerk before the close of the public input portion of the public hearing on the proposed charges.
G. A request to withdraw the protest was received prior to the close of the public input portion of the public hearing on the proposed charges.

SECTION 9: City Clerk's Decisions Final.

The City Clerk's decision that a protest is not valid shall constitute a final action of the City and shall not be subject to any internal appeal.

SECTION 10: Majority Protest.

A majority protest exists if written protests are timely submitted and not withdrawn with respect to either (i) a majority (50% plus one) of the parcels or (ii) a majority (50% plus one) of the accounts subject to the proposed charge. The City Council will not adopt the proposed increase if there is a majority protest.

SECTION 11: Tabulation of Protests.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the City Clerk shall tabulate all protests received, including those received during the public hearing, and shall report the result to the City Council. If the number of protests received is manifestly insufficient to constitute a majority protest, the City Clerk may determine the absence of a majority protest without validating the protests received, but may instead deem them all valid without further examination.

SECTION 12: Report of Tabulation.

The City Clerk shall report the results of the tabulation to the City Council.

If at the conclusion of the public hearing, the City Clerk determines that he or she will require additional time to tabulate the protests, he or she shall so advise the City Council, which may adjourn the meeting to allow the tabulation to be completed on another day or days. If so, the City Clerk shall declare the time and place of tabulation, which shall be conducted in a place where interested members of the public may observe the tabulation, and the City Council shall declare the time at which the meeting shall be resumed to receive and act on the tabulation report of the City Clerk.

Appendix I
Public Outreach

Water Resources Association San Benito County (WRASBC)
30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, CA 95023

(831) 637-4378

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION HARDWARE REBATE PROGRAM

Program Overview: WRASBC offers a rebate program to purchase new/replacement landscape irrigation hardware/equipment to reduce the amount of water waste. The program includes MP Rotators by Hunter Industries, and Hose Timers and/or Rain Sensors which are on the list provided by WRASBC. The goal is to water early in the morning to minimize evaporation, never water faster than the ground can absorb the water, and adjust sprinklers to avoid watering the sidewalks and driveways.

Eligibility: Eligible residents of San Benito County are those who have water service through the City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, Sunnyslope Water District or reside in CSA 31 (Stonegate). Customers served by private wells are not eligible.

Rebate: The WRASBC offers a maximum of $100 rebate for materials purchased per household. This program provides a 50% rebate on your purchase price of hardware (excluding labor), up to a maximum of $100 rebate. This rebate applies only to purchases within the last six months. **All rebate programs are subject to available funds.**

How to Apply:

1. Complete Rebate Program Application. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
2. Attach copy of your current water bill
3. Call the WRASBC to schedule an on-site pre-inspection
4. After pre-inspection, purchase and install the pre-qualified hardware from the list provided by the WRASBC within 60 days of the pre-inspection
5. Call the WRASBC to schedule an on-site post-inspection to verify that hardware has been installed correctly. The WRASBC representative will also develop an irrigation schedule for you to follow

Inspection(s): Pre-inspection: A pre-inspection is required to determine what hardware can be used for your landscape area and what items you are qualified to purchase from the WRASBC-approved list.

Post-inspection: After you have purchased and installed the hardware within 60 days of the pre-inspection, call WRASBC to schedule an on-site post-inspection to confirm that the hardware is installed.

Upon completion of all requirements of the rebate program, you will receive your rebate within 30-45 days

Water Resources Association San Benito County (WRASBC)
30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, CA 95023

(831)637-4378

TOILET REBATE PROGRAM

Program Overview: WRASBC offers a rebate program to eliminate pre-1992, 3.5 – 7 gallons per flush toilets with new Low Flow 1.28 gallons per flush toilets. This rebate is for replacing toilets that were manufactured prior to 1992 which are date stamped into the porcelain either in the inside part of the lid on the tank, or on the sidewall inside the tank. Your toilet is NOT eligible if it says "1.6 gpf" behind the toilet seat where the manufacturer's logo is usually found

Eligibility: Eligible residents of San Benito County are those who have water service through the City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, Sunnyslope Water District or reside in CSA 31 (Stonegate). Customers served by private wells are not eligible.

Rebate: There are two types of rebates. (A) The WRASBC offers a free Low Flow Toilet in exchange for your old pre-1992 toilet. Participants have 45 days to return old toilet after receiving free one; or (B) you can apply for a $75 rebate if you choose to purchase your own toilet (an additional $10 will be paid if you return your old toilet to the WRASBC for recycling). These rebates are limited to the number of bathrooms in your household with pre-1992 toilets and cannot be used for a new house or bathroom addition. This rebate applies only to purchases within the last six months. **All rebate programs are subject to available funds.**

Instructions:

A. How to Apply for a Free Toilet:

1. Call to schedule an appointment to pick up a free toilet at the WRASBC
2. Complete Program Application (this form can be filled out at time of toilet pick up).
3. Your water account number and a picture ID need to be presented at time of pick up.
4. Return your old toilet for recycling and toilet age verification to WRASBC on Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 – 5:00 (closed noon to 1:00). If you cannot return the toilet, call the WRASBC and make arrangements to have the toilet picked up for recycling. If your old toilet does not meet the age verification pre-1992 requirement, you will be charged $125 for the toilet on your next water provider utility bill. **Old toilet(s) must be returned within 45 days after the new toilet is picked up.**

B. How to Apply for a $75 Toilet Rebate:

1. Complete Rebate Program Application (including a W-9 form). Incomplete applications will not be processed
2. Attach copy of your current water bill
3. Attach the original receipt of your toilet purchase(s). Original receipts will not be returned
4. Return your old toilet to WRASBC on Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 – 5:00 (closed noon to 1:00). An additional $10 will be paid if you return your old toilet to the WRASBC for recycling and toilet age verification. If your old toilet does not meet the age verification pre-1992 requirement, your rebate application will be denied.

Inspection(s): No pre-inspection or post-inspection is required, however, WRASBC will verify that your old toilet is pre-1992 to meet the rebate program requirements. A pre-inspection is required for free toilets/toilet rebates of 3 or more.

Upon completion of all requirements of the rebate program, you will receive your rebate within 30-45 days

Water Resources Association
San Benito County

Turf Replacement Rebate Program **WRASBC**
$2 per square foot – from 100 sq. ft. up to 1,000 sq. ft. **(831) 637-4378 – www.wrasbc.org**

The WRASBC is offering a program to reduce or limit turf in residential areas. Turf can use up to 80" of water per year in our climate and we only receive from 11-13" of rain on average. This program will act as an incentive to get people to remove turf and plant drought tolerant or native plants that use much less water and are more appropriate for our climate.

The WRASBC is offering customers of all the agencies they represent a **$2.00 per square foot** to replace eligible lawn areas (**from 100 square feet up to 1,000 square feet**) with:

- Low-water-use, climate-appropriate plants (25% of rehabilitated landscape area) and;
- Permeable hardscape (pavers or other materials that allow water to pass-through to the soil). Examples include pavers, crushed granite, decorative stones, mulch, etc.
- Leak-free, drip irrigation if used in the converted area, must be low volume drip, micro-spray or bubbler and be free of malfunctions. Once installed, the irrigation system must not create runoff, overspray or misting.

The following **per site maximum/minimum** rebate amounts apply:
Maximum: $2,000 for Single-Family Multi-Family or Commercial
(equivalent to 1,000 square feet of lawn removed)

Minimum: $200 for Single-Family Multi-Family or Commercial
(equivalent to 100 square feet of lawn removed)

Customers may remove more or less turf area than is covered by the rebate program, but the per site maximum/minimum $ still applies.

Program Eligibility

- Rebates are available for residents, businesses, or institutions that receive their water from the City of Hollister, the City of San Juan Bautista, the Sunnyslope County Water District and the San Benito County Water District (Zone 6 ONLY)
- Participants must own the property to be eligible
- Applicants must obtain pre-approval of their landscape plans for the area where the turf will be removed (WRASBC will send a letter to the participant) after they participate in a qualifying pre-inspection
- Landscape areas to be converted must be currently maintained and irrigated
- Projects that have been started, landscape that has died, or projects that have already completed prior to pre-approval are not eligible
- New construction does not qualify as the Turf Removal Program is aimed at encouraging retrofitting of existing landscapes
- Projects must be completed with 120 days of pre-approval. Extensions can be provided on a case by case basis, if requested. However, funds are limited and an extension doesn't reserve or guarantee funds will be available when your project is completed.
- Non-qualifying materials include, but are not limited to the following: seed, sod, vegetable gardens, vineyards, high water use plants, lawn ornaments, impervious surfaces, cement, decking, curbing, hot tubs, pools, building extensions, retaining walls, sheds, trellises, playground materials and fences.

Steps To Participate

1. Call the WRASBC at 831-637-4378 or email the Program Manager at jcosioarellano@sbcwd.com to schedule a **Pre-Inspection** visit to have the lawn area measured. Either have a materials list ready at the time of the pre-inspection or a materials list can be submitted by mail or in person after the pre-inspection. The materials needs to show what plants, irrigation system (if needed), and hardscape materials you plan to install in the area where the turf was removed.
2. The WRASBC will review your materials list and send you an **Approval Letter**. After you receive the **Approval Letter**, you can start your project.
3. Remove the lawn area and **install your project** according to the approved materials list and program Terms and Conditions.
4. Call the Water Conservation Representative at 831-637-4378 to schedule a **Post-Inspection** visit. *Post-Inspection must take place **within 120 days** of receiving the Approval Letter. Rebate checks will be processed within four (4) to six (6) weeks after Post-Inspection.*
5. Rebates of $600 or more may be considered taxable income by the IRS/State. A signed and completed W-9 Form must be submitted with any rebate application.

Some Water-Wise Plant Resources

- Obtain the Water Conservation Fact Sheet entitled, "Low-Water/ Drought Resistant Plant List and Resources" from the WRASBC

ALERT: To retain your rebate eligibility, DO NOT INSTALL HIGH-WATER-USE PLANTS in your converted landscape. Only low- or moderate-water-use species are acceptable. 25% of the rehabilitated area must be low or moderate-water-use-plants.

High-water-use plant species are those listed as needing "Regular Water" or "Ample Water" in the *Sunset Western Garden Book* and those classified as High (H) water use on the WUCOLS (Water Use Classification Of Landscape Species) website. See WRASBC Fact Sheet "Low-Water/ Drought Resistant Plant List and Resources".

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE REBATE

1.General

a. Turf may not be reinstalled while you maintain ownership of the property.
If turf is reinstalled during that time, the entire rebate amount must be refunded.

b. An applicant may be required to refund the entire rebate, or a portion thereof, in the WRASBC's sole discretion, if rebate program terms and requirements are violated. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this requirement is void upon transfer of ownership.

2. Program Eligibility Determination

a. All determinations of program eligibility are at the sole discretion of the WRASBC.
b. The WRASBC may reject or limit applications at any time, for any reason. Only the property owner on record or the property owner's may apply.

3. The applicant is solely responsible for complying with any and all laws, regulations, policies, conditions, covenants and restriction that may apply and for any and all liabilities arising out of a conversion project. Applicants are encouraged to consult any applicable covenants, conditions and restriction (CC&Rs) or neighborhood Homeowner's Association (HOA) regulations that may apply to an anticipated conversion project prior to requesting a pre-inspection with the WRASBC. Applicants must also comply with all state and local laws relating to landscape maintenance. The quality, maintenance and appearance of the conversion are the exclusive responsibility of the applicant.

WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
SAN BENITO COUNTY

Water Resources Association San Benito County (WRASBC)
30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, CA 95023

(831) 637-4378

WATER SOFTENER REBATE PROGRAM

Program Overview: WRASBC offers two different rebate program options for the elimination or replacement of water softener. Most Water Softeners use roughly 75 gallons of water during regeneration. Waste water from Water Softeners contains high levels of sodium (salt and/or potassium) which makes it much more costly to recycle the water and negatively affects the groundwater aquifers.

Eligibility: Eligible residents of San Benito County are those who have water service through the City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, Sunnyslope Water District or reside in CSA 31 (Stonegate). Customers served by private wells are not eligible.

Rebate: The WRASBC offers two different rebates for those who currently have a water softener:

Option 1 is a $250 rebate to eliminate any type of water softener and switch to an offsite regeneration service. Customers must submit proof by providing a copy of the 1-year minimum contract; or

Option 2 is a $300 rebate if you demolish your old, self-regulating Water Softener that uses salt/potassium, with a salt-free Water Conditioner, or remove it entirely and do not replace it. This rebate is limited to one Water Softener per household.

This rebate applies only to purchases within the last six months. **All rebate programs are subject to available funds.**

How to Apply for Option 1 – Contracting for Outside Regeneration Service ($250 rebate):

1. Call to schedule a pre-inspection BEFORE you remove your old water softener (your old water softener cannot be removed before pre-inspection). The WRASBC technician will bring a rebate form and W-9 form for you to fill out.
2. After pre-inspection, remove your old water softener and make arrangements with water softener regeneration service to install new unit.
3 Call the WRASBC to schedule a post inspection. The WRASBC technician will pick up your rebate form, copy of your minimum 1-year service agreement and completed W-9 form.

How to Apply for Option 2 - Demolition of Water Softener with No Replacement ($300 rebate):

1. Call to schedule a pre-inspection BEFORE you remove your old water softener (your old water softener cannot be removed before pre-inspection). The WRASBC technician will bring a rebate form and W-9 form for you to fill out.
2. After pre-inspection, remove your old Water Softener as instructed by WRASBC representative within 120 days
3. Call the WRASBC to (1) schedule an on-site post-inspection to verify that your old Water Softener has been demolished (valves protruding from the wall have been capped off or a pipe must be soldered from one valve to the other creating a loop); OR (2) verify that you have installed a new salt-free alternative Water Conditioner. The WRASBC technician will pick up your completed rebate application & W-9 form at this time

Inspection(s): Pre-inspection: An on-site pre-inspection is required for both options. Prior to removing your old Water Softener, you must have a pre-inspection by a WRASBC representative who will explain the procedures for both options in detail as described above.

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Upon completion of all requirements of the rebate program, you will receive your rebate within 30-45 days