

... A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

### **OWOW Steering Committee Members**

Bruce Whitaker, Convener | SAWPA Commissioner Brenda Dennstedt, SAWPA Commissioner Katrina Foley, Orange County Supervisor Karen Spiegel, Riverside County Supervisor Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Supervisor James Hessler, Altman Plants Garry W. Brown, Orange County Coastkeeper Joe Kerr, Regional Water Quality Control Board Deborah Robertson, Mayor, City of Rialto Ted Hoffman, Councilmember, City of Norco Nicholas Dunlap, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Fullerton

### PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF AB 361, THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY WITH THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT. ALL VOTES TAKEN WILL BE CONDUCTED BY ORAL ROLL CALL.

### This meeting will be accessible as follows:

Meeting Access Via Computer (Zoom)*:	Meeting Access Via Telephone*:					
<ul> <li>https://sawpa.zoom.us/j/84694745367</li> </ul>	• 1 (669) 900-6833					
<ul> <li>Meeting ID: 846 9474 5367</li> </ul>	• Meeting ID: 846 9474 5367					
*Participation in the meeting via the Zoom app (a free download) is strongly encouraged; there is no way to protect your privacy if you elect to call in by phone to the meeting.						

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE**

### OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.

### <u>AGENDA</u>

### 1. CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Bruce Whitaker, Convener)

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the Committee on items within the jurisdiction of the Committee; however, no action may be taken on an item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Government Code §54954.2(b).



... A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

#### 4. BUSINESS ITEMS

#### 5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

#### 6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Americans with Disabilities Act: Meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact (951) 354-4220 or svilla@sawpa.org. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility for this meeting. Requests should specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, and available at www.sawpa.org, subject to staff's ability to post documents prior to the meeting.

#### **Declaration of Posting**

I, Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority declare that on November 10, 2022, a copy of this agenda has been uploaded to the SAWPA website at <u>www.sawpa.org</u> and posted at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

### 2022 OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meetings

Fourth Thursday of Every Other Month (January, March, May, July, September, November) (Note: All meetings begin at 11:00 a.m., unless otherwise noticed, and are held at SAWPA.)

January		March	
1/27/22	Regular Committee Meeting	3/24/22	Regular Committee Meeting [cancelled]
May		July	
5/26/22	Regular Committee Meeting [cancelled]	7/28/22	Regular Committee Meeting
Septembe	r	November	•
9/22/22	Regular Committee Meeting	11/17/22*	Regular Committee Meeting*

\* Meeting date adjusted due to conflicting holiday.



#### ...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

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Septembe	er	November	r
9/28/23	Regular Committee Meeting	11/16/23*	Regular Committee Meeting*

\* Meeting date adjusted due to conflicting holiday.

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...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

### OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** 

September 22, 2022

	Committee Members				
Santa Ana Watershed	Project Authority Representatives				
Bruce Whitaker, Convener	, Orange County Water District	Present			
Brenda Dennstedt, Wester	rn Municipal Water District	Present			
County Supervisor Re	presentatives				
Katrina Foley, Orange Cou	Inty Board of Supervisors	Present (11:09 a.m.)			
Karen Spiegel, Riverside (	County Board of Supervisors	Present			
	dino County Board of Supervisors	Present			
County Municipal Rep	resentatives				
Deborah Robertson, Mayo		Present (11:15 a.m.)			
Ted Hoffman, Councilmen		Present			
Nicholas Dunlap, Mayor P		Absent			
Business Community	Representative				
	f West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present			
Environmental Commu	unity Representative				
	t, Orange County Coastkeeper	Absent			
Regional Water Quality	Control Board Representative				
Joseph Kerr, Regional Wa		Absent			
	Others Present				
SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:	T. Milford Harrison, Kelly Rowe				
SAWPA STAFF:	Jeff Mosher, Mark Norton, Ian Achimore, Rick Whetsel, Edina Goode, Pete				
	Vitt, Sara Villa, Zyanya Ramirez				
OTHERS PRESENT:	Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof LLP				

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Bruce Whitaker, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.



OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meeting Minutes September 22, 2022 Page 2

### 1. CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, this meeting was conducted virtually.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 27, 2022 | JULY 28, 2022

MOVED, approve the January 27, 2022 and July 28, 2022 meeting minutes.

Result: Motion/Second: Ayes: Nays: Abstentions: Absent: Adopted by Roll Call Vote Dennstedt/Hessler Dennstedt, Foley, Hagman, Hessler, Hoffman, Spiegel, Whitaker None None Brown, Dunlap, Kerr, Robertson

### 4. BUSINESS ITEMS

### A. <u>PROPOSITION 1 ROUND 2 INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT</u> <u>PROJECT APPROVALS (SC#2022.6)</u>

Ian Achimore provided a presentation on the Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project Approvals, contained in the agenda packet on pages 19-83. The OWOW Call for Projects was open from January 11, 2022 to June 1, 2022. SAWPA received 24 applications requesting Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM grant funding. Mr. Achimore provided an overview of each project.

Per the 2019, Cooperative Agreement with the North County IRWM group, the recommendation to the OWOW Steering Committee also includes confirmation that the highest ranked North Orange County IRWM projects meet State requirements and thus be included in the DWR application to receive grant funding. Orange County Public Works is the administrator of that process, and SAWPA staff has coordinated closely with their staff to ensure the three projects meet eligibility requirements. If there are no high ranked projects in the watershed-wide category, or if the high ranked watershed-wide projects don't use the full allotment, then the unused funding is distributed between the OWOW and North OC IRWM process using the 66% and 34% ratio. Christy Suppes of Orange County provided a presentation of the three projects that were selected through their process.

Due to DWR's grant application requirements, SAWPA is required to provide "back up" projects that are ranked just below the top projects. "Back up" projects are needed in case a selected project cannot proceed during the implementation phase from Summer 2023 to December 2027. Those two "back up" projects are:

- DAC: Shamrock and Meridian Septic to Sewer Conversion
- OWOW General: City of Rialto Recycled Intertie

Committee Member Dennstedt stated that the goal of this process is to reduce our dependency of state water and rely more on groundwater. She asked staff to provide a summary of anticipated new water and revised water produced by the projects.



OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meeting Minutes September 22, 2022 Page 3

**MOVED,** (1) Recommend the OWOW portfolio of ten projects to the SAWPA Commission in order to receive Proposition 1 IRWM Round 2 grant funding, and (2) Confirm that the three North Orange County IRWM projects meet State requirements and thus be included in the Round 2 list of projects to receive grant funding.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Robertson
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Foley, Hagman, Hessler, Hoffman, Robertson, Spiegel, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Brown, Dunlap, Kerr

### B. <u>OWOW PLAN UPDATE 2018 PLAN AMENDMENT WITH ADDITIONAL PROJECT</u> <u>LIST (SC#2022.7)</u>

Ian Achimore provided a presentation titled OWOW Plan Update 2018 Plan Amendment with Additional Project List, contained in the agenda packet on pages 99-108.

Through the OWOW Call for Projects, 24 projects were submitted to SAWPA for funding, and 26 were submitted to just be incorporated into the Plan (i.e. "plan only" projects). Through the North Orange County IRWM process described in the previous memorandum, three projects were submitted for funding, and one was submitted to be included in the IRWM Plan from Orange County Public Works.

SAWPA staff recommends including the "plan only" projects and the four North Orange County IRWM projects into the plan. Entities often choose the "plan only" option to be eligible for other State grant opportunities. The OWOW Plan Update 2018, includes a list of projects from Proposition 1 Round 1 per the Steering Committee's adoption of the Plan in 2019. That list is shown in Appendix B of the Plan and reflects projects submitted to SAWPA by January 24, 2019.

**MOVED,** to recommend to the SAWPA Commission that it amend the OWOW Plan Update 2018 to add an appendix that includes: (1) 27 "plan only" projects submitted via the 2022 Call for Projects, and (2) 24 projects that requested Proposition 1 Round 2 funding via the 2022 Call for Projects, and (3) Three projects from the 2022 North Orange County IRWM Call for Projects.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Robertson
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Foley, Hagman, Hessler, Hoffman, Robertson,
	Spiegel, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Brown, Dunlap, Kerr,

### 5. <u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS</u>

There were no comments.

### 6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Committee member Dennstedt requested to have Craig Miller speak on the Solve the Water Crisis initiative. This is an educational effort that brings into focus the ongoing water supply crisis to California policymakers.



OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meeting Minutes September 22, 2022 Page 4

### 7. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u> The meeting ended at 12:31 p.m.

APPROVED: November 17, 2022

Bruce Whitaker, Convener

Attest:

Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board

### **OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2022.8**

DATE:	November 17, 2022
то:	OWOW Steering Committee
SUBJECT:	Solve the Water Crisis Presentation by Western Municipal Water District
PREPARED BY:	Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager

#### RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file.

#### DISCUSSION

Per the request at the September 22, 2022 OWOW Steering Committee meeting by committee member Brenda Dennstedt, SAWPA staff has coordinated with Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) staff to provide an overview of the Solve the Water Crisis public awareness campaign. The campaign is being led by a coalition of more than 26 engaged water agencies representing both urban and rural areas, as well as Northern and Southern California. The goal of the coalition is to raise awareness among California policymakers regarding the urgency and bold actions needed to secure California's water future. Action is needed to respond to the ongoing water supply crisis, which is already impacting residents' quality of life, economic growth, community health, and the environment, as well as risking California's future.

The campaign, which began in May 2022, has a newsletter, a website at <u>www.solvethewatercrisis.com</u>, ongoing traditional media engagement, ongoing social media engagement, a coordinating committee amongst the engaged water agencies, and a consultant to assist in implementation – KP Public Affairs.

WMWD's General Manager, Craig Miller will be making the presentation to the OWOW Steering Committee for this agenda item.

#### **CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS**

• Active participation of a diverse group of stakeholders representing counties, cities, and water districts, as well as the private sector and the regulatory, environmental, and environmental justice communities who integrate the different interests in the watershed beyond political boundaries. Ensuring all perspectives are heard and valued.

### **RESOURCE IMPACTS**

None

Attachments:

1. PowerPoint Presentation

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### **SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS** ACT NOW TO SECURE CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE.

Crisis

Agenda Item 4.A.



## Solve the Water

## Presentation by Western Municipal Water District

- Craig Miller, General Manager
- Western Municipal Water District
- OWOW Steering Committee | November 17, 2022



## SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS MISSION

Solve the Water Crisis, through a critically needed statewide education effort, brings into sharp focus the ongoing water supply crisis that is already impacting residents' quality of life, economic growth, community health, and the environment, as well as risking California's future.

By raising awareness among California policymakers and thought leaders, Solve the Water Crisis will inform policymakers of the enormous water supply crisis and the urgency that requires bold and immediate State action to secure California's future.



## SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS **Growing Participation**

### **80+ INTERESTED AGENCIES COLLABORATORS**

- California Business Roundtable
- Western Growers  $\bullet$
- California Building Industry Association  $\bullet$
- Association of California Water Agencies
- California Municipal Utilities Association  $\bullet$
- Southern California Water Coalition

### TARGET PARTNER LIST

- **Business Chambers**
- **Cities and Counties**
- **Civic Agencies**  $\bullet$
- Environmental
- Labor  $\bullet$
- Recreation  $\bullet$
- Social Justice
- Tourism  $\bullet$

### **26 MEMBERS**

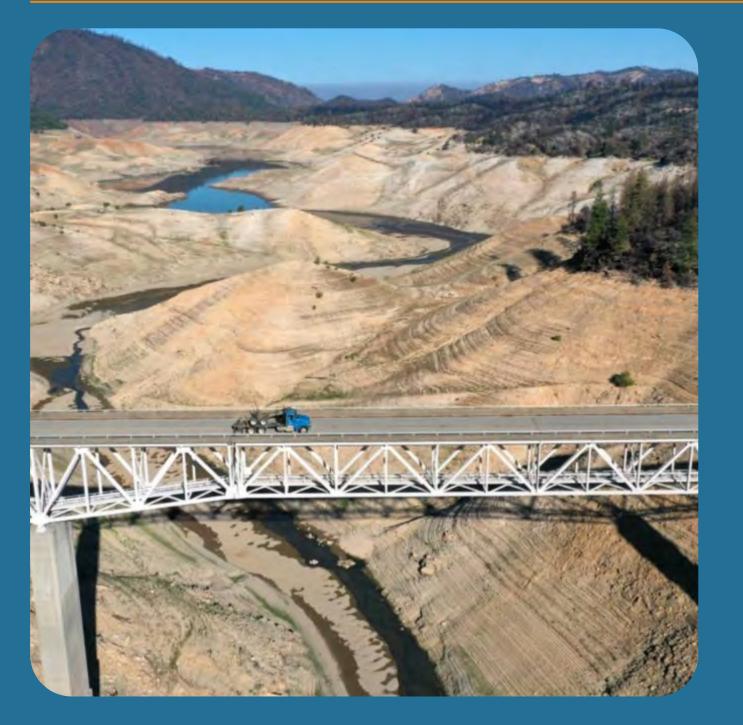
- Camrosa Water District
- City of Corona
- Coachella Valley Water D
- East Valley Water District
- El Dorado County Water
- Eastern Municipal Water
- Els inore Valley Water Dis
- Inland Empire Utilities Age
- Irvine Ranch Water Distri
- Jurupa Community Servi
- Las Virgenes Municipal V
- Mesa Water District
- Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Olivenhain Water District
- Puente Basin Water District



ACT NOW TO SECURE CALIFORN

	•	Rancho California Water District
	•	Riverside Public Utilities
District	•	Rubidoux Community Service District
t	•	San Bernardino Municipal Water District
Agency	•	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water
District		District
strict	•	San Juan Water District
gency	•	Temescal Valley Water District
rict	•	Three Valleys Municipal Water District
ices District	•	Turlock Irrigation District
Water District	•	Valley Center Municipal Water District
	•	Western Municipal Water District
of Orongo Count	<b>X</b> 7	

## OUR WATER FUTURE DOES NOT LOOK GOOD



Residents, businesses, and policymakers do not understand the severity of California's ongoing and systemic water supply crisis.



## **CURRENT STATE PRIORITIES**



### **Urban conservation**

Intensify environmental and regulatory mandates

Shift water supply burdens to local agencies

**Demand affordability despite increasing costs** 

According to a recent PPIC poll, "drought remains the dominant environmental issue for Californians." Just as important, a majority of Californians, nearly 70 percent "don't feel that government is doing enough to combat the drought."



## **Governor Newsom's** New Water Supply Plan

### Water Agencies Applaud Governor Newsom's **New Water Supply Strategy**



Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future



- Great step forward
- through

## Supportive sentiment Applaud leadership, recognition of urgency and need Need for continued work and follow



### OBJECTIVES



### CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESS.



## AGRICULTURE HIT HARD



0% allocation on CVP and 5% allocation on SWP (2022)



**\$1.7 billion revenue loss** 



14,600 jobs lost



(5)

395,000 acres left dry and unplanted

Food security











## URBAN LOSSES



Southern CA loss of 1.9M AF from SWP



- 3 Colorado River cuts coming so it can't make up the difference
- (4)

2

- **Coastal Commission denied HB desal permit**
- 5
- **Recycled water effectively committed**



- 6
- State needs roughly 20M AF of new supply where do we go for this water?











## SOLUTIONS

Educate key audiences on solutions to address the state's water supply and reliability issues, including statewide and long

More surface and groundwater storage

Improved inter-regional and local conveyance

Creative regulatory solutions such as the voluntary agreements

# - term benefits of solutions.



New supply including investments in local water infrastructure, such as groundwater recharge, desalination, and recycling



## TARGET AUDIENCE

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### Legislators

### Newsom Administration

### Regulators

- Water Champions
- Legislative Leadership
- Water and Budget Committees

- Policy
- Finance
- Communications
- GoBiz
- Resources Agency
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Water Resources
- State Water Resources Control Board





### ACTIVITIES

Media Engagement Stakeholder Education Digital Ad Campaign Sacramento Engagement









The Honorable Gavin Newson Governor, State of California 1023 O Street, Ste. 9000

The Honorable Toni Atkins President Pro Tempore, California State Senate 1021 O Street, Sta. 7750 Sacramonia, CA 55514

The Honorable Arthure Rendon Speaker, California State Assembly 1021 O Sirect, Str. 8890

Dear Governor Newson, Pro Tem Atkins and Speaker Rendors

As write managers from across the state, who have the responsibility to plan and provide for our customent writer fution, we have an urgent message. We need new writer now. Our collective ability to provide writer capity and upply reliability for your constituents and California's excession, is onlineing and in a crisis that entroph because they arend for an end.

ablends reaching unter sporten pain no langer definer the wave mercencery to exercise configurated quality of le duct the work's fifth langest exercise reactive densities to include the transitions. Maintaining the static quality and pain of deeper and perpetual classifier

later the year, it is likely that some water agences will be lowed to us hack, or constitute aut off, water supplies to commend and industrial assiments. New will be ensuge plant make solar or a breavery make beer without were? They want't the some than admight, it is a water rows.

This is a child brought about by not investing in adapting our infrastructure to the new hydrology climate change has alreade wrowint. Without such mechanists in restormed the capability to mech the reack of source, public health and the contempt, we refi not have the leave to stored calculate too think standards write incommon to address California's environmental management balance.

The Governer just proposed (2 billion in this year's isolgot on water related hereing, with a more \$500 million for shrategic values atomgo ever multiple years, which havely periodnes that a strate of what's needed. The senate's proposed (7.5 billion over three years on water related issues is an improvement, but indicative of implands provide in the face of the water supply inits, the bigget issues inverses would be specified (5.1 °).

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lane 14, 2022.

Governor, Sara of California State Capital Nacionation 10 99218

Disc General Review

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OPED: California's Water Supply Crisis Is Much More Than This Drought *Picked up by Southern California News Group* 

- Print: 684K total readership
- Web: **9.4 million** monthly unique visitors, **20.1 million** monthly page views



### **ACTIVITIES: Website and Collateral**



### CALIFORNIA'S CURRENT WATER SUPPLY CRISIS

California is in the midst of a water supply crisis that is already impacting our economy, every region across the state, jobs, critical industries, and all Californians. While the state calls for more aggressive water conservation as we head into a third year of drought. this is an unprecedented time with changing and worsening conditions, calling for extraordinary and immediate measures. Conservation is not an acceptable or adequate policy response. We must invest now in water management infrastructure to prevent the current crisis from becoming even worse and to secure California's water future.

CHANGING AND WORSENING CONDITIONS

California's existing water system was already struggling to meet increasingly demands even before climate change intensified California's extremely variab

The climate continues to charge, our population has nearly doubled, environ regulatory demands have become dominant, but California continues with th approach to managing our water supply as if it is still 1968.

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Loss of cloned

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Changes to and impacting water supplies are evidenced by:





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Along with changing and worsening hydrologic conditions, antiquated state v policies, inadequate investments in large projects, and repeated inaction over decades, have also contributed to the current water supply crisis.

Not adapting our water supply approach and statewide water policies to mee challenges of current and coming conditions will continue to devastate our e threaten California's future.







SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS ACT NOW TO SECURE CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE.

middle of a water supply crisis. Warning! California is in the middle of a wa

Collifernin is facing a writer supply crisis that is already impacting our economy, every region across the state Jake, eritical industries, and all Californians. While the state calls for more ba-



### SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS

ACT NOW TO SECURE CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE

#### CALIFORNIANS ARE CURRENTLY FACING A WATER SUPPLY CRISIS; THE NEXT GENERATION IS FACING AN EXISTENTIAL THREAT TO THEIR LIVELIHOOD AND QUALITY OF LIFE

NEED FOR IMMEDIATE STATE ACTION

#### DROUGHT



State emergency proclamations for drought were issued for 50 counties in 2022. "The U.S. Drought Monitor has updated its map for California and shows more areas in the Extreme Category. Last week 13% of California was listed in extreme drought, the update last Thursday now has 35% listed as Extreme Drought." ABC News, March 2022

This is an existential threat to the West and our water managers stand on the front lines of our response."

men Ekiand entern water experi and farmer direct e Colorado Water Conservation Board

#### INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE

The current infrastructure was developed for a 1970 state population of 20 million; California has almost 40 million people today.



The summer of 2021 was California's hottest ever, studies predict a low to no-snow future for the state - compounding the already difficult challenge of delivering water for residential, business, agriculture, and recreational purposes.

FAILURE TO MOVE FORWARD ON STORAGE PROJECTS

After eight years, none of the storage projects scheduled to receive billions in funding from a 2014 voter approved bond measure have been built.



ZERO PERCENT OR NEAR ZERO PERCENT ALLOCATIONS TO WATER AGENCIES

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The state and federal water projects will release some water, but the state is dangerously close to limiting water for only critical health and safety reasons.

Despite tremendous local investment, the State is not living up to its responsibility for evolving California's water system—improvements are now long overdue. Current policy priorities are not helping...

We need your support and engagement today.

# THANK YOU.



## SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS ACT NOW TO SECURE CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE





### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.SOLVETHEWATERCRISIS.COM

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### **OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2022.9**

DATE:	November 17, 2022
то:	OWOW Steering Committee
SUBJECT:	Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Resolution and Project Updates
PREPARED BY:	Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager

#### RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the SAWPA Commission adopt SAWPA Resolution 2022-17 in order to submit the final grant application to the Department of Water Resources.

#### DISCUSSION

Since the OWOW Steering Committee and SAWPA Commission approved the suite of projects recommended by SAWPA staff at their previous meetings, staff has worked with the various project leads including the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority (LESJWA) and City of Lake Elsinore. Their project, the Phase 1 Lake Elsinore Algae Harvesting and Nutrient Removal Project, includes the implementation of new technology to harvest algae cells in the lake, separate it from the water molecules, and remove the algae biomass through a lake-side slurry. Since approval of the project's grant application, the City of Lake Elsinore, which would provide the \$1.5 Million cost share and ongoing operation and maintenance of the project, has identified some critical issues that need to be solved before they can move forward with the project. These include:

- Long-term cost share that is difficult to acquire for a City of Lake Elsinore's size. Annual long-term operation costs could be \$300,000 to maintain the new technology and other facilities.
- Lake-side acreage is needed to actively dry the slurry before it can be removed from the area. This could present potential odor issues.

The City's consultant is providing updated budget and modified project plans to the City and LESJWA that could possibly result in a scope-change for the project. The project lead has until November 15, 2022, to make a final decision and provide feedback to SAWPA. The grant awarded to this project through the Call for Projects is \$1.5 Million.

If the City cannot move forward with the project, the next back up project to receive this \$1.5 Million in grant funding would be the Inland Empire Utilities Agency's (IEUA) City of Rialto Recycled Intertie Project. The total cost of the project is \$53 Million, and it would provide a benefit of 3,500 acre feet per year of water supply. IEUA submitted a \$50 Million grant application for Federal Emergency Management Agency funding in September 2022 and is awaiting the results of that application. IEUA will also submit a state revolving loan application in December 2022, and IEUA staff has explored the municipal bond market as an alternative option to financing the project if grant funding is not ultimately acquired.

As part of the project, IEUA would have access to water from the City of Rialto's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), which currently discharges 6.2 million gallons per day (MGD) of recycled water to the Santa Ana River. IEUA and the City of Rialto have executed a recycled water purchase term sheet in October 2022. Through the construction of the \$53 million project, this water would be pumped from Rialto to IEUA's Recycled Plant No. 4 (RP4). Two retail water agencies adjacent to RP4 will then purchase the 3,500 AFY of water.

Also included in this agenda item is the adoption of the grant application resolution that is required by the Department of Water Resources for their February 1, 2023, final application. The resolution provides for the following:

- Recognizes the work done through the OWOW Call for Projects,
- Provides flexibility if back up projects become funded projects, and
- Allows SAWPA to execute a grant agreement with DWR as well as sub-agreements with the individual project leads.

As the grant application process continues to move forward, SAWPA staff will bring back updates on any developments with regard to the need to fund back up projects.

#### **CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS**

- OWOW criteria and values are transparent to watershed-wide stakeholders, and
- Administration of the OWOW process and plan in a highly efficient and cost-effective manner.

#### **RESOURCE IMPACTS**

None

Attachments:

- 1. PowerPoint Presentation
- 2. Resolution No. 2022-17

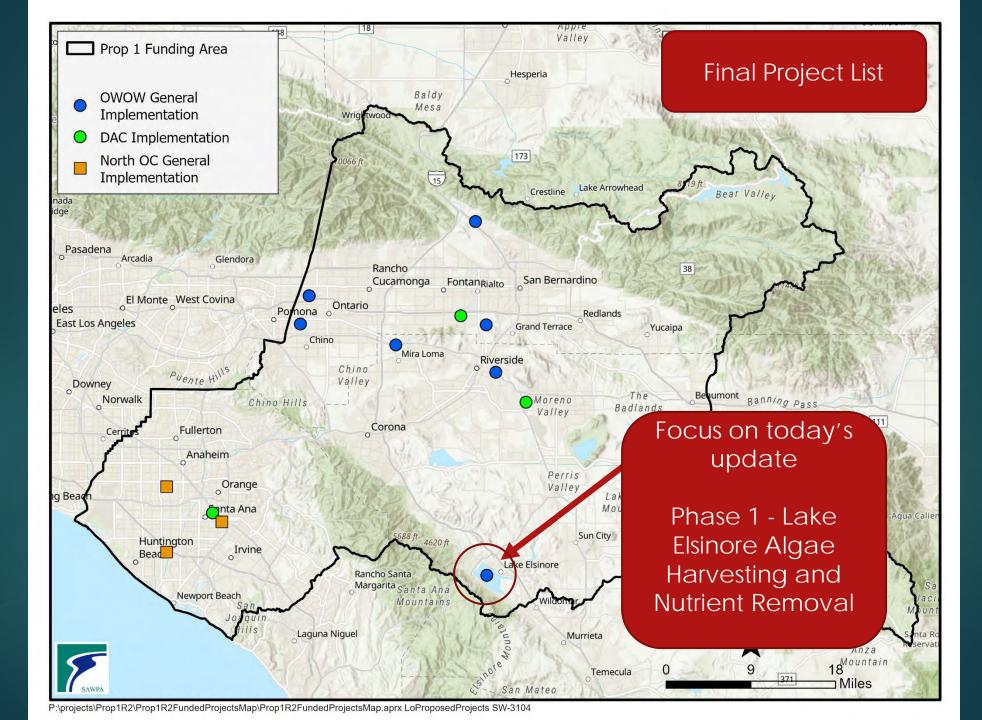
### Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM Resolution and Project Updates

Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager OWOW Steering Committee | November 17, 2022 Agenda Item 4.B.



### Recommendation

Recommend that the SAWPA Commission adopt SAWPA Resolution 2022-17 in order to submit the final grant application to DWR.



General Implementation Project	Applicant	Water Supply (AFY)	Water Quality (MGD)	Habitat (Acres)	Flood Protection (Acres)	Funding Amount	
Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot	SAWPA	8,200	4.40	-	-	\$861,400	4
Etiwanda Intervalley Water Quality and Water Resiliency Phase-1A	JCSD	4,355	4.00	-	-	\$2,954,213	
Wellhead Nitrate Treatment for Wells 4 & 27	MVWD	4,516	4.03	-	-	\$2,533,492	
Cable Creek Basin (Upper)	SBCFCD	859	-	-	390	\$2,521,678	
Phase 1 - Lake Elsinore Algae Harvesting and Nutrient Removal	LESJWA	-	1.00	3,000	-	\$1,500,000	
Lake klalto Habitat Management and Community Open Space	Rialto, City	-	5.90	10	-	\$2,149,748	
Well 2 Replacement	MVWD	3,226	2.88	-	-	\$2,006,311	
City of Rialto Recycled Intertie	IFUA	3,500	3.10	-	-		
Santa Ana River Sustainable Parks & Tributaries Water Reuse	SBVMWD	5,109	-	187	-		
Calimesa Aquifer Storage and Recovery	YVWD	2,890	-		-		
Well Pump Replacements	MVWD	4,194	-	-	-	Top proje	ct threshold.
Improving Recycled Water Used in Local Groundwater Recharge	WMWD	985	3.0	-	-		
Well 4 Replacement	MVWD	1,936	1.73	-	-		
Water Well RN #6 Nitrate Removal System	RHWC	1,300	1.20	-	-		
Improved Lake Circulation at Prado Regional Park	SBCRP	-	4.3	62	-		
Large Landscape Water Efficiency Program	IEUA	671	0.04	-	-		
Regional Water Distribution System Leak Detection and Repair	MWDOC	1,338	1.19	-	_		
Cactus Basins Connector Pipeline	SBVMWD	1,360	-	-	-		32

DAC Project	Applicant	Water Supply (AFY)	Water Quality (MGD)	Flood (Acres)	DAC %	Score	Funding Amount
New Washington Well	Santa Ana, City	4,000	3.57		85%	17.00	\$3,394,743
Lead Service Line Replacements in the Bloomington DAC	WVWD	3,454	3.10		100%	14.72	\$315,000
Box Springs Mutual Water Company Well Improvement	California Rural WA	411	0.37		100%	1.93	\$1,885,257
Recycled Water Use Expansion	Santa Ana, City	370	-		63%	0.83	
Shamrock and Meridian Septic to Sewer Conversion	Rialto, City	-	0.13		100%	0.29	
Cottonwood Avenue Recycled Water Pipeline (East)	EMWD	90	-		100%	0.20	

Top project threshold.

### "Back Up" Project List

Project Name	Project Lead	Grant Request*	Total Cost
Shamrock and Meridian Septic to Sewer Conversion Project (DAC)	City of Rialto	\$3,143,400	\$3,143,400
City of Rialto Recycled Intertie (General Implementation)	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	\$3,000,000	\$53,000,000
Grand Totals		\$6,143,400	\$56,143,400

\*This is the grant request through the OWOW Call for Projects, not the final grant request to DWR. The possible amount granted to the project will depend on the project(s) that drop out during the implementation phase.

### Phase 1 - Lake Elsinore Algae Harvesting and Nutrient Removal Project

- Widespread harmful algal blooms (HABs) occur in the lake due to ongoing and legacy nutrient loads which are exacerbated by persistent drought and heatwaves.
- As a result, the City has been forced to post public health warnings and to close the lake for recreational activities, which has negative impacts on local businesses and tourism.
- The draft revised Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report for Lake Elsinore recognizes that innovative, in-lake remediation projects are needed.



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### Scope of the Project

- Project includes implementation of innovative algae harvesting technology to address impacts of HABs.
- Project will include use of Hydronucleation Flotation Technology (HFT), an advanced liquid/solid separation process that has been optimized to operate at a high hydraulic rate.



Photo credit: AECOM

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# Issues Applicant is Working to Resolve

- Long-term cost share is difficult to acquire for a City of Lake Elsinore's size.
  - Annual long-term operation costs could be \$300,000.
- Lake-side acreage needed for drying slurry and potential odors is a factor.
- The City's consultant is providing updated budget and modified project plans that could possibly result in a scope-change for the project.
- The City has until November 15, 2022 to make a final decision and provide feedback to SAWPA.



CITY OF LAKE SINORE DREAM EXTREME



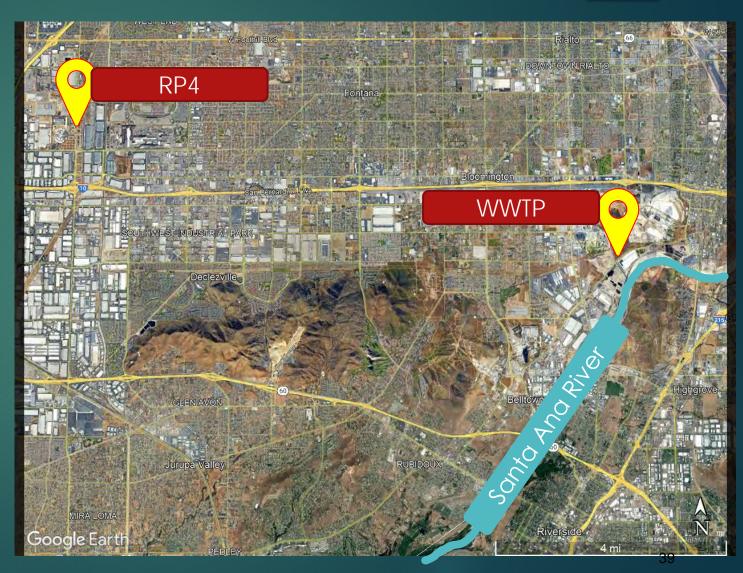
# Back Up Project to Utilize if Lake Elsinore Does Not Move Forward

- Inland Empire Utilities Agency's City of Rialto Recycled Intertie Project
  - In October 2022, IEUA and City of Rialto agreed to a recycled water purchase term sheet.
- ▶ \$53 Million total cost.
  - \$1.5 million in grant funding from Lake Elsinore project would be transferred to the IEUA project.
  - IEUA submitted a \$50 million grant application for Federal Emergency Management Agency funding
  - IEUA will submit a state revolving loan application in December.
  - IEUA staff has explored the municipal bond market as an alternative option.



# Further Information About Project

- Rialto's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) currently discharges 6.2 million gallons per day (MGD) of recycled water to the Santa Ana River.
- Will be pumped from Rialto to IEUA's Recycled Plant No. 4 (RP4).
- Two retail water agencies adjacent to RP4 will then purchase this water.



## Grant Funding By Category (No changes between categories)

Category	Projects Included	Grant Amount
Disadvantaged Community	3	\$5,595,000
OWOW - General Implementation	7	\$14,526,843
North OC - General Implementation	3	\$7,583,800
SAWPA - Grant Administration (4.7% of total grant available)	NA	\$1,352,929
Grand Total	13	\$29,058,572

# New Water and Revised Water for the Watershed

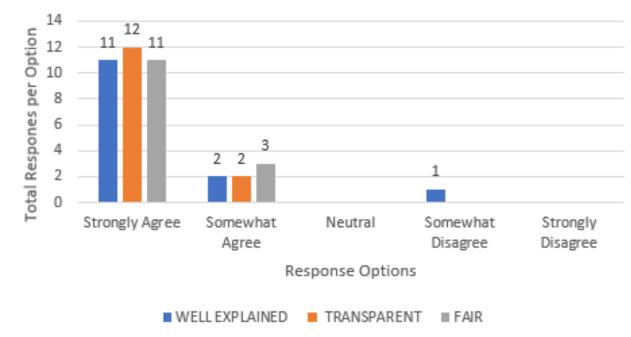
- "New water" water from a source that was not in use prior,
- "Revised water" water from a source that is currently discharged (such as secondary treated water) or water that is currently not in use due to regulatory or water quality issues.

Local Water from Prop 1 Round 2 Projects	Acre Feet per Year
New Water	13,312
Revised Water	18,466*
Total Local Water	31,778**

\*Would increase by 3,500 AF if IEUA back up project is utilized as a replacement project. \*\*Represents 3% of historical local water that is directly delivered to customers.

# Feedback from Stakeholders Regarding Call for Projects

- SAWPA sent a three-question survey to those who participated in the Call for Projects process,
- The questions focused on whether the process was
  - Well explained,
  - Transparent, and
  - Fair.



#### Anonymous Survey Results (14 responders)

# Resolution for Adoption

- Recognizes the work done through the OWOW Call for Projects,
- Required as part of the DWR application due on February 1, 2023,
- Resolutions provides flexibility if back up projects become funded projects,
- Allows SAWPA to execute a grant agreement with DWR as well as subagreements with project leads, and
- SAWPA staff will bring back updates on any developments with regard to the need to fund back up projects.



### Recommendation

Recommend that the SAWPA Commission adopt SAWPA Resolution 2022-17 in order to submit the final grant application to DWR.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-17**

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT AND SUB-AGREEMENTS FOR THE PROPOSITION 1 ROUND 2 INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENT GRANT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority is the accepted Regional Water Management Group within the Santa Ana Funding Area of the California Integrated Regional Water Management Program;

WHEREAS, the One Water One Watershed Plan Update 2018, adopted by the Commission on February 19, 2019, has the subtitle "Moving Forward Together" which reflects the OWOW Program's commitment to ensuring that in the Santa Ana River Watershed no one is left behind as progress is made, and that progress somewhere in the watershed does not cause any undue burden elsewhere in the watershed;

WHEREAS, SAWPA recently conducted a collaborative and competitive process with all interested watershed stakeholders and OWOW project applications as part of its One Water One Watershed Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation grant solicitation to identify the most beneficial upper watershed and watershed-wide projects;

WHEREAS, the One Water One Watershed process drew 24 project submittals that included projects focused on generating new sources of water for the watershed, improving important aquatic habitat, removing pollutants from the region's groundwater and surface water resources, and improving stormwater abatement in a disadvantaged community;

WHEREAS, the One Water One Watershed process selected ten projects, of the 24, to move forward to submit a grant application to the Department of Water Resources for Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation grant funding;

WHEREAS, SAWPA deferred to the Orange County parties identified in the 2019 Cooperative Agreement for Integrated Regional Water Management Funding in the Santa Ana Funding Area, which are the County of Orange, Orange County Water District, and Orange County Sanitation District, to identify their list of three Orange County-based projects to include in the Department of Water Resources grant application for Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation grant funding;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, pursuant to Section 22050 of the California Public Contract Code, hereby resolves that:

The General Manager, or Designee, is authorized to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such proposal, and execute a grant agreement with the State of California, Department of Water Resources, and associated sub-agreements, to accept and conduct the work of Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation and Grant pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Water Code Section 79700 *et seq.*)

ADOPTED THIS \_\_ day of December 2022.

#### SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

By:

Marco Tule, Chair

Attest:

Sara Villa Clerk of the Board

#### **OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2022.10**

DATE:	November 17, 2022
то:	OWOW Steering Committee
SUBJECT:	Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Program Status Report
PREPARED BY:	Mark R. Norton, P.E., Special Projects Manager

#### RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file.

#### DISCUSSION

On April 6, 2021, the SAWPA Commission authorized staff to proceed with the ground seeding site selection analysis, CEQA development, preparations for a watershed wide SAWPA project application for Prop 1 Round 2 seeking 50% grant funding for a four-year pilot scale watershed weather modification (cloud seeding) project and seek outside funding to support the program.

The work under the task order with North American Weather Consultants (NAWC) to conduct the ground seeding site analysis for 15 potential ground seeding sites in the watershed was conducted with property owners and public agencies overlying the proposed sites. Completion of the seeding site analysis report was completed in February 2022.

Work on the SAR Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Program CEQA with Catalyst Environmental Solutions commenced on November 1, 2021, with initial work on data gathering and developing the initial project description. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan for Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Project under CEQA was adopted by the SAWPA Commission on June 21, 2022. No comments were received except for one Native American Tribe requesting that guidelines are followed for archaeological site survey if Native American artifacts are found during installation of the seeding units.

SAWPA staff conducted outreach and prepare outreach material associated with the pilot weather modification program for the watershed throughout the past two years. An offer to provide an informational presentation by SAWPA staff, answer questions and seek funding support has been made to over 60 agencies in the watershed. This solicitation of support resulted in eight local agencies agreeing to provide funding to the pilot project in addition to the support of SAWPA member agencies. The local agency contributions amounted to \$94,000.

Work continues on preparation of a future grant application under the DWR Proposition 1 IRWM Round 2 Implementation grant program to cover 50% of the cost of the four-year pilot program with validation. The pilot project was recommended for funding under SAWPA's Round 2 Call for Projects and supported by the OWOW Steering Committee and the SAWPA Commission for inclusion among the 13 projects to be submitted to DWR. Based on the timeframe established now for the SAWPA OWOW Round 2 Call for Projects, SAWPA staff will be submitting a grant application for the pilot program before the February 1, 2023 deadline.

On July 19, 2022, after release of an RFP and review of proposals, NAWC was selected to perform the weather modification pilot project over the four-year pilot time span and awarded a

contract for this work by the SAWPA Commission. Work commenced on the seeding unit fabrication, equipment orders and the local seeding site agreements with approximately 10 private property owners and water agencies to operate the 15 seeding units. Unfortunately, insufficient time was available to execute the agreements before the original and planned start for the pilot project of November 15, 2022. Consequently, the pilot project was deferred from November 2022 to November 2023 to allow sufficient time for the local seeding site agreements to be executed and preparations to occur. An agreement and task order were also awarded in October 2022 with the Desert Research Institute to conduct the weather modification pilot validation to ensure that additional precipitation from the cloud seeding is verified.

#### **CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS**

- Successful implementation of an integrated regional water resource plan that reflects the watershed management needs of the public and the environment.
- Data and information needed for decision-making is available to all.

#### **RESOURCE IMPACTS**

The ground seeding site analysis, CEQA program and staff time for conducting the grant application and outreach was included in the SAWPA FY 2021-22 Budget using surplus carry over funding available from Fund 370-01. Based on the action of the SAWPA Commission on July 19, 2022, the four-year pilot was authorized by the SAWPA Commission with a funding commitment to support it. This funding along with the local water agency funding will provide the necessary local cost share for the DWR Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM Grant that is being sought. Grant funding for the project should become available by October 2023.

#### Attachments:

1. PowerPoint Presentation

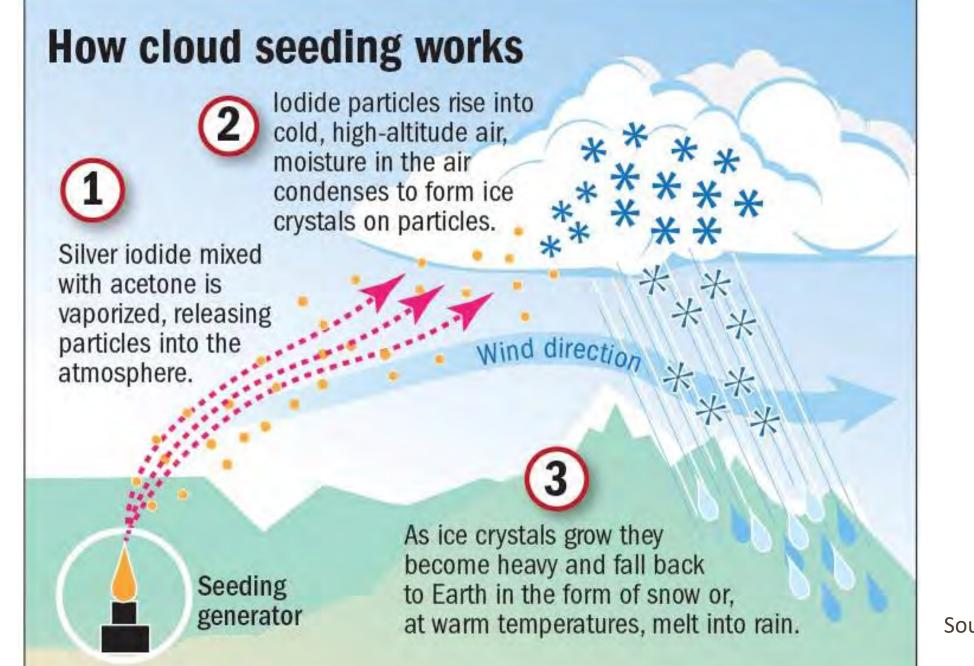
# Santa Ana Weather Modification Pilot – Status Report

Mark Norton, Special Projects Manager Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Item No. 4.C.



### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the OWOW Steering Committee receive and file this status report on the Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Project.



Source: The Fact Site

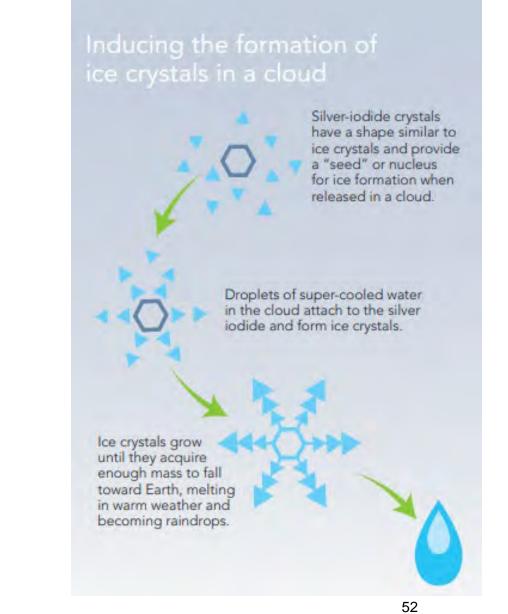
# **Cloud Seeding History**

### Background

- Physics is well known
- Started in the U.S. in the 1940s
- Challenges: Overselling, limited science
- Misconceptions remain

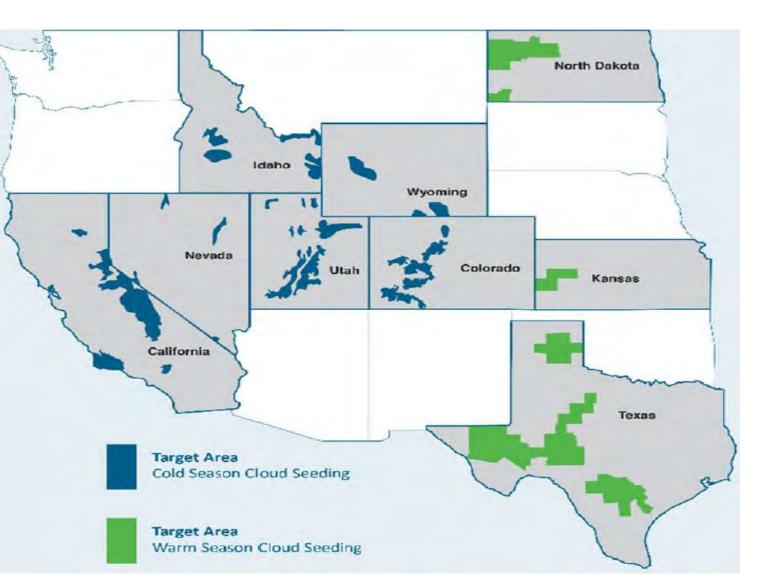
#### **Recent Advances**

- Weather forecasting
- Computing / Modeling
- Seeding methods
- Scientific validation studies



# U.S. Projects

- Cold Season Cloud Seeding Leaders
  - CA, CO, ID, UT, WY, NV
- Applications
  - Power Utilities (hydropower)
  - Ski areas
  - Water Resource Agencies
  - Irrigation Districts
- California Projects
  - Santa Barbara County
  - San Luis Obispo
  - Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- CA DWR
  - Cloud seeding is a "safe and effective means of augmenting local water supplies."



Source: North American Weather Modification Council

# **Ground Based Seeding Methods**

#### **CNG's (Cloud Nuclei Generators)**



- Ideal for orographic lift (winds caused by land barriers)
- Create a continuous plume
- Inexpensive to install and operate

AHOGS (Automated High Output Ground Seeding) Systems



- Ideal for strong convective storm attributes (turbulence)
- Delivers higher concentration of silver iodide
- Operated remotely rapid release

# Licensing and Permitting

- Operators are licensed and carry liability insurance
- Suspension criteria turns off program during high precip/flood conditions
- Though no CA state permit required, CEQA mitigated negative declaration will be conducted
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) also requires activity report about operation and the amounts of seeding material applied.



### Cloud Rustling – Downwind Effects Misconception

- "Robbing Peter to pay Paul"
- Cloud seeding activates precipitation otherwise unavailable
- Long-term research (44+ studies) consistently shows no precipitation decreases; some downwind increases shown



### **Potential Environmental Effects**

- Silver iodide is not soluble or biologically available
- 50 years of physical, biological, aquatic, soils and vegetation studies found:
  - Subtle or indiscernible effects
  - Not been measured above background, even after decades of operations
  - Potentially beneficial (more runoff)
- Strong studies with credible results and regulations reflect recent research



## **Public Health Protection**

- Silver Iodide (Agl)
- Silver Concentrations
  - •EPA drinking water quality 0.1 mg/L
  - •U.S. Public Health Service level 0.05 mg/L
  - •Seeded rainfall is 0.1 mcg/L or 1000 times less than EPA standard



### Why consider cloud seeding in the Santa Ana River Watershed?

Precipitation – and flows in the Santa Ana River – have been trending down

- Cloud seeding increases precipitation (with an emphasis as snow in upper elevations)
- Produces a local supply
- Potential to reduce the use of imported water

#### Dry years and droughts occur

• Cloud seeding works in both dry and wet years

#### Cost effective

• Costs for 8%-11% increase in streamflow is a fraction of the cost of imported water

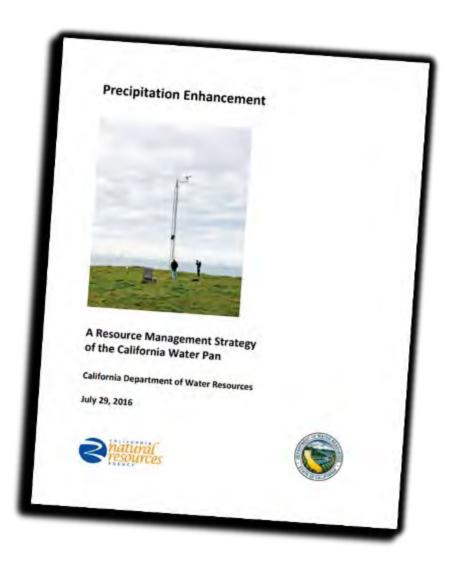
#### Supports local water storage

- Natural infiltration
- Takes advantage of existing stormwater capture infrastructure

# Water Rights

• DWR "Precipitation Enhancement Report" (2016):

"State law says that water gained from cloud seeding is treated the same as natural supply in regard to water rights."



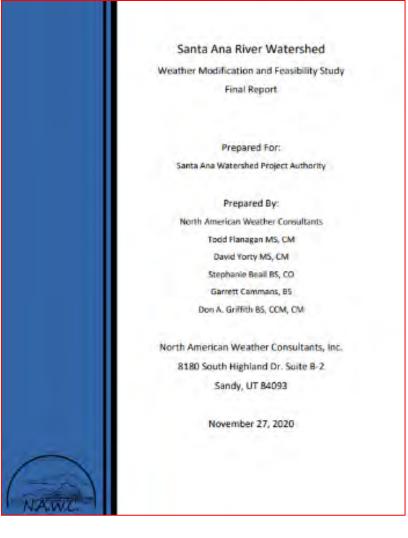
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### 2020 Feasibility Study Outcomes

• Finding:

 ...the proposed cloud seeding program would be both technically and economically feasible...

- Pilot Program (annual basis)
  - •Cost: \$250,000
  - Benefits:
    - Streamflow increase = 8,200 AF
    - Percent increase in streamflow = 8%
  - Cost per acre-foot (AF) = ~\$25 /AF



Feasibility Study (2020)

https://sawpa.org/latest-info/watershed-cloudseeding-feasibility-study/

### Feasibility Study Outcomes

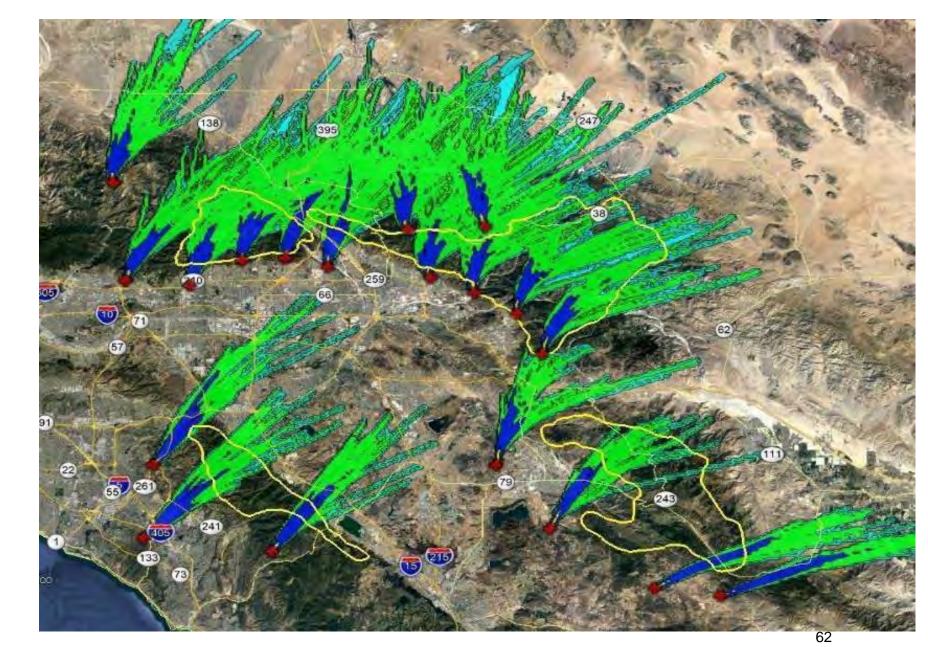
Ground Based Seeding Dispersion Model

4 seeding areas:

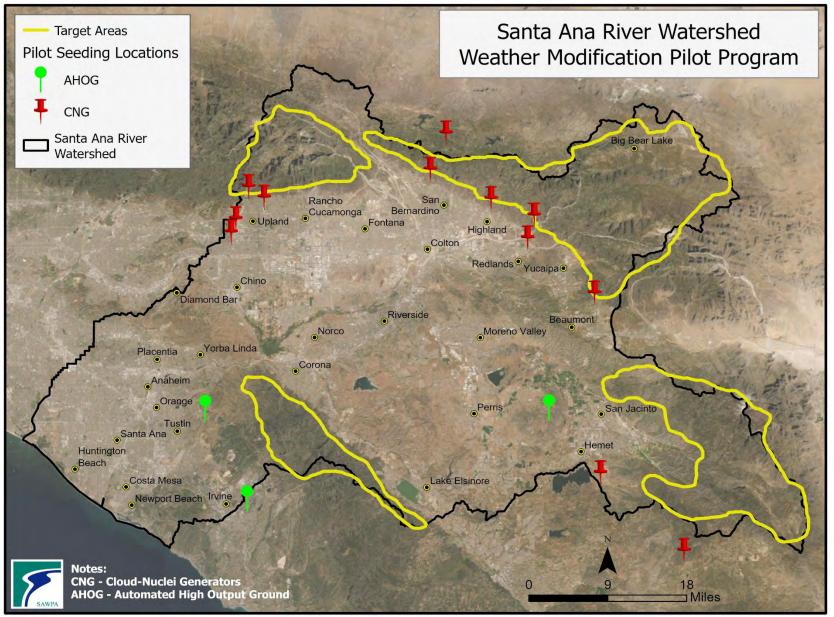
- NW
- NE
- SW
- SE

Included a number of ground sites in each area

Map reflects one of many projected seed plume scenarios



#### Seeding Site Locations



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### **Operations Consultant Award**

- Contract awarded on July 19<sup>th</sup> by SAWPA Commission:
  - North American Weather Consultants (NAWC), Sandy, UT (\$1,061,912)
- A General Services Agreement and Task Order signed on July 25, 2022
- Kickoff meeting held on August 1, 2022





### **Operations Scope of Work**

- Task 1 Project Management and Administration
- Task 2 Program Personnel
- Task 3 Installation
- Task 4 Land Lease/Operation Agreements
- Task 5 Operations
- Task 6 Equipment Maintenance
- Task 7 Reporting & Invoicing
- Task 8 Schedule

Duration: Four years over annual winter periods (Nov. 15 – Apr. 15)



### Santa Ana River Weather Modification Pilot Project

Program Element	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Feasibility Study								
Outreach on Local Cost Share	New targeted start da November 15, 2023					:		
Ground Seeding Site Analysis								
CEQA Commission approved operations contract on July 19th meeting								
Prop 1 Round 2 Grant Application (50% of cost)								
Pilot Program				•				
Outreach/Public Engagement								66

### **Pilot Project Seeding Start Rescheduled to Nov. 2023**

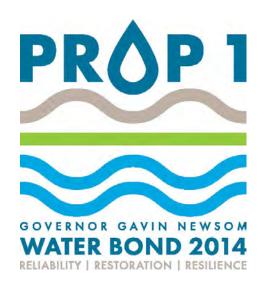
The decision to reschedule the start of cloud seeding was based on a review of project targets established to meet the Nov 2022 schedule. Specifically:

- **1.** Lease Agreements. Execution of seeding site agreements with participating agencies require more time than anticipated, including scheduling board approvals where needed.
- 2. Operations. Questions arose by several agencies regarding the operations of the seeding units. Additional time is needed to address operations for these units.
- **3. Propane Tanks.** Propane tanks of the appropriate size have been in short supply since 2021 and securing tanks for installation was in question.

No additional costs are required for the November 2023 start date.

### **Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant Application - Status**

- Application submitted for OWOW Call for Projects for Prop 1 Round 2 IRWM grant funding (50% of cost)
- SAWPA staff participated in Round 2 grant stakeholder budgeting and ranking process
- The Pilot was the top ranked project among 24 projects
- Next Step:
  - SAWPA staff will prepare detailed workplan, budget and schedule for DWR grant application due to DWR on Feb. 1, 2023.
  - DWR award announcement anticipated by Jun 2023 with contract execution with SAWPA anticipated in Oct. 2023





# Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification – Pilot Validation

- Postponement of start to Nov. 2023 was acceptable to Desert Research Institute (DRI)
- DRI \$155,000 validation support estimate remained the same
- Additional time can be used for preparation of validation tasks
- General Services Agreement and Task Order was approved by the SAWPA Commission on October 18, 2022.





### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the OWOW Steering Committee receive and file this status report on the Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Project.