



Perris North Basin Groundwater Prevention and Remediation Program

Leighanne Kirk

June 17, 2025

Agenda

- Program Background
- Construction Efforts
- Monitoring Wells
- Community Outreach
- Program Schedule Status

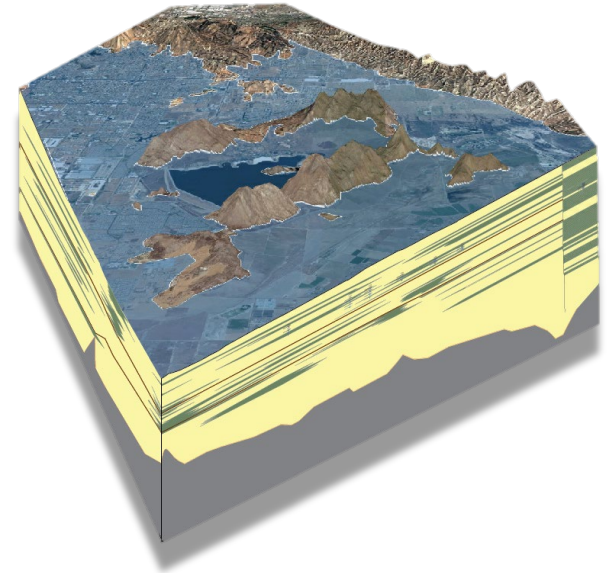




Program Background

Grant Program Details

- Funding Awarded in October 2019
- Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program Funding
 - Original Funding Awarded - \$44.5 Million
 - Secured Additional Funding Totaling - \$62 Million
- Program kicked-off in early 2020
- Total Program Cost - \$165 Million

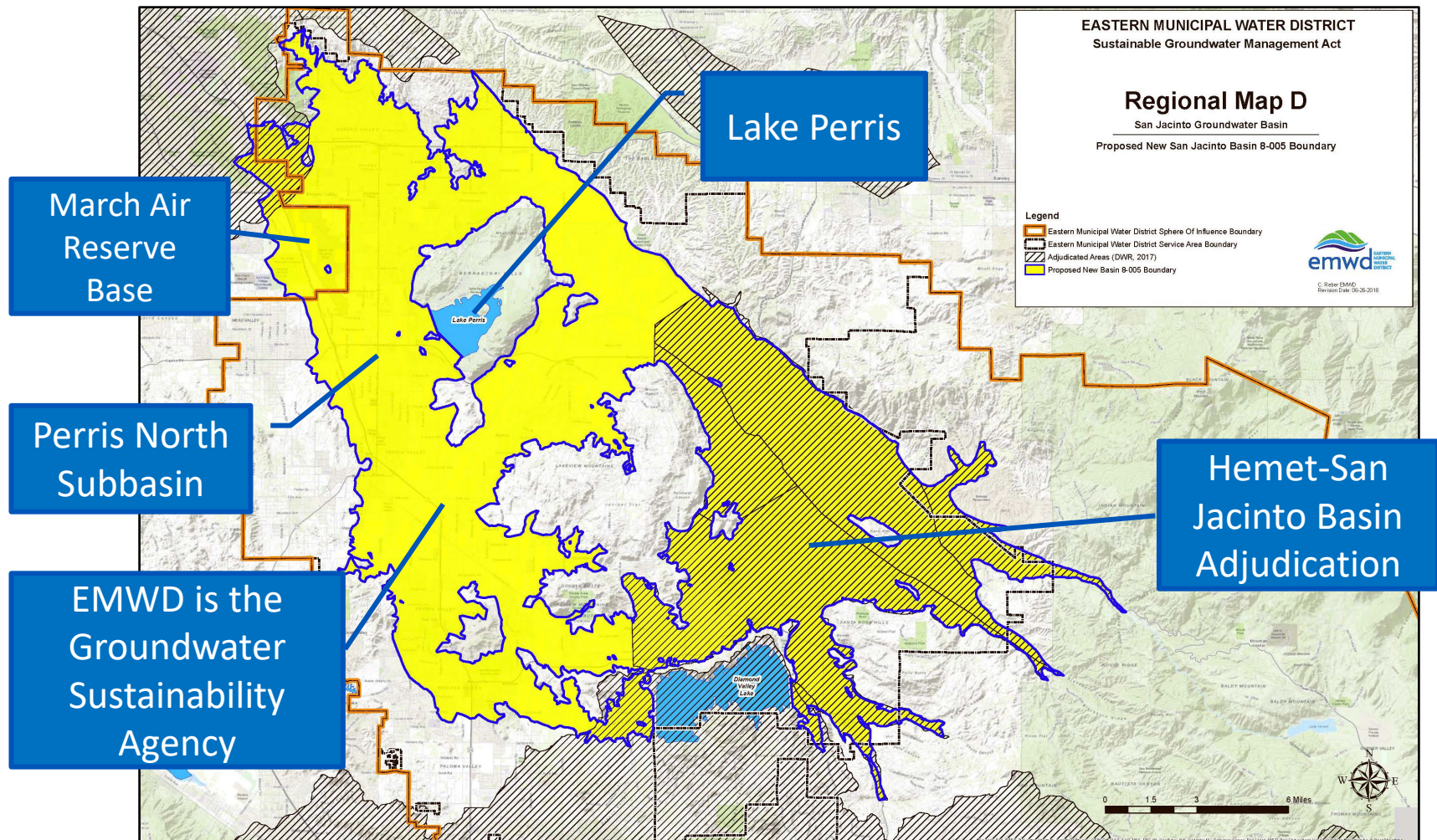


Program Goals

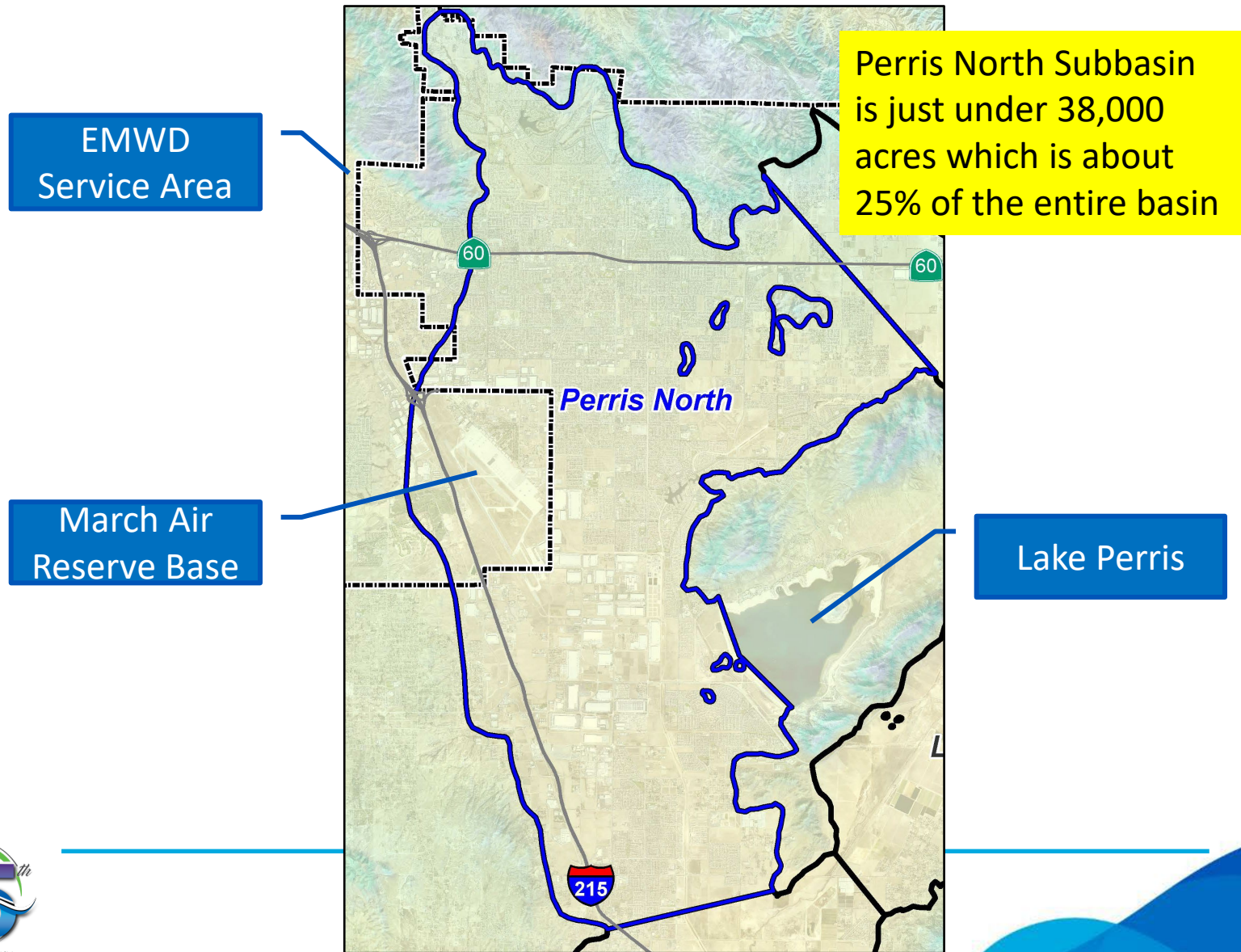
- Remediate nonpoint sources of contamination in the Perris North Basin
 - Export up to 245,000 pounds of nitrate as nitrogen per year
 - Export up to 100 pounds of perchlorate per year
- Protect areas of the basin that are not currently contaminated by capturing and treating contaminants that threaten drinking water wells
 - Remove the water quality threat to eight (8) existing municipal supply wells, equaling an estimated 6,000 AFY.
- Develop a source of local water supply
 - Produce approximately 3,470 AFY of drinking water
- Coordinate with Federal, State, Regional and Local stakeholders



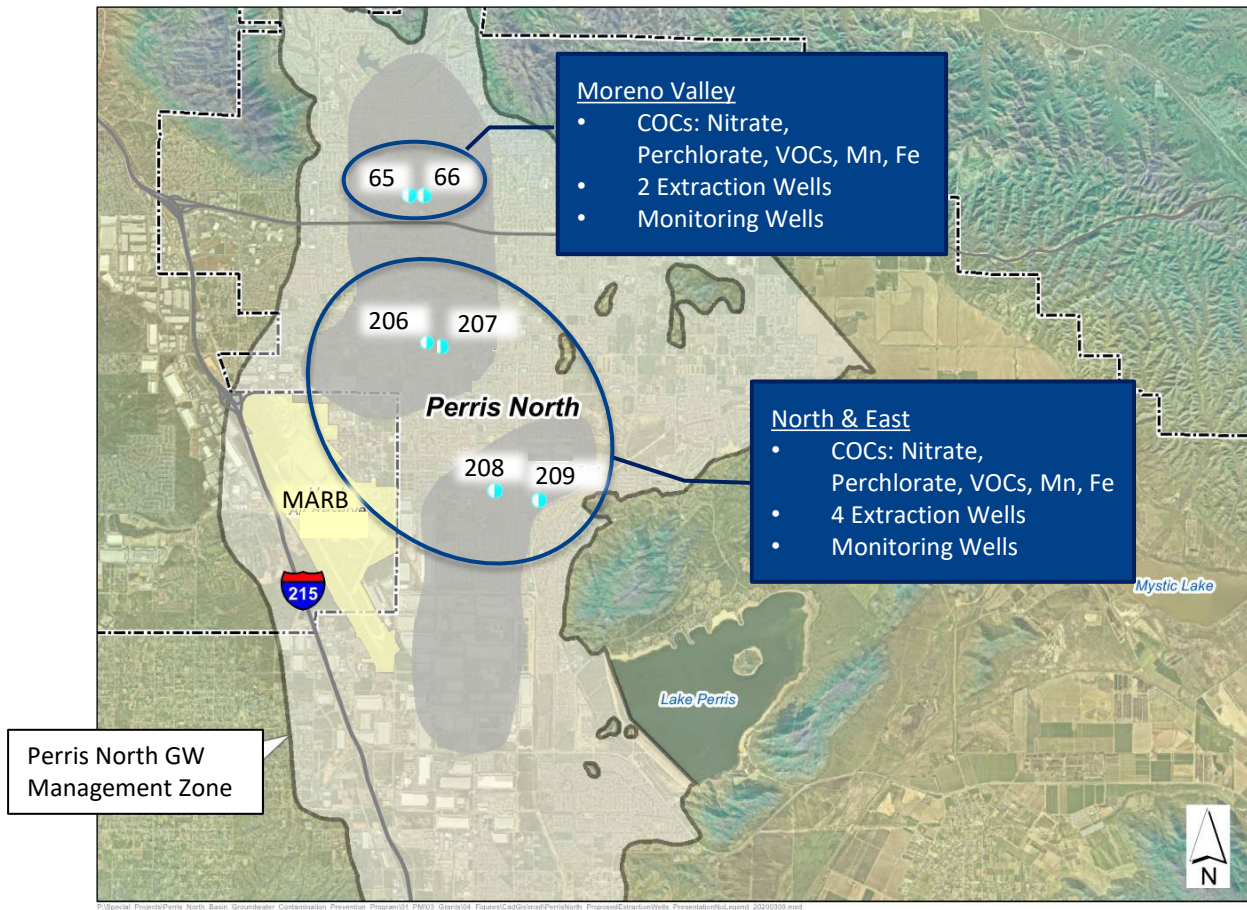
Program Background – San Jacinto Groundwater Basin



Program Background – Program Location



Overview of Program Facilities



- 6 Groundwater Wells
 - Wells 65-66
 - Wells 206, 207, 208, 209
- Raw Water Pipelines (3 Phases total)
- Centralized Treatment Facility
- Monitoring Wells
 - 14 locations

Stakeholder Involvement

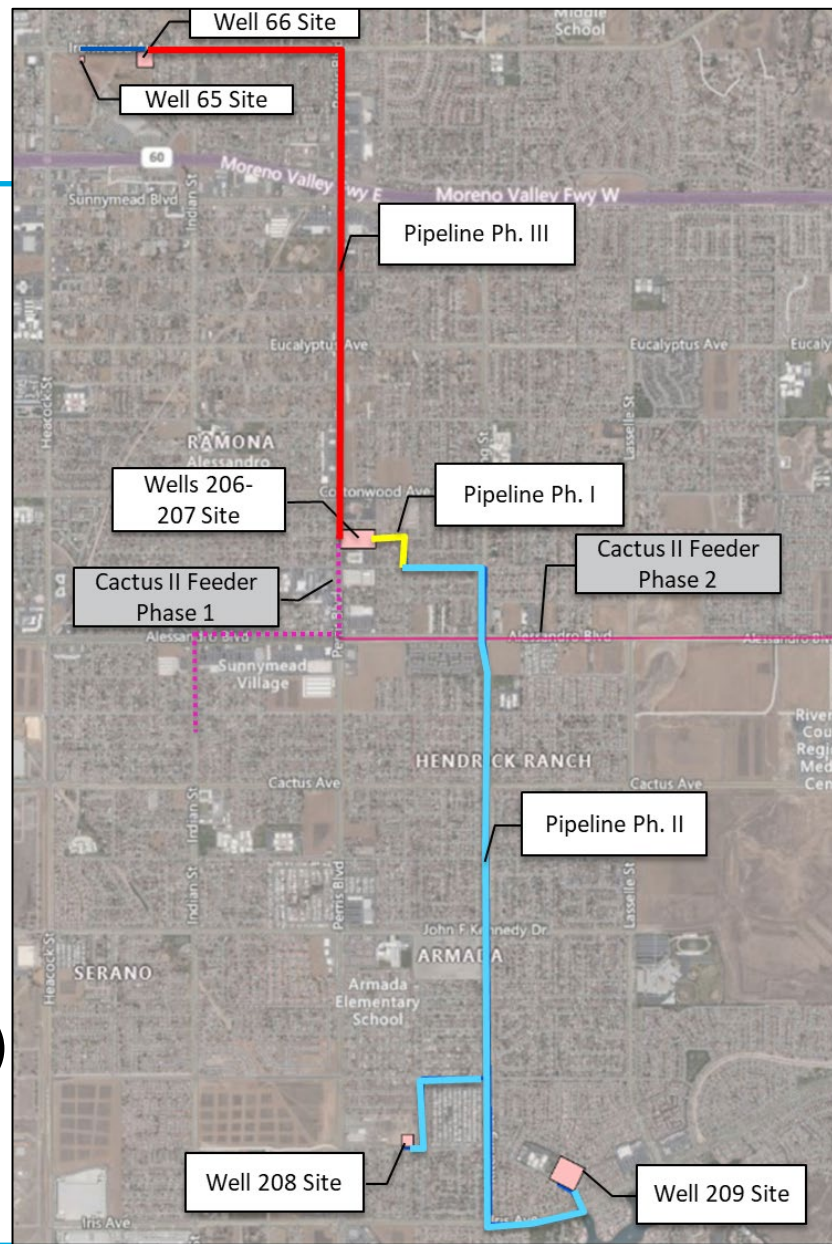
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) / Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)
 - City of Moreno Valley
 - City of Perris
 - Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) - Santa Ana Region
 - State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
 - State Department of Water Resources (DWR)
 - State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB; DFA and DDW)
 - United States Air Force (MARB/AFCEC)
 - United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
 - Watermaster
 - Western Municipal Water District (WMWD)
- Active engagement on Program activities throughout Program duration (2020-Current)
- Quarterly -> Semi-Annual meetings



Construction Efforts

Program Construction

- Raw water conveyance
 - Phase I (yellow)
 - Phase II (blue)
 - Phase III (red)
- Five well sites
 - Well 65
 - Well 66
 - Wells 206/207
 - well site includes centralized treatment
 - Well 208
 - Well 209
- Monitoring wells (future slide)



Raw Water Conveyance Pipelines

- Pipeline transports the untreated water pumped from each of the wells to the centralized treatment facility before the treated water then enters the distribution system for consumption
- Phase I construction completed in 2021.
- Phase II construction completed in 2024.
- Phase III construction completed in April 2025.



Well Equipping and Treatment

Main Treatment Site

- Centralized Treatment Components
 - Granular activated carbon (GAC) – removes volatile organics (VOCs)
 - Regenerative ion exchange (IX) – removes nitrate and perchlorate
 - Produces concentrated brine stream that will be managed with truck hauling to IEBL
 - Greensand filters – removes iron and manganese
- Testing to begin July/August



ISEP IX system provided by Calgon Carbon

Well Equipping and Treatment

Wells 65 & 66 Sites



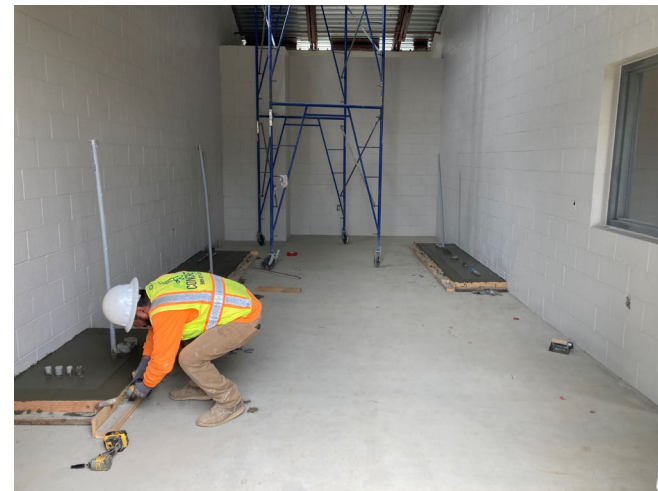
Well Equipping and Treatment

Main Treatment Site (Wells 206 & 207 Site)



Well Equipping and Treatment

Wells 208 & 209 Sites



IX Brine Truck Hauling Services

- Purpose:
 - daily brine management for concentrate from ISEP IX system
 - 12,400 to 22,400 gallons/day
 - One-year term, with option to renew for up to 4 years
 - Brine dump station into the Inland Empire Brine Line (IEBL) managed by SAWPA



Desalination Complex – Brine Dump Station, 29541 Murrieta Road

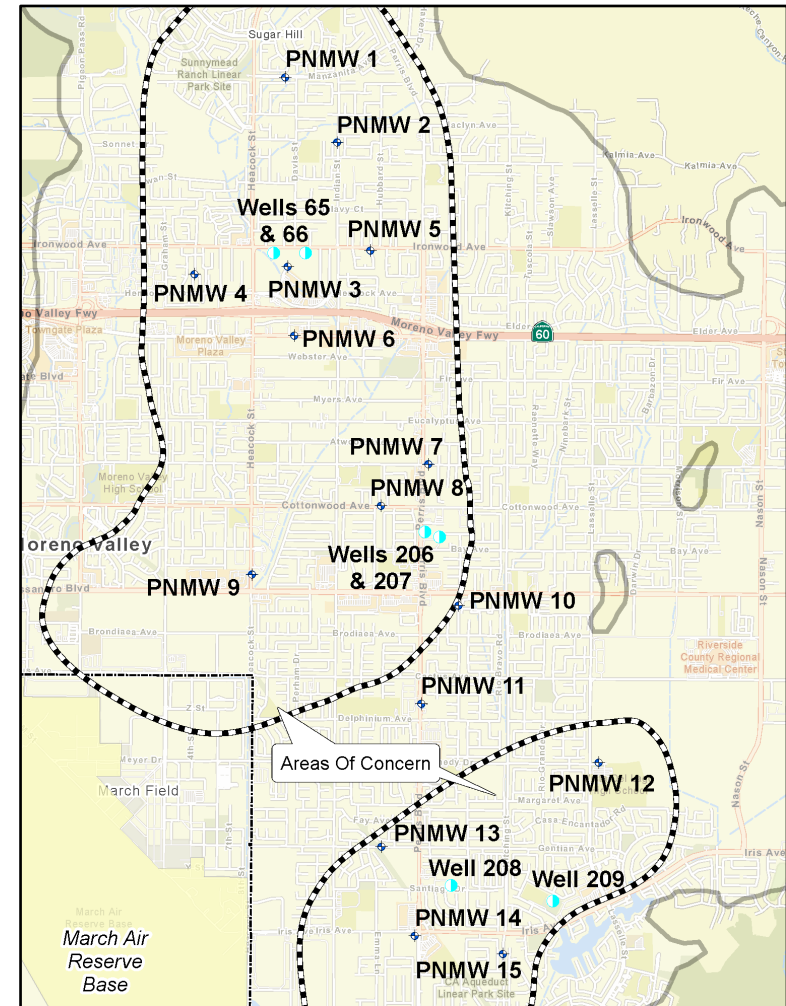


Monitoring Wells

Monitoring Wells

14 Monitoring Well Locations (Up to 36 casings)

- **Group A – Spec 1514W (Direct Mud / Nested)**
 - PNMW-01 to 07 (seven locations)
 - Drilling Complete – Well Caps and Equipping
 - Pending transducer equipment
- **Group B – Spec 1515W (Direct Mud / Nested)**
 - PNMW-08 to 10, 12 to 15 (seven locations)
 - Design completed and construction underway
- All Right-of-Way locations except PNMW-14 is located at an EMWD booster station
- Quarterly monitoring via water sampling for first 5 years and then semi-annual monitoring for the remaining useful life of the project
- Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MRP) developed
- Baseline sampling expected August/September



Monitoring Wells



Soundwalls and Development Rig
(PNMW-07)



Drilling 32" Dia. Conductor Borehole
(PNMW-08)

Monitoring Wells



20 ft Conductor Casing Installation (PNMW-09)



Community Outreach

Community Outreach Efforts

- Direct Mail
- Presentations
- Verbal Project Updates
- Project Information Webpage
- Social Media:
 - NextDoor
 - Facebook groups for more targeted outreach

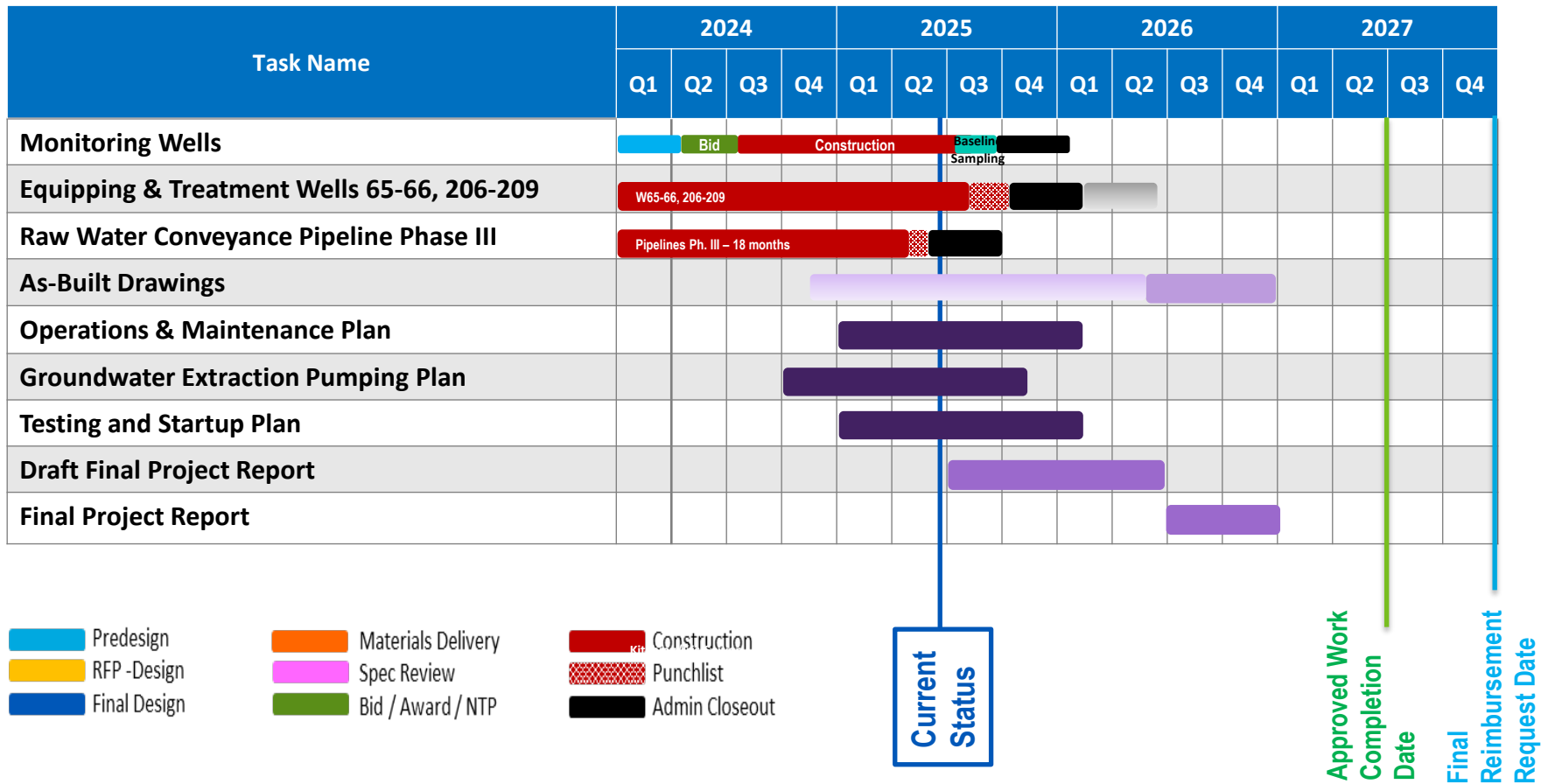


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Program Schedule Status

Rolled-Up Program SWRCB Schedule (6/17)





Questions



Contact Information

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SANTA ANA WATERSHED
PROJECT AUTHORITY

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force Regulatory Facilitator

Commission Meeting
Item No. 7.B
Ian Achimore
Interim Planning Department Manager
June 17, 2025

Recommendation

- To authorize the General Manager to execute Task Order KSC374-04 with Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$148,900 to provide strategic and regulatory support for the period Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027 in support of the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force.



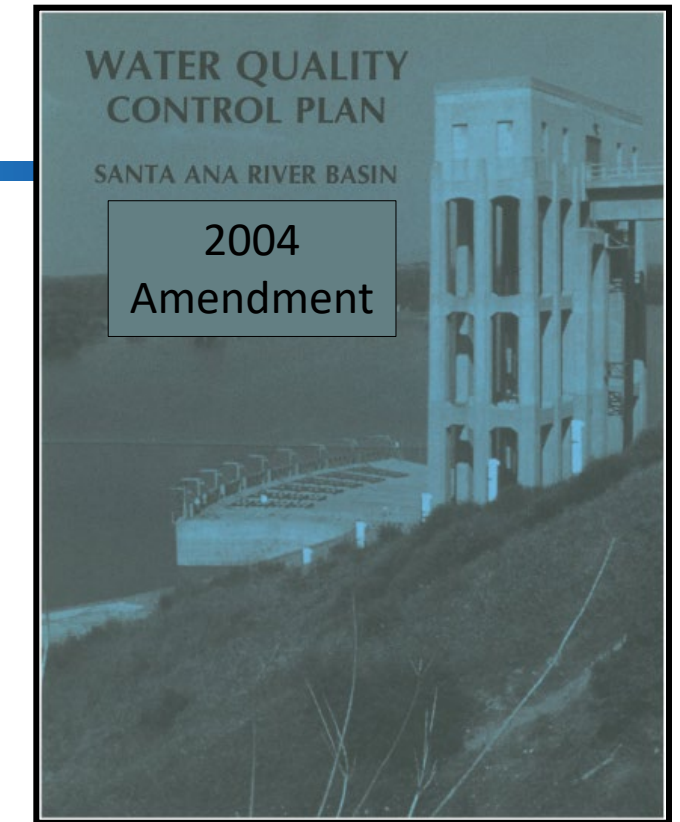
Overview

- Current Project
 - Basin Monitoring Program Task Force
- Funding Parties
 - 20 water agencies (Task Force members)
- Purpose of item (review and approve)
 - Task Order with Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
- Topics
 - About Task Force
 - Current Efforts
 - Task Order Budget/Scope
 - Benefits



Task Force Purpose

- Water quality monitoring-related tasks were included in the 2004 Basin Plan Amendment, and various agencies were named as responsible
 - These agencies later because the Task Force members
- Task Force implements three major monitoring tasks (see next slide)
- More broadly the Task Force does the following:
 - Assists individual dischargers (i.e., task force members with treatment plants and water recycling projects) with their regulatory permit requirements*
 - Assists the Regional Board with watershed-wide collaboration, water quality reporting and future Basin Plan Amendments



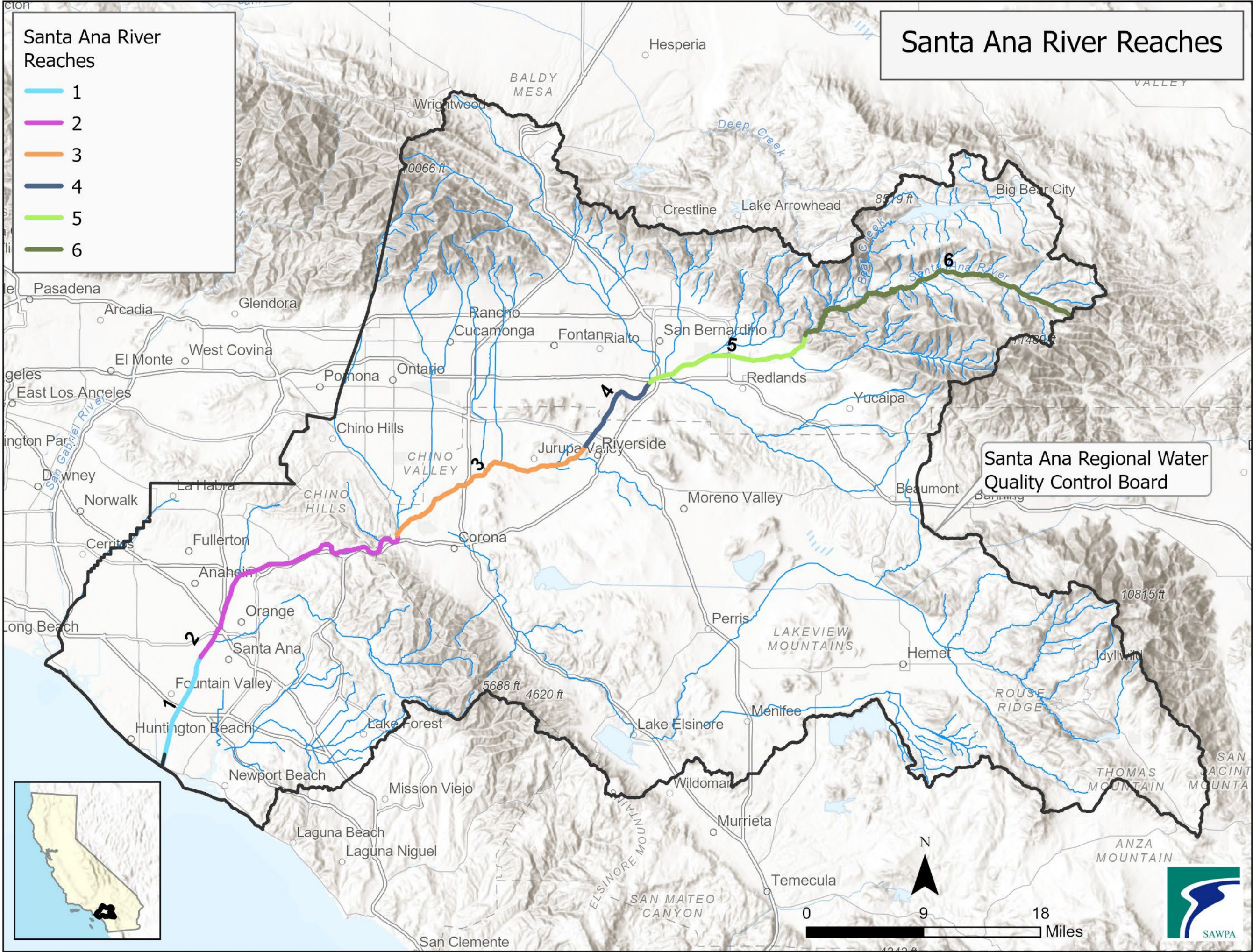
*Specifically, their water quality requirements for two pollutants – **salt** and **nutrients**.

Monitoring Tasks Performed For Salt and Nutrients

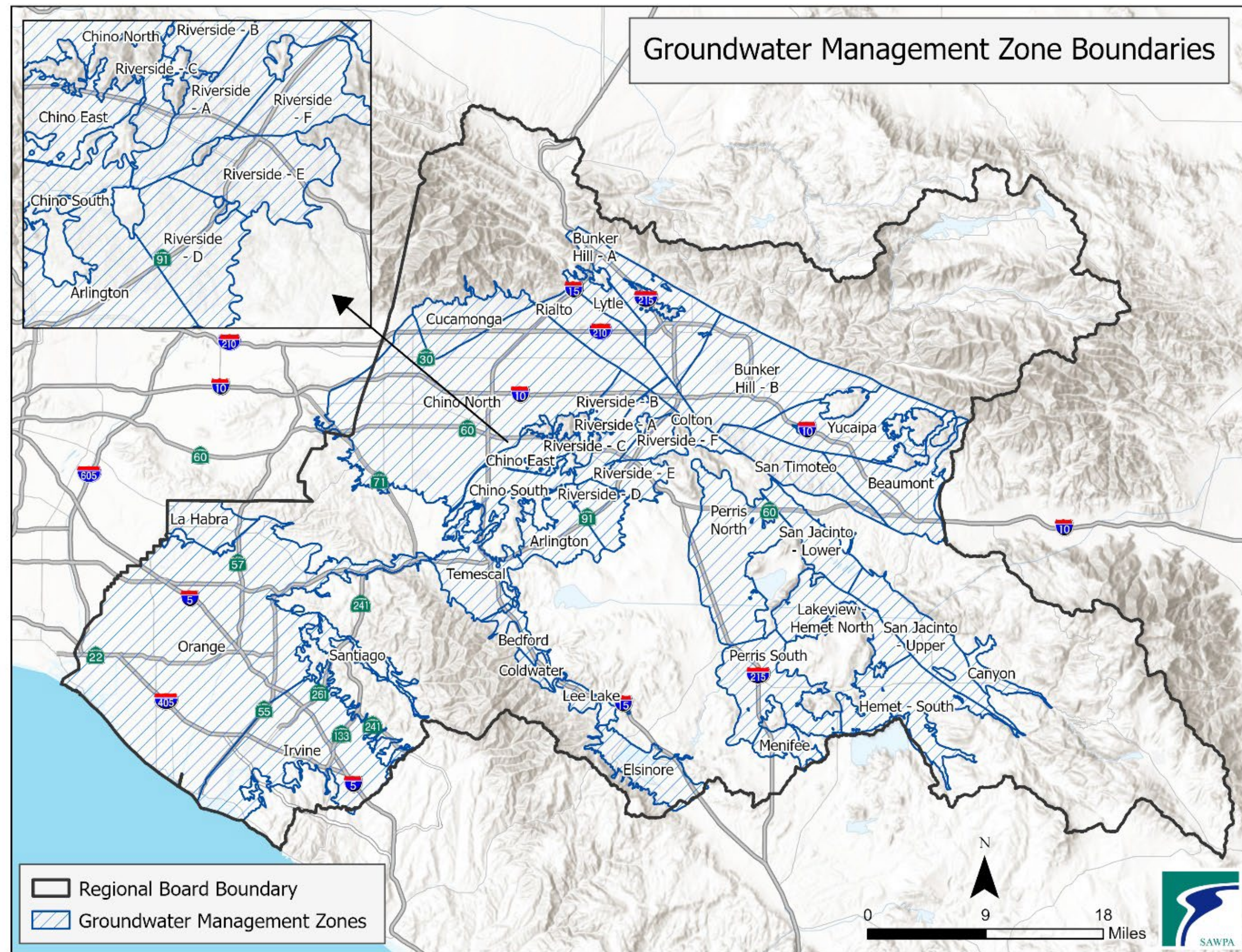
Monitoring Task	Description	Timeline for Completion
Ambient Water Quality Recomputation	Calculates salt and nutrient concentrations in Santa Ana River Watershed's 35 groundwater management zones (using data from > 4,000 wells).	Performed every five years.
Annual Report of Santa Ana River Water Quality	Reports water quality data to inform compliance with the antidegradation objectives for Santa Ana River Reaches 2, 3, 4 and 5.	Performed annually.
Wasteload Allocation Model	Models the Santa Ana River's salt and nutrients concentrations, and estimates those concentrations as recharge to underlying groundwater basin or as discharge at Prado Dam.	Performed every ten years.

Note: Salt is regulated as the broader pollutant category of total dissolved solids (TDS), nutrients are regulated as Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN).

Santa Ana River Reaches



Groundwater Management Zones



Task Force Members

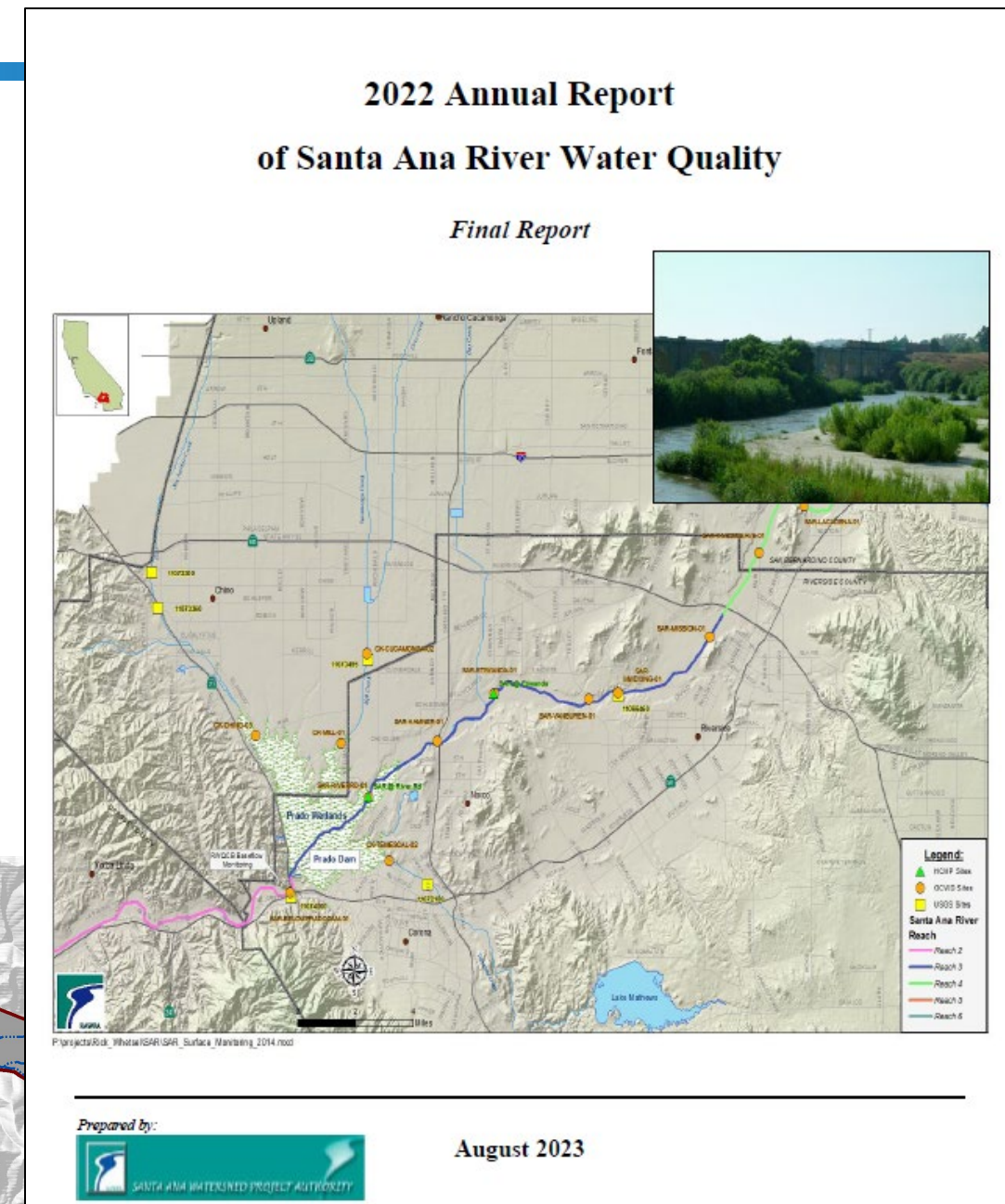
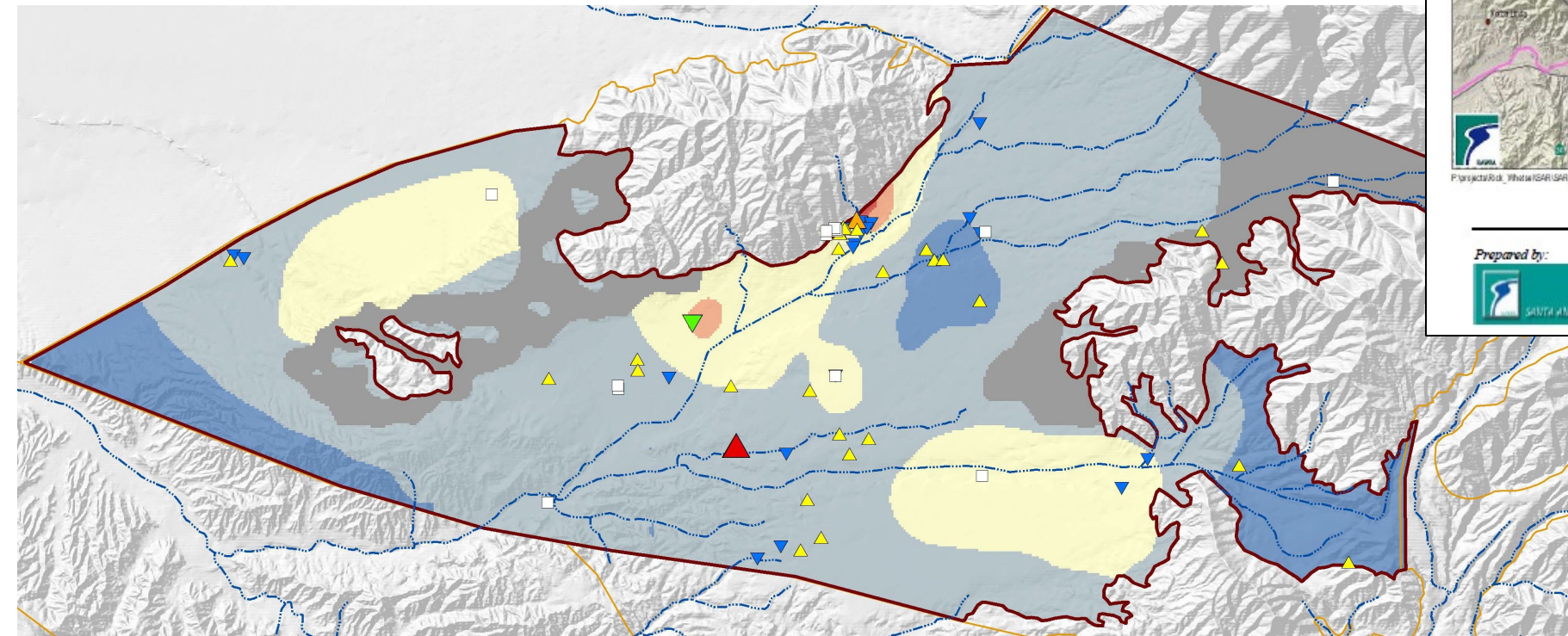
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Chino Basin Watermaster	Inland Empire Utilities Agency
City of Banning	Irvine Ranch Water District
City of Beaumont	Jurupa Community Services District
City of Corona	Orange County Water District
City of Redlands	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
City of Rialto	San Geronio Pass Water Agency
City of Riverside	Temescal Valley Water District
Colton/San Bernardino Regional Tertiary Treatment and Wastewater Reclamation	Western Riverside Co Regional Wastewater Authority/Western Municipal Water District
Eastern Municipal Water District	Yucaipa Valley Water District



Santa Ana Regional Board also a non-funding task force member agency

Current Task Force Activities

- Implementing Reach 3 Special Study focused on Total Dissolved Solids
- Developing 2024 Annual Report of Santa Ana River Water Quality
- Coordinating on Groundwater Potential Data Gaps



About Kahn, Soares & Conway (KSC)

- Founded in 1979, KSC is a full-service law and lobbying firm engaged in governmental advocacy
- Key staff:
 - Theresa “Tess” Dunham, Partner
 - Abby Taylor-Silva, Managing Director of Regulatory Affairs
- Firm provides array of services, including:
 - Issue analysis, drafting legislation and regulations, building strategic alliances, preparing and presenting testimony, reviewing grant solicitations, and personal interaction with legislators, staff, consultants, and regulators



Regulatory Facilitation Services

- Task Force is unanimous in support of KSC to continue as the Task Force regulatory facilitator
- With continuing efforts to meet the regulatory requirements from the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, the support of Ms. Dunham and her team will be key for the successful approval of a Basin Plan Amendment and other items (next slide).



KSC Scope of Work

- Task Force meeting preparation and regulatory facilitation.
- Basin Plan Amendments: Includes working with Regional Board to prepare documents for State Water Board consideration of amendments currently in process.
- Prepare draft comment letters as necessary (latest ones were related to the Integrated Report).
- Review and facilitation of the Reach 3 Special Study focused on Total Dissolved Solids.



KSC Budget

Task No	Task Name	Year 1 FYE 2026	Year 2 FYE 2027
1	Task Force Meeting Preparation and Participation	\$22,500	\$22,500
2	Annual Surface Water Report and Re-computation of Ambient Groundwater	\$4,300	\$8,600
3	Basin Plan Amendments	\$30,800	\$17,200
4	Statewide and Other Policies	\$8,600	\$8,600
5	Task Force Special Studies Based on Priorities (e.g., SAR Reach 3)	\$12,900	\$12,900
	Annual Totals	\$79,100	\$69,800
	Grand Total	\$148,900	

Funding for budget is provided by 20 agency task force members.

Benefit of Contract to Task Force

- Continue developing relationships with regulatory agencies (Regional Board and State Water Board),
- Gain an understanding of current and evolving water quality regulations,
- Draft regulatory documents (Basin Plan amendments), and
- Assist Task Force members with their regulatory needs such as addressing potential groundwater data gaps and developing a monitoring plan for Santa Ana River Reach 3.

Recommendation

- To authorize the General Manager to execute Task Order KSC374-04 with Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$148,900 to provide strategic and regulatory support for the period Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027 in support of the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force.





Questions?

Thank You

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SANTA ANA WATERSHED
PROJECT AUTHORITY

Consultant Task Order Approvals for the Emerging Constituents Program Task Force

Commission Meeting

Item No. 7.C

Emily Fuentes, Senior Communications Specialist
Ian Achimore, Interim Planning Department Manager

June 17, 2025

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consists of two overlapping, wavy lines. The top line is a medium green color, and the bottom line is a darker blue color. Both lines curve upwards from left to right, creating a sense of movement and flow.

Recommendation

Approve the following related to the Emerging Constituents Program Task Force for the period Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027:

1. Task Order KSC392-04 with regulatory strategy firm Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP for an amount not-to-exceed \$65,070, and
2. General Services Agreement and Task Order JPW392-03 with public relations firm JPW Communications LLC for an amount not-to-exceed \$134,624.

Overview

- **Current Project:** Emerging Constituents Program Task Force
- **Funding Parties:** 15 water agencies (Task Force members)
- **Purpose of Item (review and approve) Task Orders for:**
 - Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
 - JPW Communications LLC
- **Topics**
 - A. About Task Force
 - B. Current Efforts
 - C. Task Orders Budgets/Scopes
 - D. Benefits



Emerging Constituents Program Task Force

- Formed in 2008 and currently includes 15 water agencies in the Santa Ana River Watershed.
- Task Force work is implemented per a Regional Water Board “cooperative” agreement to avoid formal water quality regulation of imported water that is recharged in the Santa Ana River Watershed.
- Task Force has accomplished its initial goal of conducting voluntary studies of Santa Ana River Watershed water quality to reduce these potential formal water quality regulations that were centered around emerging constituents.

Task Force Members

Corona City	Riverside City
Eastern Municipal Water District	Colton/San Bernardino Regional Tertiary Treatment and Wastewater Reclamation Authority
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Temescal Valley Water District
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Western Riverside County Regional Wastewater Authority/Western Water
Irvine Ranch Water District	Yucaipa Valley Water District
Jurupa Community Services District	Orange County Water District
Redlands City	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Rialto City	-

About Emerging Constituents

- Emerging constituents are an array of pharmaceuticals, pesticides, food additives, and other chemicals for which water quality regulations are not established.
- Dramatic improvements in technology enables the detection of emerging constituents at much lower concentrations in water.



Photo credit: Water Education Foundation

Update on Task Force

- In the past year, the Task Force has heard guest speakers from the Association of California Water Agencies, California Association of Sanitation Agencies, Orange County Sanitation District, and Metropolitan Water District
 - Topics focused on PFAS, Microplastics, and biosolids.
- In the past year, the Task Force worked with its communications firm to create monthly blog posts and weekly social media posts. In recent months, the group has also worked with the firm on implementing shorter blogs to increase readership and testing into reel formats for videos.

Note: Since 2010, the Task Force (through SAWPA) has contracted with a regulatory strategist firm and since 2012 has contracted with a public relations firm.

Goals of Regulatory Strategy Contract

- Engagement with key regulatory agencies stakeholders, including Regional Water Board and State Water Board
- Engagement with other key regulatory agencies involved in regulating emerging contaminants such as the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, Department of Pesticide Regulation and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Securing appropriate subject matter experts and speakers for quarterly meetings
- Integrating timely reports on relevant regulatory developments into meeting proceedings



Goals of Public Relations Contract

- Promote value and safety of tap water, and water resources that support tap water,
- Encourage outdoor water conservation,
- Share water quality consumer confidence reports, and
- Highlight water resource projects and planning efforts the Task Force member agencies are implementing.



Benefits of Contracts to Task Force Members

- Develop relationships with regulatory agencies (regulatory strategy)
- Gain an understanding of current and evolving water quality regulations (regulatory strategy)
- Work together as a coalition to respond to any potential emerging regulations (regulatory strategy)
- Building public awareness about water related issues (public relations)
- Sharing information to the general public on safety of potable water supply (public relations)
- Correcting misinformed media exposure (public relations)
- Provide science-based information about emerging constituents to the public (public relations)

Regulatory Strategy Contract Budget

Task No	Task Name	Year 1 FYE 2026		Year 2 FYE 2027	
		Budget	Hours	Budget	Hours
1	Facilitation of Planning Discussions	\$9,650	30	\$0	0
2	Quarterly Meeting Organization and Participation	\$9,440	28	\$9,440	28
3	Monitor Regulatory Agency Actions	\$7,300	20	\$7,300	20
4	Coordination with Complementary Organizations and Regulatory Agencies	\$10,300	30	\$10,300	30
	Annual Totals	\$36,690	108	\$28,380	78
	Grand Total	\$65,070			

Regulatory Strategy Contract Scope

Task No	Task Name	Scope Summary
1	Facilitation of Planning Discussions	Facilitate the identification and refinement of core goals and objectives for the Task Force, and make updates based on current conditions and priorities.
2	Quarterly Meeting Organization and Participation	Pre-meeting consultations with Task Force members to ascertain priority topics, securing appropriate subject matter experts.
3	Monitor Regulatory Agency Actions	Monitor U.S. EPA, State Water Board, Department of Pesticide Regulations and other agencies.
4	Coordination with Complementary Organizations and Regulatory Agencies	Maintain partnerships with complementary water-focused organizations such as California Association of Sanitation Agencies and Association of California Water Agencies.

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- Key staff:
 - Theresa “Tess” Dunham, Partner
 - Abby Taylor-Silva, Managing Director of Regulatory Affairs
- Firm provides array of services, including issue analysis, drafting legislation and regulations, building strategic alliances, preparing and presenting testimony, reviewing grant solicitations, and personal interaction with legislators, staff, consultants, and regulators.



Area of Focus for Public Relations

- Value and safety of tap water, and water resources that support tap water
- Outdoor water conservation
- Water quality consumer confidence reports
- Water resource projects and planning efforts the Task Force agencies are implementing
- Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) treatment projects implemented by EC Task Force members.



JPW Task Order Scope and Budget

	Year 1 FYE 2026	Year 2 FYE 2027
TASK 1: Public Relations EC Blog and Videos	\$27,360	\$28,728
TASK 2: EC Social Media Support (Current Sites and NextDoor)	\$29,100	\$30,555
TASK 3: Tracking and Presenting Metrics	\$3,210	\$3,371
Billable expenses	\$6,000	\$6,300
Annual Totals	\$65,670	\$68,954
Grand Total	\$134,624	

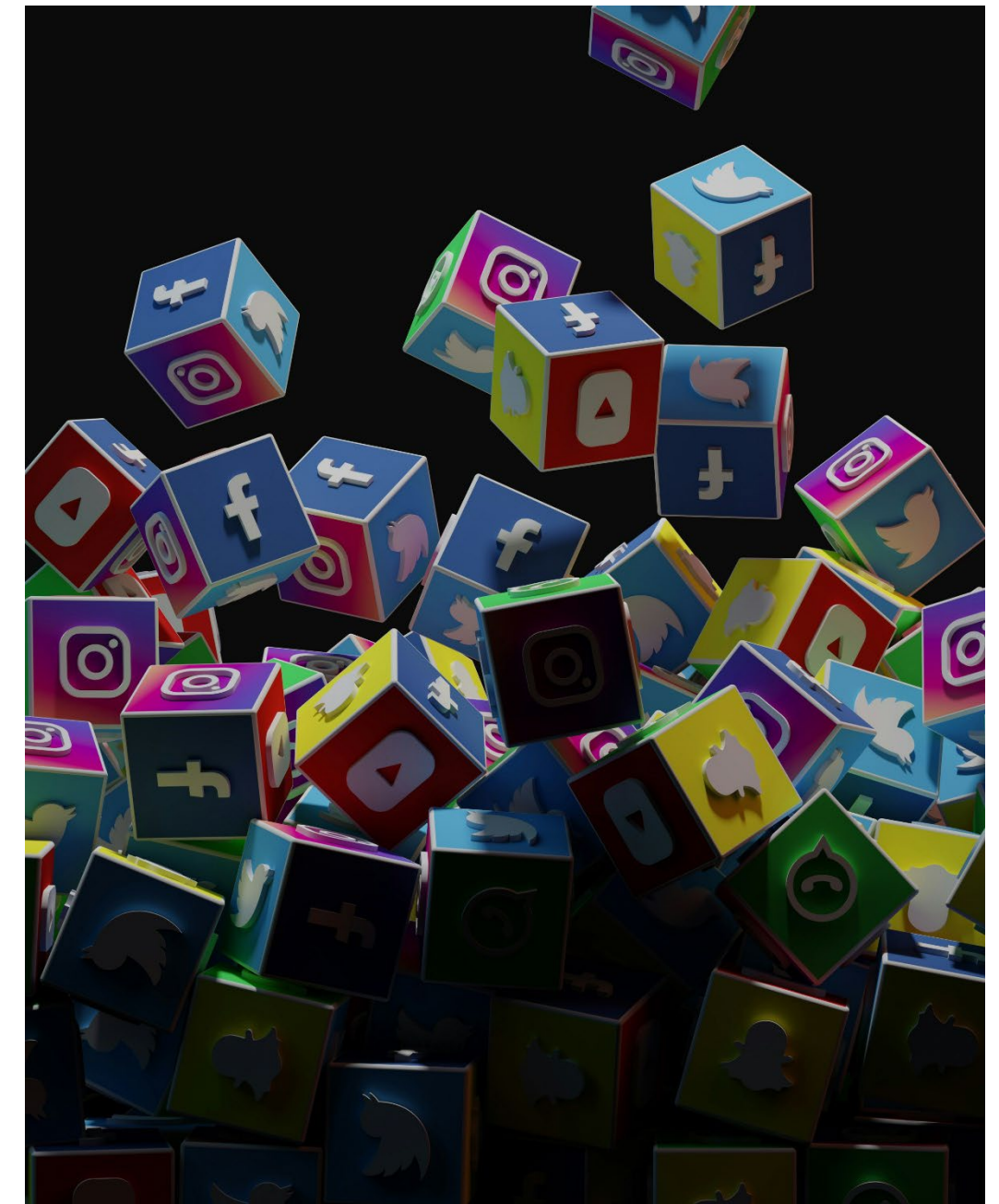
About JPW Communications LLC

- Founded in 2015; office located in Carlsbad.
- Worked for the following California water agencies:
 - Western Municipal Water District,
 - Rancho California Water District,
 - Long Beach Water District,
 - Olivenhain Municipal Water District, and
 - Zone 7 Water and Flood Control Agency.
- Served as the Task Force public relations consultant since 2020 under Task Order JPW392-01.
- Examples of water-related experience:
 - Recruitment video script and storyboard, Rancho California Water District
 - On Tap newsletter content development, Western Municipal Water District
 - Creek construction project community outreach, City of San Marcos



Growth Opportunities

- SAWPA Staff is working closely with JPW and the EC Task Force PR Group on implementing proven strategies to increase reach in the upcoming two-year contract, including:
 - Use of reels with captions and attention-grabbing graphics to increase organic social media views
 - Shorter blog posts to increase readership and decrease page abandonment
 - Increasing shared media library of work throughout the watershed for better video content



Task Force Budget Development

- SAWPA worked closely with the consultants and the Task Force Members in developing these Task Orders.
- The Task Force approved their Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027 budget to cover the cost of these task orders, as the Task Force members fund these efforts.



Recommendation

Approve the following related to the Emerging Constituents Program Task Force for the period Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027:

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Questions?

Thank You

Ian Achimore & Emily Fuentes
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

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