



SAWPA

SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

11615 Sterlina Avenue, Riverside, California 92503 • (951) 354-4220

This meeting will be conducted in person at the addresses listed below. As a convenience to the public, members of the public may also participate virtually using one of the options set forth below. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Commission using the call-in number or Zoom link. However, in the event there is a disruption of service which prevents the Authority from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public, the meeting will not be postponed or rescheduled but will continue without remote participation. The remote participation option is provided as a convenience to the public and is not required. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting in-person.

Meeting Access Via Computer (Zoom):	Meeting Access Via Telephone:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://sawpa.zoom.us/j/85419934366	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 (669) 900-6833
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting ID: 854 1993 4366	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting ID: 854 1993 4366

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 – 9:30 A.M.

(or immediately following the 8:30 a.m. PA 23 Committee meeting)

at

Eastern Municipal Water District
Board Room
2270 Trumble Road
Perris, CA 92570

and

303 W. Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92832

and

380 E. Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Mike Gardner, Chair)
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the Commission on items within the jurisdiction of the Commission; 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).

Members of the public may make comments in-person or electronically for the Commissions' consideration by sending them to publiccomment@sawpa.gov with the subject line "Public Comment". Submit your electronic comments by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 2, 2025. All public comments will be provided to the Chair and may be read into the record or compiled as part of the record. Individuals have a limit of three (3) minutes to make comments and will have the opportunity when called upon by the Commission.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED

Pursuant to Government Code §54954.2(b), items may be added on which there is a need to take immediate action and the need for action came to the attention of the SAWPA Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by the Commission by one motion as listed below.

- A. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MAY 20, 2025**7
Recommendation: Approve as posted.
- B. **TREASURER'S REPORT: APRIL 2025**15
Recommendation: Approve as posted.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **MIDDLE SANTA ANA RIVER PATHOGEN TMDL TASK FORCE – 2026 TRIENNIAL REPORT AND SYNOPTIC STUDY (CM#2025.42)**21
Presenter: Rick Whetsel
Recommendation: To authorize the General Manager to execute Task Order GEI384-03 with GEI Consultants for the amount not-to-exceed \$168,039 to conduct a Synoptic Water Quality Study and prepare the 2026 Triennial Report in support of the Middle Santa Ana River (MSAR) Bacteria TMDLs.
- B. **PHASE 4 NETWORK COORDINATOR COST SHARING AGREEMENT AND FYE 2026/FYE 2027 NETWORK COORDINATOR TASK ORDER APPROVAL (CM#2025.43)**51
Presenter: Ian Achimore
Recommendation: To execute the following items related to the Roundtable of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions:
 1. Phase 4 California IRWM Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement, and
 2. Task Order WSC373-04 with Water Systems Consulting Inc. for \$100,600 to serve as the Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator for FYE 2026 and 2027.
- C. **SANTA ANA RIVER WATERSHED CLOUD SEEDING PILOT PROGRAM (CM#2025.44)**93
Presenter: Jeff Mosher
Recommendation: To consider terminating the Cloud Seeding Pilot Program based on the inability to cloud seed for a second year and the inconclusive results of the first year of cloud seeding (2023-2024).

7. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

Recommendation: Receive for information.

- A. **COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**117
Presenter: Jeff Mosher
- B. **GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**
Presenter: Jeff Mosher
- C. **CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT**
- D. **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**
- E. **COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

8. CLOSED SESSION

There were no Closed Session items anticipated at the time of the posting of this agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE:

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you require any special disability related accommodations to participate in this meeting, call (951) 354-4220 or email svilla@sawpa.gov 48-hour notification 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 Commission 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.gov, 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 May 29, 2025, a copy of this agenda has been uploaded to the SAWPA website at www.sawpa.gov and posted at the following locations: SAWPA's office at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503 | EMWD's Office at 2270 Trumble Road, Perris, CA 92570 | 303 W. Commonwealth Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832 | 380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408.

2025 SAWPA Commission Meetings/Events

First and Third Tuesday of the Month

(NOTE: All meetings begin at 9:30 a.m., and are held at SAWPA, unless otherwise noticed.)

January	February
1/7/25 Commission Workshop [cancelled]	2/4/25 Commission Workshop
1/21/25 Regular Commission Meeting	2/18/25 Regular Commission Meeting
March	April
3/4/25 Commission Workshop	4/1/25 Commission Workshop
3/18/25 Regular Commission Meeting	4/15/25 Regular Commission Meeting
May	June
5/6/25 Commission Workshop	6/3/25 Commission Workshop - EMWD
5/20/25 Regular Commission Meeting - IEUA	6/17/25 Regular Commission Meeting - EMWD
5/13 – 5/15/25 ACWA Spring Conference, Monterey, CA	
July	August
7/1/25 Commission Workshop - WMWD	8/5/25 Commission Workshop - SBVMWD
7/15/25 Regular Commission Meeting - WMWD	8/19/25 Regular Commission Meeting - IEUA
September	October
9/2/25 Commission Workshop	10/7/25 Commission Workshop
9/16/25 Regular Commission Meeting	10/21/25 Regular Commission Meeting
November	December
11/4/25 Commission Workshop	12/2/25 Commission Workshop
11/18/25 Regular Commission Meeting	12/16/25 Regular Commission Meeting
	12/2 – 12/4/25 ACWA Fall Conference, San Diego, CA

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SAWPA COMPENSABLE MEETINGS

In addition to Commission meetings, Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners will receive compensation for attending the meetings listed below, pursuant to the Commission Compensation, Expense Reimbursement, and Ethics Training Policy.

IMPORTANT NOTE: These meetings are subject to change. Prior to attending any meetings listed below, please confirm meeting details by viewing the website calendar using the following link:

<https://sawpa.gov/sawpa-calendar/>

MONTH OF: JUNE 2025			
DATE	TIME	MEETING DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
6/3/25	8:30 AM	PA 23 Committee Mtg	Hybrid (EMWD, 2270 Trumble Road, Perris, CA
6/3/25	10:00 AM	PA 24 Committee Mtg	Hybrid (EMWD, 2270 Trumble Road, Perris, CA
6/9/25	9:30 AM	MSAR TMDL Task Force Mtg	Virtual/Teleconference
6/10/25	8:30 AM	PA 22 Committee Mtg	CANCELLED
6/19/25	4:00 PM	LESJWA Board of Directors Mtg	CANCELLED
6/23/25	2:00 PM	Emerging Constituents Program Task Force Mtg	Virtual/Teleconference
6/25/25	1:30 PM	Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force Mtg	Virtual/Teleconference

MONTH OF: JULY 2025			
DATE	TIME	MEETING DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
7/1/25	10:00 AM	PA 24 Committee Mtg	Hybrid (WMWD, 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside, CA 92518 & Virtual/Teleconference)

Please Note : We strive to ensure the list of Compensable Meetings set forth above is accurate and up-to-date; the list is compiled based on input from SAWPA staff and Department Managers regarding meeting purpose and content.

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**SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 20, 2025**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Mike Gardner, Chair, Western Municipal Water District
Gil Botello, Vice Chair, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District [via – zoom]
Philip Paule, Eastern Municipal Water District
Michael Camacho, Alternate, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Denis Bilodeau, Orange County Water District [via – zoom]

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Jasmin A. Hall, Inland Empire Utilities Agency

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT;
NON-VOTING**

T. Milford Harrison, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District [via – zoom]
Fred Jung, Alternate, Orange County Water District [via – zoom]

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Mosher, Karen Williams, Shavonne Turner, Dean Unger, John Leete, Rick Whetsel, Ian Achimore, Sara Villa, Alison Lewis, Natalia Gonzalez, Marie Jauregui, Emily Fuentes, Zyanya Ramirez, Linda Kim

OTHERS PRESENT

Thomas S. Bunn, Lagerlof, LLP; Nick Kanetis, Eastern Municipal Water District; Lisa Haney, Orange County Water District; Carly Pierce, Western Municipal Water District; Adekunle Ojo, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District; Aaron Echols, Inland Empire Resource Conservation District

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Mike Gardner on behalf of Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Board Room, 6075 Kimball Avenue, Building A, Chino, CA 91708 and Commissioner Denis Bilodeau at 601 N Ross Street, Room 327, Santa Ana, CA 92701, and Commissioner Gil Botello at 380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

An oral roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED

There were no items to be added or deleted.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MAY 6, 2025

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, to approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Paule/Camacho
Ayes:	Bilodeau, Botello, Camacho, Gardner, Paule
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **INLAND EMPIRE BRINE LINE RATE RESOLUTION (CM#2025.37)**

David Ruhl provided a presentation on the Inland Empire Brine Line Rate Resolution 2025-2, contained in the agenda packet on pages 23-36.

The current and proposed Fiscal Year 2025-26 Brine Line Rates for Flow, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), fixed pipe, and fixed treatment are shown in the table below. The proposed rates have been calculated using the financial model prepared in 2018 and are based on the approved two-year budget (FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27).

Summary of FY 2024-25 (Current) Rates and FY 2025-26 (Proposed) Rates

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Flow (MG)</i>	<i>BOD (1,000 lbs)</i>	<i>TSS (1,000 lbs)</i>	<i>Fixed Pipeline*</i>	<i>Fixed T&D*</i>
Current FY 2024-25	\$1,097	\$396	\$497	\$6,654	\$13,505
Proposed FY 2025-26	\$1,119	\$416	\$522	\$6,787	\$13,775

*Fixed pipeline and Fixed Treatment and Disposal (T&D) charges are per million gallons (MG) per month.

The Brine Line rates include the cost that Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) charges SAWPA to treat and dispose of brine, which includes a Flow, BOD and TSS charge. The OC San Flow charge (\$308/MG) is included as part of the total SAWPA Brine Line Flow rate (\$1,119/MG). The OC San BOD and TSS charges are considered “pass-through” costs.

In April 2025, SAWPA received the proposed Brine Line rates from OC San (Flow, BOD, TSS) that include a 5% increase in their charges from last fiscal year. Due to the minor increase in the rates from OC San, SAWPA is able to maintain the proposed rate increase of 2% for Flow, Fixed Pipeline and Fixed Treatment and Disposal. Since BOD and TSS are pass through costs the rate for BOD and TSS will increase 5%.

The truck disposal rates will continue to be based on two (2) tiers: a Brine Tier and a Non-Brine Tier. These charges will increase 2.4% from FY 2024-25. The proposed Capacity Lease rates for FY 2025-26 will increase 2.0% from FY 2024-25 for discharges not exceeding 250 mg/L of BOD and 250 mg/L of TSS. Dischargers exceeding BOD and TSS, surcharge rate will increase by 5%. The proposed permit fees for FY 2025-26 remain unchanged from FY 2024-25.

Mr. Ruhl noted that the PA 24 Committee reviewed this item at its May 6th meeting, evaluated the proposed rates and charges, and recommended approval of the resolution to the Commission. There was no discussion.

MOVED, to adopt Resolution No. 2025-2 establishing the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Inland Empire Brine Line Rates to be effective July 1, 2025.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Paule/Botello
Ayes:	Bilodeau, Botello, Camacho, Gardner, Paule
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

B. CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR ARUNDO DONAX REMOVAL IN THE SANTA ANA RIVER BASIN HEADWATERS PROJECT (CM#2025.38)

Ian Achimore provided a presentation on the Change Order No. 1 for Arundo Donax Removal in the Santa Ana River Basin Headwaters Project (Project), contained in the agenda packet on pages 43-67. A brief overview of Arundo Donax and Project was provided.

Arundo Donax is a highly invasive, non-native plant that thrives in riparian zones. It can grow up to 4 inches per day and reach heights of 33 feet. It is flammable, contributes to flooding, consumes more water than other invasive plants in the region, and spreads through rhizomes, often establishing in downstream waterways.

The headwaters-focused project involves identifying, accessing, and removing stands of Arundo across the Santa Ana River Basin. Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD), one of four resource conservation districts in the watershed, leads the effort with a qualified team of field staff certified in herbicide application by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

Given that the project is already in progress, staff believe it's important to continue this work while conditions allow, with the goal of removing as much Arundo as possible. Additional efforts are needed to remove Arundo in the upper watershed, including areas that gaining access is difficult (Devore, Zanja, and San Timoteo). Using the most recent data from IERCD (April 2025) a total of 1,291 stands have been inventoried; 375 stands have been treated, and 916 stands remain to be treated.

Mr. Achimore referenced a map showing the current extent of Arundo infestation included in the agenda packet and noted that the request is returned to the Commission as a proposed amendment to the existing project. IERCD would implement Change Order #1 to the current contract. The existing contract budget is \$147,770. The change order would increase the budget by \$468,268, bringing the total to \$616,045. Additionally, staff are recommending an extension of the contract duration and a re-adoption of the General Services Agreement with IERCD.

Mr. Achimore emphasized that this amendment would be funded by Proposition 13 funds through SAWPA. This funding source does not require any additional contributions from member agencies. The SAWPA Commission adopted Resolution 427, ensuring that any expenditures from Proposition 13 are aligned with its original intent. Staff have reviewed the resolution and confirmed this amendment is consistent with those guidelines.

Commissioner Botello referenced page 58 of the agenda packet and asked if the Loma Linda property mentioned part of privately owned land? If so, why is Arundo being removed from private property? Jeff Mosher noted that Arundo Donax doesn't recognize property boundaries, it spreads regardless of whether it's growing on public or private land. The goal of their work in the upper watershed is to eliminate Arundo at its source to prevent it from reestablishing downstream. They can continue removing it in the lower watershed, but as long as it remains upstream, it will keep coming back. That's why this project is focused on the

upper reaches to reduce or ideally eliminate Arundo as a persistent source of reinfestation. Targeting these headwaters is essential to make lasting progress across the entire watershed.

Aaron Echols of IERCD noted that they estimate that approximately 50% of the Arundo Donax stands are identified for treatment on private property. These range from small parcels to large holdings including some over 200 acres in San Timoteo Canyon. The overall goal of this work is to eradicate Arundo from the upper watershed, removing it as a key source of reinfestation further downstream. Regarding the Loma Linda property, they were contacted by a concerned resident. In this case, the Arundo stand is on their neighbor's land, but it's affecting them directly, damaging their fence and proving impossible to control. They reached out asking for assistance. This is a good example of how aggressive Arundo can be and also highlights the value of building community support through responsiveness and outreach.

Commissioner Botello referenced page 53 of the agenda packet and questioned why Waterman Canyon and East Twin Creek had 0% ground surveyed. Commissioner Botello expressed his full support for this effort and the staff's recommendation. However, he has concerns about scope. If we begin targeting specific private properties that are not directly adjacent to the Santa Ana River or located within the upper watershed, he believes we risk losing focus on the primary objectives of the Project. In such cases, he doesn't believe it appropriate to extend project resources for Arundo removal. That responsibility should ultimately lie with the private property owner. Our focus should remain squarely on strategic removal efforts that support watershed-wide outcomes, particularly in areas where infestations have the greatest potential to impact the river system.

Commissioner Paule added that he agrees with the concern. It appears the Arundo is damaging a private fence, which, in his view, is the responsibility of the property owner, not something a public agency should address using public funds.

Commissioner Camacho noted that he understands both perspectives, however since this portion is being funded through Proposition 13, it doesn't directly impact ratepayers because it's backed by proposition funds. If this were a \$400,000+ change order coming directly out of pocket, he would agree that we shouldn't be doing this type of work on private property. But given that it's funded by Prop 13, with money already allocated for this purpose, and considering the goal is eradication in the area, he can support it under the circumstances.

Commissioner Bilodeau noted that although it may not be intuitive, we're ultimately going to need to access private properties to effectively address the Arundo problem. In some cases, landowners might be unaware of the environmental impact. Given that this effort is funded through Proposition 13 it makes sense to approach this as both a removal and educational effort. Helping property owners understand why Arundo needs to be eradicated and encouraging their participation could be a valuable part of the overall strategy.

Commissioner Botello asked if the team that he's coordinating with working with other agencies or organizations within the watershed that are engaged in similar Arundo removal efforts? Are drone technology or other advanced tools to map the locations of Arundo infestations and prioritize areas for treatment being utilized?

Mr. Achimore noted that IERCD is actively coordinating with other entities throughout the watershed. SAWPA is also contributing through its watershed-wide aerial imagery efforts. Coordination is taking place with a range of stakeholders, including Mitigation banks, flood control districts, other resource conservation districts, and Santa Ana Watershed Association. Regarding the use of drone technology, currently no, a few years ago prior to the start of the current project.

Commissioner Botello emphasized that the focus should be on raising awareness and educating private property owners about the benefits of Arundo removal. We can't selectively do this in certain parts of the watershed and exclude areas like Waterman Canyon. It is his understanding, letters have been sent to private property owners, but some have not responded. Is that accurate? From what he knows, the team is actively attempting to contact every private property owner, but some have yet to respond, and follow-up outreach has not been completed in all cases. Commissioner Botello stated that regardless of whether these are grant funds, they are still public funds, and it is risky to start selectively targeting private properties within the watershed for removal efforts. He asked that it go on record stating that he does not believe this is good policy, and thinks the commissioners should avoid directing staff individually on specific actions. That's why we have this commission to provide guidance and oversight collectively.

Commissioner Bilodeau asked regarding the herbicide application, are we using glyphosate for the Arundo treatment? Mr. Achimore noted the herbicides being used are glyphosate and imazapyr. Both are approved for aquatic environments and are applied at dilution rates authorized by the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR).

Commissioner Bilodeau shared that his Board has formally decided not to support the use of glyphosate for treatments within the watershed. Given the substantial legal actions related to Roundup and still faces over 100,000 pending lawsuits. At Orange County Public Works, they have completely stopped purchasing and using glyphosate for this reason. Though it's highly effective, there's concerns about the potential environmental and health impacts, especially in drinking water and requested that it be something the Commission consider.

Chair Gardner asked if there is a suitable alternative and if there is a time crunch on this item? Mr. Achimore noted that there are other water agencies, such as the Irvine Ranch Water District, that have integrated pest management plans that prioritize the use of organic herbicides and emphasize mechanical removal methods whenever possible. It would be worthwhile for us to review those approaches in more detail and consider bringing recommendations back to the Commission for further updates or potential actions.

Chair Gardner noted that the Commission would benefit from a clearer understanding of what alternative herbicides are available and whether there is a significant cost difference compared to our current products. Having that information will allow them to make a more informed decision. If it pleases the Commission, he suggested tableting the item for a future meeting. There was a consensus from the Commission.

MOVED, to table Agenda Item No. 6.B (Change Order No. 1 for Arundo Donax Removal in the Santa Ana River Basin Headwaters Project) to a future meeting.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Paule/Botello
Ayes:	Bilodeau, Botello, Camacho, Gardner, Paule
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Recommendation: Receive for Information.

A. CASH TRANSACTIONS REPORT – MARCH 2025

Presenter: Karen Williams

B. INTER-FUND BORROWING – MARCH 2025 (CM#2025.39)

Presenter: Karen Williams

C. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS/FINANCIAL REPORTING – MARCH 2025 (CM#2025.40)

Presenter: Karen Williams

D. PROJECT AGREEMENT 25 – OWOW FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, MARCH 2025

Presenter: Karen Williams

E. PROJECT AGREEMENT 26 – ROUNDTABLE FUND – FINANCIAL REPORT, MARCH 2025

Presenter: Karen Williams

F. BUDGET VS ACTUAL VARIANCE REPORT FYE 2025 THIRD QUARTER – MARCH 31, 2025 (CM#2025.41)

Presenter: Karen Williams

G. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE THIRD QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2025

Presenter: Karen Williams

H. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Presenter: Jeff Mosher

I. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Jeff Mosher reported that he has two (2) presentations scheduled this week. Today, he will be at San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, where they've requested an update on Cloud Seeding with a focus on the Validation process. Staff received an updated Validation Report from DRI last week, so there will be new information to present. After the presentation, the slides will be distributed to all the Commissioners. There are still some outstanding questions regarding the Validation, which we are actively working through. Once the Final Validation Report is complete, we will bring it back to the Commission for further review.

On Wednesday, he will be at Orange County Water District. They will be considering for approval of SAWPA's budget and have asked for a presentation on an update of SAWPA's activities. This is an opportunity to share progress and periodically remind them of what we're doing and why.

Mr. Mosher noted that as part of our meeting rotation, the two meetings in June will be held at the Eastern Municipal Water District. Staff will reach out to Commissioners and member agency staff to ensure everyone is informed and attends the correct location.

J. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT

Chair Gardner reported that the Governor has included a budget trailer Bill aimed at expediting the permitting process and helping to secure funding for the Delta Conveyance Project. This is an important step forward for California's water system. Typically, budget trailer bills have a strong chance of passing, so we'll be watching closely to see how this develops.

K. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

There were no Commissioners' comments received.

L. COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

8. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, Chair Gardner adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

Mike Gardner, Chair

Attest:

Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board

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Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority



Finance Department

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority **TREASURER'S REPORT**

April 2025

During the month of April 2025, the Agency's actively managed temporary idle cash earned a return of 3.558%, representing interest earnings of \$41,425. Additionally, the Agency's position in overnight funds L.A.I.F. generated \$222,343 in interest, resulting in \$263,768 of interest income from all sources. Please note that this data represents monthly earnings only and does not indicate actual interest received. There were zero (0) investment positions purchased, zero (0) positions sold, zero (0) positions matured, and one (1) position was called.

This Treasurer's Report is in compliance with SAWPA's Statement of Investment Policy. Based upon the liquidity of the Agency's investments, this report demonstrates the ability to meet customary expenditures during the next six months.

May 8, 2025

Prepared and submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Williams'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen L. Williams, Deputy GM/Chief Financial Officer

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - MARKED TO MARKET - UNREALIZED GAINS & LOSSES

April 30, 2025

SAWPA primarily maintains a "Buy and Hold" investment philosophy, with all investments held by US Bank via a third-party safekeeping contract.

Investment	Security		Purchase	Maturity	Call Date		Yield To	Investment	Market Value	Unrealized	Coupon	Interest	
Type	Type	CUSIP	Dealer	Date	Date	(if appl)	Par Value	Maturity	Cost	Current Month	Gain/(Loss)	Rate	Earned
Agency	FHLB	3130ATHWO	WMS	11-04-22	09-10-27	No Call	\$ 1,000,000.00	4.125%	\$ 991,965.00	\$ 1,009,882.80	\$ 17,918	4.125%	\$ 3,390.41
Agency	FHLB	3130AWC24	MBS	06-06-23	06-09-28	No Call	\$ 500,000.00	3.889%	\$ 502,505.00	\$ 504,120.88	\$ 1,616	4.000%	\$ 1,598.22
Agency	FHLB	3130AWN63	WMS	01-25-24	06-30-28	No Call	\$ 1,000,000.00	4.020%	\$ 999,170.00	\$ 1,009,877.26	\$ 10,707	4.000%	\$ 3,304.15
Agency	FHLB	3130ATUT2	MBS	01-09-25	12-14-29	No Call	\$ 500,000.00	4.451%	\$ 501,058.00	\$ 512,943.88	\$ 11,886	4.500%	\$ 1,829.18
Agency	FNMA	3135G05X7	WMS	10-30-20	08-25-25	No Call	\$ 1,000,000.00	0.460%	\$ 995,952.00	\$ 987,371.51	\$ (8,580)	0.375%	\$ 378.08
Agency	USTN	91282CAZ4	WMS	04-19-21	11-30-25	No Call	\$ 1,000,000.00	0.761%	\$ 982,500.00	\$ 978,300.78	\$ (4,199)	0.375%	\$ 625.20
Agency	USTN	912828ZTO	WMS	09-15-21	05-31-25	No Call	\$ 1,000,000.00	0.530%	\$ 989,726.56	\$ 996,367.19	\$ 6,641	0.250%	\$ 435.76
Agency	USTN	91282CMD0	MBS	01-14-25	12-31-29	No Call	\$ 1,000,000.00	4.577%	\$ 991,100.00	\$ 1,026,054.69	\$ 34,955	4.375%	\$ 3,762.05
CD	Beal Bank USA	07371DEV5	MBS	08-17-22	08-12-26	No Call	\$ 245,000.00	3.200%	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 242,394.62	\$ (2,605)	3.200%	\$ 644.38
CD	Synchrony Bank	87164XP34	MBS	08-12-22	08-12-25	No Call	\$ 245,000.00	3.350%	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 244,310.79	\$ (689)	3.350%	\$ 74.44
CD	Capital One Bank USANA	14042TGJ0	MBS	05-25-22	05-25-27	No Call	\$ 246,000.00	3.200%	\$ 246,000.00	\$ 241,863.71	\$ (4,136)	3.200%	\$ 647.01
CD	Morgan Stanley Private Bank	61768UAT4	MBS	11-15-22	11-15-27	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.000%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 248,065.30	\$ 65	5.000%	\$ 1,019.18
CD	Prime Alliance Bank	74160NJJF8	MBS	11-17-22	11-17-27	Called	-	4.950%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4.950%	\$ 571.76
CD	Cooperative Center FSU	21686MAA6	MBS	12-29-22	12-29-25	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.650%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 249,876.95	\$ 877	4.650%	\$ 951.66
CD	Affinity Bank	00833JAAQ4	MBS	03-17-23	03-17-28	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	4.900%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 253,847.86	\$ 5,848	4.900%	\$ 998.79
CD	Discover Bank	2546732V7	MBS	03-22-23	03-23-27	No Call	\$ 243,000.00	5.050%	\$ 243,000.00	\$ 247,305.74	\$ 4,306	5.050%	\$ 1,008.62
CD	Global Fed CR UN Alaska	37892MAF1	MBS	05-12-23	05-12-27	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.600%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 251,675.33	\$ 2,675	4.600%	\$ 941.42
CD	UBS Bank USA	90355GDJ2	MBS	05-17-23	05-17-27	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.550%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 251,449.71	\$ 2,450	4.550%	\$ 931.19
CD	BMW Bank of North Americ	05580A2G8	MBS	06-16-23	06-16-26	No Call	\$ 244,000.00	4.600%	\$ 244,000.00	\$ 245,398.66	\$ 1,399	4.600%	\$ 922.52
CD	Barclays Bank Delaware	06740KRW9	MBS	07-26-23	07-28-25	No Call	\$ 243,000.00	5.100%	\$ 243,000.00	\$ 243,460.73	\$ 461	5.100%	\$ 1,018.60
CD	Farmers Insurance Group	30960QAS6	MBS	07-26-23	07-27-26	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.100%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 251,155.68	\$ 3,156	5.100%	\$ 1,039.56
CD	Chartway Federal Credit Union	16141BAQ4	MBS	09-08-23	09-08-27	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.000%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 253,331.01	\$ 5,331	5.000%	\$ 1,019.18
CD	Greenstate Credit Union	39573LEM6	MBS	09-26-23	09-26-28	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.000%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 255,516.41	\$ 7,516	5.000%	\$ 1,019.18
CD	Empower Fed Credit Union	291916AA2	MBS	09-29-23	09-29-27	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.100%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 254,033.59	\$ 6,034	5.100%	\$ 1,039.56
CD	US Alliance Fed Credit Union	90352RDF9	MBS	09-29-23	09-29-28	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.100%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 256,320.92	\$ 8,321	5.100%	\$ 1,039.56
CD	Numerica Credit Union	67054NBN2	MBS	11-10-23	11-10-26	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.550%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 253,511.33	\$ 5,511	5.550%	\$ 1,131.29
CD	Heritage Community Cr Un	42728MAB0	MBS	11-15-23	11-16-26	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.450%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 253,233.35	\$ 5,233	5.450%	\$ 1,110.90
CD	Members Trust of SW FCU	585899AG2	MBS	01-19-24	01-19-29	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.000%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 248,491.67	\$ (508)	4.000%	\$ 818.63
CD	Hughes FCU	444425AL6	MBS	01-29-24	01-29-27	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.400%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 250,494.40	\$ 1,494	4.400%	\$ 900.49
CD	Farmers & Merchants TR	308693BG4	MBS	01-30-24	02-01-27	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.150%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 249,446.03	\$ 446	4.150%	\$ 849.33
CD	Nicolet National Bank	654062LP1	MBS	03-08-24	03-08-29	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.250%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 250,647.33	\$ 1,647	4.250%	\$ 869.79
CD	Medallion Bank	58404DUP4	MBS	03-13-24	03-15-27	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.600%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 251,414.45	\$ 2,414	4.600%	\$ 941.42
CD	Wells Fargo Bank	949764MZ4	MBS	03-12-24	03-12-27	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	4.500%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 251,013.71	\$ 2,014	4.500%	\$ 920.96
CD	Toyota Financial SGS Bank	89235MPN5	MBS	05-24-24	05-24-29	No Call	\$ 244,000.00	4.600%	\$ 244,000.00	\$ 248,767.13	\$ 4,767	4.600%	\$ 922.52
CD	First Foundation Bank	32026U5U6	MBS	05-22-24	05-22-29	No Call	\$ 244,000.00	4.600%	\$ 244,000.00	\$ 248,761.56	\$ 4,762	4.600%	\$ 922.52
CD	Citizens Bank	173477CF5	MBS	01-10-25	01-10-30	No Call	\$ 249,000.00	3.850%	\$ 249,000.00	\$ 246,661.14	\$ (2,339)	3.850%	\$ 787.93
CD	Alliant Credit Union	01882MAD4	MBS	12-30-22	12-30-25	No Call	\$ 248,000.00	5.100%	\$ 248,000.00	\$ 249,554.12	\$ 1,554	5.100%	\$ 1,039.56

Total Actively Invested Funds	\$	13,924,000.00	\$	13,877,976.56	\$	14,016,922.22	\$	138,946	3.558%	\$	41,425.04
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Total Local Agency Investment Fund	\$	63,190,318.28	4.281%	\$	222,343.36
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Total Invested Cash	\$	13,924,000.00	\$	77,068,294.84	4.150%	\$	263,768.39
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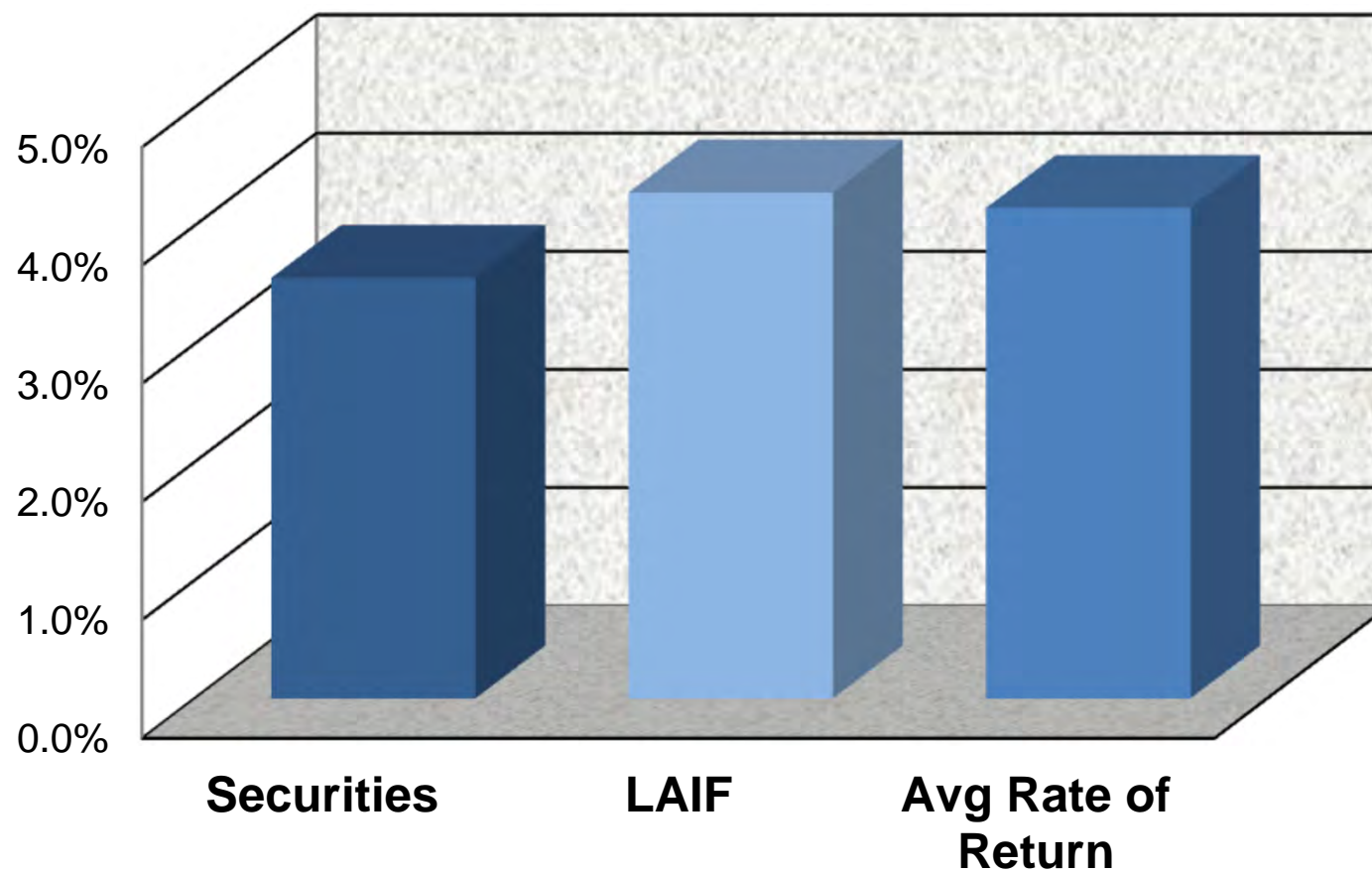
Key to Security Type:

FHLB	= Federal Home Loan Bank
FHLMC	= Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation
FNMA	= Federal National Mortgage Association
USTN	= US Treasury Note
CORP	= Corporate Note
CD	= Certificate of Deposit
GDB	= Goldman Sachs Bank
AEC	= American Express Centurion

Key to Dealers:

FCS	= FinaCorp Securities
MBS	= Multi-Bank Securities
MS	= Mutual Securities
RCB	= RBC Dain Rauscher
SA	= Securities America
TVI	= Time Value Investments
WMS	= Wedbush Morgan Securities

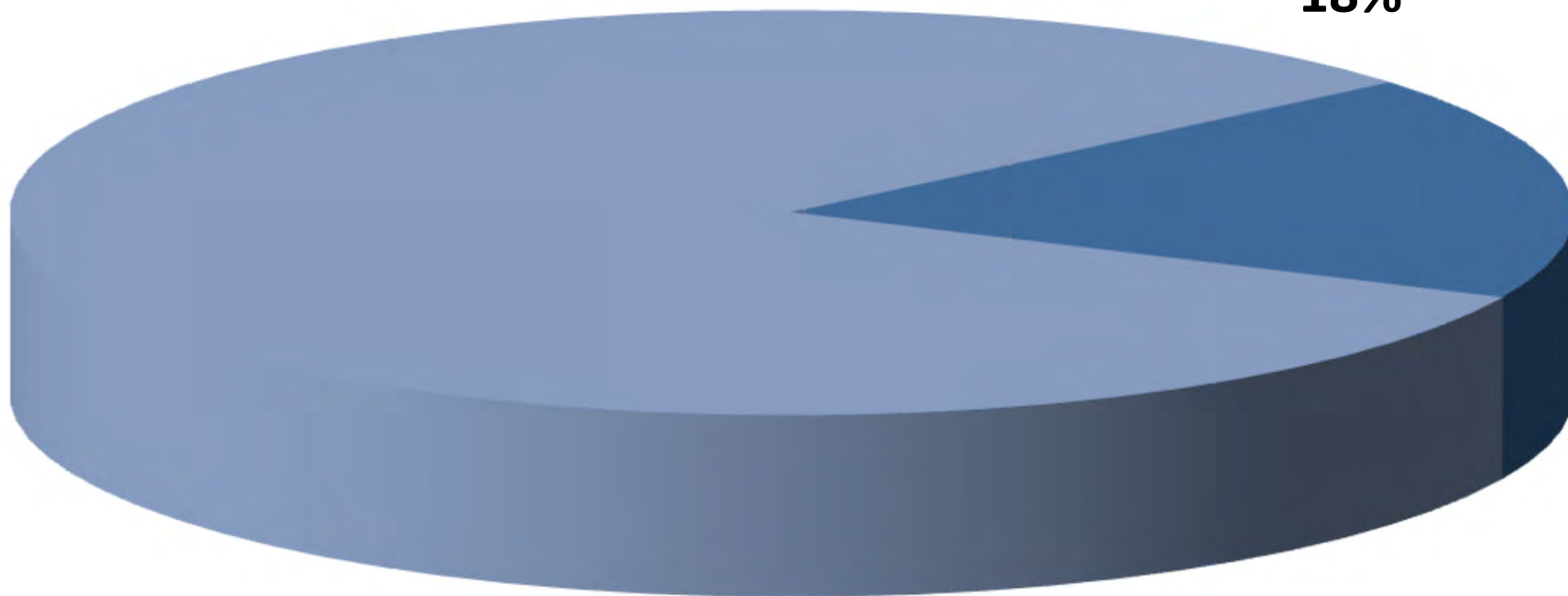
Interest Rate Analysis



Investments

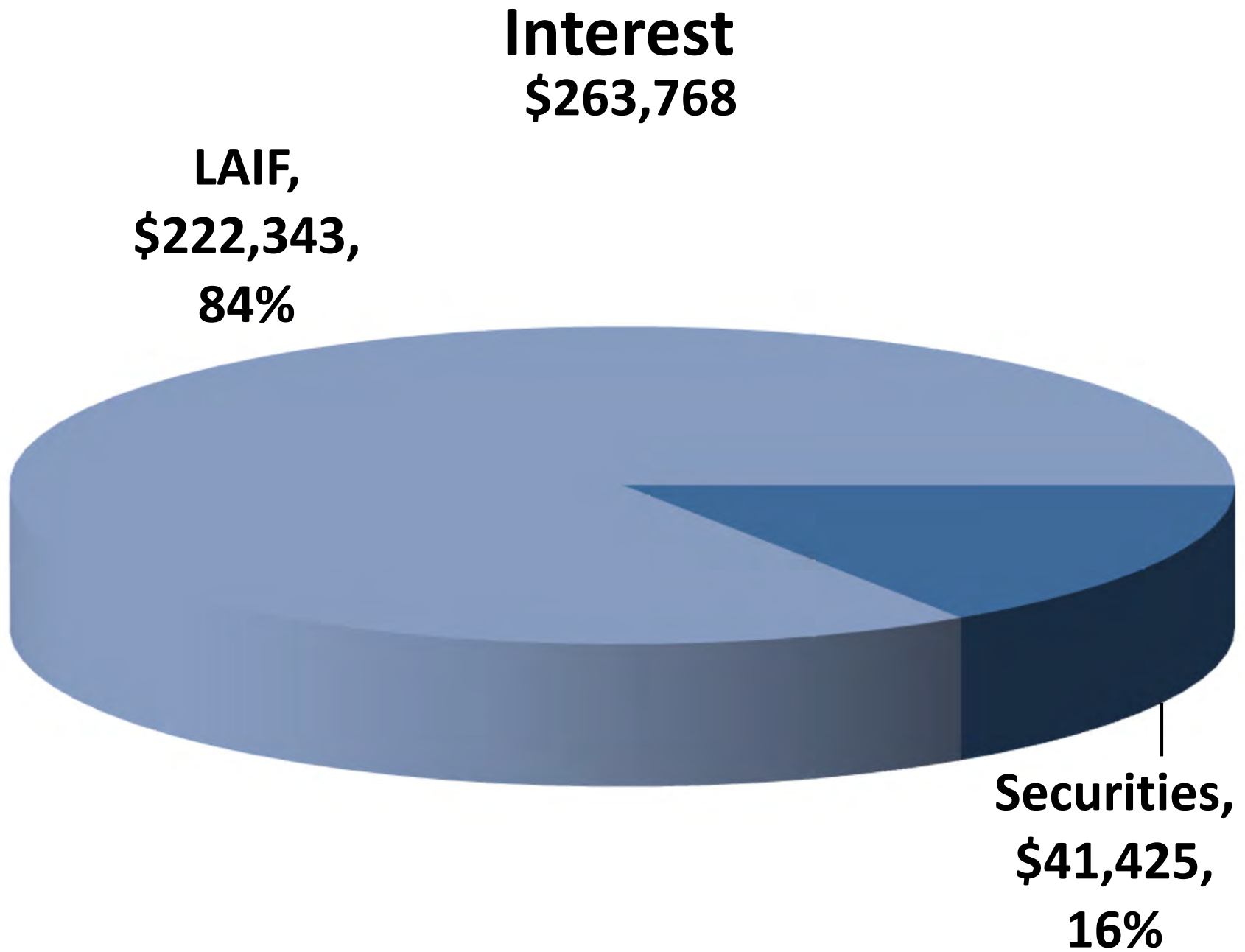
\$77,068,295

**Securities,
\$13,877,977,
18%**



**LAIF,
\$63,190,318,
82%**

Apr'25



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COMMISSION MEMORANDUM NO. 2025.42

DATE: June 3, 2025

TO: SAWPA Commission

SUBJECT: Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force – 2026 Triennial Report and Synoptic Study

PREPARED BY: Rick Whetsel, Senior Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission authorize the General Manager to execute Task Order GEI384-03 with GEI Consultants for the amount not-to-exceed \$168,039 to conduct a Synoptic Water Quality Study and prepare the 2026 Triennial Report in support of the Middle Santa Ana River (MSAR) Bacteria TMDLs.

DISCUSSION

On May 16, 2025, members of the MSAR TMDL Task Force reviewed and unanimously recommended for approval a proposal from GEI Consultants to conduct a synoptic water quality study and prepare the 2026 Triennial Report in support of the MSAR Bacteria TMDLs.

This proposal was developed to continue implementation of the CBRP by conducting an updated source analysis and prioritization of sub watersheds, building upon methods and findings from past iterations in 2007, 2012, and 2019. Sampling is proposed to begin in the dry season of 2025. The purpose of the Synoptic Study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plans (CBRPs) implemented by MS4 programs and to improve those programs where necessary. The new data set would augment the historical record and will be reflected upon in the next Triennial Review Report, which is due by February 15, 2026.

The 2025 study will interpret water quality data and other implementation activities over the 2023-2025 period for development of a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report. A detailed study plan for the 2025 dry season Synoptic Survey will be developed with input from experts in microbial source tracking (MST), Regional Board staff, and the MSAR TMDL Task Force. A list of key study objectives is provided below:

- Characterize the flows and concentrations of *E. coli* and microbial source tracking (MST) markers for human sources being discharged into the waterbodies named in the TMDL from all Tier 1 MS4 outfalls. Update the CBRP implementation prioritization score for all sites with hydrologically connected discharge during dry weather and summarize how these scores have changed since the previous ranking was prepared based on data collected in the 2019 Synoptic Survey (SAWPA 2020).
- Update estimates of existing *E. coli* load and propose reduction targets for updated dry and new wet weather CBRPs to focus on controllable sources from within MS4 drainage areas. Collect data to estimate the potential source contribution from releases of *E. coli* from channel bottom sediments, which are defined as uncontrollable in the 2015 Basin Plan Amendment Revise Recreation Standards for Inland Freshwaters in the Santa Ana Region

- Develop a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report with detailed interpretation of data collected in 2023-2025.

The attached Task Order with GEI Consultants outlines support services to conduct the MSAR Bacteria TMDL Synoptic Study. Included with this Task Order is a scope of work and budget providing a detailed description of work tasks to be performed by the consultant, GEI Consultants, as highlighted below:

- Task 1: Prepare a Study Plan with sample locations, water quality parameters to be analyzed, a sampling schedule and an estimate of the cost to implement Task 3 (sample collection). Update MST and source analysis sections of the approved Monitoring Plan (MP) and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the ongoing Regional Bacteria Monitoring Program (RBMP) based on proposed methods in the 2025 Synoptic Study.
- Task 2: Collect samples to perform the analyses described in the Study Plan, including equipment procurement and laboratory services.
- Task 3: Prepare a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report, that summarizes current compliance with the TMDL, presents interpretative findings from the 2025 Synoptic Study, and provides recommendations to the Task Force for three years of CBRP implementation and updates (2026-2029). This report will include all laboratory reports and the related water quality database to SAWPA, and upload qualified data to CEDEN, as directed.
- Task 4: Attend up to eight Task Force meetings to provide progress reports, accept comments on various draft work products and receive direction on the project approach.

Project deliverables, including draft Triennial Report to Regional Board are scheduled to be complete by February 2026.

BACKGROUND

In August of 2005, the Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted a TMDL for pathogen indicator bacteria in Reach 3 of the Santa Ana River, Mill Creek (in the Prado area), Reach 1 of Cucamonga Creek, Reaches 1 and 2 of Chino Creek, and the Prado Park Lakes. Over the following 12 months, dischargers named in the TMDL began organizing a Task Force to implement the various regulatory requirements in the TMDL. The TMDLs became effective upon EPA approval in May of 2007 and the Regional Board approved the Task Force's proposed water quality monitoring plan in June of 2007.

One of the key elements in the water quality monitoring plan was to identify the most significant sources of bacterial contamination to the impaired waterbodies. This Urban Source Evaluation Program (USEP) was implemented in 2007-8 and the final report was issued in early 2009.³ A number of additional investigations focused on the high priority stream segments were performed in 2010-11 and the final reports for these follow-up studies can be downloaded from the Task Force's website.

Data collected during the USEP studies was used to develop a risk-based scoring system to help prioritize project implementation and measure progress improving water quality. That risk-based approach formed the foundation for the Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plans (CBRP) developed by all of the stakeholders named in the TMDLs. Following approval by the Regional Board, county and municipal stormwater agencies are now required to implement the CBRPs in accordance with their NPDES permit.

The TMDLs requires stakeholders to submit written progress reports every three years. To date, five such reports have been prepared and delivered. Copies of the triennial reports for 2010, 2013, 2016, 2020 and 2023 are available on the Task Force's website. The next triennial report is due in 2026.

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

- SAWPA has a strong reputation as a watershed-wide, knowledgeable, neutral and trusted facilitator, leader, and administrator of contracted activities.
- Goals, scope, costs, resources, timelines, and the contract term are approved by the Commission before executing an agreement to participate in a roundtable group.
- Clear upfront criteria and terms for completing or transitioning efforts that have been successfully established or completed.
- Adequate professional staff and resources to effectively provide facilitation, management, administrative and technical support to collaborative work efforts.

RESOURCE IMPACTS

The TMDL Task Force Agreement provides funding for SAWPA administrative services. All staff contract administration time for this contract will be taken from the TMDL budget, funded by the TMDL stakeholders, and administered under Fund No. 384-01, Chino TMDL Facilitation defined in the SAWPA Budget.

Attachments:

1. GEI Task Order No. GEI384-03
2. GEI Scope of Work, cost estimate and rate schedule
3. Presentation

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**SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY
TASK ORDER NO. GEI384-03**

CONSULTANT: GEI Consultants, Inc. **VENDOR NO.:** 2213
400 Unicorn Park Drive
Woburn, MA 01801

COST: \$168,039.00

PAYMENT: Upon Receipt of Proper Invoice

REQUESTED BY: Rick Whetsel, Interim LESJWA Administrative Manager June 3, 2025

FINANCE: _____
Karen Williams, Deputy GM/CFO Date

FINANCING SOURCE: Acct. Coding: 384CHINO-6113-01
Acct. Description: General Consulting

COMMITTEE AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED FOR THIS TASK ORDER: YES (X) NO ()
Authorization: June 3, 2025; CM#2025.42

This Task Order is issued upon approval and acceptance by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and GEI Consultants, Inc. (Consultant) pursuant to the General Services Agreement between SAWPA and Consultant, entered into on February 6, 2024, expiring December 31, 2027.

I. PROJECT NAME OR DESCRIPTION

MSAR TMDL – 2026 Triennial Report and Synoptic Study

II. SCOPE OF WORK / TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

Consultant will conduct the following, Task 1: Prepare a Study Plan, update MST and source analysis sections of the approved Monitoring Plan (MP) and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP); Task 2: Collect samples to perform the analyses described in the Study Plan; Task 3: Prepare a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report that summarizes current compliance with the TMDL and presents interpretative findings from the 2025 Synoptic Study, and provides recommendations to the Task Force for three years of CBRP implementation and updates (2026-2029), including laboratory reports, water quality database to SAWPA, and upload qualified data to CEDEN; and Task 4: Attend up to eight Task Force meetings to provide progress reports.

III. PERFORMANCE TIME FRAME

Consultant shall begin work June 3, 2025, and shall complete performance of such services by **June 30, 2026.**

IV. SAWPA LIAISON

Rick Whetsel shall serve as liaison between SAWPA and Consultant.

V. COMPENSATION

For all services rendered by Consultant pursuant to this Task Order, Consultant shall receive a total not-to-exceed sum of **\$168,039.00**. Payment for such services shall be made monthly upon receipt of timely and proper invoices from Consultant, as required by the above-mentioned Agreement. Each such invoice shall be provided to SAWPA by Consultant within 15 days after the end of the month in which the services were performed.

VI. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS PRECEDENCE

In the event of a conflict in terms between and among the contract documents herein, the document item highest in precedence shall control. The precedence shall be:

- a. The General Services Agreement by Independent Consultant/Consultant.
- b. The Task Order or Orders issued pursuant to the Agreement, in numerical order.
- c. Exhibits attached to each Task Order, which may describe, among other things, the Scope of Work and compensation therefore.
- d. Specifications incorporated by reference.

In witness whereof, the parties have executed this Task Order on the date indicated below.

SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

Jeffrey J. Mosher, General Manager Date

GEI CONSULTANTS, INC.

(Signature) Date

Print/Type Name and Title

May 1, 2025

Consulting
Engineers and
Scientists

Rick Whetsel, Senior Watershed Manager
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503

Re: Middle Santa Ana River (MSAR) Bacteria TMDL 2025 Synoptic Study and 2026 Triennial TMDL Report Cost Proposal - DRAFT

Dear Mr. Whetsel,

The purpose of this letter is to present GEI Consultant's (GEI) proposal to develop and implement the MSAR Bacteria TMDL Synoptic Study on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and the MSAR Bacteria TMDL Task Force ("Task Force"). This proposal was developed to continue implementation of the CBRP by conducting an updated source analysis and prioritization of subwatersheds, building upon methods and findings from past iterations in 2007, 2012, and 2019. Sampling is proposed to begin in the dry season of 2025. The purpose of the of the Synoptic Study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plans (CBRPs) implemented by MS4 programs and to improve those programs where necessary. The new data set would augment the historical record and will be reflected upon in the next Triennial Review Report, which is due by February 15, 2026.

If approved by the Task Force, the 2025 study will interpret water quality data and other implementation activities over the 2023-2025 period for development of a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report. A detailed study plan for the 2025 dry season Synoptic Survey will be developed with input from experts in microbial source tracking (MST), Regional Board staff, and the MSAR TMDL Task Force. A list of key study objectives is provided below:

- Characterize the flows and concentrations of *E. coli* and microbial source tracking (MST) markers for human sources being discharged into the waterbodies named in the TMDL from all Tier 1 MS4 outfalls. Update the CBRP implementation prioritization score for all sites with hydrologically connected discharge during dry weather and summarize how these scores have changed since the previous ranking was prepared based on data collected in the 2019 Synoptic Survey (SAWPA 2020).
- Update estimates of existing *E. coli* load and propose reduction targets for updated dry and new wet weather CBRPs to focus on controllable sources from within MS4 drainage areas. Collect data to estimate the potential source contribution from releases of *E. coli* from channel bottom sediments, which are defined as

uncontrollable in the 2015 Basin Plan Amendment Revise Recreation Standards for Inland Freshwaters in the Santa Ana Region.

- Develop a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report with detailed interpretation of data collected in 2023-2025.

Findings from the Synoptic Study and other data collected in 2023-2025 are intended to guide resource allocation for future bacterial mitigation projects, determine if human sources are present in the watershed, and identify sources of bacterial indicators in the MSAR watershed under dry and wet weather conditions. The Synoptic Study includes five tasks, summarized as follows:

- Task 1: Prepare a Study Plan with sample locations, water quality parameters to be analyzed, a sampling schedule and an estimate of the cost to implement Task 3 (sample collection). Update MST and source analysis sections of the approved Monitoring Plan (MP) and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the ongoing Regional Bacteria Monitoring Program (RBMP) based on proposed methods in the 2025 Synoptic Study.
- Task 2: Collect samples to perform the analyses described in the Study Plan, including equipment procurement and laboratory services.
- Task 3: Prepare a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report, that summarizes current compliance with the TMDL, presents interpretative findings from the 2025 Synoptic Study, and provides recommendations to the Task Force for three years of CBRP implementation and updates (2026-2029). This report will include all laboratory reports and the related water quality database to SAWPA, and upload qualified data to CEDEN, as directed.
- Task 4: Attend up to eight Task Force meetings to provide progress reports, accept comments on various draft work products and receive direction on the project approach.

Following is a description of key personnel for this project, our cost proposal to complete the above tasks and the proposed project schedule.

Project Team

GEI will work collaboratively with Dr. Menu Leddy of Essential Environmental Engineering Systems (EEES) and field crews from CWE to execute this project. Roles of key staff are described below:

- Steve Wolosoff will serve as the Project Manager. He has worked on the MSAR Bacteria TMDL since its 2007 effective date, either working directly with the Task Force or with the Riverside and San Bernardino County MS4 Programs through the development and implementation of the CBRPs. Mr. Wolosoff will work closely with the project team to complete the tasks on schedule within the approved budget.

- Menu Leddy (EEES) brings her substantial expertise in the use of microbial source tracking methods and interpretation of microbial data to this project. Previously with Orange County Water District, Menu Leddy has supported Task Force and MS4 Program efforts to collect, analyze and evaluate microbial source data in the MSAR watershed since the original synoptic study was conducted in 2007-2008.
- Kelcey Chung will serve as a task leader for creation of SAP/QAPP updates and oversee the implementation of the field crews and laboratories. Kelcey will also support Steve and Menu in data analysis and preparation of the 2026 Triennial TMDL Report. Kelcey has extensive experience with implementation of surface water monitoring programs and coordination of multi-discipline expert teams.
- CWE field crews will support the study through expanded field sampling during five weeks of the RBMP.

Cost Proposal

The estimated cost to complete the five tasks summarized above is \$168,039 (Attachment A). This estimate assumes that field staff employed by stakeholders implement field effort to collect water samples, e.g., Riverside and San Bernardino County MS4 Program staff. The following sections provide a summary regarding the basis for the costs estimated for each task. Attachment B provides a detailed summary of estimated laboratory costs.

Task 1: Prepare Study Plan

The project team will prepare a Study Plan that (a) identifies sample locations; (b) water quality samples to be collected; (c) field and laboratory parameters to be analyzed; (d) sample collection frequency; and (e) sample collection schedule. A Draft Study Plan will be submitted to the Task Force for review and comment. The Draft Study Plan will include updates to the cost estimates provided in this cost proposal for laboratory analysis. A Final Study Plan, based on comments received on the draft, will be submitted to the Task Force. Lastly, the project team will coordinate with the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force to update the RBMP MP and QAPP to support the 2025 Synoptic Study.

Task 2: Sample Collection/Laboratory Analysis

This task focuses on the implementation of the approved Study Plan. To prepare this cost proposal, we assume all field sampling labor will be implemented by Riverside and San Bernardino County MS4 Program staff for samples from Tier 1 and Tier 2 sites. CWE, the current subcontractor to GEI for the RBMP, will collect additional samples for MST markers from watershed-wide TMDL compliance and mainstem for water and channel bottom sediment during routine sampling. POTW treated effluent is assumed to be collected by operators at the plants. Lastly, a budget for courier services is included in the project budget to facilitate transport of samples to Babcock and OCPHL. A complete summary of the proposed sampling is provided in Attachment B.

Following is description of the basis for this cost proposal:

- Water Quality Constituents: Routine water quality field measurements (e.g., dissolved oxygen, conductivity, pH, temperature and turbidity) will be collected at each sample location during each sample event. Water samples will be collected for laboratory analysis of the fecal indicator bacteria *E. coli* and digital droplet PCR (ddPCR) for the HF183 Bacteroides marker. For mainstem and watershed-wide compliance sites only, samples of channel bottom sediment will also be collected for laboratory analysis of the fecal indicator bacteria *E. coli* and digital droplet PCR (ddPCR) for the HF183 Bacteroides marker.
- Sample Locations – Collection of water quality and flow data is proposed at the following types of sites to obtain the data necessary to update previous source contribution analyses for both *E. coli* and the human genetic marker HF183. Sampling will occur at all sites for 5 dry weather events:
 - Tier 1 and Tier 2 - To be successful, the synoptic survey must collect samples at all MS4 outfalls to waters listed as impaired; however, many do not contribute dry weather flow and have been previously identified as hydrologically disconnected. Based on the results of previous studies (e.g., Tier 1 source evaluations in 2007, 2012, 2019, and recent follow-up surveys). This cost proposal is based on the collection of *E. coli* and Bacteroides samples from 18 Tier 1 or Tier 2 sites during each of the 5 dry weather sample events. **Table 1** provides a preliminary list of 18 sample locations assumed at this time to have measurable dry weather flow for sample collection (Note: This is for preliminary planning purposes; these assumptions will be field verified during preparation of the Study Plan).
 - Watershed Compliance and Other Mainstem Sites - To the maximum extent possible, sampling for *E. coli* in water and sediment will occur concurrently with Tier 1 and 2 sampling at downstream sites watershed-wide TMDL compliance monitoring sites (WW-S1, WW-S4, WW-M6, and WW-C7) or other mainstem sites (MISSION, P3-SBC1) through the RBMP. In addition to *E. coli*, RBMP field crews will collect samples for analysis of Bacteroides HF183 marker. While the water quality and *E. coli* samples will be collected at these sites as part of the RBMP, the additional laboratory cost for sediment analysis and HF183 in water is included in this proposal.
 - Wastewater Effluent Discharge Sites – This proposal includes costs for the collection of water quality data and Bacteroides marker samples at or near the point of discharge of effluent from the CCWRP, Rialto, RIX, RP1, and Riverside WQCP during dry weather events.

Table 1. Preliminary List of Sample Locations

Site Type	Site Name	Site Description
Mainstem	MISSION	SAR at Mission Blvd
	P3-SBC1	SAR Reach 4 above S. Riverside Ave Bridge
POTW Treated Effluent	CCWRP	Carbon Canyon Water Recycling Plant effluent
	Rialto WWTP	Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent
	Riverside WQCP	Riverside Water Quality Control Plant effluent
	RIX	Rapid Infiltration and Extraction Facility effluent
	RP1	IEUA Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 1 effluent (at Chino Ave)
Tier 1	T1-ANZA	Anza Drain
	T1-BRSC	Boys Republic South Channel
	T1-BXSP	Box Springs Channel
	T1-CCCH	Carbon Canyon Creek Channel
	T1-CHINOCRK	Chino Creek upstream of San Antonio Channel
	T1-CUCAMONGA	Cucamonga Creek at Hellman
	T1-DAY	Day Creek
	T1-LLSC	Lake Los Serranos Channel
	T1-MCSD	Magnolia Center Storm Drain
	T1-SACH	San Antonio Channel
	T1-SNCH	Sunnyslope Channel
	T1-SSCH	San Sevaine Channel
Tier 2	T2-HWY60	Cucamonga Creek at Hwy 60
	T2-CHRIS	Chris Basin outflow to Cucamonga Creek
	T2-DEER	Deer Creek inflow to Chris Basin
	T2-CLCH	County Line Channel
	T2-EVLA	Eastvale Line A
	T2-EVLB	Eastvale Line B
Watershed Compliance Site	WW-C7	Chino Creek at Central Ave
	WW-M6	Mill-Cucamonga Creek
	WW-S1	SAR at Pedley Avenue
	WW-S4	SAR at MWD Crossing

- Sample Frequency - Findings from the synoptic survey are most scientifically defensible if they are repeated in multiple events. Given the temporal variability in dry weather flows and associated bacteria loads from MS4s, multiple sample events are recommended to characterize bacteria and dry weather flow. For this cost proposal, it is assumed that up to 5 weekly sample events will be conducted at each of the sample locations over 5 consecutive weeks during the 2025 dry weather (August/September) time period.
- Flow Measurements - Because MS4 flow contributions to downstream impaired waters can have low flow rates but high concentrations relative to the receiving waters, the rate of flow used in the planned mass balance analysis can be a highly sensitive parameter. Flow measurement at each site will involve volumetric methods or use of a velocity meter. Other flow measurement alternatives that rely on flow sensor equipment will be explored during Study Plan development, but costs for any potential alternatives have not been included in this proposal.
- Estimated laboratory costs to analyze water samples for *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) and the PCR human Bacteroides markers HF183,. These cost estimates are based on preliminary quotes provided by Babcock Laboratories, Inc. (*E. coli*) and Orange County Public Health Laboratory (HF183). Project team costs are included for management of the field teams and laboratories, data QA/QC, and data compilation.

Task 3 – 2026 Triennial Report

The project team will prepare a Study Report that (a) updates understanding of dry weather flows and hydrologic connectivity throughout the watershed; (b) identify and compile data being collected by other agencies or organizations (including POTW inspection programs for sanitary sewer collection systems) working in the watershed; and (c) updates source contribution analyses previously completed to support TMDL implementation in the watershed. The study results will be included in the 2026 Triennial Report for the ongoing TMDL implementation program and provide data to support future revision of the TMDL and anticipated updates to existing TMDL implementation plans in the watershed. Other information involving TMDL implementation and long-term compliance monitoring will also be included in the 2026 Triennial Report. A Draft 2026 Triennial Report will be submitted to the Task Force for review and comment. A Final 2026 Triennial Report, based on comments received on the draft, will be submitted to the Task Force. The final submittal will include electronic copies of field data sheets, laboratory reports and the project water quality database. As directed by the Task Force, we will upload qualified data to the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN).

Task 4 – Task Force Meetings

GEI's project manager will attend all Task Force meetings during implementation of the Synoptic Study to provide progress updates in slideshow format, accept comments on work products or receive further Task Force direction. EEES will attend where appropriate to discuss microbial source tracking related findings. Preparation and participation in up to eight meetings (labor and expenses) are included in the budget.

Project Schedule

The project team is committed to meeting the project schedule in Table 2 based on a Notice to Proceed by May 7, 2025.

Table 2. Proposed Project Schedule

Task	Complete By
Draft Study Plan, MP/QAPP Update	June 27, 2025
Final Study Plan, MP/QAPP Update	July 25, 2025
Data Collection	August 11 - September 12, 2025
Progress Report with Presentation to Task Force	October 31, 2025
Draft 2026 TMDL Triennial Report	December 31, 2025
Submit Final 2026 TMDL Triennial Report to Santa Ana Water Board	February 15, 2026
Participate in Task Force meetings	As scheduled

Closing

We appreciate having the opportunity to work with SAWPA and the Task Force on this critical project. Should you have any questions or need further information regarding this proposal, please contact Steve Wolosoff at 781-430-9150 (cell).

Sincerely,

GEI CONSULTANTS, INC.



Steve Wolosoff, BCES, PMP
Senior Project Manager



Iqbal Ahmed, Ph.D, P.E.
Principal in Charge

Attachment A

Task	Labor			Equipment Rental & Supplies	Courier Estimate	Laboratory Estimate	Total Cost Estimate
	Hours	Fee	Expenses				
Task 1 - Study Plan	64	\$ 13,990	\$ 1,500		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,490
Draft Study Plan	32	\$ 7,240	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,240
Reconnaissance & Training	8	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,500		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,250
Final Study Plan	24	\$ 5,000	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000
Task 2 - Data Collection	76	\$ 14,180	\$ -	\$ 4,750	\$ 8,100	\$ 23,599	\$ 50,629
Field Team/Laboratory Management	22	\$ 4,400	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,400
Data Collection Activities	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,750	\$ 8,100	\$ 23,599	\$ 36,449
Data QA/QC	22	\$ 3,940	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,940
Data Compilation	32	\$ 5,840	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,840
Task 3 - 2026 Triennial TMDL Report	333	\$ 78,750	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 78,750
Draft 2026 Triennial TMDL Report	244	\$ 58,120	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58,120
Final 2026 Triennial TMDL Report	74	\$ 18,380	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,380
CEDEN Upload	15	\$ 2,250	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,250
Task 4 - Task Force Meetings	76	\$ 16,170	\$ 7,000		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,170
Meeting Prep/Participation	76	\$ 16,170	\$ 7,000		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,170
Totals	549	123,090	8,500	4,750	8,100	23,599	168,039

Attachment B

Site Type	Site Name	Site Description	No. <i>E. coli</i>	No. MST Analyses	<i>E. coli</i>	HF183	Total
					\$50	\$89	
POTW Treated Effluent	CCWRP	Carbon Canyon Water Recycling Plant effluent	0	5	\$0	\$446	\$446
	Rialto WWTP	Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent	0	5	\$0	\$446	\$446
	Riverside WQCP	Riverside Water Quality Control Plant effluent	0	5	\$0	\$446	\$446
	RIX	Rapid Infiltration and Extraction Facility effluent	0	5	\$0	\$446	\$446
	RP1	IEUA Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 1 effluent	0	5	\$0	\$446	\$446
Tier 1	T1-ANZA	Anza Drain	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-BRSC	Boys Republic South Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-BXSP	Box Springs Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-CCCH	Carbon Canyon Creek Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-CHINOCRK	Chino Creek upstream of San Antonio Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-CUCAMONGA	Cucamonga Creek at Hellman	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-DAY	Day Creek	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-LLSC	Lake Los Serranos Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-MCSD	Magnolia Center Storm Drain	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-SACH	San Antonio Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-SNCH	Sunnyslope Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T1-SSCH	San Sevaine Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
Tier 2	T2-HWY60	Cucamonga Creek at Hwy 60	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T2-CHRIS	Chris Basin outflow to Cucamonga Creek	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T2-DEER	Deer Creek inflow to Chris Basin	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T2-CLCH	County Line Channel	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T2-EVLA	Eastvale Line A	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
	T2-EVLB	Eastvale Line B	5	5	\$252	\$446	\$698
Mainstem	MISSION	SAR at Mission Blvd	5	10	\$252	\$893	\$1,145
	P3-SBC1	SAR Reach 4 above S. Riverside Ave Bridge	5	10	\$252	\$893	\$1,145
Watershed-wide Compliance Site	WW-C7	Chino Creek at Central Ave	5	10	\$252	\$893	\$1,145
	WW-M6	Mill-Cucamonga Creek	5	10	\$252	\$893	\$1,145
	WW-S1	SAR at Pedley Avenue	5	10	\$252	\$893	\$1,145
	WW-S4	SAR at MWD Crossing	5	10	\$252	\$893	\$1,145
QA/QC Samples	Equipment	1/sample day or 2 each week over 6-week period	5	8	\$252	\$714	\$966
	Field Replicates	1/sample day or 2 each week over 6-week period	5	8	\$252	\$714	\$966
Totals			130	191	\$6,552	\$17,047	\$23,599

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SANTA ANA WATERSHED
PROJECT AUTHORITY

Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force 2026 Triennial Report and Synoptic Study

Commission Meeting
Agenda Item No. 6.A

Rick Whetsel
LESJWA Administrative Manager
June 3, 2025

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission authorize the General Manager to execute Task Order GEI384-03 with GEI Consultants for the amount not-to-exceed \$168,039 to conduct a Synoptic Water Quality Study and prepare the 2026 Triennial Report in support of the Middle Santa Ana River (MSAR) Bacteria TMDLs.

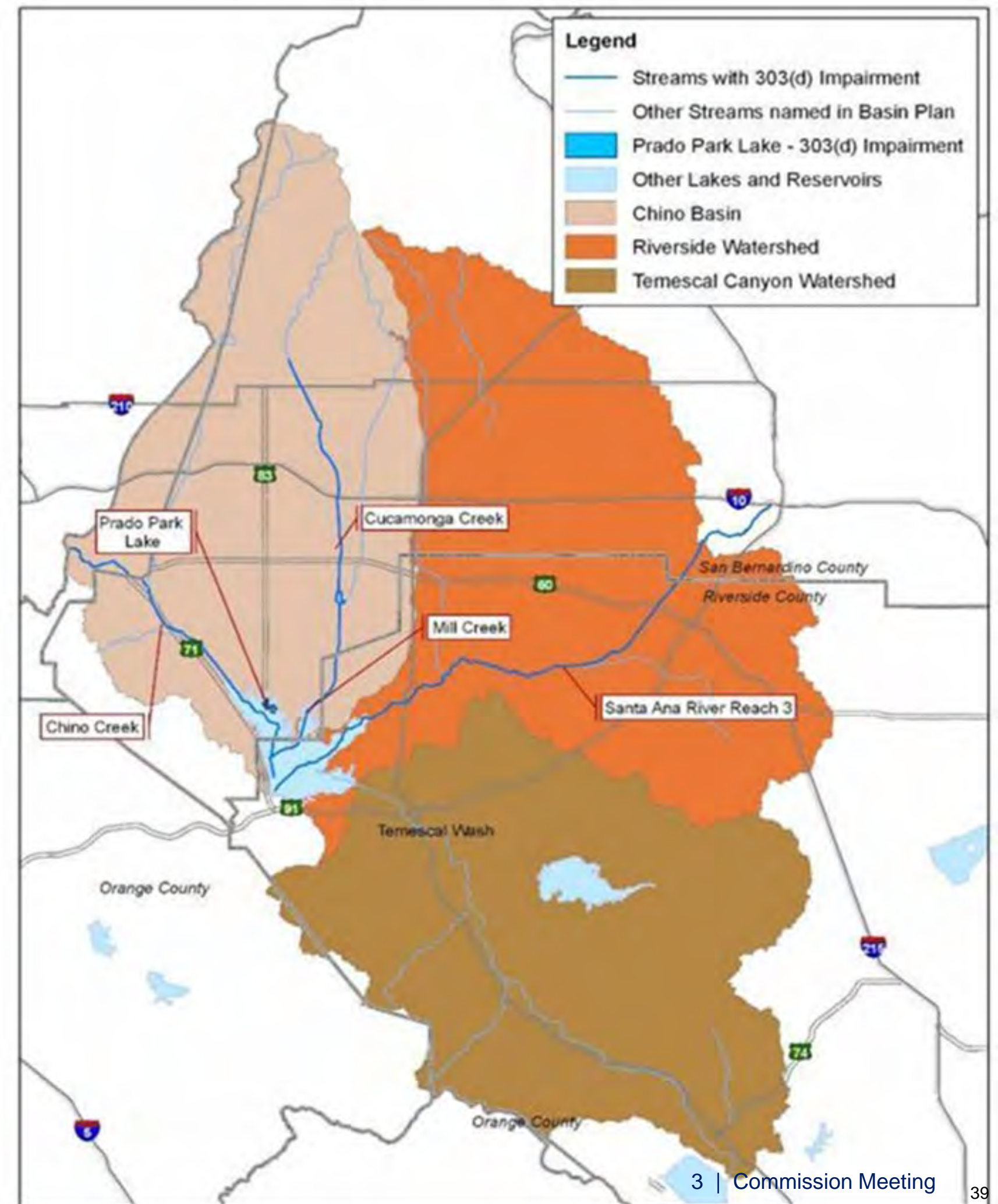
Middle Santa Ana River TMDLs

February 2005, Basin Plan amended to include Bacterial Indicator Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Middle Santa Ana River Waterbodies:

- Santa Ana River, Reach 3
- Chino Creek, Reaches 1 and 2
- Cucamonga Creek, Reach 1
- Mill Creek (Prado Area)
- Prado Park Lake

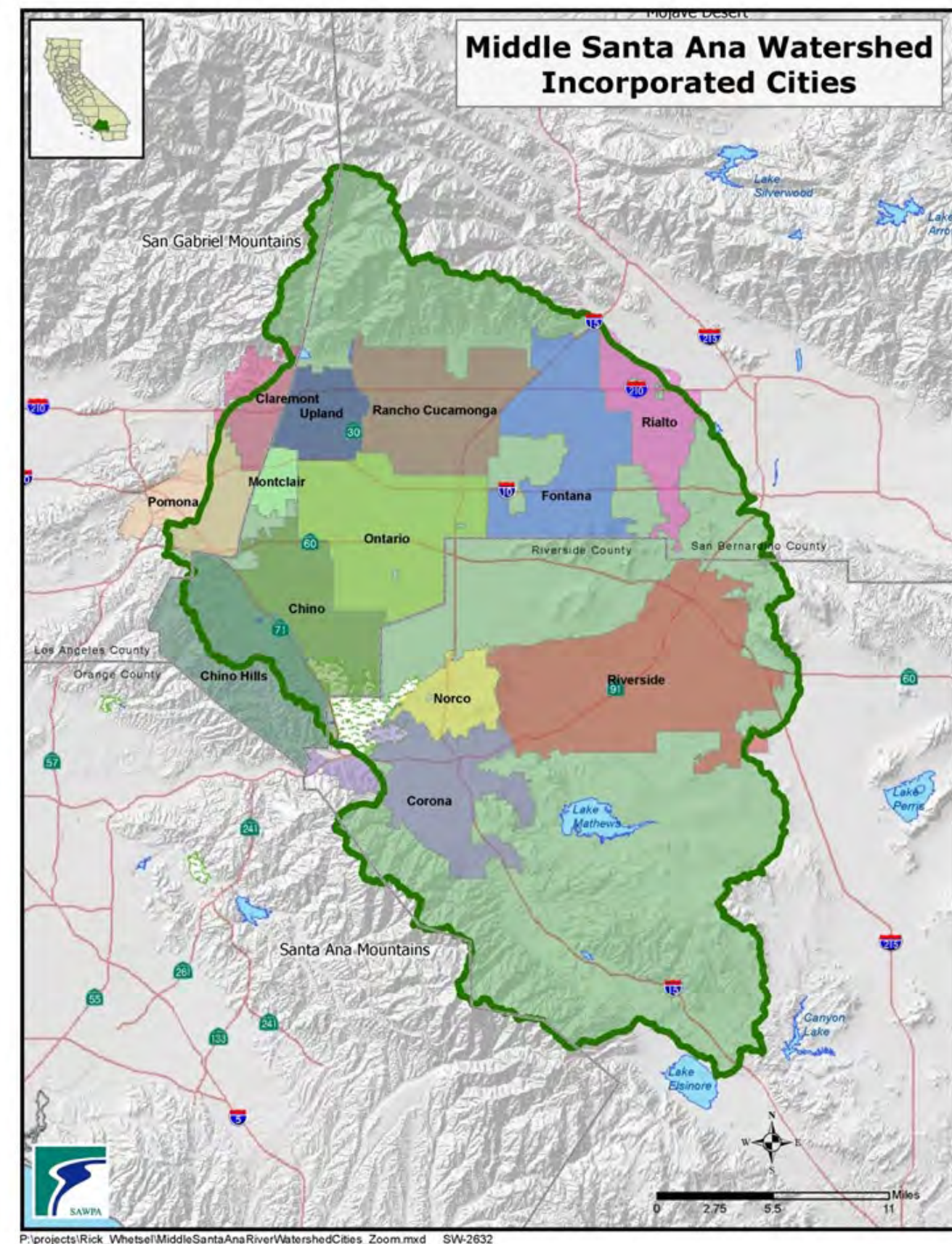
Current Activities:

- Middle Santa Ana River 2026 TMDLs Triennial Report (completed February 2026)
- Proposed Limited Basin Plan Amendment extending the wet weather implementation due date, currently set as December 31, 2025, out to December 31, 2035



Middle Santa Ana River Bacteria TMDL Task Force Members

- San Bernardino County Flood Control District representing the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Rialto, and Upland
- County of Riverside
- City of Claremont
- City of Corona
- City of Norco
- City of Pomona
- City of Riverside
- Agricultural Operators represented by Chino Basin Watermaster Agricultural Pool



Task Force Purpose

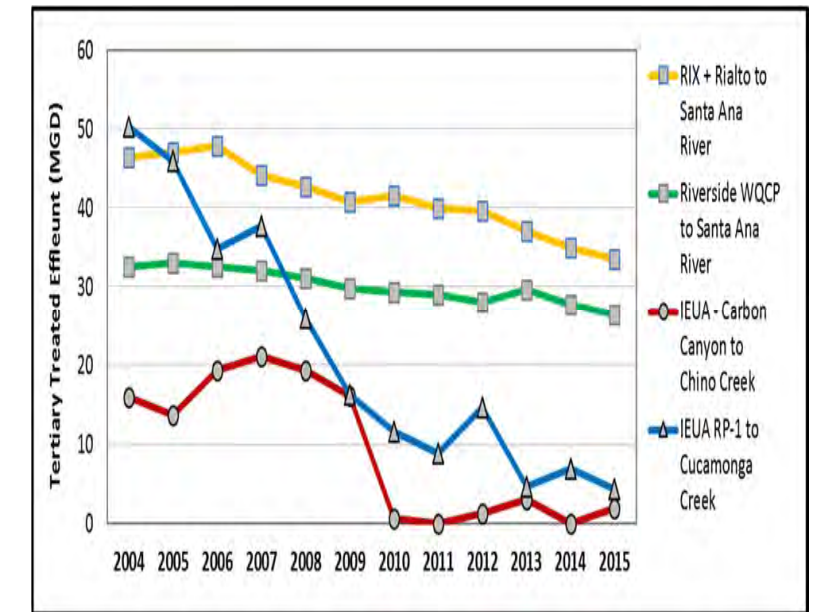
- Implements regulatory requirements of the Middle Santa Ana River Watershed bacteria indicator TMDLs (R8-2005-0001)
 - Investigate Long Term TMDL Implementation Structure, Cost Sharing Formula, and Funding Sources.
 - Implement, report and update a watershed-wide bacterial indicator water quality monitoring program.
 - Implement, report and update bacterial indicator urban source evaluation activities.



2026 Triennial Report

Purpose

- Triennial Report - interpret water quality data and other implementation activities conducted over the 2023-2025 period
- Synoptic Study - evaluate the effectiveness of the Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plans (CBRPs) ⁶ implemented by MS4 programs and to improve those programs where necessary.
 - The 2025 study builds upon methods and findings from past iterations conducted in 2007, 2012, and 2019.



2025 Synoptic Study

Objectives:

- Characterize flows and concentrations of E. coli and microbial source tracking (MST) markers for human sources.
- Update estimates of existing E. coli loads
 - Focus on controllable sources from within MS4 drainage areas.
 - Estimate the potential source contribution from releases of E. coli from channel bottom sediments defined as uncontrollable in the 2015 Basin Plan Amendment Revising Recreation Standards for Inland Freshwaters in the Santa Ana Region.



Preliminary List of Sampling Locations

Site Type	Site Name	Site Description
Tier 1	T1-ANZA	Anza Drain
	T1-BRSC	Boys Republic South Channel
	T1-BXSP	Box Springs Channel
	T1-CCCH	Carbon Canyon Creek Channel
	T1-CHINOCRK	Chino Creek upstream of San Antonio Channel
	T1-CUCAMONGA	Cucamonga Creek at Hellman
	T1-DAY	Day Creek
	T1-LLSC	Lake Los Serranos Channel
	T1-MCSD	Magnolia Center Storm Drain
	T1-SACH	San Antonio Channel
Mainstem	MISSION	SAR at Mission Blvd
	P3-SBC1	SAR Reach 4 above S. Riverside Ave Bridge

Site Type	Site Name	Site Description
Tier 2	T2-HWY60	Cucamonga Creek at Hwy 60
	T2-CHRIS	Chris Basin outflow to Cucamonga Creek
	T2-DEER	Deer Creek inflow to Chris Basin
	T2-CLCH	County Line Channel
	T2-EVLA	Eastvale Line A
	T2-EVLB	Eastvale Line B
POTW Treated Effluent	CCWRP	Carbon Canyon Water Recycling Plant effluent
	Rialto WWTP	Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent
	Riverside WQCP	Riverside Water Quality Control Plant effluent
	RIX	Rapid Infiltration and Extraction Facility effluent
	RP1	IEUA Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 1 effluent (at Chino Ave)
Watershed Compliance Site	WW-C7	Chino Creek at Central Ave
	WW-M6	Mill-Cucamonga Creek
	WW-S1	SAR at Pedley Avenue
	WW-S4	SAR at MWD Crossing

Scope of Work

Regulatory Facilitation Scope of Work for FYs 2025-26 & 2026-27:

- Task 1: Prepare a Study Plan
 - update microbial source tracking and source analysis sections of the approved Monitoring Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan.
- Task 2: Conduct water quality sampling
- Task 3: Prepare a 2026 Triennial TMDL Report
 - summarizes current compliance with the TMDL,
 - presents interpretative findings from the 2025 Synoptic Study, and
 - provides recommendations to the Task Force.
- Task 4: provide progress reports at Task Force meetings

Project Budget

Task	Cost	
Task 1 - Study Plan	\$	15,490
Draft Study Plan	\$	7,240
Reconnaissance & Training	\$	3,250
Final Study Plan	\$	5,000
Task 2 - Data Collection	\$	50,629
Field Team/Laboratory Management	\$	4,400
Data Collection Activities	\$	36,449
Data QA/QC	\$	3,940
Data Compilation	\$	5,840
Task 3 - 2026 Triennial TMDL Report	\$	78,750
Draft 2026 Triennial TMDL Report	\$	58,120
Final 2026 Triennial TMDL Report	\$	18,380
CEDEN Upload	\$	2,250
Task 4 - Task Force Meetings	\$	23,170
Meeting Prep/Participation	\$	23,170
Total: \$		168,039

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission authorize the General Manager to execute Task Order GEI384-03 with GEI Consultants for the amount not-to-exceed \$168,039 to conduct a Synoptic Water Quality Study and prepare the 2026 Triennial Report in support of the Middle Santa Ana River (MSAR) Bacteria TMDLs.

Questions?

Thank You

Rick Whetsel
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Office (951) 354-4220 | Direct (951) 354-4222
rwhetsel@sawpa.gov
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COMMISSION MEMORANDUM NO. 2025.43

DATE: June 3, 2025

TO: SAWPA Commission
PA 25 Agreement

SUBJECT: Phase 4 Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement and FYE 2026/FYE 2027 Network Coordinator Task Order Approval

PREPARED BY: Ian Achimore, Interim Planning Department Manager

RECOMMENDATION

Execute the following items related to the Roundtable of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions:

1. Phase 4 California IRWM Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement, and
2. Task Order WSC373-04 with Water Systems Consulting Inc. for \$100,600 to serve as the Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator for FYE 2026 and 2027.

DISCUSSION

The Network Coordinator, currently Water Systems Consulting Inc., is funded by the Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement. There have been three prior phases of this agreement as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Cost Share Agreement Phases

Agreement Name	Commission Approval	Term of Agreement
Phase 1	December 18, 2018	Partial FYE 2019, FYE 2020, FYE 2021
Phase 2	May 4, 2021	FYE 2022 and FYE 2023
Phase 3	June 20, 2023	FYE 2024 and FYE 2025
Phase 4	Recommended June 3, 2025	FYE 2026 and FYE 2027

There are nine parties to the agreement that wish to pool their individual agency funding to fund the Network Coordinator. The parties include other IRWM region lead agencies across the State. These nine partners have requested that SAWPA continue to serve as the contract lead for the Network Coordinator consultant and continue to use WSC, Inc. SAWPA has served in this role since December 2018. SAWPA will invoice partners for their annual amounts in July 2025 and July 2026.

The Consultant's scope of work includes:

Administration Tasks:

- Ensure accurate and up-to-date contact list.

- Support the development of quarterly meeting agendas and distribute through the membership list.
- Coordinate with the members of the steering committee.
- Prepare and distribute occasional web-based surveys to Roundtable members.

Programmatic Tasks:

- Finalize IRWM Transition Plan.
- Coordinate and finalize white papers to assist IRWM regions with expanding their IRWM networks.
- Draft comment letters to the State and legislature when needed. Most recently a letter related to the Department of Water Resource's Proposition 4 climate resiliency funding (\$100M total) was developed.

The benefits to SAWPA for continuing in this role are as follows:

- The Roundtable is a trusted partner to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Association of California Water Agencies,
- The Roundtable is involved in the State's new direction to grow the IRWM Program so it is focused on regional climate resilience at the watershed level,
- The Roundtable is engaged with DWR and the Office of Planning and Research,
- Supporting the Network Coordinator is a statewide role for SAWPA, and
- Roundtable partners thankful for SAWPA stepping up as contract lead.

BACKGROUND

Although SAWPA began developing integrated and regional (i.e., watershed-wide) plans in the 1990s, the State's IRWM program began in 2002 when the Regional Water Management Planning Act (SB 1672) was passed by the California Legislature. Since then, various bonds such as Proposition 1 have been approved by voters and have provided over \$1.5 billion in State funding to support and advance integrated, multi-benefit regional projects.

The Roundtable of IRWM Regions was formed in 2006 as an informal partnership between IRWM regions across the State and is currently composed of 48. The Roundtable focuses on two functions: 1) promoting the philosophy of IRWM, and 2) equipping those engaged in the work with the tools and partnerships necessary for success.

Currently, the Roundtable has an official charter agreement, and a steering committee composed of local IRWM staff leads from across the State. The Roundtable exists to build and leverage trusted relationships among organizations engaged in the IRWM Program to extend limited resources and amplify on-the-ground results. The complexity of the Roundtable's work encourages the need for a dedicated Network Coordinator who can coordinate the activity of the network.

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

- A strong reputation and sufficient capacity within SAWPA staff for strategic facilitation, planning, communication, leadership, and community engagement.
- SAWPA has a strong reputation as a watershed-wide, knowledgeable, neutral, and trusted facilitator, leader, and administrator of contracted activities.

RESOURCE IMPACTS

The staff-time needed for managing the \$100,600 Network Coordinator contract will be supported by the FYE 2026 and FYE 2027 budget for Watershed Management Fund No. 373. The recommendation does not include SAWPA contributing funding toward the Network Coordinator.

Attachments:

1. PowerPoint Presentation
2. Phase 4 Cost Share Agreement
3. WSC, Inc. Task Order WSC373-04

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SANTA ANA WATERSHED
PROJECT AUTHORITY

Phase 4 Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement and FYE 2026/FYE 2027 Network Coordinator Task Order Approval

(SAWPA Task Order WSC373-04)

Commission Meeting
Item No. 6.B

Ian Achimore, Interim Planning Department Manager
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

June 3, 2025

Recommendation

Execute the following items related to the Roundtable of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions:

1. Phase 4 California IRWM Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement, and
2. Task Order WSC373-04 with Water Systems Consulting Inc. for \$100,600 to serve as the Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator for Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027.

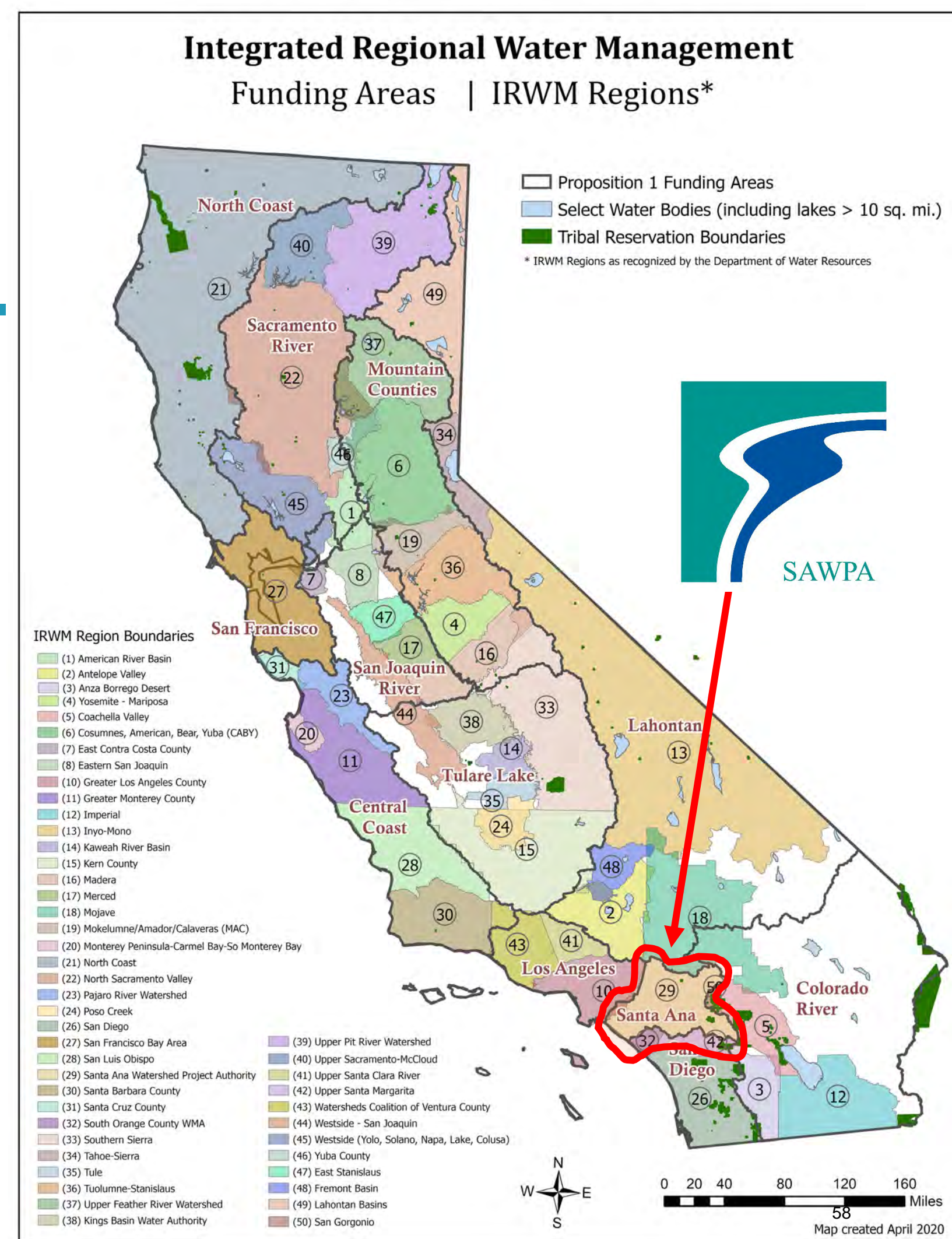
Overview

- Current Project:
 - Roundtable of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions Network Coordinator
 - Funding Partners: Nine IRWM Regions
 - Consultant: Water Systems Consulting, Inc. (WSC)
- Purpose: Review/approve
 - Cost Share Agreement with Nine Funding Partners
 - Network Coordinator Task Order with WSC
- Topics:
 - Scope of the agreement and task order
 - Funding contributions
 - Benefit to SAWPA



Roundtable of Regions

- Roundtable of IRWM Regions began in 2006
- Informal partnership, led by engaged staff and a steering committee
- Network extends limited resources and amplifies results of all participants
- SAWPA represents OWOW on the Roundtable



Cost Share Agreement Phase 4

- This Cost Share Agreement is similar to a SAWPA Task Force agreement.
- Parties to the agreement are administrators of their own IRWM regions (like SAWPA).

Agreement Name	Commission Approval	Term of Agreement
Phase 1	December 18, 2018	Partial FYE 2019, FYE 2020, and FYE 2021
Phase 2	May 4, 2021	FYE 2022 and FYE 2023
Phase 3	June 20, 2023	FYE 2024 and FYE 2025
Phase 4	Recommended June 3, 2025	FYE 2026 and FYE 2027

Cost Share Agreement

- The other IRWM regions have requested that SAWPA continue to serve as the contract lead for the network coordinator consultant and continue to use WSC.
 - SAWPA has served in this role since December 2018
 - SAWPA will invoice partners for their annual amounts in July 2025 and July 2026
- The agreement allow SAWPA to collect Roundtable funding and enter into various task orders with consultants referred to as the “network coordinator”
 - JM Consultants (2018 to 2022)
 - WSC, Inc. (2022-present)

Partner Funding

- The Phase 4 Agreement pools \$100,600 from the parties to fund WSC Inc. for FYE 2026 and FYE 2027
- SAWPA used April 2022 RFP to bring on WSC as the network coordinator
- SAWPA will invoice partners for their annual amounts in July 2025 and July 2026
- Nine funding parties want to continue to use WSC for this work.
 - WSC is completing the IRWM Transition Plan
 - A competitive bid process would not likely generate any competition for a two-year \$100,600 contract.

Major Terms of Cost Share Agreement

- SAWPA will monitor the consultant's budget on a monthly basis and if there are or will be insufficient funds to cover the consultant's projected costs, SAWPA will direct the consultant to cease performing services under the Contracts and will refer to the Roundtable for feedback.
- SAWPA's contribution is administration (not funding).
- The agreement shall be effective once executed by parties whose contributions total at least \$40,000.

Cost Share Agreement Funding Amounts

Signatory to Agreement	FYE 2026	FYE 2027	Totals
Greater Los Angeles County IRWM	\$10,300	\$10,300	\$20,600
Regional Water Management Foundation	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
San Diego County Water Authority	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$19,200
San Luis Obispo County IRWM*	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000
Santa Barbara County IRWM Region	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
Sonoma Water	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Upper Kings Basin IRWM	\$5,100	\$5,100	\$10,200
Westside Sacramento IRWM	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Yuba County IRWM	\$10,300	\$10,300	\$20,600
Total Funding from Nine Entities	\$50,300	\$50,300	\$100,600

*New funding party for Phase 4.

Consultant Scope of Work (Partial List)

- Administration Tasks

- Ensure accurate and up-to-date contact list
- Support the development of quarterly meeting agendas and distribute through the membership list
- Coordinate with the members of the steering committee
- Prepare and distribute occasional web-based surveys to Roundtable members

- Programmatic Tasks

- Finalize IRWM Transition Plan
- Coordinate and finalize white papers to assist IRWM regions with expanding their IRWM networks
- Draft comment letters to the State and legislature when needed
 - Most recently related to Department of Water Resource's Proposition 4 climate resiliency funding (\$100 M total)

WSC Experience

Example Projects	Client
Adaptive Integrated Water Resource Management Plan	Northern Cities Management Area Technical Group
Replenish Big Bear OWOW Grant Application	Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency
Drought Task Force Facilitation	Western Municipal WD
2020 Integrated Regional & Urban Water Management Plan	San Bernardino Valley MWD

Key WSC Team Member:



Benefits to SAWPA

- Roundtable is a trusted partner to DWR and Association of California Water Agencies
- Roundtable is involved in the State's new direction to grow the IRWM Program so it is focused on regional climate resilience at the watershed level
- Roundtable engaged with DWR and the Office of Planning and Research
- Supporting the Network Coordinator is a statewide role for SAWPA
- Roundtable partners thankful for SAWPA stepping up as contract lead



Recommendation

Execute the following items related to the Roundtable of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions:

1. Phase 4 California IRWM Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator Cost Sharing Agreement, and
2. Task Order WSC373-04 with Water Systems Consulting Inc. for \$100,600 to serve as the Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator for Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027.

Thank You

Ian Achimore
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Community Foundation Santa Cruz County
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Director of Water Resources
San Diego County Water Authority
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San Diego, CA 92123

Brendan Clark
Supervising Engineer
San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water
Conservation District
(On behalf of **San Luis Obispo County IRWM**)
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Coordinating Committee Chair
Westside Sacramento IRWM
34274 State Highway 16
Woodland, CA 95695

Kurtis Crawford
Finance Manager
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(On behalf of **Yuba County IRWM**)
1220 F Street
Marysville, CA 95901

CALIFORNIA IRWM ROUNDTABLE OF REGIONS NETWORK COORDINATOR PHASE 4 COST SHARING AGREEMENT

This Phase 4 Cost Sharing Letter Agreement ("Phase 4 Agreement") sets forth the understanding between the undersigned parties for engaging a consultant to serve as Network Coordinator for the California IRWM Roundtable of Regions ("Roundtable") from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027. All subsequent periods of time will be funded through new agreements or the amending of this Phase 4 Agreement. The initial agreement covered the period of April 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021. And Phase 2 of the agreement ("Phase 2 Agreement") covered the period of July 1, 2021 to June

30, 2023. The Phase 3 of the agreement (Phase 3 Agreement”) covered the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025. Under both the initial agreement and its subsequent phases, the signatories utilized their joint funding to contract with a third-party consultant who served as the Roundtable’s Network Coordinator.

Under the authority of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (“SAWPA”) Commission for the Phase 4 Agreement period, a consultant will continue to be hired to perform as Network Coordinator for the Roundtable. An updated request for proposals (RFP) or sole sourcing will be issued by SAWPA.

The Scope of Services which is the subject of this Phase 4 Agreement, is included as Exhibit “A” to this Phase 4 Agreement. The proposed contributions by the signatories to this Phase 4 Agreement is included as Exhibit “B”.

The undersigned parties (collectively referred to as “Parties” and individually as “Party”) hereby agree to share the cost of the support services pursuant to the provisions set forth below.

1. BACKGROUND:

The Roundtable, a voluntary network of IRWM practitioners, has existed since 2006 informally and effectively coordinated by two agency representatives within the network. The Roundtable exists to build and leverage trusted relationships among organizations engaged in the IRWM Program to extend our limited resources and amplify on-the-ground results. As a network, the Roundtable is many different organizations working in concert as equal partners pursuing over time the common goal of more successful implementation of the IRWM Program in California.

The complexity of the work underway within the Roundtable continues to require a dedicated professional who can coordinate the activity of the network. The work of the Roundtable will remain primarily the responsibility of the membership, and the Network Coordinator will assume the responsibility for coordinating internal and external communication, internal planning, and events convened or co-convened by the Roundtable.

The work of the Roundtable can be summarized into two primary efforts, 1) promoting the philosophy of integrated regional water management, and 2) equipping those engaged in the work with the tools and partnerships necessary for success.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES OF THE NETWORK COORDINATOR:

A management team from within Roundtable, made up of volunteer members and a staff member from SAWPA, will oversee the activity of the Network Coordinator, who is responsible for facilitating the ongoing work of the Roundtable. The selected professional will have coordination responsibilities within two areas. Below is a brief explanation of each, with more information available in Exhibit A.

Area 1 - Roundtable Administration includes maintaining an up-to-date membership and contact list that can be referenced by members and used as a distribution list for Roundtable communications. It also includes supporting regular conference calls between Roundtable members by scheduling, announcing the calls, as well as ensuring notes are taken and distributed.

Area 2 – Special Projects includes coordinating with the Department of Water Resources and other organizations on grant funding and policy documents, helping develop Roundtable summits, and organizing the execution of surveys and related reports.

3. COST-SHARING

(a) Cost of Services

SAWPA will enter into annual contracts with the selected consultant(s) for performance of the Scope of Services. The contract with SAWPA will begin on July 1, 2025 and end on June 30, 2027.

(b) Cost Sharing Between the Undersigned Parties

Under this Phase 4 Agreement, the Parties, who are not managing the Contract for a fiscal year, shall each be responsible for upfront payment for the funding commitment for that fiscal year as shown in Exhibit B. SAWPA will invoice each of the Parties in two invoices as follows: 1) FYE 2026 and 2) FYE 2027. The following payment conditions shall apply:

- (i) Parties will pay their funding share within 30 calendar days upon date of invoice.
- (ii) SAWPA shall be responsible for payments to the consultant(s) for amounts due and owing under the Contracts.

(c) Total cost of the Consultant

SAWPA will not execute a contract in-excess of the proposed contributions provided by the signatories of this Phase 4 Agreement or \$75,000 per fiscal year, whichever is less. SAWPA will monitor the consultant's budget on a monthly basis and if there are or will be insufficient funds to cover the consultant's projected costs, SAWPA will direct the consultant to cease performing services under the Contracts and will refer to the Roundtable for feedback.

(d) Additional Funding Available in Excess of Proposed Contributions

If the sum of Party funding commitments is in excess of the amount of either of the Contracts, a fund contingency will be established for any other additional consultant services agreed to by Roundtable. If the fund contingency escalates to more than 25% of amount of the either of the Contracts, the Parties can choose to have their

proportionate share offset during the next invoicing period, if any, or receive a refund at the end of the Contracts.

(e) Administrative Costs under this Phase 4 Agreement

During this Phase 4 Agreement, SAWPA's contribution will include the administrative costs associated with the management of the consultant(s) and this fund including all financial and administrative costs of budgeting, invoicing, and consultant payment. No contributed funds by other Parties will be used to pay for SAWPA administrative costs.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME

This Phase 4 Agreement shall be effective once executed by Parties whose commitments total at least \$40,000. The Phase 4 Agreement will expire on June 30, 2027.

5. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) Amendment

This Phase 4 Agreement can be amended only in writing mutually agreed to and signed by all Parties signatory to this Phase 4 Agreement. During the term of the Phase 4 Agreement, additional signatories joining the Phase 4 Agreement is not an amendment of the Phase 4 Agreement.

(b) Indemnification

- a. Parties to the agreement – Each Party (each an “Indemnifying Party”) hereby agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold free and harmless the other Parties from and against any and all liability, expense, including defense costs and legal fees, and claims for damages of any nature whatsoever, arising from or connected that Indemnifying Party's activities or omissions under this Phase 4 Agreement.
- b. Indemnification Obligation for the Selected Consultant – SAWPA and the New Contracting Entity shall include an indemnity provision in the consultant agreement with language the same or substantially similar to the following: “Consultant agrees to accept all responsibility for loss or damage to any person or entity, including the Parties to the Phase 4 Agreement, and to indemnify, hold harmless, and release all Parties to the Phase 4 Agreement, and their officers, agents, and employees, from and against any actions, claims, damages, liabilities, disabilities, or expenses, that may be asserted by any person or entity, including Consultant, that arise out of, pertain to, or relate to Consultant's or its agents', employees', contractors', subcontractors', or invitees' performance or obligations under this Agreement. Consultant agrees to provide a complete defense for any claim or action brought against the Phase 4 Agreement Parties based upon a claim relating to Consultant's or its agents', employees', contractors', subcontractors', or invitees' performance or obligations under this Agreement. Consultant's obligations under this Paragraph apply whether or not there is concurrent or contributory negligence on the part of the Phase 4 Agreement Parties, but, to the extent required by

law, excluding liability due to conduct of the Phase 4 Agreement Parties. The Phase 4 Agreement Parties shall have the right to select their legal counsel at Consultant's expense, subject to Consultant's approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. This indemnification obligation is not limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages or compensation payable to or for Consultant or its agents under workers' compensation acts, disability benefits acts, or other employee benefit acts. This indemnity provision survives the Agreement."

(c) Notices

Correspondence to be given to any Party may be sent by first-class mail, addressed and delivered as set forth below in the signature blocks for each Party, or by email. Email communication will be considered to be written communication for all purposes of this Phase 4 Agreement.

(d) Counterparts

This Phase 4 Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall constitute one and the same instrument. Two (2) duplicate originals of this Phase 4 Agreement shall be executed each of which shall be deemed to be an original.

(e) Representation of Authority

Each Party represents to the other that it has the authority to enter into this Phase 4 Agreement and that the individual signing this Phase 4 Agreement on behalf of the Party has the authority to execute this Phase 4 Agreement and to bind the Party to the terms and conditions of this Phase 4 Agreement

BY SIGNING BELOW, THE PARTIES AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PHASE 4 AGREEMENT

GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY IRWM

BY: _____
Mark Pestrella, Director of Los Angeles County Public Works

DATED: _____

900 South Fremont Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91803

LEGAL COUNSEL:

BY: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

DATED: _____

900 South Fremont Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91803

**REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SANTA CRUZ COUNTY**

BY: _____
Tim Carson, Program Director

DATED: _____

7807 Soquel Drive
Aptos, CA 95003

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

BY: _____

DATED: _____

4677 Overland Ave.
San Diego, CA 92123

Approved as to form:

By: _____

Michael J. McDonnell, Assistant General Counsel

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY IRWM

BY: _____
John Diodati, Public Works Director

DATED: _____

San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Room 206
County Government Center
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

By: _____
Jeffrey J. Mosher, General Manager

Dated: _____

11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503-4979

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY IRMW REGION

BY: _____
Matthew Young, Water Agency Manager

DATED: _____

130 E. Victoria ST. #200
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Reviewed as to funds:

By: _____

Sonoma County Water Agency
Division Manager - Administrative Services

Approved as to form:

By: _____

Adam Brand, Assistant County Counsel

Sonoma County Water Agency

By: _____

Grant Davis
General Manager

404 Aviation Boulevard
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

UPPER KINGS BASIN IRWM

BY: _____
Mary Fast, Board Chair
Kings Basin Water Authority

DATED: _____

4886 E. Jensen Ave.
Fresno, CA 93725

WESTSIDE SACRAMENTO IRWM

BY: _____
Sarah Leicht, Westside Sacramento IRWM Coordinating Committee Chair
Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency

DATED: _____

34274 State Highway 16
Woodland, CA 95695

YUBA COUNTY IRWM/RWMG

BY: _____
Kurtis Crawford, Yuba Water Agency

DATED: _____

1220 F Street
Marysville, CA 95603

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**SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY
TASK ORDER NO. WSC373-04**

CONSULTANT: Water Systems Consulting, Inc.
805 Aerovista Place, Suite 201
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

VENDOR NO.: 2219

COST: **\$100,600.00**

PAYMENT: Upon Receipt of Proper Invoice

REQUESTED BY: Ian Achimore, Interim Planning Manager

June 3, 2025

FINANCE: _____
Karen Williams, Deputy GM/CFO Date

FINANCING SOURCE: Acct. Coding 373PA18-60121-01
Acct. Description OWOW Consulting

COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED FOR THIS TASK ORDER: YES (X) NO ()
Authorization: June 3, 2025; CM #2025.43

This Task Order is issued upon approval and acceptance by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and Water Systems Consulting, Inc. (Consultant) pursuant to the California IRWM Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator Phase 4 Cost Sharing Agreement from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027.

I. PROJECT NAME OR DESCRIPTION

FYE 2026 and 2027 Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator

II. SCOPE OF WORK / TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

Consultant shall provide all labor, materials, and equipment for the FYE 2026 and 2027 Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator as described in the attached scope of work.

III. PERFORMANCE TIME FRAME

Consultant shall begin work July 1 2025, and shall complete performance of such services by **June 30, 2027.**

IV. SAWPA LIAISON

Ian Achimore shall serve as liaison between SAWPA and Consultant.

V. COMPENSATION

For all services rendered by Consultant pursuant to this Task Order, Consultant shall receive a total not-to-exceed sum of **\$100,600.00**. Payment for such services shall be made monthly upon receipt of timely and proper invoices from Consultant, as required by the above-mentioned Agreement. Each such invoice shall be provided to SAWPA by Consultant within 15 days after the end of the month in which the services were performed.

VI. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS PRECEDENCE

In the event of a conflict in terms between and among the contract documents herein, the document item highest in precedence shall control. The precedence shall be:

- a. The Cost Sharing Agreement by Independent Consultant/Contractor.
- b. The Task Order or Orders issued pursuant to the Agreement, in numerical order.
- c. Exhibits attached to each Task Order, which may describe, among other things, the Scope of Work and compensation therefore.
- d. Specifications incorporated by reference.
- e. Drawings incorporated by reference.

In witness whereof, the parties have executed this Task Order on the date indicated below.

SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

Jeffrey J. Mosher, General Manager Date

WATER SYSTEMS CONSULTING, INC.

(Signature) _____ Date _____

Print/Type Name and Title

EXHIBIT A – SCOPE OF WORK

Task	Objectives(s)	Task Description
AREA 1: Roundtable Administration		
Task 1 Membership Services		
	Ensure accurate and up-to-date contact list that can be used as reference by members and for distribution	Update and maintain the Roundtable membership list.
		Maintain a web-based file sharing platform for members of the Steering Committee, or Ad Hoc Workgroups, to jointly edit files. A maximum of six meetings per year will be held of the full Roundtable of Regions, and a maximum amount of six Roundtable Steering Committee meetings will be held per year. Maintain the Roundtable’s website, provide updates in a timely manner, and monitor emails from stakeholders regarding website. Pass along questions to the correct Roundtable member.
Task 2 Virtual Meetings/Conference Calls/Summit Hosting		
	Keep the IRWM community engaged and informed	Schedule conference calls and virtual meetings of the Steering Committee and full membership – set up and monitor Doodle Polls. Manage the web hosting and/or conference call platform as needed.
	Give IRWM representatives information and questions to take back to their Regional Water Management Group	Support the development of agendas, although the Co-Chairs and Steering Committee will take the lead in this responsibility. Distribute agendas through the membership list.
	Collaboration and joint problem-solving	Send out meeting invites and ‘hold the dates’. Ensure meetings are recorded and post them to the website. Prepare and distribute occasional web-based surveys to Roundtable members.*
	Summit Administration (For FYE 2026 or FYE 2027)*	Work with Steering Committee, or Ad Hoc workgroups, to schedule one summits as needed. Determine potential co-sponsors. Collect RSVPs and respond to registration-related questions. Distribute invite with summit agenda.
AREA 2: Special Projects		
Task 3 External Engagement		
	Coordinate with DWR on the IRWM grant program and Water Resilience Program	Collect and compile comments and prepare letters/input documents.

Network Coordinator for the California IRWM Roundtable of Regions

	Coordinate with DWR regarding IRWM policy (Strategic Plan, California Water Plan, California Water Resilience Portfolio, etc.)	Prepare letters and disseminate information, when requested.*
	Coordinate with other organizations regarding climate and water resilience	Work with Co-Chairs and Steering Committee to coordinate engagement with external organizations/strategic partners including disseminating information to groups or agencies such as Water Bond Coalition, ACWA, CASQA, GRA, OPR, Water Foundation, Floodplain Management Association, Water Bond Coalition, Strategic Growth Council etc. Periodically participate in meetings with these groups, or support Steering Committee member participation, if needed.
	Promote IRWM principles and funding	Provide information to other groups and participate in other groups' meetings, as requested or useful Co-sponsor Maven's Notebook webinars or similar events to promote IRWM.*
		Participate in crafting communications and legislation and bond measures.
	Position papers	Coordinate the preparation and distribution of brief white papers as needed. Possible topics include: a) Climate resilience, b) environmental justice, c) outcomes of the disadvantaged community and tribal involvement program, and, d) the connectivity between IRWM and the groundwater sustainability plan program. Note that the Coordinator will not do the actual advocacy to State leaders. Development of one-to-two-page report (using a fact sheet style) on activities that the Roundtable has accomplished each year.*
Task 4 Funding Research and Strategic Promotion		
	Coordinate communication of the Roundtable "Story of IRWM" to build support	Coordinate RoR feedback/edits to develop talking points for Roundtable members. Coordinate RoR feedback/edits to develop testimonials and one-page success stories, "Impact of IRWM" in very short but carefully worded prose or bullets, 3x5 Elevator Speeches, handouts, graphic representations of successes/processes, IRWM Fact Sheets.
		Coordinate feedback on long-term strategies such as the IRWM Program's relation to emerging discussions on climate resilience collaboratives as described in legislation such as AB 1640 (Ward, D) and SB 852 (Dodd, D).

		<p>Advise on talking points to the California Legislature, Department of Water Resources, Office of Planning and Research, etc.</p> <p>Assist with the achieving annual Roundtable priorities, which may included understanding grant opportunities.</p> <p>Research foundation grants that can fund regional and state-wide planning efforts that do not necessarily include an implementation component.</p>
Task 5 Summit Leadership (could occur in FYE 2026 or FYE 2027)*		
	Opportunities for information sharing and providing information with knowledgeable speakers and panelists.	Identify ad hoc subcommittee (3 – 5 people) to serve as Summit Planning Team and coordinate summit implementation with them.
	Opportunities for ‘in person’ networking	Help develop focus of summit (via email and virtual or phone conversations with subcommittee).
	Develop and support relationship-building and deeper engagement and commitment	Support development of list of invitees (e.g., State agency staff, other organizations).
	Enable integration of new representatives	Work with planning team to develop agenda.
	Foster and encourage innovative ideas and approaches	Delegate logistics (including administrative duties described in “Area 1” of this scope of work).
		Attend summit.

Task items with an “” represent that they may not occur unless there is sufficient funding during the course of the task order (contract) period.

Exhibit B: Budget

FYSE 2026 and 2026 Network Coordinator for the California IRWM Roundtable of Regions

Area 1: Roundtable Administration		
	Approximate Hours	Funding
Administration Labor Costs (Provided by staff lead for Area 1)		
Task 1 Membership Services	110	\$30,180.00
Task 2 Virtual Meetings/Conference Calls/Summit Hosting	110	\$30,180.00
Total Costs (Area 1)	219	\$60,360.00

Area 2: Special Projects (Billable rates will be similar to Area 1)		
	Approximate Hours	Funding
Total Costs (Area 2)	146	\$40,240.00

Grand Total (Area 1 + Area 2)	366	\$100,600.00
--------------------------------------	------------	---------------------

WSC 2025 Classification and Rates	
<u>Engineers / Project Managers / Planners / Hydrogeologists / Construction Managers</u>	<u>Hourly Rate*</u>
Engineering Intern	\$ 148.00
Assistant	\$ 170.00
Staff I	\$ 180.00
Staff II	\$ 191.00
Staff III	\$ 202.00
Associate I	\$ 218.00
Associate II	\$ 230.00
Associate III	\$ 240.00
Senior I	\$ 267.00
Senior II	\$ 279.00
Senior III	\$ 301.00
Principal I	\$ 322.00

Assumptions and Budget Details:

This Grand Total is a not to exceed amount; funding may be moved between Area 1 and Area 2 with approval by SAWPA and WSC.

For Area 2, the budget will be treated as an on-call with the cap shown under "Total Costs (Area 2)". To utilize hours, SAWPA and the Roundtable of Regions Steering Committee will make a request to WSC whose team will then provide a short scope, fee, and timeline for approval.

There is a 10% mark-up on direct expenses; 15% mark up for sub-contracted services.

Standard mileage rate is the current Federal Mileage Reimbursement Rate.

Principal II	\$ 366.00
Principal III	\$ 415.00
<u>Outreach and Communications</u>	
	<u>Hourly Rate*</u>
Communications Support I	\$ 140.00
Communications Support II	\$ 160.00
Communications Support III	\$ 180.00
Communication Strategist I	\$ 210.00
Communication Strategist II	\$ 235.00
Communication Strategist III	\$ 255.00
Senior Communication Strategist I	\$ 275.00
Senior Communication Strategist II	\$ 295.00
Senior Communication Strategist III	\$ 315.00
<u>Administrative Services</u>	
	<u>Hourly Rate*</u>
Administration/Clerical I	\$ 153.00
Administration/Clerical II	\$ 164.00
Administration/Clerical III	\$ 186.00

*Rates are subject to revision as of January 1 of each year.

List of Agencies Reimbursing SAWPA for Network Coordinator

Fiscal Years Ending 2026 and 2027

Affiliated Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region Name	Agency Name
Greater Los Angeles County IRWM	Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Regional Water Management Foundation	Community Foundation Santa Cruz County
San Diego IRWM	San Diego County Water Authority
San Luis Obispo County IRWM	San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Santa Barbara County IRWM Region	Santa Barbara County Water Agency
North Coast Resource Partnership	Sonoma Water
Upper Kings Basin IRWM	Kings Basin Water Authority
Westside Sacramento IRWM	Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Yuba County IRWM	Yuba Water Agency

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM NO. 2025.44

DATE: June 3, 2025

TO: SAWPA Commission

SUBJECT: Santa Ana River Watershed Cloud Seeding Pilot Program

PREPARED BY: Jeff Mosher, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission consider terminating the Cloud Seeding Pilot Program based on the inability to cloud seed for a second year and the inconclusive results of the first year of cloud seeding (2023-2024).

BACKGROUND

On July 19, 2022, the SAWPA Commission authorized an award of contract with North American Weather Consultants, Inc. (NAWC) to conduct the Santa Ana River Watershed Cloud Seeding Pilot Program operations. Subsequently, the SAWPA Commission authorized an award to the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the Desert Research Institute (DRI) for the independent validation of the Santa Ana River Watershed Cloud Seeding Pilot Project.

The Pilot Program is a four-year project spanning the four winter seasons starting in 2023 and running between November 15 and April 15 for each season. The operations are based on past work described in the SAWPA feasibility study published in 2020, updated seeding site analysis, and reflects requirements from CEQA, and comments from SAWPA member agency staff and other stakeholders. The focus of the Pilot Program will be on seeding the four higher elevation target areas identified in the feasibility study surrounding the watershed with an emphasis on increasing precipitation in the form of snow.

SAWPA is coordinating the Pilot Program planning with Desert Research Institute (DRI) on the validation competent of the project. DRI is conducting an independent review of the cloud seeding pilot operations and validating the increases in precipitation and stream flows.

DISCUSSION

As part of the suspension criteria for the Pilot Program, the flood control districts in the region are consulted on any concerns with cloud seeding the four target areas based on the potential for flooding impacts and debris flow impacts from burn scars. The input from the flood control districts is summarized below:

Flood Control District	Feedback	SAWPA Response
LA FCD	The Bridge Fire, located adjacent to the Northwest target area was extinguished in November 2024. Cloud seeding should not occur on a burned watershed area until it has fully recovered, which is a minimum of 5 years. We advise against seeding in that region.	Noted.
Orange County	Our O&M team has requested to pause cloud seeding operations in the sub-watershed of the burn scar area in the Santa Ana Mountains, due to implementation of Year 1 of the associated post-fire debris management plan.	We agree. Southwest Target Area should not be included.
Riverside County FCD	As described in SAWPA's suspension criteria memo, it could take several years for vegetation to become reestablished. Reduce the Southwest cloud-seeding target areas by removing the Macy and Airport fire burn scar areas (Santa Ana Mountains) for this upcoming winter season.	We agree. Southwest Target Area should not be included.
San Bernardino FCD	<p>Given the recent fires and the associated risk of debris flow after storms, FCD recommends closely monitoring the affected sections based on forecasted storm activity.</p> <p>Before proceeding with scheduling cloud seeding events, we would like to ensure that no major storm effects or debris hazards could increase existing risks, especially in areas impacted by burn scars.</p> <p>Ahead of a storm, SB Flood gets daily notices from National Weather Service regarding burn scars. They have threshold values (i.e., 0.5 inches/60 minutes), that if it rains over a certain amount in an amount of time, debris flows happen from the burn scar.</p> <p>Coordinate with SB Flood leading up to the possible seeded storm. If the NWS daily reports show the storm will be over the threshold, they would not want SAWPA to seed the burn scar areas for the Bridge and Line fires (NE and NW target Areas).</p>	<p>This approach is reasonable.</p> <p>The threshold constraint precludes us from cloud seeding in 2025-2026.</p>

Preliminary results are being presented. Validation tasks include the following:

- Task 2: Snow Chemistry
- Task 4: Snow Gauge Target/Control Statistical Analysis
- Task 5: Stream Flow Analysis

A summary of the results is as follows:

Task 2: Snow Chemistry

For the four target areas, the results of the sampling of silver in the seeding snow was below or the same as silver found in the control (no seeding) sampling. As summarized below, the results were negative or inconsistent.

Target Area	Control - No Seeding (Ag ppt)	Seeded Storms (Ag ppt)	Comment
Northwest	8.0	1.7	Lower than control levels
Northeast (SB)	9.1	4.3 <1 <1 9.5	Mostly lower than control levels
Southeast	--	4.5 <1	Low Levels
Southwest	1.8	--	NA

Task 4: Snow Gauge Target/Control Statistical Analysis

For the Northeast and Southeast Target Areas, the target/control approach for snow gauges showed low and inconsistent results. For the Northwest and Southwest, no benefit was seen. The results are summarized below.

Snow Gauge Target and Control Results: Target Area	Year 1 (2023-2024)
Northeast (San Bernardino Mts)	Low/Inconsistent
Southeast (San Jacinto Mts)	Low/Inconsistent
Northwest (San Gabriel Mts)	No benefit
Southwest (San Ana Mts)	No benefit

Task 5: Stream Gauge Target/Control Statistical Analysis

For the Northeast Target Area, the target/control approach for a stream gauge showed no benefit.

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 Pilot Project is funding in part through the Department of Water Resources (DWR) grant under the Proposition 1 Round 2 funding program. In addition, local funding has been secured. Project operations and validation study costs were budgeted and reflected in the FYE 23-24 and FYE 24-25.

Attachments:

1. PowerPoint Presentation



Santa Ana River Watershed Cloud Seeding Pilot Program

Commission Meeting
Agenda Item 6.C

Jeff Mosher
General Manager

June 3, 2025

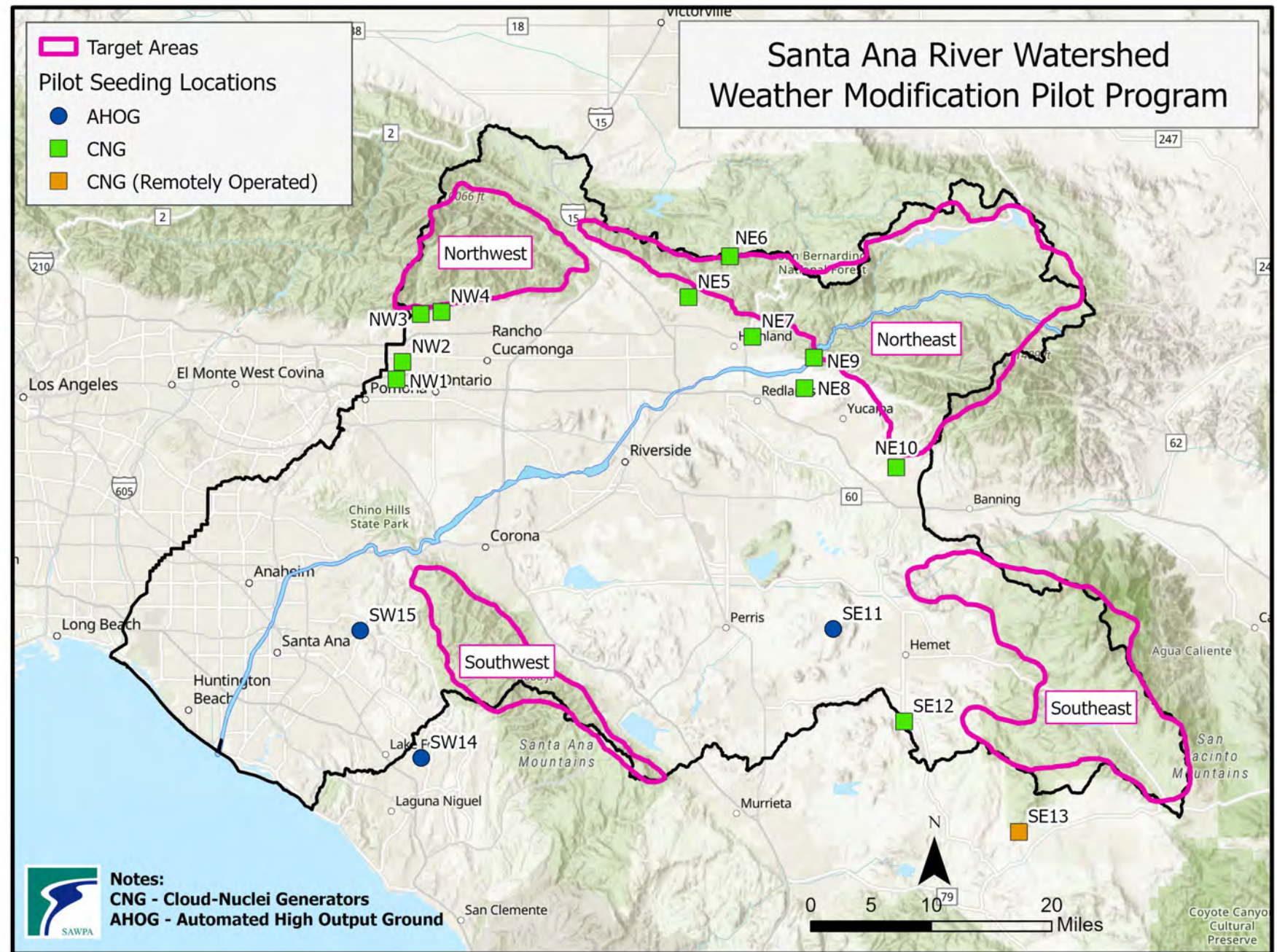
Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission consider terminating the Cloud Seeding Pilot Program based on the inability to cloud seed for a second year and the inconclusive results of the first year of cloud seeding (2023-2024).

Pilot Program Overview

Pilot Program:

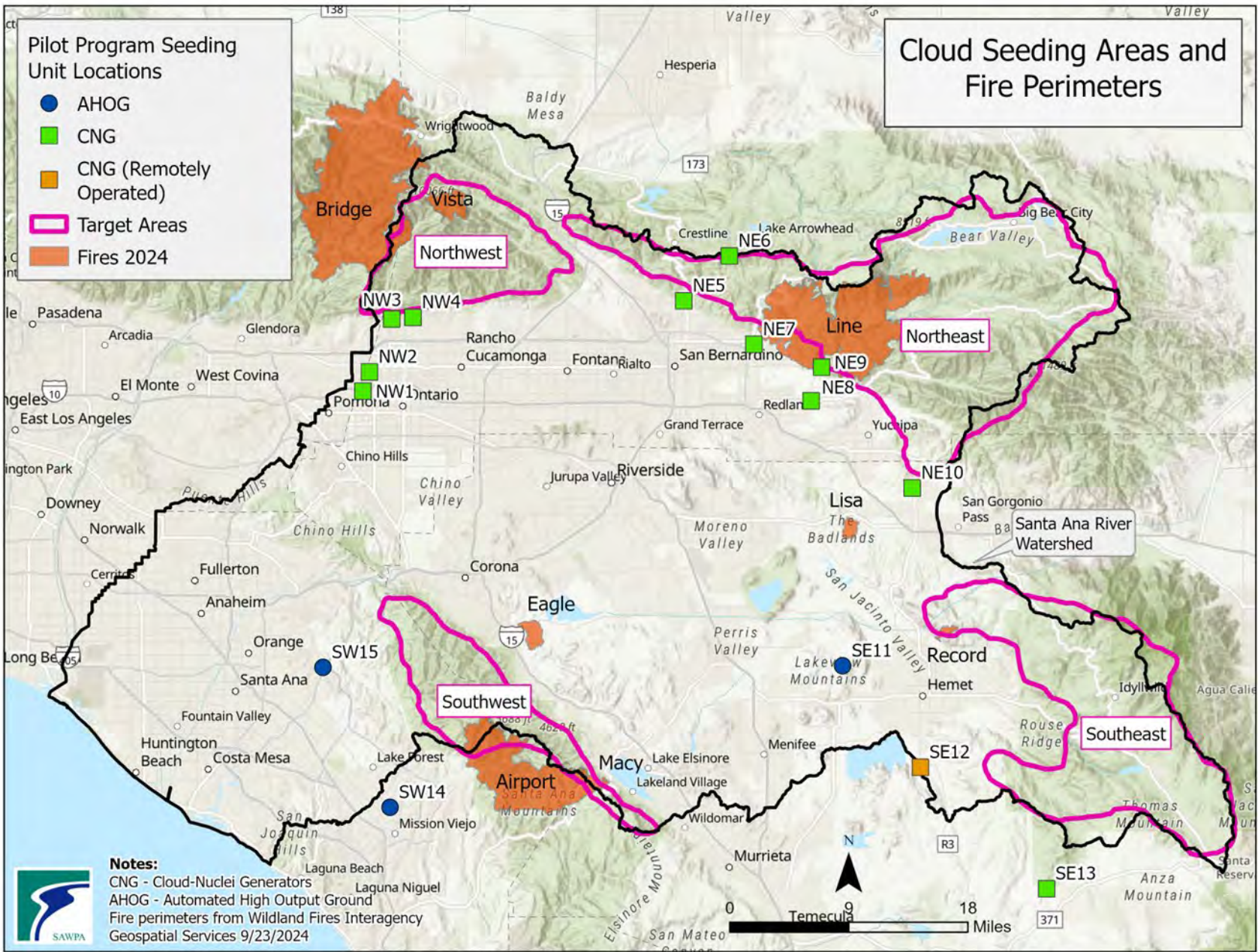
- 4-year study
- 4 Target Areas (NW, NE, SW, SE)
- Use of 15 ground-seeding units
- Use of Validation Study to assess increases in precipitation



Burn Scars: Feedback from Flood Control Districts

Burn Scars and Potential for Debris Flows

- Burn scars exist due to fires during the summer of 2024
- Suspension criteria considers the potential for debris flows from burn scars



P:\Projects\RachelGray\WeatherModFires\CloudSeedingFires.aprx LoFireAll SW-3341

Year 2 Status: Burn Scars / Debris Flows: Input from Flood Control Districts

Flood Control District	Feedback	Response
LA FCD	The Bridge Fire, located adjacent to the Northwest target area was extinguished November 2024. Cloud seeding should not occur on a burned watershed area until it has fully recovered, which is a minimum of 5 years. We advise against seeding in that region.	Noted.
Orange County	Our O&M team has requested to pause cloud seeding operations in the sub-watershed of the burn scar area in the Santa Ana Mountains, due to implementation of Year 1 of the associated post-fire debris management plan.	We agree. Southwest Target Area should not be included.
Riverside County FCD	As described in SAWPA's suspension criteria memo, it could take several years for vegetation to become reestablished. Reduce the Southwest cloudseeding target areas by removing the Macy and Airport fire burn scar areas (Santa Ana Mountains) for this upcoming winter season.	We agree. Southwest Target Area should not be included.

Year 2 Status: Burn Scars / Debris Flows: Input from Flood Control Districts

FCD	Feedback	Response
San Bernardino FCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Given the recent fires and the associated risk of debris flow after storms, FCD recommends closely monitoring the affected sections based on forecasted storm activity.Before proceeding with scheduling cloud seeding events, we would like to ensure that no major storm effects or debris hazards could increase existing risks, especially in areas impacted by burn scars.Ahead of a storm, SB Flood gets daily notices from National Weather Service regarding burn scars. They have threshold values (i.e., 0.5 inches/60 minutes), that if it rains over a certain amount in an amount of time, debris flows happen from the burn scar.Coordinate with SB Flood leading up to the possible seeded storm. If the NWS daily reports show the storm will be over the threshold, they would not want SAWPA to seed the burn scar areas for the Bridge and Line fires (NE and NW target Areas).	<p>This approach is reasonable.</p> <p>The threshold constraint precludes us from cloud seeding in 2025-2026.</p>

Revised Draft: Validation Report (May 2025)

Summary of 2023-2024 Cloud Seeding Operations

(12 storms seeded out of 20 total storms)

Units	Storm Periods	Nov 17-18	Dec 21-22	Dec 29-30	Jan 3	Jan 20-21	Jan 21-22	Feb 1	Feb 20-21	Mar 6-7	Mar 23-24	Mar 30-31	Apr 5	Apr 13-14
CNGs (Hours of Generator Runtime)	NW1			23	6.5			10	16.75	16	22	30	12.75	7
	NW2			23	7			9	16.25		20.25		9.25	7
	NW3	11.25	22	21	5.75			23.5	19.5	14	22.5	26.75	8.5	24.75
	NW4	13.25	20.75	22				23	19.75	14	22.5	27.75	8.5	25
	NE5		26.5	21.25	8.75	17.25	24.5			17	22.75	31.25	12.25	25.5
	NE6		21.5	9	12.25	17	14.25	11.75	18.25	14	18	31.25	14	20.25
	NE7		22.75	21	9	17			23	17.75	22.75	31.25	12.5	25.5
	NE8		22.25	18.75	9.75	18.5	23.25	7.75		15	20.5		13	25
	NE9		23	18.75	9.5	18.25	23.25	8	20.5		20.25	32.25	12.75	25.5
	NE10		24.25	21.25	9.25	17.75	24.75	23.5	24.25	18.75	22.5	31.25	12.25	25.25
	SE12		8.75	5.5	9.75			14		17	4.75	33	9	
	SE13		19	6.5	8	15.25	24.5	12.25		12.75	18.25	32.75	12.75	
AHOGS (Flares)	SE11		5		2		4	1				1	1	
	SW14		1	3		1	3			1		2	2	
	SW15									2			1	2

Cloud Seeding Validation

- Validate the “additional precipitation” from cloud seeding
- Independent review by Desert Research Institute
- Task 2: **Snow chemistry**
- Task 4: Target and Control – **precipitation gauges**
- Task 5: Target and Control – **stream gauge**

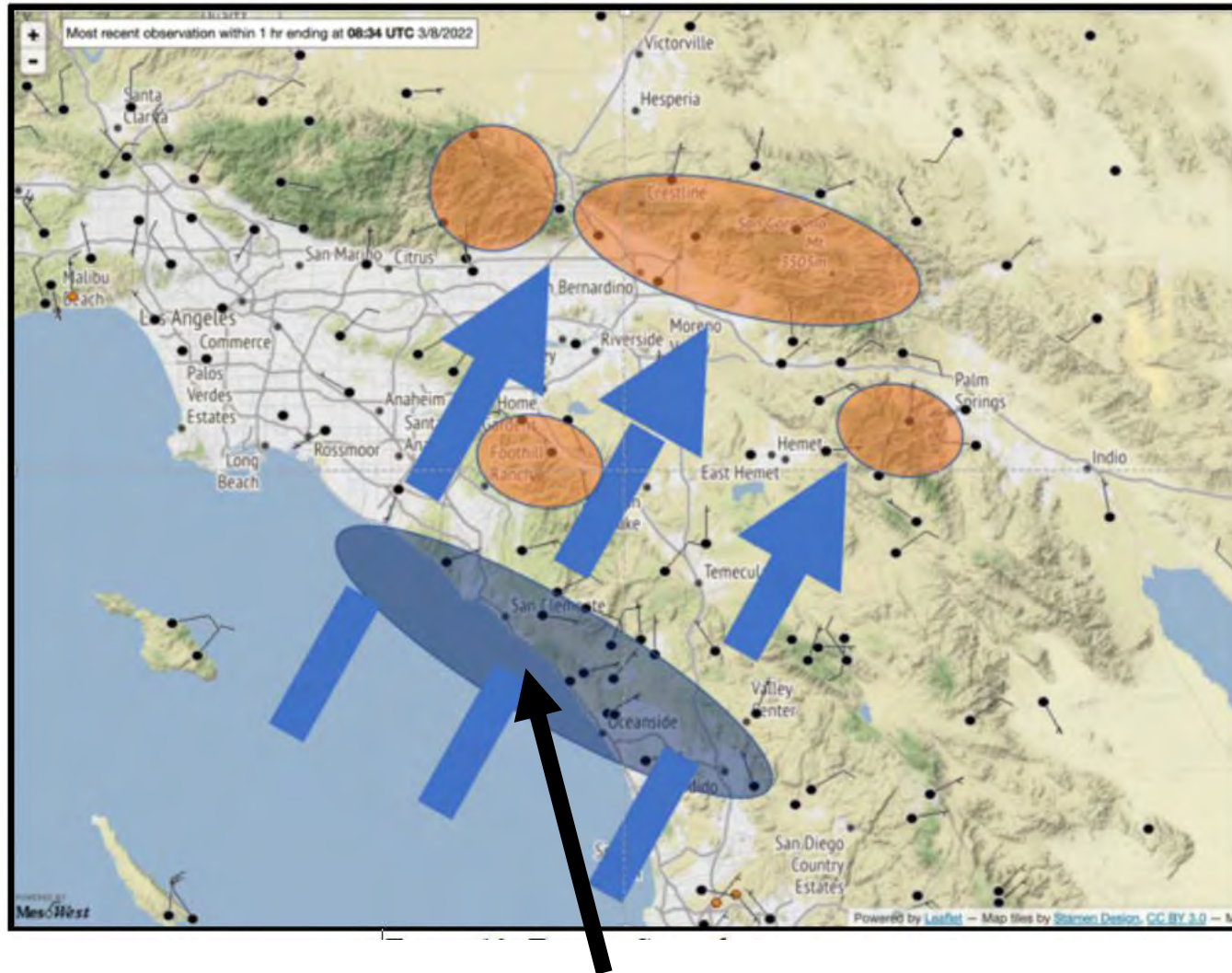
Task 2: Snow Chemistry Summary

Preliminary Results

Expected levels: 15-20+ ppt

Target Area	Control - No Seeding (Ag ppt)	Seeded Storms (Ag ppt)	Comment
Northwest	8.0	1.7	Lower than control levels
Northeast (SB)	9.1	4.3	Mostly lower than control levels
		<1	
		<1	
		9.5	
Southeast	--	4.5	Low Levels
		<1	
Southwest	1.8	--	NA

Task 4: Target and Control Analysis



Control Area

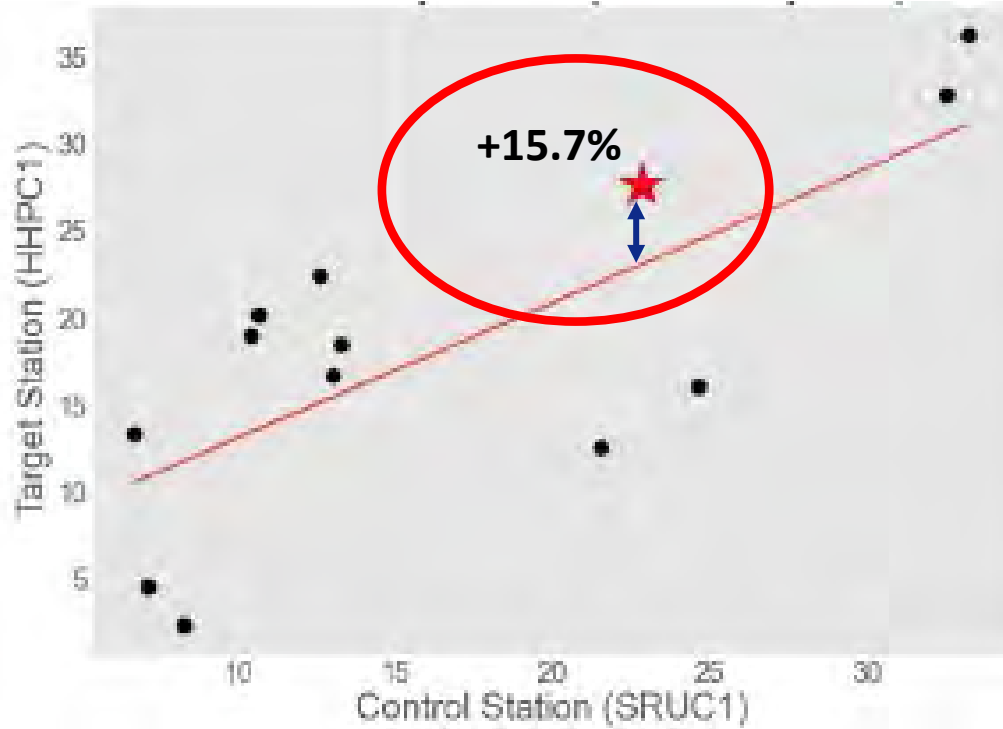
Northeast Target Area

Target vs. Control

Individual Snow Gauges (Year 1 – All Storms)

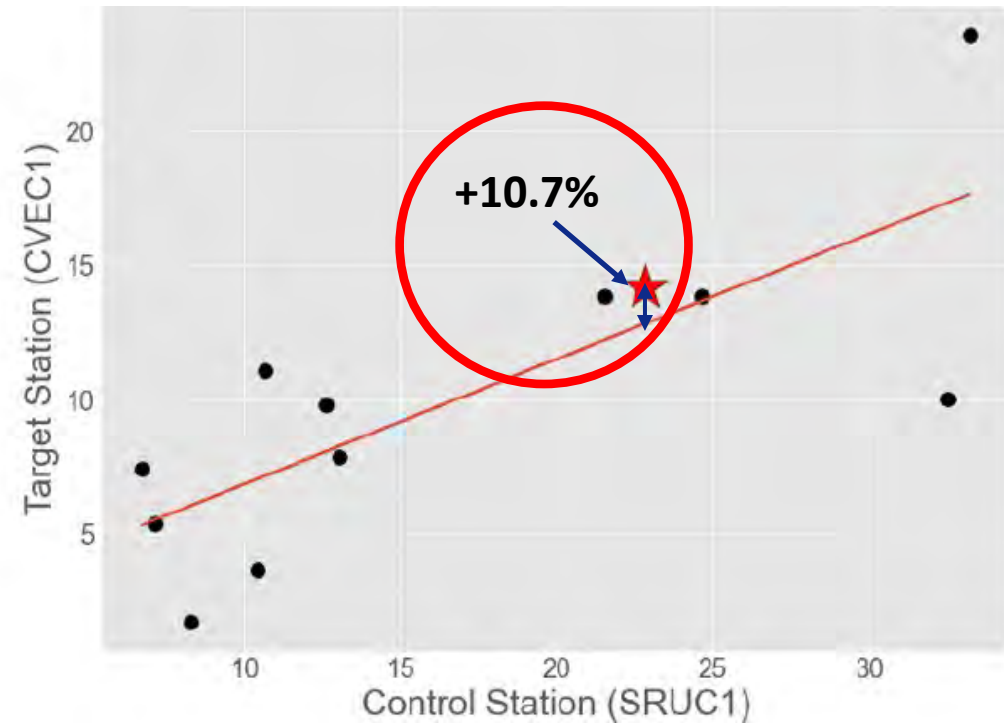
★ Preliminary Results

Heaps Peak Gauge



Expected Precip: **23.5 in**
Observed Precip: **27.2 in**
+15.7%

Converse Gauge



Expected Precip: **13.0 in**
Observed Precip: **14.4 in**
+10.7%

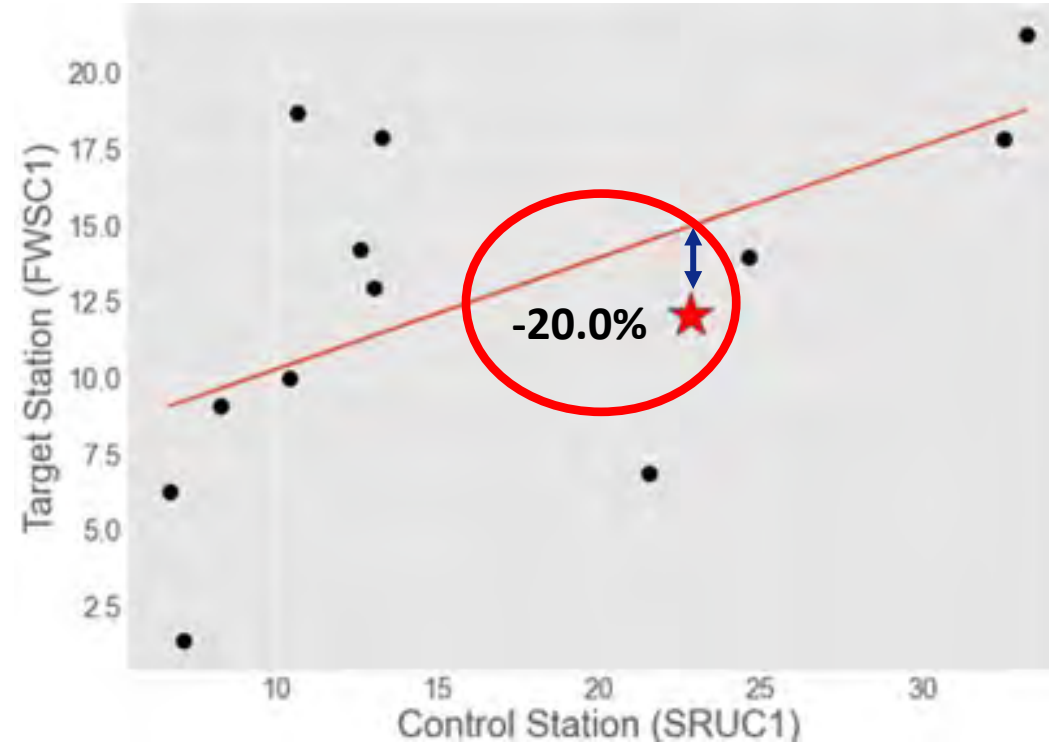
Northeast Target Area

Target vs. Control

Individual Snow Gauges (Year 1 – All Storms)

★ Preliminary Results

Fawnskin Gauge



Expected Precip: 15.0 in

Observed Precip: 12.0 in

-20.0%

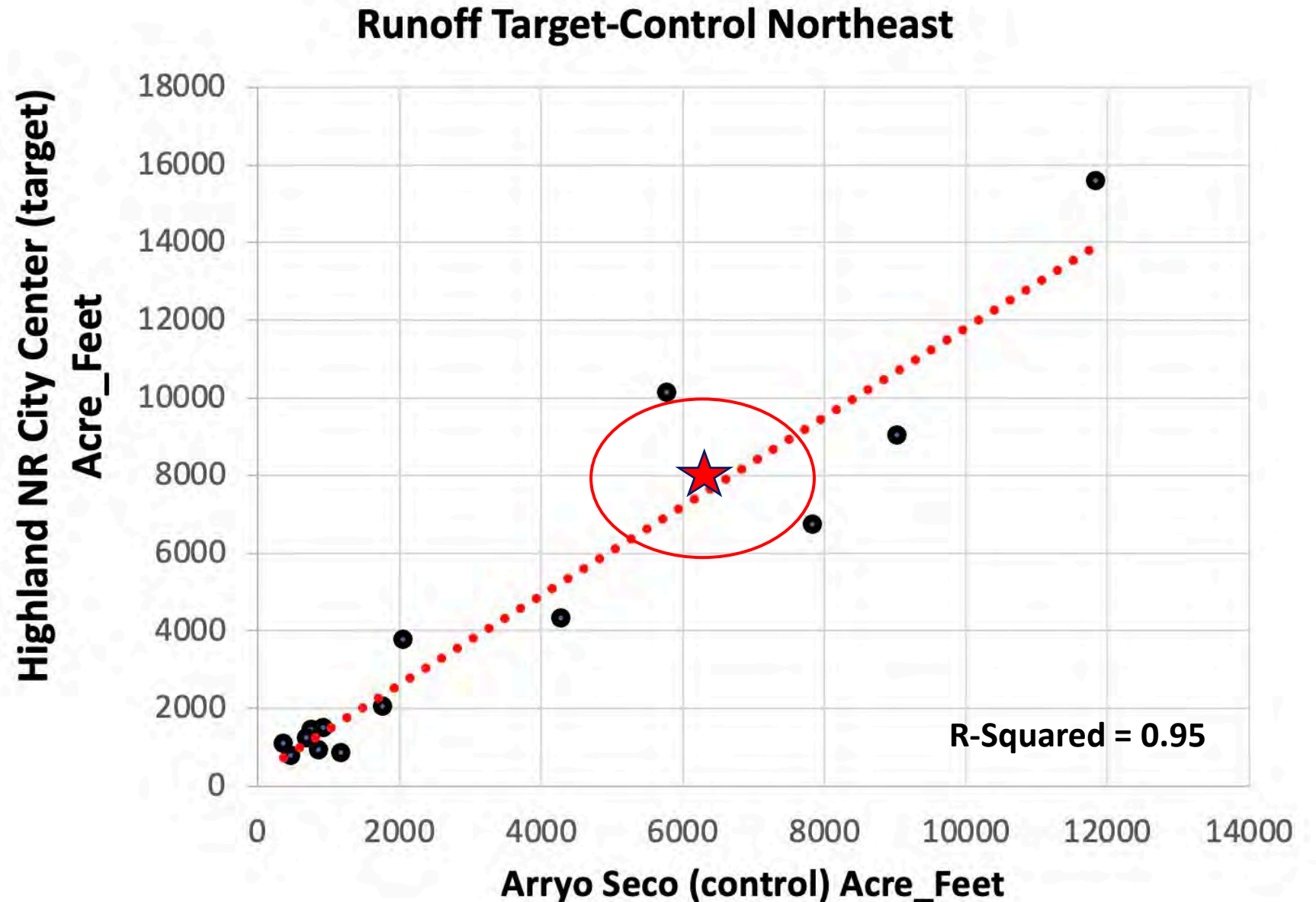
Target-Control Results by Target Area

Preliminary Results

Target Area	Year 1 (2023-2024)
Northeast (San Bernardino Mts)	Low/Inconsistent
Southeast (San Jacinto Mts)	Low/Inconsistent
Northwest (San Gabriel Mts)	No benefit
Southwest (San Ana Mts)	No benefit

Task 5:
Preliminary
Results for
Northeast
Target Area:

Stream Gauge



Task 4: Year 1 Preliminary Validation Results Summary

Task	Findings	Comments
2. Snow Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Higher silver levels were not seen in seeded samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Results were negative/inconsistent
4. Target and Control – Snow Gauges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">NE and SE were low/inconsistentNW and SW showed no benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Benefits were low or zero.
5. Target and Control – Stream Gauges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Steam gauge for NE did not show an increase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No benefits were shown.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission consider terminating the Cloud Seeding Pilot Program based on the inability to cloud seed for a second year and the inconclusive results of the first year of cloud seeding (2023-2024).

Questions

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SAWPA Communications Report

Date: June 3, 2025

To: Commission

From: Emily Fuentes

Subject: **Communications Highlights**

Communications

- Staff attended the RivCoParks Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the completion of the Santa Ana River Trail Signage Project, a multi-year project that installed informational signs along the Riverside County portion of the Santa Ana River Trail. Staff used the opportunity to connect with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) eligible for CARP and to film b-roll footage of Arundo and the Santa Ana River.
- Staff supported the streamlining of the WE CAN postcard mailing process, helping ensure that eligible residents receive timely program information. The Water-Energy Community Action Network (WE CAN) is a program supported by the California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to help the people of California adapt to climate change and mitigate their carbon emissions. This program supports low-income communities as they seek water and energy savings through turf replacement.
- Staff provided a quarterly communications update to the Emerging Constituents Task Force, highlighting the use of reels, shorter blog posts, and strategies to increase organic reach, such as video captions.
- Staff facilitated a budget meeting with the Emerging Constituents Task Force PR Group to review and approve the Public Relations Budget for the upcoming two-year cycle.
- Staff met with several Community-Based Organizations to discuss their involvement in CARP, with the first Community Advisory Panel (CAP) scheduled for June 18th.
- Staff successfully onboarded a new Communications Intern, Linda Kim, to support content creation and outreach efforts.
- Staff collaborated with grant partners (Soboba and UCR) to begin drafting initial outreach plans for CARP.
- Updates were posted to the Authority's social media channels. Follow SAWPA on social media:

- X: https://twitter.com/SAWPA_Water
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sawpa_water/
- LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/santa-ana-watershed-project-authority>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@SAWPATUBE>