NOTICE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
will be held on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 10:00 am
at Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California

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AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Additions, if any, to the Agenda
5. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Board relating to any non-agenda matter within the Board's jurisdiction. The total time for all public participation shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Board at this meeting on any public item.)

   Staff recommends any potential new agenda items based on issues raised be held for discussion under the Agenda Item "Requests from the Board of Directors for items to be included on the next Agenda".

6. **Consent Agenda** – Routine Items for approval or rejected in single motion without separate discussion. Consent items can be removed and placed on the Regular Agenda for discussion and possible action upon request by a Director.
   a. Minutes of the Special Meeting and Public Hearing of April 20, 2026, and Special Meeting of May 15, 2026
   b. Financial Reports FY 2025-26 Period 9, March 2026
   c. Warrant Lists for February, March, and April 2026
   d. Quarterly Investment Report
7. Consider Adoption of Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
8. Report on Publication of Ordinance 2026-01 – Groundwater Charge Ordinance
9. Public Hearing on the 2026 Rate Study Report by Robert D. Neihaus, Inc.
10. Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 742 Making Findings and Determinations, Establishing Zones, Setting Rates, and Levying a Groundwater Charge for Water Year 2026-2027
    a. Open Hearing
    b. Presentation by Robert D. Neihaus, Inc.
    c. Public Comment
    d. Response to Comments Presented by Legal Counsel
    e. Close Hearing
11. **General Manager Report** Status and Discussion on the following topics:
    a. Surface Water Program
    b. Groundwater Program
    c. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
       i. Receive updates for WMA, CMA and EMA
       ii. Proposition 68 Grant Reimbursements, Projects, and Management Actions

12. Consider approval of proposed First Amendment to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency
13. Consider proposed changes to Employee Benefits
    a. Life Insurance: Consider approval to increase maximum employee life insurance
    b. Cell Phone: Consider approval of a monthly employee cellphone stipend
14. Receive Conflict of Interest Code-2026 Local Biennial Notice
15. Discuss and consider alternative Director information access options (request by Director Marymee)
16. Attorney Report
17. Reports, actions by Board members, questions of staff, status reports, announcements, observations, and other matters, and/or communications not requiring action
18. Requests from the Board of Directors for items to be included on the next Agenda
19. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2026, at 10:00 am at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California

In compliance with the California Water Code, regular meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday in March, June, September, and December at various locations within the District. Special meetings may be held at any location within the District.

20. Closed Session The Board will hold a closed session to discuss the following matters:
    a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(1)): In the matter of Petition for Change of City of Solvang for Water Right Permit No. 15878 (Application A022423), which authorizes diversion of water from the Santa Ynez River (underflow) in Santa Barbara County, pending before the State Water Resources Control Board Office of Administrative Hearings
    b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(2)): Significant exposure to litigation (One Matter)
21. Reconvene into Open Session / Closed Session Report
22. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted at the meeting site and on the District website (SYRWCD.com), and at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California. Notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Sections 54950-54963. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
APRIL 20, 2026

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District was scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California, as directed by all the Directors.

Directors Present: Philip Carpenter, Robert Dunlap, Larry Lahr, and Brett Marymee
Directors Present (teleconference): Steve Jordan
Director Absent: None
Others Present (in-person): Bill Buelow, Alex Pappas, Jennifer Perez, and Amber Thompson
Others Present (teleconference): Steve Torigiani (Young Wooldridge)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Lahr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Thompson called roll. All Directors were present providing a quorum.

Director Jordan attended the meeting via teleconference from 46250 East El Dorado, Indian Wells, CA. The teleconference location was properly noticed. No members of the public attended with Director Jordan.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Lahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ADDITIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

5. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2026

President Lahr submitted the minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 17, 2026, for Board approval. There was no discussion or public comment.

Director Dunlap made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 17, 2026, as presented. Director Marymee seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES, Directors: Carpenter, Dunlap, Jordan, Lahr, Marymee
NOES, Directors: None
ABSENT, Directors: None

6. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 48TH ANNUAL ENGINEERING AND SURVEY REPORT ON WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, A SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOR THE PREVIOUS WATER YEAR (2024-2025), CURRENT WATER YEAR (2025-2026), AND ENSUING WATER YEAR (2026-2027)

a. Public Hearing

President Lahr opened the Public Hearing at 10:03 a.m.

Ms. Thompson announced that she received the 48th Annual Engineering and Survey Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, A Summary of Findings for the Previous Water Year (2024-2025), Current Water Year (2025-2026), and Ensuing Water Year (2026-2027), dated March 10, 2026 (Report) in writing on March 10, 2026, and that she posted it on the District's website for public access. Notice of the public hearing was published as required by law on April 1, 2026 in the Lompoc Record and on April 2, 2026 in the Santa Ynez Valley News. The Report has been available for more than the required 30-day review period including availability to the public on the District's website and at the District's office.

Mr. Buelow presented a review of the Annual Report. No public comments were made. Discussion followed.

b. Receive Board Comments

Comments were received from various members of the Board of Directors and discussion followed during the public hearing.

President Lahr closed the Public Hearing at 10:25 a.m.

c. Consider Approval and Acceptance of Annual Report Including the Findings and Determinations Therein and Any Appropriate Revisions

Director Marymee made a **MOTION** to approve and accept the 48th Annual Engineering and Survey Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, A Summary of Findings for the Previous Water Year (2024-2025), Current Water Year (2025-2026), and Ensuing Water Year (2026-2027) including the Findings and Determinations therein. Director Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES, Directors: Carpenter, Dunlap, Jordan, Lahr, Marymee
NOES, Directors: None
ABSENT, Directors: None

7. ATTORNEY REPORT

There was no report.

8. REPORTS, ACTS BY BOARD MEMBERS, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, OBSERVATIONS, AND OTHER MATTERS, AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING ACTION

Director Marymee announced the Santa Barbara County CSDA chapter meeting will be on Monday, April 27, 2026 in Goleta.

Director Jordan reported that golden mussels have been found in CCWA's pipeline and could become a big problem.

Ms. Thompson announced that Mr. Buelow's ten-year anniversary with the District is this week.

9. REQUESTS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Director Marymee requested a follow up by staff on ways the District can enhance the groundwater recharge of the District.

10. NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 15, 2026, AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE BUELLTON CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 140 WEST HIGHWAY 246, BUELLTON, CALIFORNIA

President Lahr announced that the next scheduled regular meeting of the Board meeting will be June 15, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

15. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

13. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION / CLOSED SESSION REPORT

There was no closed session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Lahr adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Larry Lahr, President

Amber M. Thompson, Secretary

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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MAY 15, 2026

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District was scheduled for Friday, May 15, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Conference Room, 3669 Sagunto St., Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, at the direction of all of the Directors.

Directors Present: Philip Carpenter, Robert Dunlap, Steve Jordan, and Larry Lahr

Director Absent: Brett Marymee

Others Present (in-person): Bill Buelow, Paeter Garcia, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (teleconference): Brett Stroud and Steve Torigiani (Young Wooldridge)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Lahr called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. Ms. Thompson called roll. Three Directors were present providing a quorum. Director Jordan arrived during Agenda Item #3.

Mr. Garcia dropped off printed copies of emailed public comments regarding Agenda Item No. 6 and left prior to Agenda Item No. 3, Closed Session.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Lahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CLOSED SESSION

President Lahr announced that a closed session will now be held pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2). The District has determined, based on the advice of its legal counsel and the existence of facts and circumstances – not yet known to a potential plaintiff or plaintiffs, that there is significant exposure to litigation against the District, regarding 3 matters.

The Board convened into Closed Session from 11:09 a.m. to 1:08 p.m. to discuss the following items:

a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(2)): Significant exposure to litigation (Three Matters)

4. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION / CLOSED SESSION REPORT

The Board ended Closed Session at 1:08 p.m., advised member of the public that Closed Session ended, the Board took a short break, reconvened into Open Session at 1:12 p.m., and President Lahr stated there was no reportable action taken in Closed Session

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment received during the meeting.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01 - GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE

Public comments regarding Agenda Item No. 6 were submitted on May 14, 2026 and May 15, 2026 by email to Ms. Thompson, Board Secretary. Ms. Thompson provided printed copies of the public comments to all in attendance. Brett Stroud, legal counsel, provided verbal responses to the written public comments received including with regard to authority, procedure, and refund limitations. Legal counsel recommended adoption of Ordinance 2026-01, as presented.

Discussion followed. There were no additional public comments.

Director Carpenter made a **MOTION** to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2026-01 – GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE, as presented. Director Dunlap seconded the motion, and the motion passed 4-0-1 by the following roll call vote:

AYES, Directors: Carpenter, Dunlap, Jordan, Lahr,
NOES, Directors: None
ABSENT, Directors: Marymee

7. REQUESTS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

There were no requests. Mr. Garcia arrived back to the meeting.

8. NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 15, 2026, AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE BUELLTON CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 140 WEST HIGHWAY 246, BUELLTON, CALIFORNIA

President Lahr announced that the next scheduled regular meeting of the Board meeting will be June 15, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Lahr adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.

Larry Lahr, President

Amber M. Thompson, Secretary

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Balance Sheet
As of March 31, 2026

	Mar 31, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1325-00 · Mechanics Checking #7071-01	601.30
1330-00 · Five Star Checking #5935	25,598.90
1340-05 · Mechanics #7311 (GW Revenue)	3,386.33
1345-00 · Five Star MM #5986	439,496.94
1350-01 · LAIF	815,315.77
1350-03 · California Class	1,246,972.83
1360-00 · LAIF/SBIF FMV Adjustment	-3,384.00
1374-00 · Prepaid Expenses	962.62
Total Checking/Savings	2,528,950.69
Accounts Receivable	
1500-00 · Accounts Receivable	327,861.65
Total Accounts Receivable	327,861.65
Other Current Assets	
1501-00 · Accounts Receivable - CMA Loan	218,875.54
1502-00 · Accounts Receivable - EMA Loan	112,438.75
1503-00 · Accounts Receivable - WMA Loan	275,000.00
1504-00 · Grants Receivable	19,702.57
Total Other Current Assets	626,016.86
Total Current Assets	3,482,829.20
TOTAL ASSETS	**3,482,829.20**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2220-00 · Accounts Payable	73,912.78
Total Accounts Payable	73,912.78
Other Current Liabilities	
2225-00 · Accrued Payroll Taxes	4,480.26
2225-06 · Deferred Comp - Lincoln Nat'l	2,216.00
2225-07 · Medical Insurance Withheld	499.97
Total Other Current Liabilities	7,196.23
Total Current Liabilities	81,109.01
Total Liabilities	81,109.01
Equity	
3200-00 · Unappropriated Reserves	2,376,337.95
32000 · Retained Earnings	713,469.37
Net Income	311,912.87
Total Equity	3,401,720.19
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**3,482,829.20**

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July 2025 through March 2026

	FY 25-26, Period 9		TOTAL FY 25-26, Periods 1-9			
	Mar 26	Budget	Jul '25 - Mar 26	Budget	$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
4500-00 · DWR Grant Reimbursement	7,863.82	12,000.00	43,817.57	35,000.00	8,817.57	125.19%
4600-00 · GSA Administrative Services	6,183.75	3,000.00	42,065.40	31,000.00	11,065.40	135.7%
4910-00 · Ground Water Charges	17,345.17	19,000.00	729,123.84	717,000.00	12,123.84	101.69%
4930-00 · SB County Property Taxes	0.00	0.00	248,637.35	211,000.00	37,637.35	117.84%
4934-00 · Interest Income, all sources	13,407.64	8,250.00	74,228.44	56,250.00	17,978.44	131.96%
4937-00 · Miscellaneous Income	139.20	250.00	5,387.63	250.00	5,137.63	2,155.05%
Total Income	**44,939.58**	**42,500.00**	**1,143,260.23**	**1,050,500.00**	**92,760.23**	**108.83%**
Gross Profit	44,939.58	42,500.00	1,143,260.23	1,050,500.00	92,760.23	108.83%
Expense						
5500-00 · Employee Compensation	37,980.48	37,795.00	345,318.62	340,155.00	5,163.62	101.52%
5505-00 · Payroll (SS and Medicare)	3,026.04	3,180.00	24,667.28	28,620.00	-3,952.72	86.19%
5506-00 · Employee Benefits	4,328.04	4,136.00	36,851.59	36,268.00	583.59	101.61%
5507-00 · Retirement Costs	2,682.50	2,645.50	24,068.57	23,809.50	259.07	101.09%
5512-00 · Outside Staff Support	519.00	660.00	5,201.00	4,850.00	351.00	107.24%
5513-00 · Director Fees	875.00	875.00	2,860.84	5,425.00	-2,564.16	52.73%
5513-50 · Director Fees SGMA	700.00	2,100.00	2,575.00	6,200.00	-3,625.00	41.53%
5514-00-5514-07: Groundwater Charges Admin	13,184.90	17,000.00	88,150.81	71,000.00	17,150.81	124.16%
5521-00 · Office Supplies - Incl Computer	1,399.39	6,000.00	10,189.69	11,785.00	-1,595.31	86.46%
5522-00 · IT Services	150.00	125.00	1,513.83	1,750.00	-236.17	86.51%
5523-00 · Communications	664.44	350.00	8,362.39	5,800.00	2,562.39	144.18%
5524-00 · Travel & Training	677.32	1,000.00	8,704.02	20,500.00	-11,795.98	42.46%
5527-00 · Audit/Accounting	0.00	0.00	20,877.78	20,000.00	877.78	104.39%
5529-00 · Insurance, Bonds, Worker's Comp	0.00	0.00	21,306.66	24,150.00	-2,843.34	88.23%
5530-00 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	100.00	400.00	250.00	150.00	160.0%
5531-00 · Dues	0.00	0.00	5,977.77	5,300.00	677.77	112.79%
5540-00 · LAFCO Cost	0.00	0.00	1,001.00	1,000.00	1.00	100.1%
5560-00 · Office Occupancy	2,670.16	2,050.00	25,433.26	18,700.00	6,733.26	136.01%
5570-00 · Records Services	183.60	180.00	1,780.13	1,780.00	0.13	100.01%
5590-00 · Credit Card Processing Fees	109.29	80.00	1,541.23	350.00	1,191.23	440.35%
5600-20 · SGMA WMA	172.68	1,150.00	1,920.71	2,480.00	-559.29	77.45%
5600-30 · SGMA CMA	0.00	150.00	-257.06	1,150.00	-1,407.06	-22.35%
5600-40 · SGMA EMA	3,362.50	150.00	3,226.62	1,050.00	2,176.62	307.3%
5600-90 · SGMA Legal	0.00	2,000.00	6,740.25	17,970.00	-11,229.75	37.51%
5626-00 · Legal - General Counsel	3,914.17	3,000.00	18,751.00	23,000.00	-4,249.00	81.53%
5626-12 · Legal - WR 2019-0148 Decision	647.50	3,000.00	5,278.75	24,000.00	-18,721.25	22.0%
5626-14 · Legal - Fisheries	5,009.50	2,000.00	13,379.00	5,000.00	8,379.00	267.58%
5626-20 · Legal - HR	0.00	225.00	1,316.25	1,825.00	-508.75	72.12%
5626-50 · Legal - GW Program	3,202.00	1,600.00	9,579.50	6,500.00	3,079.50	147.38%
5626-60 · Legal - Assessments/Charges	4,825.50	0.00	39,756.72	100,000.00	-60,243.28	39.76%
5633-00 · Engineer - General & Misc	759.78	670.00	2,795.75	4,990.00	-2,194.25	56.03%
5633-01 · Annual G.W. Report	11,235.60	13,000.00	16,538.79	23,000.00	-6,461.21	71.91%
5633-02 · WR 89-18 Operations (WRR)	4,424.25	0.00	32,019.46	40,000.00	-7,980.54	80.05%
5633-08 · Upper SYR Operations	635.25	200.00	1,451.25	1,400.00	51.25	103.66%
5633-12 · WR 2019-0148 Decision,	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
5633-14 · Fisheries Hydrology	1,331.00	1,440.00	5,496.25	10,680.00	-5,183.75	51.46%
5633-16 · Special Studies	0.00	5,000.00	7,113.00	20,500.00	-13,387.00	34.7%
5633-20 · Rate Study	0.00	0.00	4,082.50	6,500.00	-2,417.50	62.81%

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July 2025 through March 2026

	FY 25-26, Period 9		TOTAL FY 25-26, Periods 1-9			
	Mar 26	Budget	Jul '25 - Mar 26	Budget	$ Over Budget	% of Budget
5633-31 · Engineer - GW Prog - Zone A	0.00	0.00	1,602.50	0.00	1,602.50	100.0%
5633-32 · Engineer - GW Prog - Zone B	0.00	0.00	422.00	0.00	422.00	100.0%
5700-00 · Contengencies All Zones General	148.00	0.00	451.25	15,000.00	-14,548.75	3.01%
5700-10 · Tenant Improvements	0.00	0.00	22,901.40	23,000.00	-98.60	99.57%
Total Expense	**108,817.89**	**111,861.50**	**831,347.36**	**957,737.50**	**-126,390.14**	**86.8%**
Net Ordinary Income	-63,878.31	-69,361.50	311,912.87	92,762.50	219,150.37	336.25%
Net Income	**-63,878.31**	**-69,361.50**	**311,912.87**	**92,762.50**	**219,150.37**	**336.25%**

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 2026 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL
(Account held at Five Star Bank)

NUMBER	DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
1502	2/1/2026	Jim Heyerly	February 2026 Rent	$	1,600.00
1503 -1504	-	see January 2026 Warrant List		$	-
1505	-	VOID. Lost check. Stop payment issued with bank.		$	-
ACH	2/3/2026	Payroll	January 16-31, 2025 Salary	$	11,955.30
ACH	2/3/2026	Stepen Jordan	Meeting: EMA 1/22/26	$	69.26
ACH	2/3/2026	J. Brett Marymee	Meeting: EMA 1/22/26	$	69.26
ACH	2/3/2026	Employment Development Dept.	EDD Tax Deposit (Jan. 16-31, 2026)	$	757.20
ACH	2/3/2026	Five Star Bank (Payroll Acct)	Payroll Tax Deposit (Jan. 16-31, 2026)	$	5,074.14
ACH	2/6/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	401a Plan Employer Match (partial 1/31/26)	$	634.41
ACH	2/6/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	457 Plan Employee Deferred Comp. (1/31/26) & Employer Match (partial 1/31/26)	$	2,922.84
ACH	2/9/2026	Pacific Gas & Electric	Dec. 2025-January 2026 Electric Service	$	125.09
1506	2/17/2026	Phil Carpenter	Expense Reimbursement: January 2026 SBCSDA meeting dinner	$	40.00
1507	2/17/2026	Hawkins Pappas	January 2026 support: groundwater program and District's WMA efforts	$	688.15
1508	2/17/2026	Barlett, Pringle & Wolf, LLP	FY 2024-25 Audit and Accounting Consulting	$	20,877.78
1509	2/17/2026	US Bank Corp	January 2026 CalCard	$	3,157.57
1510	2/17/2026	Stetson Engineers	December 2025 Engineering Service	$	23,886.73
1511	2/17/2026	Young Wooldridge	January 2026 Legal Service	$	8,839.81
1512	2/17/2026	Valley Bookkeeping Services	January 2026 Bookkeeping	$	475.00
1513	2/17/2026	Onsite Computers and Design	Technology Service	$	150.00
ACH	2/17/2026	SDRMA	Employee Benefits: March 2026 Medical and Ancillary Insurance	$	5,327.98
ACH	2/18/2026	Payroll	February 1-15, 2026 Salary	$	11,928.03
ACH	2/18/2026	Employment Development Dept.	EDD Tax Deposit (Feb. 1-15, 2026)	$	756.45
ACH	2/18/2026	Five Star Bank (Payroll Acct)	Payroll Tax Deposit (Feb. 1-15, 2026)	$	5,042.55
ACH	2/24/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	401a Plan Employer Match (partial 01/15/26)	$	634.41
ACH	2/24/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	457 Plan Employee Deferred Comp. (01/15/26) & Employer Match (partial 01/15/26)	$	2,922.84
			TOTAL	**$**	**107,934.80**

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MARCH 2026 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL
(Account held at Five Star Bank)

NUMBER	DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
1514	3/1/2026	Jim Heyerly	March 2026 Rent	$	1,600.00
ACH	3/3/2026	Payroll	February 16-28, 2026 Salary	$	12,119.01
ACH	3/3/2026	Philip Carpenter	Meeting: WMA 2/25/26	$	161.61
ACH	3/3/2026	Robert Dunlap	Meeting: CMA 2/23/26 - partial paid in Jan. 26	$	92.35
ACH	3/3/2026	Stepen Jordan	Meetings: WMA 2/25/26; EMA 2/26/26	$	323.22
ACH	3/3/2026	J. Brett Marymee	Meetings: CMA 2/23/26; EMA 2/26/26	$	323.22
ACH	3/3/2026	Employment Development Dept.	EDD Tax Deposit (Feb. 16-28, 2026)	$	761.69
ACH	3/3/2026	Five Star Bank (Payroll Acct)	Payroll Tax Deposit (Feb. 16-28, 2026)	$	5,252.04
ACH	3/3/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	401a Plan Employer Match (partial 2/28/26)	$	634.41
ACH	3/3/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	457 Plan Employee Deferred Comp. (2/28/26) & Employer Match (partial 2/28/26)	$	2,922.84
ACH	3/9/2026	Pacific Gas & Electric	January-February 2026 Electric Service	$	126.72
1515	3/11/2026	Stetson Engineers	January 2026 Engineering Service	$	20,232.95
1516	3/11/2026	Valley Bookkeeping Services	February 2026 Bookkeeping	$	475.00
1517	3/11/2026	Santa Barbara County Water Agency	IRWM Participation Cost (7/1/25-12/31/25)	$	37.13
1518	3/11/2026	Hawkins Pappas	February 2026 support: groundwater program and District's WMA efforts	$	931.68
1519	3/11/2026	Onsite Computers and Design	Technology Service; Annual Office 365 software licenses; Adobe Pro license pro-rated	$	1,304.30
1520	3/11/2026	US Bank Corp	February 2026 CalCard	$	2,800.84
1521	3/11/2026	Young Wooldridge	February 2026 Legal Service	$	8,511.42
ACH	3/17/2026	Payroll	March 1-15, 2026 Salary	$	11,873.45
ACH	3/17/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	401a Plan Employer Match (partial 03/15/26)	$	634.41
ACH	3/17/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	457 Plan Employee Deferred Comp. (03/15/26) & Employer Match (partial 03/15/26)	$	2,922.84
ACH	3/17/2026	Employment Development Dept.	EDD Tax Deposit (March 1-15, 2026)	$	754.95
ACH	3/17/2026	Five Star Bank (Payroll Acct)	Payroll Tax Deposit (March 1-15, 2026)	$	5,025.35
ACH	3/19/2026	SDRMA	Employee Benefits: April 2026 Medical and Ancillary Insurance	$	5,327.98
			TOTAL	**$**	**85,149.41**

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
APRIL 2026 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL
(Account held at Five Star Bank)

NUMBER	DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
1522	4/1/2026	Jim Heyerly	April 2026 Rent	$	1,600.00
ACH	4/2/2026	Payroll	March 16-31, 2026 Salary	$	11,982.60
ACH	4/2/2026	Philip Carpenter	Meetings: 3/17/26; WMA (Joint GSAs) 3/13/26	$	323.22
ACH	4/2/2026	Robert Dunlap	Meetings: 3/17/26; CMA (Joint GSAs) 3/13/26	$	323.22
ACH	4/2/2026	Stepen Jordan	Meetings: 3/17/26; WMA (Joint GSAs) 3/13/26	$	323.22
ACH	4/2/2026	Larry Lahr	Meeting: 3/17/26	$	161.61
ACH	4/2/2026	J. Brett Marymee	Meetings: 3/17/26; EMA (Joint GSAs) 3/13/26	$	323.22
ACH	4/2/2026	Employment Development Dept.	EDD Tax Deposit (March. 16-31, 2026)	$	757.94
ACH	4/2/2026	Five Star Bank (Payroll Acct)	Payroll Tax Deposit (March. 16-31, 2026)	$	5,300.80
ACH	4/8/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	401a Plan Employer Match (partial 3/31/26)	$	634.41
ACH	4/8/2026	Lincoln Financial Group	457 Plan Employee Deferred Comp. (3/31/26) & Employer Match (partial 3/31/26)	$	2,922.84
ACH	4/9/2026	Pacific Gas & Electric	February-March 2026 Electric Service	$	90.14
1523	4/10/2026	Hawkins Pappas	March 2026 support: groundwater program and District's WMA efforts	$	315.68
1524	4/10/2026	Inklings	48th Engineering & Survey Annual Report, draft	$	39.40
1525	4/10/2026	Onsite Computers and Design	Technology Service; Annual Office 365 software licenses, balance due	$	536.40
1526	4/10/2026	Stetson Engineers	February 2026 Engineering Service	$	34,715.38
1527	4/10/2026	Urban Water Institute	2026 Annual Conference (August 19-21, 2026) Registration for Director Marymee	$	645.00
1528	4/10/2026	US Bank Corp	March 2026 CalCard	$	2,952.87
1529	4/10/2026	Valley Bookkeeping Services	March 2026 Bookkeeping	$	475.00
1530	4/10/2026	Young Wooldridge	March 2026 Legal Service	$	17,746.67
ACH	4/17/2026	Payroll	April 1-15, 2026 Salary	$	11,408.45
ACH	4/17/2026	Employment Development Dept.	EDD Tax Deposit (April 1-15, 2026)	$	788.60
ACH	4/17/2026	Five Star Bank (Payroll Acct)	Payroll Tax Deposit (April 1-15, 2026)	$	5,044.98
ACH	4/24/2026	SDRMA	Employee Benefits: May 2026 Medical and Ancillary Insurance	$	5,327.98
			TOTAL	**$**	**104,739.63**

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

(REF. CGC 53646 (B) (1) AND 53646 (E))

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3RD QUARTER, FY 2025-26

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2026

Certification is hereby provided that:

A. All investment actions executed during the last quarter have been made in full compliance with the Investment Policy; and,

B. Sufficient funds exist so that the District will meet its expenditure obligations for the next six months as required by CGC 53646 (b) (2) and (3), respectively.

CERTIFICATION:

William J. Buelow, General Manager / Treasurer

5/29/26
Date

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 15, 2026

TO: Larry Lahr, Phil Carpenter, Robert Dunlap, Brett Marymee, Steve Jordan

FROM: Bill Buelow

SUBJECT: Draft Budget Fiscal Year 2026-2027

AGENDA ITEM - 8

Discussion

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Board of Directors reviewed the preliminary draft budget at the March 17, 2026, meeting. No other changes have been made to the budget.

Recommendation

Approve the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
JULY 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2027
DRAFT BUDGET (presented June 15, 2026)

		FY 2026-27 DRAFT BUDGET
REVENUES:		
Groundwater Charge Rates (cash basis)		737,025
SB County Property Taxes		424,360
Interest Income		68,000
Miscellaneous Income		250
Administrative Support to GSAs		40,000
GSA Loan Pay-Back		0
SGMA Grant Reimbusement - Comp 1 only		85,000
SGMA Grant Reimbusement - Comp 2-8 (pass through)		1,079,515
TOTAL INCOME	**$**	**2,434,150**
SYRWCD Total Income (No Grant Pass Through):	*$*	*1,354,635*
EXPENSES		
Internal Operations / Expenses		
Employee Salaries		482,726
Payroll (SS and Medicare)		40,458
Employee Benefits		54,533
Retirement Plan Contributions		33,091
Outside Services		6,860
Office Expense		67,000
Director Fees		23,000
Training & Travel		31,000
Travel *(FY 26-27 included with Training)*		-
Annual Audit/Accounting Support		25,000
Insurance & Worker's Comp		25,000
Dues and LAFCO Fees		7,500
Groundwater Charges Program		12,000
Miscellaneous		250
SUB-TOTAL INTERNAL OPERATIONS		**808,418**
Legal		
General and Misc.		32,200
Downstream Release/Upper SYR Ops/89-18		2,875
WR Decision (2019-0148)		34,500
Fisheries Issues		5,750
Employment/HR		2,875
Groundwater Program		8,050
SGMA Legal support		15,000
SUB-TOTAL LEGAL		**101,250**

Engineering / Environmental		
Engineering Admin Services		7,000
Annual GW Report		30,000
Santa Ynez River Ops		79,000
Environmental Support		27,000
Software Engineering		50,000
SGMA Tech Support		15,000
Special Studies		200,000
SUB-TOTAL ENGINEERING / ENVIRONMENTAL		**408,000**
CONTENGENCIES		**50,000**
SUB-TOTAL O&M EXPENSES		**$1,367,668**
Grant Pass Through		**1,079,515**
SYRWCD GSA Loan Contributions		**-**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$**	**2,447,183**
SYRWCD Total Expenses (No Grant Pass Through):	*$*	*1,367,668*
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	**$**	**(13,033)**
CASH ON HAND	**$**	**218,967**
Amount to or (from) Reserves		-
INVESTMENT RESERVES		**2,310,747**

LOMPOC RECORD

See Proof on Next Page

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

CCP § 2015.5

Lompoc Record
3200 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455
(805) 925-2691

State of New Jersey, County of Camden, ss:

I, Edmar Corachia, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Printer of Lompoc Record, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the City of Santa Maria, County of Santa Barbara, State of California and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the superior court of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California adjudication #47065.

That the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

Publication Dates:
- May 20, 2026

Publication Fee: $367.93

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Edmar Corachia

Agent

SHARONN E THOMAS-POPE
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
My Commission Expires January 23, 2027

VERIFICATION

State of New Jersey
County of Camden

Signed or attested before me on this: 05/20/2026

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01: GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE

In the matter of:
ORDINANCE 2026-01:
GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE

I, Amber Thompson, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, located in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, does hereby certify that the following ordinance on motion by Director Carpenter and seconded by Director Dunlap was duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors at an official meeting thereof held on the 15th day of May, 2026, by the following roll-call vote:

Ayes: Carpenter, Dunlap, Jordan, and Lahr
Noes: None
Absent: Marymee
Abstain: None

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01: GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE

§1 Definitions
As used herein, the following words have the following meanings:
(a) "Act" means the Water Conservation District Law of 1931, codified as Water Code sections 74000 through 76501.
(b) "District" means the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District.
(c) "Manager" means the General Manager of the District or their designee.
(d) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the District.
(e) "Ordinance" means this Groundwater Charge Ordinance.

§2 Declaration of Policy
The intent of this policy is to provide for the orderly administration of the process for levying and collecting Groundwater Charges by the District pursuant to Water Code sections 74508 and 75500 through 75633.

§3 Authority
This Ordinance is enacted under the powers granted to the District in the Act, including without limitation Water Code sections 74650, 74501, and 74508.

§4 Preparation of Annual Rate Study
Every year, following the District's adoption of the annual groundwater report required by Water Code section 75560, the Manager shall cause a rate study to be prepared for the following fiscal year, proposing groundwater charges to be imposed. The rate study shall incorporate the findings of the annual groundwater report, the Manager's proposed budget for the following fiscal year, the District's adopted policies, and such reasonable assumptions and projections as the Manager shall direct.

§5 Publication of Annual Rate Study
No later than the 30th day before the hearing on the annual rate study provided for in this Ordinance, the annual rate study shall be published on the District's website and a copy made available for public inspection at the District's office.

§6 Public Comments on Annual Rate Study
The District shall receive written comments on the annual rate study through 5:00 p.m. on the 10th day before the hearing on the annual rate study provided for in this Ordinance. Written comments that allege the proposed groundwater charges would not comply with the California Constitution or any other law must specify the grounds for alleging noncompliance.

§7 Hearing on Annual Rate Study
At a public meeting, prior to imposing groundwater charges, the District shall hold a hearing on the rate study and on whether to impose the groundwater charges proposed. Before or during the hearing the Board of Directors shall consider, and the District shall respond in writing to, any timely written comments. The District's responses shall explain the substantive basis for retaining or altering the proposed groundwater charges in response to written objections. The Board may adjourn the hearing to another date if necessary.

§8 Exhaustion Required
No person may bring a judicial action or proceedings alleging noncompliance with the California Constitution or other applicable law for any groundwater charge levied by the District, unless that person submitted to the Secretary of the Board a timely, written objection to that groundwater charge specifying the grounds for alleging noncompliance. The issues raised in any such action or proceeding shall be limited to those raised in such an objection unless a court finds the issue could not have been raised in such an objection by those exercising reasonable diligence.

§9 Refunds for Overpayment Only
The District does not authorize refunds of groundwater charges based on allegations that the groundwater charges are unlawful. Refunds are only authorized in the following circumstances:
(a) Where an extractor overreported extractions and as a result overpaid groundwater charges.
(b) Where an extractor unintentionally overpaid groundwater charges or paid groundwater charges that were already paid.

§10 Presentation of Refund Claims
Any claim for a refund of groundwater charges must be presented to the District in the form of a claim and within the time for presentation of such a claim as required by the Government Claims Act (Gov. Code, §§ 900 *et seq.)*.

§11 Severability
If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to other persons and circumstances. The Board of Directors declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion thereof despite the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions be declared invalid or unconstitutional and, to that end, the provisions hereof are hereby declared to be severable.

§12 Effective Date
This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

§13 Publication
The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall, within 10 days after adoption of this Ordinance, publish this ordinance in full, in a newspaper of general circulation printed, published, and circulated in the district.
Pub dates: May 20, 2026
Legal 593575

Column

See Proof on Next Page

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Santa Ynez Valley News
3200 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455
(805) 688-5522

State of New Jersey, County of Camden, ss:

I, Edmar Corachia, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of Santa Ynez Valley News, a Weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in City of Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County, State of California; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates.

Publication Dates:
- May 21, 2026

Notice ID: jdXUnIDvZiCFIJlZOHAF

Notice Name: Notice of Adoption ORDINANCE 2026-01

Publication Fee: $367.93

Edmar Corachia

Agent

SHARONN E THOMAS-POPE
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
My Commission Expires January 23, 2027

VERIFICATION

State of New Jersey
County of Camden

Signed or attested before me on this: 05/21/2026

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01: GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE

In the matter of:
ORDINANCE 2026-01:
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Ayes: Carpenter, Dunlap, Jordan, and Lahr
Noes: None
Absent: Marymee
Abstain: None

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01: GROUNDWATER CHARGE ORDINANCE

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No person may bring a judicial action or proceedings alleging noncompliance with the California Constitution or other applicable law for any groundwater charge levied by the District, unless that person submitted to the Secretary of the Board a timely, written objection to that groundwater charge specifying the grounds for alleging noncompliance. The issues raised in any such action or proceeding shall be limited to those raised in such an objection unless a court finds the issue could not have been raised in such an objection by those exercising reasonable diligence.

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Any claim for a refund of groundwater charges must be presented to the District in the form of a claim and within the time for presentation of such a claim as required by the Government Claims Act (Gov. Code, §§ 900 *et seq.).*

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If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to other persons and circumstances. The Board of Directors declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion thereof despite the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions be declared invalid or unconstitutional and, to that end, the provisions hereof are hereby declared to be severable.

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This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

§13 Publication
The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall, within 10 days after adoption of this Ordinance, publish this ordinance in full, in a newspaper of general circulation printed, published, and circulated in the district.
Pub dates: May 21, 2026
Legal 593596

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District

2026 Rate Study

Draft Report

May 12, 2026

Santa Ynez River
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Public Review Draft

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2026 RATE STUDY

DRAFT REPORT

Public Review Draft

Prepared for:

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Prepared by:

ROBERT D. NIEHAUS, INC.
140 East Carrillo Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 962-0611

RDN Project Number 400

Public Review Draft

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Public Review Draft

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of Study

The major objectives of this study include the following:

- Develop a financial plan to support financial sufficiency, meet operation and maintenance (O&M) costs, and provide adequate reserves;
- Conduct a water cost-of-service study that is based on the District's costs;
- Calculate proposed, updated water rates for Fiscal Year 2026-27;
- Conduct an analysis of the effects of the proposed rates on District groundwater producers; and
- Demonstrate that the amount raised by the proposed groundwater rates are necessary to cover the reasonable costs of the District's required activities, and that proposed rates are allocated to District producers in a manner that bears a fair or reasonable relationship to the payor's burdens on, or benefits received, from the District's activities, consistent with Proposition 26 (Cal. Const., Art. XIII C,§ 1).

This report summarizes the rate study's 5-year financial plan and FY 2026-27 rate development. The District intends to update this 5-year plan every year with a new 5-year projection so that the Board can maintain a 5-year outlook. However, the District's rates are set on an annual basis under Water Code sections 75500-75642.

Summary of Recommendations

The District bills all customers based on the groundwater they draw from wells within the District's service area, as defined by Water Code Section 75502. Water is billed in acre foot (AF) increments, where each AF of water drawn is billed an equal portion of the costs which are allocated to one of six zones based on the costs which are allocable to that zone. The six zones are:

- **Zone A –** District portion of the Santa Ynez River alluvial channel from San Lucas Bridge downstream to Lompoc Narrows
- **Zone B –** District portion of the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Upland, and Lompoc Terrace groundwater subareas
- **Zone C –** All other portions of the District not included in Zones A, B, D, E, and F
- **Zone D –** District portion of the Buellton Upland subarea (including a portion of the groundwater aquifer extending under Zone A)
- **Zone E –** District portion of the Santa Ynez Upland subarea
- **Zone F –** District portion of the Santa Rita Upland subarea

The recommended charges outlined in this report were developed using industry standard methodologies set out in the American Water Works Association (AWWA) *Principles of Water Rates, Fees, and Charges*

Public Review Draft

– *Manual of Water Supply Practices* (M1 Manual)[1] and adhere to the cost of service principals required by California's Proposition 26 and related California Law.

Table 1 displays the current and proposed rates for each zone and the difference with the current rates.

Table 1. Current and Proposed Water Rates per Acre Foot[2]

Zone	Current Rate (AF)	Proposed Rate (AF)	Difference (AF)
Zone A	$22.00	**$23.40**	$1.40
Zone B	$14.80	**$15.30**	$0.50
Zone C	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60
Zone D	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60
Zone E	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60
Zone F	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60

Public Review Draft

[1] Section III of the M1 Manual details the process to develop units of service by customer class and apply those based on the proportional impact which satisfies the proportionality requirements of Proposition 26. The primary unit of service used in this study is AF of water use.

[2] Note that one acre foot is equal to 325,851 gallons of water. The proposed rate per gallon of water is between $0.00003 and $0.000072 depending on the zone.

1. INTRODUCTION

District Overview

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District ("District") was formed in 1939. At the time of the District's formation, investigations were under way to build a new reservoir that would divert Santa Ynez River water from the watershed of the Santa Ynez River to the South Coastal Area of Santa Barbara County. The District was formed for the purpose of, among other things, making surveys and investigations of water supplies and resources, and protecting, conserving and augmenting water rights and supplies, within the District, including, but not limited to, Santa Ynez River and groundwater supplies. The District's boundaries include "the entire watershed of the Santa Ynez River and its tributaries below Gibraltar drainage basin and excepting portions of the government land. … [The District] is limited to the watershed of the Santa Ynez River and its tributaries because [the] district represents a unit area in which the problems of control and conservation are intimately associated and must be considered and solved together." (See, FACTS About The Proposed Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Organization Committee, (May 1939), p. 7).

The District's boundaries cover approximately 180,000 acres of land in two discontinuous areas within the watershed and Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, extending from Lake Cachuma to the Pacific Ocean. The Santa Barbara County Local Agency Formation Commission ("LAFCO") recognizes the District's sphere of influence to be the entire Santa Ynez River Watershed and its tributaries (https://www.sblafco.org/santa-ynez-river-water-conservation-map).

The District is a California Water Conservation District formed pursuant to the Water Conservation District Law of 1931 (Wat. Code, §§ 74000 et seq.). Pursuant to Water Code sections 74508 and 75500, et seq., the District is expressly authorized to impose groundwater charges within its boundaries, which the Legislature has declared to be in furtherance of District activities in the protection and augmentation of the water supplies for users within the District or a zone or zones thereof which are necessary for the public health, welfare, and safety of the people of this state. (Wat. Code, § 75521.) The District has, since 1979, levied groundwater charges on all public and private operators of groundwater-producing facilities registered within the District to help recover its costs, including the costs of protecting, augmenting, conserving, and enhancing water rights and water supplies within the District.

The Santa Ynez River, including associated younger alluvium riparian deposits, is one of the largest water supply sources within the District and Basin. Due to the geographic nexus that the Santa Ynez River provides through the entire District, the adjacent upland groundwater aquifers benefit from the District's activities including the augmentation of surface water of the Santa Ynez River, including the alluvium, and protection against water exports to the South Coast. Without the protection, conservation, and augmentation of the Santa Ynez River by the District through various activities, including the District's continued advocacy for and making and coordination of releases of Santa Ynez River water downstream of Cachuma Project's Bradbury Dam for beneficial uses within the District—as provided in SWRCB WRO 2019-0148 and the 2002 Settlement Agreement between the District, Improvement District No. 1, and the Cachuma Conservation Release Board ("CCRB")— there would be additional pumping of groundwater from the upland groundwater zones adjacent to the Santa Ynez River zones (Zones A and B). The combined sustainable yield of the groundwater Zones C through F (17,000 AFY) are a fraction

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of the average annual flow of the Santa Ynez River (100,000 AFY). This is because most of the rainfall in the Santa Ynez River watershed occurs upstream of Cachuma Lake at higher elevations.

The District's activities that are performed by its staff, consultants, and legal counsel include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Investigate, forecast, and report on surface water and groundwater conditions within the District, including estimates of surface water use, imported water purchased by contract; groundwater use, volume of groundwater overdraft; and amount of groundwater in storage, as required by Water Code section 75560 et seq.
- Plan, schedule, and administer the release of water from Bradbury Dam for the satisfaction and benefit of downstream water rights and water quality, including determining the timing, location, volume, and rate of flows needed to recharge the river alluvium and the Lompoc Plain for the Above Narrows Account ("ANA") and Below Narrows Account ("BNA"), as provided in State Water Resources Control Board Order No. WRO 2019-0148 and the 2002 Settlement Agreement, which describe in detail the District's role to protect and augment water supplies within the District.
- Coordinate and provide advance warning to District constituents downstream of Bradbury Dam regarding impending storm operations, minimizing potential damage to downstream assets along the lower Santa Ynez River.
- Review and contribute to the preparation of, and compliance with, applicable biological assessments and opinions, including associated consultations, revisions, and replacements, for the protection of endangered species in the Santa Ynez River, in a manner that assures that downstream water rights and water quality in the basin and downstream of Bradbury Dam are augmented, conserved, and protected.
- Require registration of groundwater production facilities and require, collect, record, and maintain reports of each individual groundwater producer's production within the District (since 1979) as part of its groundwater production reporting program.
- Levy and collect charges on groundwater production within the District to fund the District's operations.
- Provide technical and legal expertise to the District's constituents to protect downstream water rights.
- Participate in the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan process to promote regional water management strategies to ensure sustainable and reliable water supplies, including the protection of agriculture.
- Coordinate and support integrated watershed management within the Santa Ynez Basin, as a member agency of all three GSAs in the Basin, and as one of the largest and longest standing water-resource management agencies in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin.
- Support all three GSAs' implementation of their Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) to achieve their respective groundwater sustainability goals. This includes providing groundwater production and other data to support GSA activities, as requested by the GSAs, and data collected by the District as part of its groundwater production reporting program.

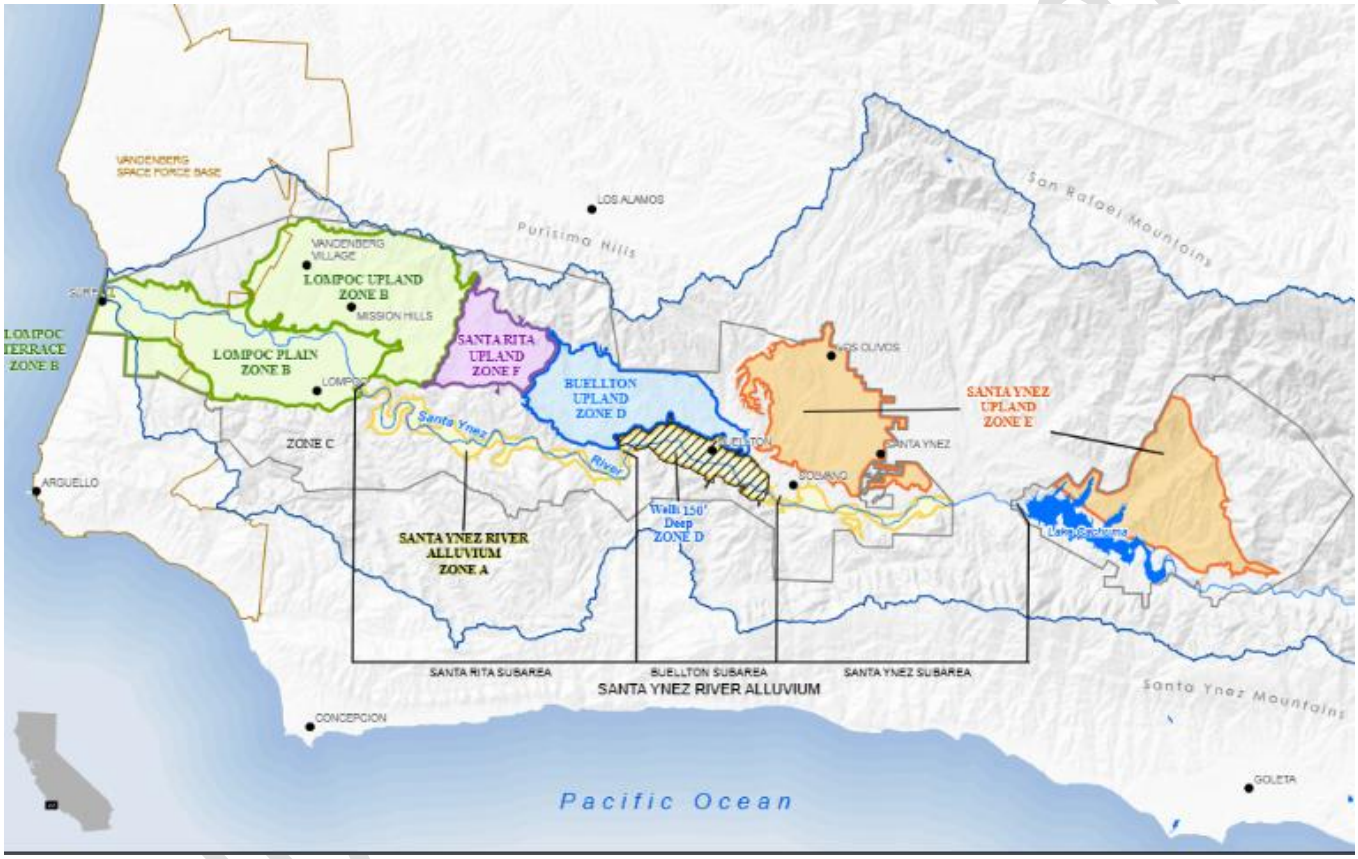
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- Develop and submit grant applications and administer over $6.5M in grant funding as Grantee on behalf of the three GSAs to support SGMA activities in the Basin.

The District comprises two non-contiguous areas and encompasses approximately 180,000 acres. It includes the cities of Lompoc, Solvang, and Buellton and the communities of Vandenberg Village, Mission Hills, Santa Ynez, Ballard, and Los Olivos. It includes the portion of the Santa Ynez River downstream of Bradbury Dam, the Lompoc Plain, the Santa Ynez Upland, the Lompoc Upland, the Buellton Upland, the Santa Rita Upland, and the Lompoc Terrace.

The zones are shown in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1. Service Area Map



Legal Framework

Proposition 26, codified in the California Constitution as Article XIII C, was approved by voters in 2010 to require a supermajority vote to pass new taxes. Furthermore, Proposition 26 expanded the definition of "tax." Under the new definition, a tax is any levy, charge, or action of any kind imposed by a local government. Any fees or charges that are not exempted in the language of Proposition 26 are considered taxes and subject to voter approval.

Under Proposition 26, local water agencies must demonstrate their fees and charges are not taxes by showing that they fall within one of the exceptions in Proposition 26, which include, among others, the following:

(e) As used in this article, "tax" means any levy, charge, or exaction of any kind imposed by a local government, except the following:

(1) A charge imposed for a specific benefit conferred or privilege granted directly to the payor that is not provided to those not charged, and which does not exceed the reasonable costs to the government of conferring the benefit or granting the privilege.

(2) A charge imposed for a specific government service or product provided directly to the payor that is not provided to those not charged, and which does not exceed the reasonable costs to the local government of providing the service or product.

(3) A charge imposed for the reasonable regulatory costs to a local government for issuing licenses and permits, performing investigations, inspections, and audits, enforcing agricultural marketing orders, and the administrative enforcement and adjudication thereof.

In order not to be considered a tax, Prop 26 requires that local agencies must demonstrate "that the amount is no more than necessary to cover the reasonable costs of the governmental activity, and that the manner in which those costs are allocated to a payor bear a fair or reasonable relationship to the payor's burdens on, or benefits received from, the governmental activity.[3]"

The rates and charges recommended in this study are not considered taxes under Proposition 26 because the costs bear a fair and reasonable relationship to the payor's burdens on, or benefits received from, the governmental activity. The specific privilege granted to those who pay the groundwater charge is the right to extract groundwater from within the District's boundaries, which is granted only to those who pay for that right. One could also reasonably describe the District's activities as regulating water use in its area of responsibility and conducting investigations as required by its organic statute. In any event, the important point under Proposition 26 is that the District's rates are firmly tethered to its costs and are allocated proportionately among water users.

Key Assumptions

A test year, FY 2026-27, was selected for which costs are to be analyzed, and rates established for this study. The financial plan was built for the next five years, FY 2026-27 through FY 2030-31 with a detailed revenue adjustment plan. The District's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. In order to project financial results, the following assumptions were made based on either historical data provided by the District or data published by other governmental agencies.

Water Use

Water use was projected for each zone and activity based on a historical survey of data reported in the District 48th Annual Report[4]. Coefficients for projecting future water use were based on 10 years of historical water use trend averages. The FY 2026-27 water use level is taken from the projection in the District's Annual Report. Future year use levels are linear regressions for each zone based on the coefficients shown in **Table 2.** The projected annual use by zone and a comparison of historical use and projected trends graphically are shown in **Table 3** and **Figure 2**, respectively.

[3] California Constitution Article XIII C - Voter Approval for Local Tax Levies Section 1.

[4] Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (2026) Forty-Eighth Annual Engineering and Survey Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, A Summary of Findings for the Previous Water year (2024-2025), Current Water Year (2025-2026), and Ensuing Water Year (2026-2027). Stetson.

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Table 2. Zone Water Use Projection Coefficients[5]

Zone	10 year average trend
Zone A	-1.84%
Zone B	-1.31%
Zone C	1.81%
Zone D	-1.47%
Zone E	0.61%
Zone F	-0.23%

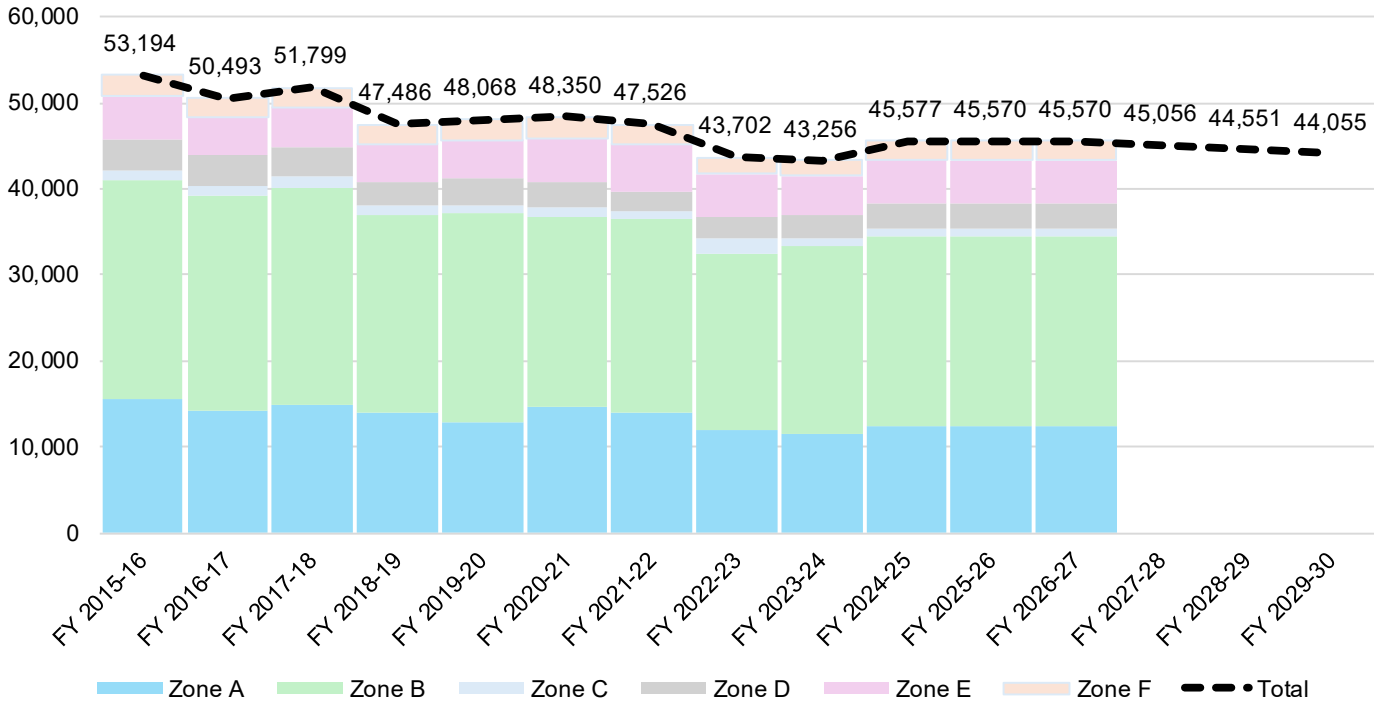
Table 3. Projected Water Use by Zone

Zone	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Zone A	12,485	12,255	12,030	11,809	11,592
Zone B	21,935	21,648	21,366	21,086	20,811
Zone C	1,000	1,018	1,036	1,055	1,074
Zone D	2,855	2,813	2,771	2,731	2,690
Zone E	5,090	5,121	5,152	5,183	5,215
Zone F	2,205	2,200	2,195	2,190	2,185
Total	**45,570**	**45,056**	**44,551**	**44,055**	**43,567**

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[5] Historical water use data is shown in the appendix

Figure 2. Historic and Future Water Use Total Use Trends



Inflation

The financial plan was built based on projected escalation of revenues and expenses associated with general operations. Escalation factors were calculated for four independent variables using historical Consumer Price Index (CPI) data from the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Riverside, CA between the year 2000 and the most current calendar year[6], and projections by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (FRED) Economic Research Division, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). All escalation factors were developed by calculating an average rate of change and projecting that rate into future years. The FY 2026-27 expenses are based on the District's preliminary budget. Expenses for future years are projected by multiplying the FY 2026-27 value by one of the inflationary categories shown in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Projected Inflationary Adjustments

Inflation Category	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Employee	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%
Equipment	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
Overall	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
Property Tax	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%

Reserve Policy

The District tracks long-term financial performance by maintaining a reserve policy that ensures a minimum reserve, as established by Board policy, to cover emergencies and unexpected events,

[6] Bureau of Labor Statistics (2026) *Consumer Price Indices Los Angeles-Long Beach-Riverside, CA, Not Seasonally Adjusted.*

including potential litigation. The target reserve balance is recommended to provide working capital for the District's expenses, given the required semiannual billing. Any proposed revenue plan is expected to maintain or achieve reserves at or above the target reserve requirements by the end of the five-year financial plan. The plan proposed in this report reaches the target reserve in FY 2029-30. The described reserve policy and FY 2026-27 policy targets are shown in **Table 5**.

Table 5. District Reserve Policies

ɨrve	Policy	FY 2026-27
Minimum Reserve	$2 million	$2,000,000
Target Reserve	$2 million plus 50% of Operating Expenses	$2,695,334

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2. FINANCIAL PLAN

RDN projected revenues and expenses based on data provided by the District and methodologies described in the introduction. Based on the results of the financial modelling, RDN recommends that the District plan to increase revenues by 5.0 percent per year. The proposed revenue adjustments will allow the District to keep up with increasing operating costs and attain target reserve levels. **Table 6** shows the proposed revenue adjustments for the next five years, which should be implemented on July 1 of that year. Only one year of rates is proposed based on the proposed financial plan so the District will reevaluate the proposed adjustments as part of the annual rate setting process. All revenues shown in the status quo are based on current rates. Proposed rate revenues are shown in the proposed financial plan.

Table 6. Proposed Revenue Adjustments

Category	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Proposed Revenue Adjustment	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%

Revenues

Rate Revenue

Rate revenues were calculated by multiplying the projected use by zone by the respective rate per acre foot. Table 7 shows the projected revenue by one under the current rate structure as well as the total rate revenue projected to be collected by the District.

Table 7. Projected Status Quo Rate Revenue

Rate Revenues	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Zone A	$274,670	$269,621	$264,664	$259,799	$255,023
Zone B	$324,638	$320,397	$316,211	$312,080	$308,003
Zone C	$9,200	$9,366	$9,536	$9,708	$9,883
Zone D	$26,266	$25,879	$25,497	$25,122	$24,751
Zone E	$46,828	$47,113	$47,399	$47,688	$47,978
Zone F	$20,286	$20,240	$20,193	$20,147	$20,101
Total Rate Revenue	**$701,888**	**$692,615**	**$683,501**	**$674,543**	**$665,739**

Non-Operating Revenue

In addition to rate revenues, the District collects a variety of non-operating revenues, including property tax (the principal recurring source of non-rate revenue), interest income, miscellaneous income, and grant reimbursements. **Table 8** shows the projected status quo revenue under each non-operating category. Property taxes are projected to increase around 1.0 percent per year based on estimates provided by the District. Status quo interest income is projected based on a 3.7 percent annual return on District reserve funds. FY 2026-27 represents the final year of SGMA Grant Reimbursement, so those revenues do not continue. The GSA Loan Pay-Back was estimated by the District and represents reimbursements the three groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) within the District have agreed to make to the District for money previously loaned to the GSAs.

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Table 8. Projected Status Quo Non-Operating Revenue

Non-Operating Revenue	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
SB County Property Taxes	$424,360	$428,604	$432,890	$437,219	$441,591
Interest Income	$68,000	$79,460	$82,318	$87,516	$88,840
Miscellaneous Income	$250	$250	$250	$250	$250
Administrative Support to GSA(s)	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000
GSA Loan Pay-Back	$0	$341,565	$110,437	$110,437	$0
SGMA Grant Reimbursement - Comp 1 only	$85,000	$0	$0	$0	$0
SGMA Grant Reimbursement - Comp 2-8 (pass thru)	$1,079,515	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Non-Operating Revenue	**$1,697,125**	**$889,878**	**$665,895**	**$675,421**	**$570,681**

Operating Expense

Operating expense projections are based on the District's FY 2026-27 budget. For future years, each budget line-item is multiplied by the corresponding inflationary value. Routine operating costs include the salaries and benefits of District staff, the expenses of maintaining the District's office, insurance, and other expenses that occur regardless of what functions the District is pursuing. The significant decrease in total expenses between FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 occurs due to the passthrough SGMA Grant Reimbursements and payments being completed.

Table 9 shows the projected operating expenses and the respective inflationary category.

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Table 9. Projected Operating Expenses

Operating Expenses	Inflation Category	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Internal Operations / Expenses						
Employee Salaries	Employee	$482,726	$500,905	$519,770	$539,344	$559,656
Payroll (SS and Medicare)	Employee	$40,458	$41,982	$43,563	$45,203	$46,906
Employee Benefits	Employee	$54,533	$56,587	$58,718	$60,929	$63,224
Retirement Plan Contributions	Employee	$33,091	$34,337	$35,630	$36,972	$38,365
Outside Services	Employee	$6,860	$7,118	$7,386	$7,665	$7,953
Office Expense	Equipment	$67,000	$67,565	$68,135	$68,710	$69,290
Director Fees	Employee	$23,000	$23,866	$24,765	$25,698	$26,665
Training (10-conferences) & Travel	Overall	$31,000	$31,832	$32,686	$33,563	$34,463
Travel (FY 26-27 included with Training)	Overall	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Annual Audit/Accounting Support	Employee	$25,000	$25,942	$26,918	$27,932	$28,984
Insurance & Worker's Comp	Employee	$25,000	$25,942	$26,918	$27,932	$28,984
Dues and LAFCO Fees	Overall	$7,500	$7,701	$7,908	$8,120	$8,338
Groundwater Charges Program	Overall	$35,000	$35,939	$36,903	$37,893	$38,910
Miscellaneous	Overall	$250	$257	$264	$271	$278
SUB-TOTAL INTERNAL OPERATIONS		**$831,418**	**$859,973**	**$889,565**	**$920,232**	**$952,016**
Legal						
General and Misc.	Equipment	$32,200	$32,472	$32,746	$33,022	$33,301
Downstream Release/Upper SYR Ops/89-18	Overall	$2,875	$2,952	$3,031	$3,113	$3,196
WR Decision (2019-0148)	Overall	$34,500	$35,426	$36,376	$37,352	$38,354
Fisheries Issues	Overall	$5,750	$5,904	$6,063	$6,225	$6,392
Employment/HR	Overall	$2,875	$2,952	$3,031	$3,113	$3,196
Groundwater Program	Overall	$8,050	$8,266	$8,488	$8,715	$8,949
SGMA-legal support (sub task each GSA)	Overall	$15,000	$15,402	$15,816	$16,240	$16,676
Assessments/Charges (approved at later mtg)	Overall	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
SUB-TOTAL LEGAL		**$101,250**	**$103,374**	**$105,551**	**$107,780**	**$110,065**
Engineering / Environmental						
General & Misc.	Equipment	$7,000	$7,059	$7,119	$7,179	$7,239
Annual GW Report	Overall	$30,000	$30,805	$31,631	$32,480	$33,352
Downstream Releases Operations / 89-18	Overall	$79,000	$81,120	$83,296	$85,531	$87,826
Upper SYR Operations	Overall	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
WR Decision (2019-0148)	Overall	$27,000	$27,724	$28,468	$29,232	$30,016
Fisheries Hydrology	Overall	$50,000	$51,342	$52,719	$54,133	$55,586
SGMA-Tech Support (subtask each GSA)	Overall	$15,000	$15,402	$15,816	$16,240	$16,676
Special Studies	Overall	$200,000	$130,000	$30,000	$30,805	$31,631
SUB-TOTAL ENGINEERING / ENVIRONMENTAL		**$408,000**	**$343,452**	**$249,049**	**$255,600**	**$262,326**
SYRWCD SGMA Expenses	**Overall**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Contingencies	No Escalation	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000
Subtotal Operating		**$1,390,668**	**$1,356,799**	**$1,294,164**	**$1,333,613**	**$1,374,406**
SGMA Passthrough	No Escalation	$1,079,515	$0	$0	$0	$0
SYRWCD GSA Loan Contributions	No Escalation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Expense		**$2,470,183**	**$1,356,799**	**$1,294,164**	**$1,333,613**	**$1,374,406**

Reserve Balance

Reserves are designed to allow the District to maintain cash flows throughout the year as well as having funds available for unforeseen expenses, including potential litigation. **Table 10** shows the minimum and target reserve levels for each year of the financial plan as well as the ending balance under the status quo revenues.

Table 10. Annual Reserve Targets and Status Quo Balance

Reserve	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Minimum Reserve	$2,000,000	$2,000,000	$2,000,000	$2,000,000	$2,000,000
Target Reserve	$2,695,334	$2,678,399	$2,647,082	$2,666,806	$2,687,203
Status Quo Ending Balance	**$2,111,977**	**$2,337,672**	**$2,392,903**	**$2,409,255**	**$2,271,269**

Financial Plan and Revenue Adjustments

Under the status quo financial plan, the District maintains the minimum reserve balance but does not reach the proposed reserve target. **Table 11** shows the status quo financial plan pro forma.

Table 11. Status Quo Financial Plan Pro Forma[7]

Status Quo	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Cash Position Opending Balance	$2,183,147	$2,111,977	$2,337,672	$2,392,903	$2,409,255
Revenues					
Rate Revenue	$701,888	$692,615	$683,501	$674,543	$665,739
Property Tax Revenue	$424,360	$428,604	$432,890	$437,219	$441,591
Investment Revenue	$68,000	$79,460	$82,318	$87,516	$88,840
Other Non Operating Revenue	$125,250	$381,815	$150,687	$150,687	$40,250
SGMA Grant Reimbursement	$1,079,515				
Total Revenue	**$2,399,013**	**$1,582,493**	**$1,349,396**	**$1,349,964**	**$1,236,420**
Operating Expenses	**$2,470,183**	**$1,356,799**	**$1,294,164**	**$1,333,613**	**$1,374,406**
Net Operating Revenue	**-$71,170**	**$225,695**	**$55,232**	**$16,352**	**-$137,986**
Ending Balance	**$2,111,977**	**$2,337,672**	**$2,392,903**	**$2,409,255**	**$2,271,269**
Minimum Reserve	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**
Reserve Target	**$2,695,334**	**$2,678,399**	**$2,647,082**	**$2,666,806**	**$2,687,203**

Based on the results of the financial modelling, RDN recommends that the District should increase revenues by 5.0 percent per year. The proposed revenue adjustments will allow the District to keep up with increasing operating costs and attain reserve targets. **Table 12** shows the proposed revenue adjustments for the next five years, which should be implemented on July 1, or the beginning of each fiscal year.

Table 12. Proposed Revenue Adjustments

Category	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Proposed Revenue Adjustment	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%

Under the proposed financial plan, which includes the 5 percent recommended revenue adjustments, the District reaches the proposed reserve target in FY 2029-30 and will maintain sufficient reserves through

[7] The cash position opening balance for FY 2026-27 is based on estimates provided by the District

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year 5. **Table 13** shows the proposed pro financial plan forma. Additional revenues produced by the revenue adjustment are shown in the Adjusted Rate Revenue row.

Table 13. Proposed Financial Plan Pro Forma

Proposed	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Cash Position Opending Balance	$2,183,147	$2,147,071	$2,444,408	$2,610,001	$2,777,712
Revenues					
Rate Revenue	$701,888	$692,615	$683,501	$674,543	$665,739
Adjusted Rate Revenue	$35,094	$70,993	$107,737	$145,368	$183,931
Property Tax Revenue	$424,360	$428,604	$432,890	$437,219	$441,591
Investment Revenue	$68,000	$80,109	$84,942	$93,507	$99,673
Other Non Operating Revenue	$125,250	$381,815	$150,687	$150,687	$40,250
SGMA Grant Reimbursement	$1,079,515	$0	$0	$0	$0
Total Revenue	**$2,434,107**	**$1,654,136**	**$1,459,757**	**$1,501,323**	**$1,431,184**
Operating Expenses	**$2,470,183**	**$1,356,799**	**$1,294,164**	**$1,333,613**	**$1,374,406**
Net Operating Revenue	**-$36,076**	**$297,337**	**$165,593**	**$167,711**	**$56,778**
Ending Balance	**$2,147,071**	**$2,444,408**	**$2,610,001**	**$2,777,712**	**$2,834,489**
Minimum Reserve	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$2,000,000**
Reserve Target	**$2,695,334**	**$2,678,399**	**$2,647,082**	**$2,666,806**	**$2,687,203**

Figure 3 and **Figure 4** graphically show the results of the status quo and proposed financial plan and the resulting reserve balances.

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Figure 3. Proposed Financial Plan

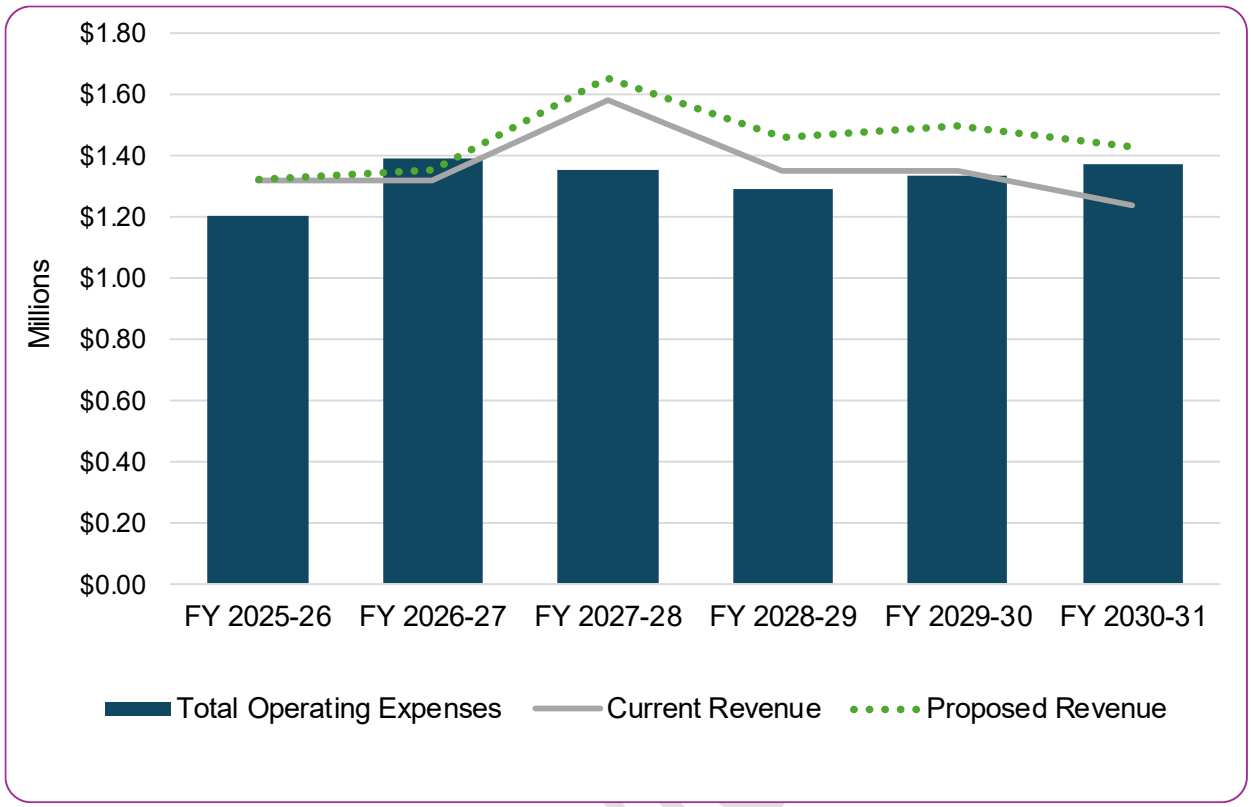
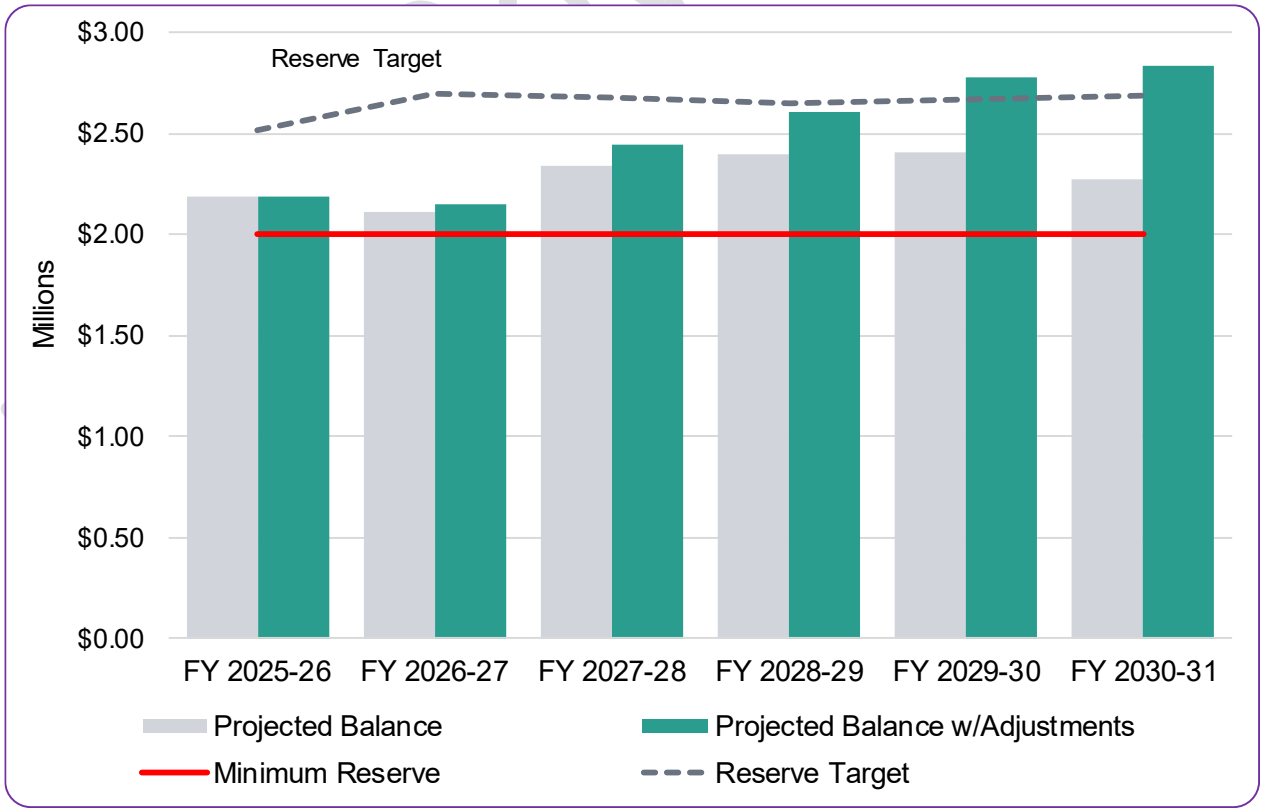


Figure 4. Status Quo and Proposed Fund Balances



3. COST OF SERVICE

In order to allocate costs to each zone, the cost of service applies a percentage of the rate revenue requirement to each based on their service requirements. The rate revenue requirement is determined by calculating the revenue which needs to be generated by rates under the proposed financial plan for FY 2026-27. **Table 14** shows the calculation used to determine the rate revenue requirement. The need to collect total operating expenses is offset by the District's non-operating revenues which include property taxes. Additionally, the rate revenue requirement is reduced by the projected net operating revenue, which the analysis assumes will be drawn from the reserves in FY 2026-27.

Table 14. Rate Revenue Requirement Calculation[8]

Category	FY 2026-27
Operating Expenses	$1,390,668
SGMA Passthrough	$1,079,515
SGMA Grant Reimbursement - Comp 2-8 (pass thru)	-$1,079,515
SB County Property Taxes	-$424,360
Other Non-Operating Revenue	-$193,250
Net Operating Revenue	-$36,076
Rate Revenue Requirement	**$736,982**

It is the practice of the District to use property tax revenues, SGMA grant administration revenue, and revenue from the District's GSA administrative support to cover SGMA related costs and a portion of other general costs. Because these non-operating funds are used to cover those costs, groundwater charge payers are not being charged to pay those costs and they are not considered in determining the proportionality of the groundwater charge rates. **Table 15** illustrates the use of the described non-operating funds on specific line item expenses. The remaining non-operating revenue will be used to offset rate revenue requirements more generally at the end of the cost of service analysis.

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[8] SGMA Grant Reimbursements and SGMA Passthrough costs are not included in the cost of service analysis because they are a direct passthrough of grant funding and have no impact on rates

Table 15. Use of Non-operating Revenues[9]

Category	FY 2026-27
Source of Funds	
SB County Property Taxes	$424,360
Administrative Support to GSA(s)	$40,000
SGMA Grant Reimbursement - Comp 1 only	$85,000
Total	**$549,360**
Use of Funds	
Salary & Benefits for SGMA-time	$40,000
SGMA Expenses	$0
General & Misc.	$50,125
Special Studies	$200,000
Total	**$290,125**
Remaining Non-Operating Revenue	**$259,235**

Operating costs are allocated to each zone based on the amount of groundwater pumped by that zone. **Table 16** shows the projected FY 2026-27 groundwater use by zone and the percent of the total groundwater pumped throughout the District's service area. The percentages shown in Table 16 are applied to most operating expenses as a reflection of the impact each zone has on the District's groundwater supply as a whole.

Table 16. Total and Percent of Total Water Use by Zone

Zone	Water Use (AF)	Percent of Use
Zone A	12,485	27.4%
Zone B	21,935	48.1%
Zone C	1,000	2.2%
Zone D	2,855	6.3%
Zone E	5,090	11.2%
Zone F	2,205	4.8%
Total	**45,570**	**100.0%**

Expenses related to water rights releases are allocated to Zones A and B (only), because those zones encompass the aquifers that are recharged directly through the water rights releases. The proportion of those costs allocated to each of those two zones is based on the average water rights release deliveries from the Above Narrows Account (which recharges Zone A) and the Below Narrows Account (which recharges Zone B) from 1990-2022 (33 years) based on Table 6 in the District's 48th Annual Report. The proportion of the charge for the work related to water rights releases between Zones A and B is based on the average annual delivery of water rights releases since the SWRCB Water Rights Order 89-18. From 1990-2022 (33 years), the average yearly water rights releases delivered to Zones A and B were

[9] The specific costs under each category are starred in Table 17

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4,438 and 1,761 acre-feet per year, respectively. Therefore, Zones A and B will be charged 72 percent and 28 percent, respectively, for all work by the District related to water rights releases.

Other expenses, related to general operations, are allocated by acre-foot of total pumping in each zone. This even, volumetric distribution of expenses reflects the District's role in investigating, reporting on, and protecting the surface water and groundwater resources within its boundaries. The District's general operations, including maintaining the well registration and reporting programs, conducting the annual engineering investigation, and publishing the annual groundwater report, benefit all users of groundwater within the District.

Table 17 shows the percentage of each budget item allocated to each zone.

Table 17. Operating Cost Allocation[10]

Operating Expense	FY 2026-27	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Internal Operations / Expenses							
Employee Salaries*	$442,726	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Payroll (SS and Medicare)	$40,458	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Employee Benefits	$54,533	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Retirement Plan Contributions	$33,091	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Outside Services	$6,860	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Office Expense	$67,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Director Fees	$23,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Training (10-conferences) & Travel	$31,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Travel (FY 26-27 included with Training)	$0	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Annual Audit/Accounting Support	$25,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Insurance & Worker's Comp	$25,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Dues and LAFCO Fees	$7,500	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Groundwater Charges Program	$35,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Miscellaneous	$250	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Legal							
General and Misc.*	$0	Offset by Non-Operating Revenue					
Downstream Release/Upper SYR Ops/89-18	$2,875	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
WR Decision (2019-0148)	$34,500	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Fisheries Issues	$5,750	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Employment/HR*	$0	Offset by Non-Operating Revenue					
Groundwater Program*	$0	Offset by Non-Operating Revenue					
SGMA-legal support (sub task each GSA)	$15,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Assessments/Charges (approved at later mtg)	$0	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Engineering / Environmental							
General & Misc.*	$0	Offset by Non-Operating Revenue					
Annual GW Report	$30,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Downstream Releases Operations / 89-18	$79,000	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Upper SYR Operations	$0	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
WR Decision (2019-0148)	$27,000	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Fisheries Hydrology	$50,000	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
SGMA-Tech Support (subtask each GSA)	$15,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Special Studies*	$0	Offset by Non-Operating Revenue					
SYRWCD SGMA Expenses	$0						
Contingencies	$50,000	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Total	**$1,100,543**	**$390,335**	**$489,650**	**$19,781**	**$56,475**	**$100,685**	**$43,617**
Percent of Total	**100.0%**	**35.5%**	**44.5%**	**1.8%**	**5.1%**	**9.1%**	**4.0%**

[10] Starred line items are either fully or partially offset by non-operating revenues as shown in **Table 15**

Operating expenses allocated to each zone are offset by the available non-rate revenue, which includes the remaining property tax which was not used for offsetting specific costs as shown in **Table 15**. The allocation of all non-rate revenue, besides the remaining property tax, is based on the percentage of total costs allocated to each zone. To determine the percentage of total remaining property tax revenue is allocated to each zone, the percent of the total allocated to that block of zones (either zone A and B or zone C, D, E, and F) is then subdivided by the total water pumped within the block. **Table 18** shows the remaining property taxes allocated to each block, subdivided to each zone in that block, then finally divided by the percent of total available property taxes.

Table 18. Remaining Property Tax Allocation

Category	Total	Zone A and B		Zone C through F			
Remaining Property Tax %	**100%**	65%		35%			
Remaining Property Tax $	**-$259,235**	-$168,503		-$90,732			
Category		**Zone A**	**Zone B**	**Zone C**	**Zone D**	**Zone E**	**Zone F**
Percent of Use in Block		36%	64%	9%	26%	46%	20%
Remaining Property Tax $	**-$259,235**	-$61,120	-$107,383	-$8,137	-$23,232	-$41,419	-$17,943
Remaining Property Tax %	**100%**	24%	41%	3%	9%	16%	7%

The above allocation results in a greater decrease in unit rates to Zones C through F than would have been the case if property tax revenue offsets had been allocated based on total pumping. Such allocation of remaining District non-rate revenue is a policy decision intended to partially mitigate the impact of the GSAs' SGMA groundwater management charges imposed on extractions of groundwater in Zones C through F. **Table 19** shows the percent of each non-operating revenue allocated to each zone and the total rate offset. Interest income, miscellaneous income, and net balance adjustments are allocated to each zone based on the total operating expenses shown in **Table 17.** The remaining non-operating revenue, determined in **Table 15**, are allocated based on the percentages shown in **Table 18.**

Table 19. Non-operating Revenue Allocation

Revenue Category	FY 2026-27	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Miscellaneous Income	-$250	35.5%	44.5%	1.8%	5.1%	9.1%	4.0%
Interest Income	-$68,000	35.5%	44.5%	1.8%	5.1%	9.1%	4.0%
Remaining Non-Operating Revenue	-$259,235	23.6%	41.4%	3.1%	9.0%	16.0%	6.9%
Net Balance Adjustment	-$36,076	35.5%	44.5%	1.8%	5.1%	9.1%	4.0%
Total	**-$363,561**	**-$98,122**	**-$153,799**	**-$10,013**	**-$28,586**	**-$50,964**	**-$22,078**

The total cost of service allocated to each zone is the sum of the operating expenses offset by the non-operating revenue. **Table 20** shows the total cost of service allocated to each zone which will be used to determine the rate per AF.

Table 20. Total Cost of Service Allocation by Zone

Category	FY 2026-27	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Total Operating	$1,100,543	$390,335	$489,650	$19,781	$56,475	$100,685	$43,617
Non-operating Offset	-$363,561	-$98,122	-$153,799	-$10,013	-$28,586	-$50,964	-$22,078
Total Cost Allocation	**$736,982**	**$292,213**	**$335,851**	**$9,768**	**$27,889**	**$49,721**	**$21,539**

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4. RATE DESIGN AND IMPACT

The District bills all groundwater producers (customers) based on the groundwater they extract from wells within the District's service area, as defined by Water Code Section 75502. Water is billed in acre foot (AF) increments, where each AF of water extracted is billed an equal portion of the costs which are allocated to one of six zones based on the costs which are allocable to that zone. To calculate the unit cost per acre foot for each zone, the total costs allocated to that zone are divided by the projected water use. **Table 21** shows the calculation used to determine the rate per acre foot in each zone. The unit rate is rounded to the nearest ten cents to increase administrative ease.

Table 21. Unit Rate Calculation

Zone	Total Cost Allocation		Water Use (AF)		Rounded Unit Rate
Zone A	$292,213	÷	12,485	=	**$23.40**
Zone B	$335,851	÷	21,935	=	**$15.30**
Zone C	$9,768	÷	1,000	=	**$9.80**
Zone D	$27,889	÷	2,855	=	**$9.80**
Zone E	$49,721	÷	5,090	=	**$9.80**
Zone F	$21,539	÷	2,205	=	**$9.80**
Total	**$736,982**		**45,570**		

Table 22 shows a comparison of the current and proposed rates per acre foot. The dollar changes range between $0.50 and $1.40 and percent change ranges between 3.4 percent and 6.5 percent based on the cost of service allocations.

Table 22. Comparison of Current and Proposed Rates per Acre Foot

Zone	Current Rate (AF)	Proposed Rate (AF)	Difference $	Difference %
Zone A	$22.00	**$23.40**	$1.40	6.4%
Zone B	$14.80	**$15.30**	$0.50	3.4%
Zone C	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60	6.5%
Zone D	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60	6.5%
Zone E	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60	6.5%
Zone F	$9.20	**$9.80**	$0.60	6.5%

Table 23 shows revenues under the current and proposed rates. While total revenues from each zone increase at different percentages, because of the service requirement of that zone, the total revenue increase reflects the 5.0 percent proposed in the financial plan.

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Table 23. Comparison of Current and Proposed Revenues

Zone	Water Use (AF)	Current Rate (AF)	Current Revenue	Proposed Rate	Proposed Revenue	Percent Difference
Zone A	12,485	$22.00	$274,670	$23.40	$292,149	6.4%
Zone B	21,935	$14.80	$324,638	$15.30	$335,606	3.4%
Zone C	1,000	$9.20	$9,200	$9.80	$9,800	6.5%
Zone D	2,855	$9.20	$26,266	$9.80	$27,979	6.5%
Zone E	5,090	$9.20	$46,828	$9.80	$49,882	6.5%
Zone F	2,205	$9.20	$20,286	$9.80	$21,609	6.5%
Total	**45,570**		**$701,888**		**$737,025**	**5.0%**

RDN also analyzed the impact on different types of customers within each zone. **Table 24** through **Table 26** show the impact of the proposed rates on the average agricultural, special irrigation, and non-agricultural users in each zone. The average acre foot use per statement was derived from data in the District's 48th Annual Report.

Table 24. Average Agricultural Rate Impact by Zone

Agricultural	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Average AF/Statement	35.200	49.075	0.268	11.897	6.510	15.816
Current Statement	$774.40	$726.31	$2.47	$109.45	$59.89	$145.51
Proposed Statement	**$823.68**	**$750.85**	**$2.63**	**$116.59**	**$63.79**	**$155.00**
Statement Change, $	**$49.28**	**$24.54**	**$0.16**	**$7.14**	**$3.91**	**$9.49**
% Change	**6.4%**	**3.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**

Table 25. Average Special Irrigation Rate Impact by Zone

Special Irrigation	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Average AF/Statement	2.498	3.224	0.130	0.299	0.051	0.000
Current Statement	$54.95	$47.71	$1.20	$2.75	$0.47	$0.00
Proposed Statement	**$58.45**	**$49.33**	**$1.28**	**$2.93**	**$0.50**	**$0.00**
Statement Change, $	**$3.50**	**$1.61**	**$0.08**	**$0.18**	**$0.03**	**$0.00**
% Change	**6.4%**	**3.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**0.0%**

Table 26. Average Non-Agricultural Rate Impact by Zone

Non-Agricultural	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Average AF/Statement	8.182	17.913	11.670	5.446	5.132	1.553
Current Statement	$180.00	$265.11	$107.37	$50.10	$47.21	$14.28
Proposed Statement	**$191.45**	**$274.07**	**$114.37**	**$53.37**	**$50.29**	**$15.22**
Statement Change, $	**$11.45**	**$8.96**	**$7.00**	**$3.27**	**$3.08**	**$0.93**
% Change	**6.4%**	**3.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**

5. APPENDIX

Gross pumping by Zone

Gross Pumping, AF	FY2015-16	FY2016-17	FY2017-18	FY2018-19	FY2019-20	FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26	FY2026-27
Zone A	15,539	14,140	14,974	13,862	12,854	14,543	14,008	12,008	11,596	12,486	12,485	12,485
Zone B	25,376	25,016	25,193	23,084	24,234	22,169	22,542	20,502	21,693	21,937	21,935	21,935
Zone C	1,170	1,188	1,330	1,237	1,072	1,238	931	1,628	1,063	1,001	1,000	1,000
Zone D	3,687	3,617	3,252	2,520	3,167	2,715	2,233	2,536	2,544	2,855	2,855	2,855
Zone E	4,994	4,470	4,782	4,523	4,358	5,222	5,527	5,004	4,632	5,091	5,090	5,090
Zone F	2,428	2,062	2,268	2,260	2,383	2,463	2,285	2,024	1,728	2,206	2,205	2,205
Total	**53,194**	**50,493**	**51,799**	**47,486**	**48,068**	**48,350**	**47,526**	**43,702**	**43,256**	**45,577**	**45,570**	**45,570**

Gross Pumping by Type

Gross Pumping, AF	FY2015-16	FY2016-17	FY2017-18	FY2018-19	FY2019-20	FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26	FY2026-27
Agricultural	39,742	37,642	37,661	34,431	35,275	33,523	32,532	30,185	30,226	31,259	31,255	31,255
Non-Agricultural	11,995	11,242	12,303	11,457	11,059	12,951	12,424	12,000	11,380	12,414	12,410	12,410
Special Irrigation	1,457	1,609	1,835	1,598	1,734	1,876	2,570	1,517	1,650	1,903	1,905	1,905
Total Gross Pumpin	**53,194**	**50,493**	**51,799**	**47,486**	**48,068**	**48,350**	**47,526**	**43,702**	**43,256**	**45,577**	**45,570**	**45,570**

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RDN

RESOLUTION NO. 742

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS, ESTABLISHING ZONES, SETTING RATES, AND LEVYING A GROUNDWATER CHARGE WITHIN THE DISTRICT FOR THE WATER YEAR 2026-2027

WHEREAS, in accordance with Water Code section 75560, et seq., an engineering investigation and report (entitled Forty-Eighth Annual Engineering and Survey Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, A Summary of Findings for the Previous Water Year (2024-2025), Current Water Year (2025-2026), and Ensuing Water Year (2026-2027), dated March 10, 2026) was duly prepared by the District's consulting engineer, Stetson Engineers, Inc. (hereinafter "Annual Report"), which Annual Report delivered to the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District's ("District") Secretary on or before the regular meeting of the District's Board of Directors ("Board") in March of 2025 as required by Water Code section 75570, and, as detailed herein below, the Annual Report was made available for public examination as required by law, submitted to and approved following a public hearing by the District's Board at its April 20, 2026 meeting pursuant to Water Code section 75570 et seq., and provides specific factual data and other evidence to permit the District to make findings and determinations as required by law including Water Code section 75574; and

WHEREAS, the District duly noticed a public hearing pursuant to Water Code section 75570 et seq. and in accordance with Government Code section 6061, for the April 20, 2026 meeting of the District's Board, which notice, among other information, provided notice of receipt of the Annual Report and hearing thereon and invited all operators of water-producing facilities within the District to examine such report and appear and submit evidence concerning the groundwater conditions and the surface water supplies of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report among other evidence presented at the April 20, 2026 hearing and meeting of the District's Board was in accord with and in support of the continuation of such a groundwater charge on all water-producing facilities within the District to finance the District activities and purposes as set forth in Water Code section 74000 et seq., for the water year 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, evidence was also presented at said hearing and meeting regarding benefits of the District's activities which different zones of the District enjoy; and

WHEREAS, continuation of such a charge is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act by Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(8); and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report was approved and accepted by the Board of Directors at said April 20, 2026, board meeting, with the approved version of the Annual Report being dated March 10, 2026, and filed with the District, which includes findings and determinations set forth on pages 11 and 12 of the Report; and

WHEREAS, this District performs essential regulatory activities in managing, protecting, conserving, augmenting, replenishing, and enhancing the water supplies for users within the District, including groundwater resources within the District. The groundwater charge rates herein establish a reasonable relationship to each user's burdens on or benefits of the District's activities including those activities described on pages 2 through 5 of the Annual Report; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board approved and adopted Ordinance No. 2026-01 – Groundwater Charge Ordinance on May 15, 2026, being in full force and effect upon adoption; and

WHEREAS, the District published Ordinance No. 2026-01, in full, on May 20, 2026 in the Lompoc Record and on May 21, 2026 in the Santa Ynez Valley News, newspapers of general circulation printed, published, and circulated in the district; and

WHEREAS, groundwater charges herein established are levied upon those electing to pump groundwater (as defined in Water Code section 75502, including, but not limited to, percolating groundwater and Santa Ynez River underflow and subsurface water that flows in known and definite channels) and to the extent of groundwater pumping, and such charges enable the District to perform its essential regulatory activities to manage, protect, conserve, replenish, augment, and enhance the water supplies for users within the District, including groundwater resources within the District; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the District to continue to provide these activities, which require concentrated, coordinated action on behalf of all District water users, including groundwater users within the District, who by their extraction of groundwater burden the underlying groundwater basins and benefit from the District's services in a manner that non-payors do not, rather than to leave such activities to individuals who could neither afford nor effectively act to protect or augment their water resources as individuals; and

WHEREAS, the groundwater charges fund the continuation of groundwater management services performed by the District to mitigate the burdens imposed on the groundwater basin within the District by groundwater extractors for the benefits of the groundwater basin; and

WHEREAS, the District has commissioned preparation of a Rate Study Report by Robert D. Niehaus, Inc. to, among things, develop a financial plan and conduct a costs of service study for the District and demonstrate its groundwater charge rates are necessary to cover the reasonable costs of the District's activities and are allocated to persons extracting groundwater within the District in a manner that bears a fair or reasonable relationship to the benefits received from the District's activities consistent with Proposition 26 (California Constitution, Article 13C, § 1); and

WHEREAS, Robert D. Niehaus, Inc. prepared a Rate Study Report dated May 12, 2026, which report was made available for public inspection and review, distributed to the members of the Board, and posted on the District's website on May 15, 2026, and presented to, discussed with and considered by the District's Board of Directors at its hearing during the meeting of June 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2026-01, the annual rate study was published on the District's website and a copy made available for public inspection at the District's office no later than the 30th day before the hearing on the annual rate study provided for in said Ordinance.

WHEREAS, no written comments on the annual rate study were received prior to 5:00p.m. on June 5, 2026, the 10th day before the hearing on the annual rate study provided for in Ordinance No. 2026-01; and

WHEREAS, one untimely written comment letter was received on the annual rate study from the District's Improvement District No. 1, and the District's Board of Directors considered those comments as well as written responses provided by legal counsel at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, such groundwater charges do not exceed the reasonable costs of the District carrying out its activities, and the manner in which the costs are allocated bears a fair or reasonable relationship to the payor's burden on or benefits received from the District's activities consistent with applicable law, including Proposition 26; and

WHEREAS, while property taxes can be used to finance a portion of the costs of the District's activities, existing limitations on property tax revenues which historically were used to finance District purposes preclude continuation of District activities without additional financing; and

WHEREAS, the District first implemented a groundwater charge prior to January 1, 1982, to implement the transition from the property taxation system in effect prior to June 1, 1978; and

WHEREAS, the groundwater charges are reasonably related to the District's activities, including regulatory and groundwater management services, and the need to maintain appropriate financial reserves for such purposes, and do not generate a surplus for general revenue purposes; and

WHEREAS, District staff has determined that continuation of groundwater charges is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act by Public Resources Code section 21080, subdivision (b)(8); and

WHEREAS, this Board determines that it is in the best interest of the residents, landowners, and water users within the District, including persons operating ground water-producing facilities, that a groundwater charge and several zones be established within the District, and that a groundwater charge be levied at the rates provided for herein within those zones upon those persons who elect to produce groundwater from a water-producing facility within the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by this Board of Directors as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals of fact are true and correct;

2. The Board hereby approves the "Rate Study Report" prepared by Robert D. Niehaus, Inc. dated May 12, 2026;

3. The Board hereby makes the following findings and determinations pursuant to Water Code section 75574:

   (a) The average annual overdraft for the immediate past ten (10) water years (October 2014-September 2025): 1,060 ± acre-feet;

   (b) The estimated annual overdraft for the current (2026) water year (October 2025-September 2026): 700 ± acre-feet;

   (c) The estimated annual overdraft for the ensuing (2027) water year (October 2026-September 2027):2,300 ± acre-feet;

   (d) The accumulated overdraft as of the last day of the preceding (2025) water year (September 30, 2025): 137,400 ± acre-feet in terms of accumulated dewatered storage. Accumulated overdraft as defined in Water Code Section 75505 is nominal, at this time;

   (e) The estimated accumulated overdraft as of the last day of the current (2026) water year (September 30, 2026): 124,500 ± acre-feet in terms of accumulated

dewatered storage. Accumulated overdraft as defined in Water Code 75505 is nominal, at this time;

(f) The estimated amount of agricultural and special irrigation water to be withdrawn from the groundwater supplies of the District for the ensuing (2027) water year (October 2026-September 2027): 31,255 acre-feet of agricultural water and 1,905 acre-feet of special irrigation water;

(g) The estimated amount of water other than agricultural water or special irrigation water to be withdrawn from the groundwater supplies of the District for the ensuing (2027) water year (October 2026-September 2027): approximately12,410 acre-feet;

(h) The estimated amount of water necessary for surface distribution for the ensuing (2027) water year (October 2026-September 2027): approximately 3,700 acre-feet scheduled to be delivered by the Central Coast Water Agency to contractors within the District;

(i) The amount of water which is necessary for the replenishment of the groundwater supplies of the District: 124,500 ± acre-feet to completely replenish accumulated dewatered storage;

(j) The amount of water the District is obligated by contract to purchase: The District is not obligated by contract to purchase water.

4. The Board hereby establishes the following zones within the District:

Zone A: District portion of the Santa Ynez River alluvial channel from San Lucas Bridge downstream to the Lompoc Narrows, as depicted on Figure 2, Page 14, of the "Forty-Eighth Annual Engineering and Survey Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, A Summary of Findings for the Previous Water Year (2024-2025), Current Water Year (2025-2026), and Ensuing Water Year (2026-2027)", dated March 10, 2026, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Zone B: District portion of the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Upland, and Lompoc Terrace groundwater subareas, as depicted on said Figure 2;

Zone C: All other portions of the District not included in Zones A, B, D, E, and F, as depicted on said Figure 2;

Zone D: District portion of the Buellton Upland subarea, as depicted on said Figure 2,

including that portion of the principal groundwater aquifer in Zone D that underlies the alluvial aquifer in Zone A;

Zone E: District portion of the Santa Ynez Upland subarea, as depicted on said Figure 2;

Zone F: District portion of the Santa Rita Upland subarea, as depicted on said Figure 2;

5. A groundwater charge is hereby levied against all persons operating ground water-producing facilities, and the following rates are hereby established and applied to all water produced from such facilities within each zone as shown below for the fiscal year 2026-2027:

Zone A (all water types)	$23.40 per acre-foot
Zone B (all water types)	$15.30 per acre-foot
Zone C (all water types)	$9.80 per acre-foot
Zone D (all water types)	$9.80 per acre-foot
Zone E (all water types)	$9.80 per acre-foot
Zone F (all water types)	$9.80 per acre-foot

6. The Board hereby finds and determines, based on substantial evidence including information provided in the above-referenced Annual Report, Rate Study, and Response to Comments, that the rates set forth above bear a fair or reasonable relationship to the groundwater producers' benefits on, or burdens received from, the District's activities that are funded by these fees. The Board hereby adopts, as the District's response to comments required by the Groundwater Charge Ordinance, the response presented at the hearing.

7. The Board hereby establishes the following methods to compute the amounts of water produced from a ground water-producing facility within the District:

   (a) If the well production is metered by a flow meter, then the meter reading will be utilized.

   (b) If the well is not metered, but has a separate electric meter, then production may be determined from electrical consumption and pump test results, if available. Annual pump tests shall be run whenever possible with the results of the most recent test used to verify and/or adjust meter readings.

(c) Production may be estimated based upon type of water use, estimated applied unit use, area irrigated, and types of crops grown on land, or number of connections or persons served, or type and quantity of units produced.

(d) Other criteria may be recommended by the District's engineer from time to time which will allow the Board to determine with reasonable accuracy the amount of water produced from a ground water-producing facility.

8. In accordance with Public Resources Code section 21080, subdivision (b)(8), the Board hereby finds said groundwater charges are for the purposes set forth therein including meeting the District's operating expenses, purchasing or leasing supplies, materials or equipment, and meeting financial reserve needs and requirements, as demonstrated in the Rate Study Report.

9. In response to the untimely comment letter from Improvement District No. 1, the Board of Directors hereby clarifies the meaning of the following language from page 6 of the Rate Study: "The specific privilege granted to those who pay the groundwater charge is the right to extract groundwater from within the District's boundaries, which is granted only to those who pay for that right." The District does not grant, confirm, or adjudicate water "rights" in the sense of overlying, appropriative, or riparian rights. Neither did the public agency described in *Great Oaks*. But all water rights are subject to appropriate regulation. (*Turlock Irrigation Dist. v. Zanker* (2006) 140 Cal.App.4th 1047, 1061.) One such regulation enacted by the Legislature is that groundwater pumpers who do not pay an appropriate share of the cost of the District's investigation and management of groundwater resources can be prohibited from pumping. (See Wat. Code, § 75630–75632.)

The foregoing resolution being on motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, was authorized by the following vote:

AYES, and in favor thereof, Directors:

NOES, Directors:

ABSENT/ABSTAINING, Directors:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of said district as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on the 15th of June 2026.

_____ _____

Larry Lahr, President Amber M. Thompson, Secretary

Santa Ynez River
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Groundwater Charge Rate Study

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District

ROBERT D. NIEHAUS, INC.

JUNE 15, 2026

Agenda

- **Discussion of background and process**
- **Financial planning results**
- **Cost allocation**
- **Results and Recommendations**

Ask

- **Board implements proposed rates**

Background

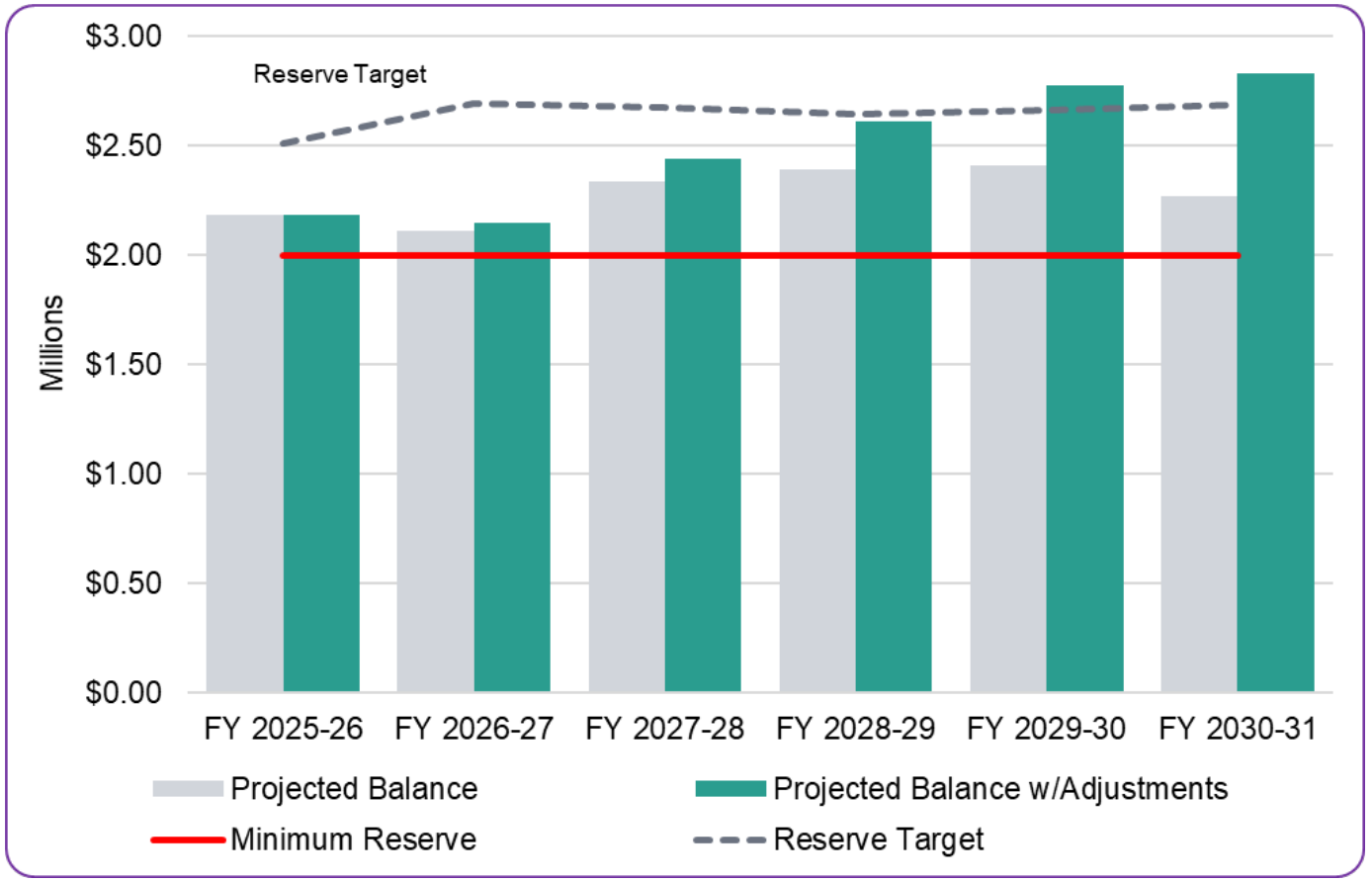
- **Board reviews and adopts rates every fiscal year**
- **District provides various water management services throughout its jurisdiction**
- **District rates reflect the cost to provide service**

Process

- **RDN developed rate recommendations**
- **District staff published the study as per the Groundwater Charge Ordinance (5/15)**
- **Board reviews objections and decides whether to adopt rates (6/15)**

5-year plan

Category	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29	FY 2029-30	FY 2030-31
Proposed Revenue Adjustment	0.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Month		1-Jul	1-Jul	1-Jul	1-Jul	1-Jul



Reserve Target: $2 million plus 50% of operating expenses. ~$2.7 million in FY 2026-27

- Funds for emergencies
- Funds for working capital

Cost of Service

Percent of cost category allocated to each zone

Category	Total Cost	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Pumped Water Volume	**$901,418**	27.4%	48.1%	2.2%	6.3%	11.2%	4.8%
Surface Water Volume	**$199,125**	72.0%	28.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income	**-$104,326**	35.5%	44.5%	1.8%	5.1%	9.1%	4.0%
Remaining Property Tax	**-$259,235**	23.6%	41.4%	3.1%	9.0%	16.0%	6.9%
Total	**$736,982**						

Cost category allocated to each zone

Category	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Pumped Water Volume	$246,965	$433,895	$19,781	$56,475	$100,685	$43,617
Surface Water Volume	$143,370	$55,755	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other Income	-$37,002	-$46,416	-$1,875	-$5,353	-$9,544	-$4,135
Remaining Property Tax	-$61,120	-$107,383	-$8,137	-$23,232	-$41,419	-$17,943
Total Allocation	**$292,213**	**$335,851**	**$9,768**	**$27,889**	**$49,721**	**$21,539**

* Reduces cost burden on Zones C-F

- **Cost Allocation Methodology:**
  - **Property tax and SGMA-related revenues fully offset SGMA-related expenses**
  - **Expenses allocated by pumped water volume**
    - Internal Operations, legal, Engineering, Contingencies
  - **Expenses allocated by surface water volume**
    - WR Decision, Fisheries, Downstream Releases
  - **Other Income allocated by total O&M**
  - **Remaining Property tax allocated 65% to Zone A + B***

Proposed Rates

Cost Category	FY 2026-27	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Total Cost Allocation	$736,982	$292,213	$335,851	$9,768	$27,889	$49,721	$21,539
Projected Water Use (AF)*	45,570	12,485	21,935	1,000	2,855	5,090	2,205
Rate per AF	$16.17253	$23.40515	$15.31121	$9.76840	$9.76840	$9.76840	$9.76840
Rounded Rate	**$16.20**	**$23.40**	**$15.30**	**$9.80**	**$9.80**	**$9.80**	**$9.80**

* 1 AF is equal to ~325,851 gallons of water

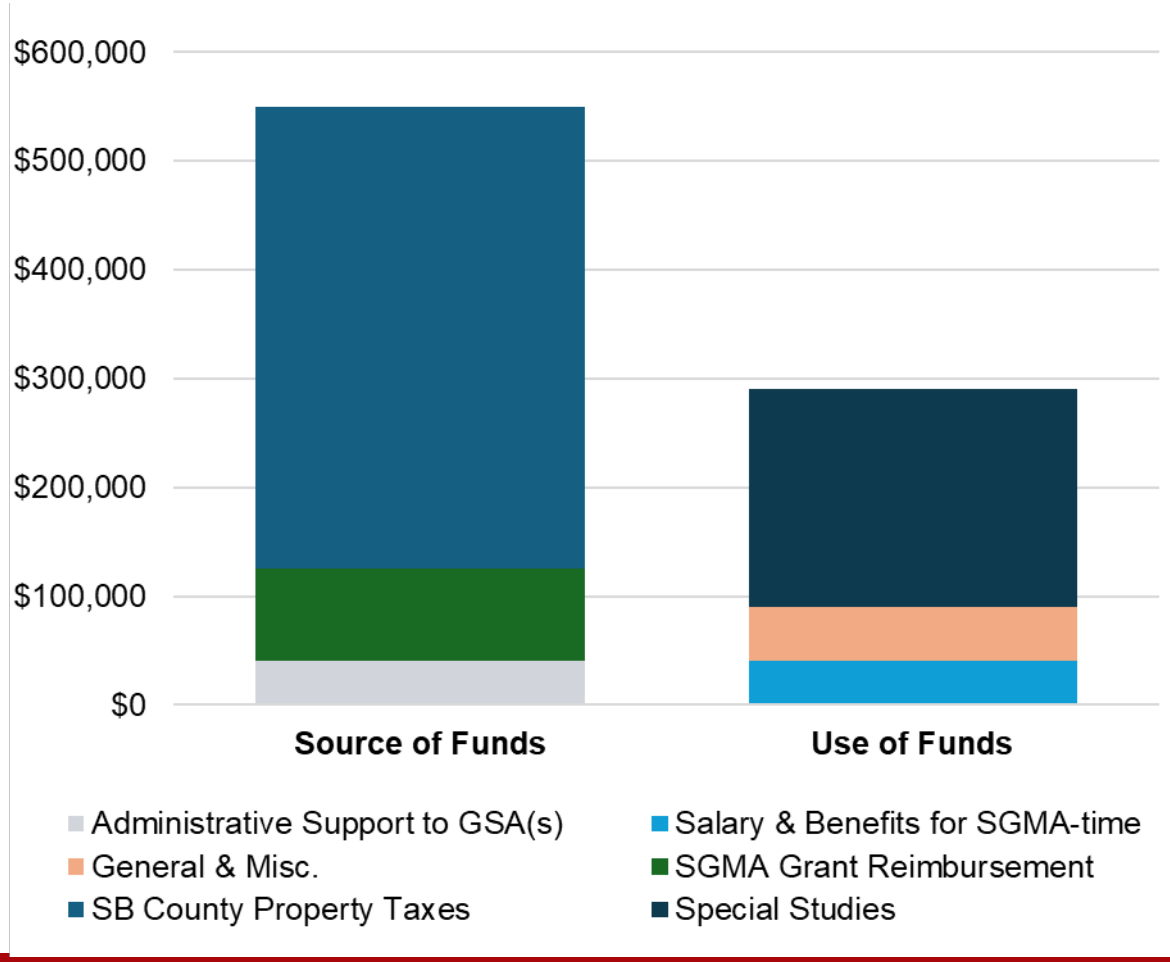
Comparison of Rates (per AF)

Zone	Current Rates	Proposed Rates	Difference
Zone A	$22.00	$23.40	**$1.40**
Zone B	$14.80	$15.30	**$0.50**
Zone C	$9.20	$9.80	**$0.60**
Zone D	$9.20	$9.80	**$0.60**
Zone E	$9.20	$9.80	**$0.60**
Zone F	$9.20	$9.80	**$0.60**

Questions?

Non-operating Revenue

Property tax and SGMA-related revenues fully offset SGMA-related expenses



Rate Impacts

Agricultural	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Average AF/Statement	35.200	49.075	0.268	11.897	6.510	15.816
Current Statement	$774.40	$726.31	$2.47	$109.45	$59.89	$145.51
Proposed Statement	$823.68	$750.85	$2.63	$116.59	$63.79	$155.00
Statement Change, $	**$49.28**	**$24.54**	**$0.16**	**$7.14**	**$3.91**	**$9.49**
% Change	**6.4%**	**3.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**

Special Irrigation	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Average AF/Statement	2.498	3.224	0.130	0.299	0.051	0.000
Current Statement	$54.95	$47.71	$1.20	$2.75	$0.47	$0.00
Proposed Statement	$58.45	$49.33	$1.28	$2.93	$0.50	$0.00
Statement Change, $	**$3.50**	**$1.61**	**$0.08**	**$0.18**	**$0.03**	**$0.00**
% Change	**6.4%**	**3.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**#DIV/0!**

Non-Agricultural	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
Average AF/Statement	8.182	17.913	11.670	5.446	5.132	1.553
Current Statement	$180.00	$265.11	$107.37	$50.10	$47.21	$14.28
Proposed Statement	$191.45	$274.07	$114.37	$53.37	$50.29	$15.22
Statement Change, $	**$11.45**	**$8.96**	**$7.00**	**$3.27**	**$3.08**	**$0.93**
% Change	**6.4%**	**3.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**	**6.5%**

Santa Ynez River

WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Memorandum

TO: **Board of Directors**

FROM: **The Law Offices of Young Wooldridge, LLP (General Counsel)**
Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC (Special Counsel)

DATE: **June 11, 2026**

RE: **Response to Comments on FYE2027 Rate Study**

I. Introduction

Pursuant to the District's Groundwater Charge Ordinance, the Board of Directors will consider all timely received comments and respond in writing. This written response is proposed for adoption by the Board of Directors.

II. Comments From Improvement District No. 1

The only comment received by the District as of the time of this writing is a letter ("Objection") from the District's Improvement District No. 1 ("ID1"). The Objection was not received prior to the deadline set in the District's Groundwater Charge Ordinance, but in the interests of complete consideration of the relevant issues we provide a response to the Objection here.

A. The Proposed GW Charges Comply with the Requirements of Prop 26

Prop 26 does not require that fees be "finely calibrated to the precise benefit each individual fee payor might derive." (*California Farm Bureau Federation v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2011) 51 Cal.4th 421, 438). It requires that the "manner in which those costs are allocated to a payor bear a fair or reasonable relationship to the payor's burdens on, or benefits received from, the governmental activity."[1] The District has the quasi-legislative authority to make an allocation within those constitutional limits, which involves "economic judgments" that "are often hopelessly complex and do not admit of a single correct result." (*20th Century Ins. Co. v. Garamendi* (1994) 8 Cal.4th 216, 293.) In short, there is some "flexibility permitted to account for system-wide complexity" in ratemaking. (*City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation Dist.* (2017) 3 Cal.5th 1191, 1213.)

1. Zone E Will Not Be Charged for All of the Costs to Which ID1 Objects

Because the Objection addresses only the Zone E charges, it is a necessary preliminary to note what ratepayers in Zone E are actually charged for. As noted in Table 17 of the rate study, the Zone E charge is made up of a pro rata share the District's Internal Operations costs, the costs of the Annual Groundwater Report, the line items for SGMA technical and legal support, and the contingency line item. (Rate Study, p. 18, tab. 17.) That pro rata share is based on the proportion of Zone E's total groundwater pumping to that of the entire District. (*Id.*, p. 17, tab. 16.) Several

[1] Cal. Const., art. 13C, § 1.

of the cost items the Objection addresses are expressly **not** items charged to Zone E—including river operations (Objection, pp. 5-6; Rate Study, p. 18, tab. 17), technical and legal support for downstream water rights (Objection, p. 7; Rate Study, p. 18, tab. 17), participation in SGMA planning (Objection, pp. 8-9; Rate Study, p. 17, tab. 15 ["Salary & Benefits for SGMA-time" funded by non-operating revenue and "Administrative Support to GSA(s)" as item of non-operating revenue]), and grant administration (Objection, p. 9; Rate Study, p. 17, tab. 15 ["SGMA Grant Reimbursement" as item of non-operating revenue].[2]

It is also further reduced by the allocation of an additional $50,964 in non-operating revenues, specifically intended to mitigate the impact of charges imposed under SGMA. (Rate Study, p. 19, tab. 19.) The initial allocation of costs to Zone E (11.2% of only costs attributable to all groundwater pumping) was $100,685. Thus, this further allocation of non-operating revenue constitutes a completely discretionary 50.6% discount on the cost of service.

2. The Existence of the EMA GSA as the "Exclusive GSA" for the EMA Has No Impact on the Constitutionality of the District's Groundwater Charge

The Objection notes that the Eastern Management Area GSA ("EMA GSA") is "expressly designated by SGMA as the exclusive sustainable groundwater management agency for all portions of the" basin's Eastern Management Area ("EMA") and faults the District for "continu[ing] to claim its own groundwater management authority over" Zone E, which is a portion of the EMA. (Objection, p. 2.) As has been made clear in past responses to similar comments by ID1, this is a complete red herring. The District does not claim, and has never claimed, to be a groundwater sustainability agency under SGMA. It is a member of all three of the GSAs in the Santa Ynez Valley, participation in which is one of the activities it pursues as part of its statutory responsibilities under the Water Conservation District Law of 1931. Those separate authorities are not modified by the passage of SGMA, despite ID1's insistent and unfounded declarations to the contrary over the course of years. (See Wat. Code, § 10726.8.)

In addition to this argument being legally baseless, it is also factually obtuse. The District has been requiring registration of groundwater wells and reporting of extractions for decades across the majority of the Santa Ynez Valley. That data, together with the hydrogeological analysis in the District's Annual Groundwater Reports, has been one of the primary sources of information used to create the Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the basin. And despite the fact that the EMA GSA has at long last taken action to require registration across its management area (including the area outside the District's jurisdiction), that policy is still being implemented. As recently as May 28, 2026, the consultants managing the EMA GSA requested this data from the District.

The Objection also makes repeated allusions to the District's registration and reporting programs being in some way "duplicative" of what the EMA GSA is doing. (E.g. Objection, pp. 7, 10, 11, 12.) The District has not materially changed its registration and reporting requirements, so any duplication arises from decisions by the EMA GSA to not build on the District's existing efforts. In any event, the District is obligated by statute to prepare its annual groundwater report, regardless of what the EMA GSA does or does not do. (Wat. Code, § 75560.) To that end, it

[2] This error regarding what costs are charged to Zone E pumpers was made in ID1's comment letter on the FYE2026 Rate Study as well and was corrected in the response to comments submitted to the Board in connection with that rate adoption.

collects the data necessary for its report under its authority to require registration and reporting. (Wat. Code, §§ 75541–75544, 75611.) Nothing about SGMA relieves the District of those statutory obligations.

3. The District's Groundwater Charges in Zone E Are Valid Both as User Fees and as Regulatory Fees

The Objection also argues that Zone E pumpers do not receive any benefits that are not received by other pumpers in the Santa Ynez Upland but outside the District's boundaries. Therefore, they reason, the charge is not "imposed for a specific benefit conferred or privilege granted directly to the payor that is not provided to those not charged" or alternatively it would "exceed the reasonable costs" of providing the service solely to Zone E. (Cal. Const, art. 13C, § 1(e)(1).) This argument is incorrect for at least three reasons.

First, the District's Groundwater Charge is subject to Prop 26 not only because of section 1(e)(1)-(2) but also because of section 1(e)(3), which covers charges for the costs of a regulatory program, such as the District's groundwater registration and reporting program.

Second, the "privilege granted" to those who pay the groundwater charge has been described as "the right to extract groundwater" from within the District's boundaries, "which is granted only to those who pay for that right." (*Great Oaks Water Co. v. Santa Clara Valley Water Dist.* (2025) 110 Cal.App.5th 260, 285, as modified on denial of reh'g (Mar. 28, 2025), review filed (Apr. 29, 2025); see Wat. Code, § 75630–75632 [providing for injunctions prohibiting extractions where operator is delinquent in payment of groundwater charges].) To clarify this point, the District does not grant, confirm, or adjudicate water "rights" in the sense of overlying, appropriative, or riparian rights. Neither did the public agency described in *Great Oaks*. But all water rights are subject to appropriate regulations. (*Turlock Irrigation Dist. v. Zanker* (2006) 140 Cal.App.4th 1047, 1061.) One such regulation enacted by the Legislature is that groundwater pumpers who do not pay an appropriate share of the cost of the District's investigation and management of groundwater resources can be prohibited from pumping. (See Wat. Code, § 75630–75632.)

Third, "[a] specific benefit is not excluded from classification as a "specific benefit" merely because an indirect benefit to a nonpayer occurs incidentally and without cost to the payor as a consequence of providing the specific benefit to the payor." (Gov. Code, § 53758, subd. (a).)

Thus, the fact that the District's annual groundwater report is "available to the general public" (Objection, p. 10) does not negate the fact that it is prepared for the benefit of water management **within the District**. (See Gov. Code, § 75560 ["The district shall annually cause to be made an engineering investigation and report upon ground water conditions **of the district**."], emphasis added.) Likewise, the fact that the District has made its data available to the GSAs "at no charge" (Objection, p. 6) does not negate the fact that it is data collected only from within the District and collected for purposes of preparing the report on conditions **within the District.** There is no incremental cost to payors of the District groundwater charge for the use of its data by other agencies.

B. The District's Rate Study Does Not Affect Groundwater Rights

The District's proposed charges do not affect groundwater rights. The District is authorized under the Water Conservation District Law of 1931 to investigate water supplies and to protect, conserve, and augment water rights and water supplies within its jurisdiction. Consistent with that

authority, the District has long imposed groundwater charges to recover the costs of these activities. The proposed charges continue this established cost-recovery. They are intended to fund the District's activities — including data collection, technical analysis, coordination with other agencies, and basin-wide water resource management — rather than to establish or regulate groundwater rights. The Rate Study's discussion of a "privilege" associated with groundwater extraction simply describes the regulated nature of groundwater use and the relationship between groundwater production and the District's cost-incurring activities. It is not a statement that the District confers or withholds the underlying rights themselves. (*Great Oaks Water Co. v. Santa Clara Valley Water Dist.* (2025) 110 Cal.App.5th 260.)

C. The District's Groundwater Charge Ordinance Is a Reasonable Measure to Enhance the Orderly Administration of This Rate Setting Process

This Objection also essentially asserts that the District may not adopt an exhaustion requirement modeled on the procedures described in Government Code section 53759.1. That is incorrect. First, the District respectfully disagrees with the assertion that Government Code section 53759.1 is as narrow as the claimant would apply it here and disagrees that any exhaustion requirement adopted by a local agency must strictly adhere to those statutory terms. In any event, however, the District's authority is not dependent on section 53759.1. The District has the power to "do all acts necessary for the full exercise of its powers," including its power to impose the Groundwater Charges. (Wat. Code, §§ 74501, 74508.) Because the Water Conservation District Law of 1931 does not include any provision setting forth procedures for comments and responses to comments on proposed charges, it is reasonably necessary for the District to create such procedures. The District's activities also constitute public works within the meaning of Article XI, section 9 of the California Constitution. Its authority to engage in those activities necessarily includes the additional authorities to impose charges necessary to support its operations and to establish reasonable rules and procedures to challenge those charges. Administrative exhaustion requirements are common, entirely lawful, and useful to ensure the District's Board acts on a full record, which includes written objections to its proposed action.

III. Conclusion

In conclusion, none of the claims in ID1's Objection justify any departure from the recommendation made in the Rate Study. The District believes that the Groundwater Charges, as presented in the Rate Study, are compliant with Prop 26.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 15, 2026

TO: Larry Lahr, Phil Carpenter, Robert Dunlap, Brett Marymee, Steve Jordan

FROM: Bill Buelow

SUBJECT: Rollout Schedule for the New SYRWCD Online Groundwater Reporting and Well Registration System

AGENDA ITEM – 12 (g)

Update and Discussion

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District's new online groundwater reporting and well registration system is ready for use during the current groundwater reporting period ending June 30, 2026.

Beginning the week of June 19, 2026, owners and operators of groundwater-producing facilities ("Reporters") will receive a letter inviting them to log in to the District's new online groundwater reporting and well registration system. Reporters may also access their individual accounts to review account information and current well registrations.

Beginning July 1, 2026, Reporters may enter their second-half Fiscal Year 2025-2026 groundwater production information for each parcel where they have a groundwater production facility. Reporters may enter data for multiple parcels and multiple wells. Parcel owners may identify and grant permission to tenants who may report groundwater production on their behalf.

Reporters may refer to a training video that will be available on the District's website. The short video will demonstrate how to log in, verify or submit well registrations, calculate groundwater production using one of the District's method forms, and calculate the applicable charge. The video will be available on the website before and after the July 31, 2026 deadline for submitting groundwater production information.

Reporters may pay the applicable charge online through a third-party payment application, subject to any associated fees, or by sending a check to the District. A report will not be considered complete until payment is received.

District staff will be available to answer questions and assist Reporters with logging in and using the system. Reporters may also visit the District office to access their account using one of the District's laptop stations.

Grantee's Name and Address:	Project Title: SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin	Invoice Number :	9	
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (WCD) **Mailing Address** **P.O. Box 719** **Santa Ynez, CA 93460** Physical Address 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101 Santa Ynez, CA 93460	**Agreement Number:** 4600015625	**Date of Invoice:**	5/22/2026	
	Funding Program Name: SGM Grant Program	**Period Covered by Invoice:**	1/1/2026	**3/31/2026**
	Solicitation Name: SGMA Implementation Round 2	GM initial if backup documents are included that are outside billing period & explanation provided on Invoice Summary Sheet and Progress Report:		_____

Components/Budget Category	Total Budgeted	Total Billed Previous Invoices	Total Amount This Invoice	Total Billed to Date	Total Amount Remaining
COMPONENT 1: Grant Administration	**$ 154,000.00**	**$ 68,738.09**	**$ 9,500.00**	**$ 78,238.09**	**$ 75,761.91**
(a):Grant Agreement Administration	$ 154,000.00	$ 68,738.09	$ 9,500.00	$ 78,238.09	$ 75,761.91
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
COMPONENT 2: Well Extraction Measurement Demonstration Projects and Basin Reporting Program	**$ 741,000.00**	**$ 371,826.74**	**$ 50,304.17**	**$ 422,130.91**	**$ 318,869.09**
(a): Component 2 Administration	$ 90,000.00	$ 76,916.50	$ 6,916.25	$ 83,832.75	$ 6,167.25
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ 88,000.00	$ 78,334.50	$ 5,903.50	$ 84,238.00	$ 3,762.00
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ 413,000.00	$ 139,262.99	$ 33,420.92	$ 172,683.91	$ 240,316.09
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ 100,000.00	$ 37,048.00	$ 4,063.50	$ 41,111.50	$ 58,888.50
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ 50,000.00	$ 40,264.75	$ -	$ 40,264.75	$ 9,735.25
COMPONENT 3: Santa Ynez River Basin WMA, CMA and EMA – SGMA Rate Study	**$ 82,000.00**	**$ 82,000.00**	**$ -**	**$ 82,000.00**	**$ -**
(a): Component 3 Administration	$ 7,000.00	$ 7,000.00	$ -	$ 7,000.00	$ -
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design		$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ -
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
COMPONENT 4: Basin GSPs 5-Year Update	**$ 1,492,000.00**	**$ 1,187,862.89**	**$ 102,188.40**	**$ 1,290,051.29**	**$ 201,948.71**
(a): Component 4 Administration	$ 75,000.00	$ 24,573.50	$ -	$ 24,573.50	$ 50,426.50
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ 1,309,000.00	$ 1,151,454.61	$ 102,188.40	$ 1,253,643.01	$ 55,356.99
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ 108,000.00	$ 11,834.78	$ -	$ 11,834.78	$ 96,165.22
COMPONENT 5: Monitoring Improvement and Expansion	**$ 1,845,000.00**	**$ 637,905.93**	**$ 78,238.75**	**$ 716,144.68**	**$ 1,128,855.32**
(a): Component 5 Administration	$ 100,000.00	$ 97,360.25	$ 2,413.50	$ 99,773.75	$ 226.25
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ 175,000.00	$ 115,037.98	$ 43,833.50	$ 158,871.48	$ 16,128.52
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ 890,000.00	$ 37,081.67	$ -	$ 37,081.67	$ 852,918.33
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ 580,000.00	$ 340,833.03	$ 27,662.75	$ 368,495.78	$ 211,504.22

Grantee's Name and Address:	Project Title: SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin	Invoice Number :	9	
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (WCD)		Date of Invoice:	5/22/2026	
Mailing Address	**Agreement Number:** 4600015625	**Period Covered by Invoice:**	1/1/2026	**3/31/2026**
P.O. Box 719	**Funding Program Name:** SGM Grant Program			
Santa Ynez, CA 93460				
Physical Address				
3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101				
Santa Ynez, CA 93460	**Solicitation Name:** SGMA Implementation Round 2	GM initial if backup documents are included that are outside billing period & explanation provided on Invoice Summary Sheet and Progress Report:		_____

Components/Budget Category	Total Budgeted	Total Billed Previous Invoices	Total Amount This Invoice	Total Billed to Date	Total Amount Remaining
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ 100,000.00	$ 47,593.00	$ 4,329.00	$ 51,922.00	$ 48,078.00
COMPONENT 6: Stormwater Capture and Infiltration Project Designs	**$ 335,000.00**	**$ 149,509.65**	**$ 18,347.50**	**$ 167,857.15**	**$ 167,142.85**
(a): Component 6 Administration	$ 20,000.00	$ 11,077.75	$ 1,752.25	$ 12,830.00	$ 7,170.00
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ 270,000.00	$ 126,026.15	$ 15,880.25	$ 141,906.40	$ 128,093.60
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ 45,000.00	$ 12,405.75	$ 715.00	$ 13,120.75	$ 31,879.25
COMPONENT 7: Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan	**$ 600,000.00**	**$ 316,615.62**	**$ 65,937.67**	**$ 382,553.29**	**$ 217,446.71**
(a): Component 7 Administration	$ 58,000.00	$ 13,702.75	$ 13,720.00	$ 27,422.75	$ 30,577.25
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ 158,000.00	$ 91,688.25	$ 15,028.00	$ 106,716.25	$ 51,283.75
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ 258,000.00	$ 158,625.95	$ 23,913.42	$ 182,539.37	$ 75,460.63
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ 32,000.00	$ 7,484.50	$ 12,342.00	$ 19,826.50	$ 12,173.50
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ 94,000.00	$ 45,114.17	$ 934.25	$ 46,048.42	$ 47,951.58
COMPONENT 8: Recycled Water Feasibility Study	**$ 285,000.00**	**$ 126,311.25**	**$ 50,890.00**	**$ 177,201.25**	**$ 107,798.75**
(a): Component 8 Administration	$ 25,000.00	$ 13,938.75	$ 1,324.75	$ 15,263.50	$ 9,736.50
(b): Environmental / Engineering / Design	$ 205,000.00	$ 71,241.75	$ 39,663.50	$ 110,905.25	$ 94,094.75
(c): Implementation / Construction	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(d): Monitoring / Assessment	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
(e): Engagement / Outreach	$ 55,000.00	$ 41,130.75	$ 9,901.75	$ 51,032.50	$ 3,967.50
Total:	**$ 5,534,000.00**	**$ 2,940,770.17**	**$ 375,406.49**	**$ 3,316,176.66**	**$ 2,217,823.34**

Total amount this invoice	Local Cost Share (0%)	Grant Funds Requested		Net Amount to be Paid this Invoice	Total Retention Withheld To Date
$ 375,406.49	$ -	$ 375,406.49		**$ 375,406.49**	$ -

Signature* of Agency's Authorized Representative: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name & Title of Agency's Authorized Representative: _____

***By Signing this form I certify that the information provided is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge, represents the work performed as outlined under this agreement during the period of this invoice, and that the reimbursement requested has not been nor will be submitted for payment as part of any other invoice for this project.**

Grantee's Name and Address:	**Project Title:** SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin	**Invoice Number :**	9	
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (WCD)		**Date of Invoice:**	5/22/2026	
Mailing Address	**Agreement Number:** 4600015625	**Period Covered by Invoice:**	1/1/2026	**3/31/2026**
P.O. Box 719	**Funding Program Name:** SGM Grant Program			
Santa Ynez, CA 93460				
Physical Address				
3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101				
Santa Ynez, CA 93460	**Solicitation Name:** SGMA Implementation Round 2	GM initial if backup documents are included that are outside billing period & explanation provided on Invoice Summary Sheet and Progress Report:		_____

Components/Budget Category	Total Budgeted	Total Billed Previous Invoices	Total Amount This Invoice	Total Billed to Date	Total Amount Remaining

FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BRANCH USE ONLY

GM Signature**:		PPM Initial:	PPM Date:
GM Name:		PM Signature**:	
	GM Date:	PM Printed Name:	
GM Notes:			PM Date:

**By signing this form I verify the supporting documentation has been reviewed, is satisfactory, and is available upon request.

Project ID: N/A (General Funds)	SES #	Eligible Project Start Date: 10/05/2022
Vendor: 203653	CD#	Work Completion Date: 3/31/2026
Requisition #: 10197099	BE#	Final Invoice Date: 04/15/2026
PO#: 4500313352	AGPA Initial:	Fund Revert Date: 06/30/2026

Notes: enter notes on AP (also should in the billed column), special considerations, etc

Progress Report for: SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin

Grantee Name: (WCD) **Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District**

Grant Agreement No.: **4600015625**

Progress Report No.: PR #10

Reporting Period: 1/1/2026 to 3/31/2026

Report Submitted to DWR: 5/30/2026

Grant Description:

The Work Plan includes activities associated with the planning, development, and construction of the SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin (Project), which includes Well Extraction Measurement Demonstration Projects and Basin Reporting Program, SGMA Rate Study, Basin GSPs 5-Year Update, Monitoring Improvement and Expansion, Stormwater Capture and Infiltration Project Designs, Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan, and Recycled Water Feasibility Study. The Work Plan includes eight (8) Components:

Component 1: Grant Administration
Component 2: Well Extraction Measurement Demonstration Projects and Basin Reporting Program
Component 3: Santa Ynez River Basin WMA, CMA and EMA – SGMA Rate Study
Component 4: Basin GSPs 5-Year Update
Component 5: Monitoring Improvement and Expansion
Component 6: Stormwater Capture and Infiltration Project Designs
Component 7: Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan
Component 8: Recycled Water Feasibility Study

Component 1: Grant Administration

Administration tasks for the overall grant that includes invoicing, quarterly reporting, closeout reporting, and environmental information form(s).

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Prepared ninth invoice (PR#9).
- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - Submittal of PR#09
- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)

  None
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget

  None

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant

  None

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Prepare Invoice #10
- Consider and prepare budget adjustment request and present to DWR

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$9,500
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$78,238

Other Issues

Some component categories are out of budget, and invoices are being held back at the request of the two Basin Plan Managers. With approval from DWR, budget may be moved within or between components and the invoices held may be submitted for reimbursement as part of a later invoice. All invoices for reimbursement will be submitted on or before the reimbursement window closing in March 2027, as described in the amended grant agreement.

Component 2: Well Extraction Measurement Demonstration Project and Basin Reporting Program

Component 2 consists of the development of the well extraction measurement and reporting program for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin). This Component includes a planning step, extraction measurement method demonstration projects, and two-phased implementation step. The initial planning step includes research to identify and purchase the data management system (DMS) for receiving and reporting the extraction data, and registration of wells in the white areas of the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), which are the areas outside the boundaries of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD). The demonstration projects will be conducted in the predetermined areas for a period of three (3) to (6) months, and the purpose of the study is to test the feasibility and reliability of different measurement methods. Demonstration study results will be used to develop program rules and regulations for program implementation, which will occur in two phases. The first phase implements the rules and regulations and initiates the well registrations in the predetermined areas only for a minimum of one year. At the completion of the first implementation phase, program effectiveness will be evaluated, and program rules and regulations updated for the second phase where the program will be implemented in the entire Basin by the GSAs. The basin-wide implementation will mark the completion of this component. Public outreach and engagement will be conducted throughout the entire program development process, including well registrations, identifying cooperating well owners for the demonstration study, and both phases of program implementation.

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) prepared for and attended coordination meetings with GSAs, updated burn rate charts, coordinated with sub-consultants, prepared and reviewed invoices, and conducted regular project management activities.

  Category (b) Continued DMS research and update.
    - Task 1: Environmental Compliance and Permitting
      - No work this period.
    - Task 2: Well Extraction Measurement and Reporting Program Development
      - CMA/WMA: Incorporate SYRWCD data to DMS.
      - WMA (Basin)-Expand & Incorporate SYRWCD online reporting to GSAs for DMS use (Dec. 2025 and Jan. 2026) LATE SUBMISSION from sub-consultant included on this invoice. Prior approval received.
    - Task 3: Demonstration Project Development
      - No work this period
    - Task 4: Basin-Wide Groundwater Extraction Measurement Program
      - No work this period
  - Category (c) Coordinated with team on demonstration projects; conducted landowner outreach and follow-up to schedule field visit and device installation and attended meetings with landowners. Work on demonstration project implementation.

    - Task 5: Demonstration Projects
      - CMA-Demonstration Projects (Jan. 2026); Coordinated with AgMonitor and LandIQ to compile & review data for each demonstration site; coordinated with landowners to collect weekly meter readings; continued technical memo.
      - CMA-Demonstration Projects (Feb. 2026); Coordinated with AgMonitor; communicated with landowners regarding data collection; conducted ET data review.
      - CMA-Demonstration Projects (Mar. 2026); Coordinated with AgMonitor; landowner outreach and communicated about data collection; updated and edited tech memo.
      - EMA- Wildeye Demonstration Project (Jan. 2026)
      - WMA (Basin)-Demonstration projects, review & analyze data collected (Feb. 2026)
      - WMA (Basin)-Demonstration projects, data processing & evaluation of LandIQ and OpenET data, prepare updates & data review (Mar. 2026)
      - WMA-Demonstration projects coordinated with AgMonitor and LandIQ. Compile, review & analyze data collected. Coordinated collecting weekly meter readings with landowners (Jan. 2026)
      - WMA-Ag Monitor coordination, continued ET data review and mapping, communication and coordination with landowners (Feb. & Mar. 2026)
  - Category (d)
    - CMA-Conducted meetings to discuss Tech Memo and deliverables; reviewed relevant data (Jan. 2026)
    - CMA-Tech Memo updates and review (Mar. 2026)
    - WMA-Data review and data summary (Jan. 2026)
    - WMA-Data review, edit draft Tech Memo. (Feb. 2025)
  - Category (e)
    - No work this period.

- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - None

- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)

- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - Project schedule depends on cooperating landowners, completion of access agreements, and environmental document approvals by DWR.

- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - None

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Category (a) - update 3-month look ahead, attend check-in calls, coordinate with GSAs to review data collected from demonstration projects, attend board meetings, and conduct regular project management activities.
- Category (b) - continued DMS development process to report groundwater extraction measurements; expanded reporting website for GSA.
- Category (c) - conducted data processing and comparison of LandIQ and OpenET data; attended meeting to review component status; evaluated district pumping records.
- Category (c) - continue to implement demonstration projects and collect data.
- Category (d) - continue to review data collected from the demonstration sites and draft memo to summarize demo sites.

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$50,304
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$422,131

Other Issues

Invoices this period, not submitted to Grant, pending approval of budget reallocation between categories:

- Component 2, Category B, Tasks 2 and 4: EMA expenses from Confluence Engineering Solutions for Jan-Mar 2026, invoice #1400, dated 4/9/26, $9,120.00
- Component 2, Category B, Task 2: EMA expenses from Aleshire & Wynder for February 2026 expenses on invoice #104253, dated 3/27/26, $540.00
- Component 2, Category B, Task 4: EMA expenses from Aleshire & Wynder for March 2026 expenses on invoice #104907, dated 4/214/26, $972.00

No other issues have occurred to date.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

Component 3: Santa Ynez River Basin WMA, CMA and EMA – SGMA Rate Study

Component 3 includes preparation of a rate study for each management area including the Western Management Area (WMA), Central Management Area (CMA), and Eastern Management Area (EMA).

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) Performed project management activities.
    - None to report. Component funds previously expended.
  - Category (d) Monitoring/Assessment
    - None to report. Component funds previously expended.
- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
    - Rates have been adopted for all three GSAs.
- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)
  - None
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - None
- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - Rate study activities exceeded the grant allocation for all three GSAs.

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

  - None

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$0
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$82,000

Other Issues

The original budget for component three was $82K. An additional $54,560 was spent on the three rate studies ($13,042 CMA; $9,491 WMA, and $32,065 EMA) in excess of the budgeted amount. Approximately $85,069 in rate study costs are not included in PR#6, #7, #8 and #9 but may be included in a future invoice with the concurrence of DWR and if there are remaining funds available from other components.

Component 4: Basin GSPS 5-Year Update

Component 4 includes the preparation of Annual Reports, modifying the GSPs to respond to the DWR determination letter, and preparing the five-year GSP Updates for the Western Management Area (WMA), Central Management Area (CMA), and Eastern Management Area (EMA).

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) Component Administration
    - No work this period
  - Category (d) Monitoring/Assessment
    - Task 1: Annual Reporting
      - EMA/WMA/CMA: Water Year 2025 Annual Report preparation and submittal for the of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. Performed Inter-Management area coordination, and cost sharing agreements for combined annual report. Coordinated Joint Management Area Coordination Meeting to discuss the WY 2025 Annual Report.
    - Task 2: GSP Modifications
      - No work this period.
    - Task 3: Five-Year GSP Update.
      - EMA: EMA-5-Year GSP Update (Jan.2026)
  - Category (e) Engagement/Outreach
    - None
- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - None
- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)
  - None.
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - None
- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - None

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Continue to evaluate need for plan amendments.
- Continue to prepare updates to GSPs

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$102,188
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$1,290,051

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

Other Issues

Invoices this period, not submitted to Grant, pending approval of budget reallocation between categories:

- Component 4, Category D, Task 1: EMA expenses from Confluence Engineering Solutions for Jan-Mar 2026, invoice #1401, dated 4/9/26, $6,053.75
- Component 4, Category D, Task 3: WMA expenses from Stetson Engineers for Jan. 2026 expenses on invoice #2926-24-019, dated 2/20/26, $1,608.50
- Component 4, Category D, Task 3: WMA expenses from Stetson Engineers for March 2026 expenses on invoice #2926-24-023, dated 4/29/26, $1,103.47

Invoices this period, not submitted to Grant, pending GSA review & possible approval for consultant over budget expenses:

- Component 4, Category D, Task 1: BASIN expenses from Stetson Engineers for Mar 2026, invoice #2927-002, dated 5/2/26, $765.00 not submitted.

No other issues have occurred to date.

Component 5: Monitoring Improvement and Expansion

Component 5 includes the expansion of the Monitoring Network by the integration of three to 11 existing wells with one to four located in the Western Management Area (WMA), one to four located in the Central Management Area (CMA), and one to three located in the Eastern Management Area (EMA); the installation of one to three new monitoring wells with the goal of one well per Management Area; the installation of two piezometers located in the EMA; and the installation of two stream gages located in the WMA and CMA. Component 5 will include the collection of site-specific data from the existing wells via video logging and surveying, as applicable. Finally, groundwater-dependent ecosystem field surveys will be conducted in each Management Area, where additional data will be collected and assessed.

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) Component Administration
    - WMA (Basin): coordinated with GSAs and had semi-monthly check-in meetings, updated burn rate charts, coordinated with sub-consultants, prepared invoices, coordinated with Geosyntec on well locations, and conducted regular project management activities.
  - Category (b) Environmental/Engineering/Design
    - Task 1: Environmental Compliance and Permitting: EIR support contracting.
      - CMA-Completed CEQA NOE package for monitoring well installation; regulatory compliance coordination (Feb. 2026)
      - CMA-Monitoring Network - EIF/CEQA (Feb. 2026)
      -
    - Task 2: Land Purchase/Easements:
      - CMA-Access and permit efforts (Jan.-Mar. 2026)
      - CMA-Continue stream gage permitting application (Feb. 2026)
      - CMA-LSA notification; Coordinate regulatory submittals (Mar. 2026)
      - EMA-Land Access: Coordination of agreements and Legal Counsel (Jan, Feb, Mar. 2026)
      - WMA-Prepared regulatory documents, coordinated & reviewed PCN and NOI documents (Jan. 2026)
      - WMA-NOI and access permit efforts (Feb. 2026)
    - Task 3: Monitoring Network Planning and Design
      - CMA-proposed monitoring well locations and status meetings (Jan.-Feb. 2026)
      - BASIN- coordination on proposed well locations, tech memo prep on drilling methods and design (Jan. 2026)

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

      - BASIN- review alternate EMA monitor well location, finalize tech memo on drilling methods and well design for GSAs, prepare rough drilling cost estimate requested by EKI for CMA (Feb. 2026)
      - BASIN-WMA & EMA well design review. Address GSA comments to basin wide tech memo. Prepare and participate in Joint GSAs meeting. (Mar. 2026)
      - EMA-Coordinate site visits for new piezomenter & well locations (Jan-Mar 2026)
      - WMA (Basin)-Data collection for draft Tech Memo; update Tech Memo outline (Mar. 2026)
  - Category (c) Implementation/Construction
    - Task 4: Advertise, Bid, Award
      - No work this period.
    - Task 5: Monitoring Well and Equipment Installation
      - No work this period.
  - Category (d) Monitoring/Assessment
    - Task 6:
      - No work this period.
    - Task 7: Data Collection, Assessment and DMS Updates
      - CMA-Evaluate DMS well selection, field data collection & review, and prepare reports. (Jan. 2026)
      - CMA-GDE tech memo efforts (Feb. 2026)
      - EMA-GDE data reporting (Jan., Feb. 2026)
      - WMA-GDE vegetation health analysis & prepared relevant figures, continued to draft Tech Memo summarizing GDE analysis & field verification (Jan. 2026)
      - WMA-SWI data processing & evaluation. GDE Tech Memo Report draft (Feb. 2026)
  - Category (e) Stakeholder outreach
    - CMA-Well location outreach & permit eval (Jan. 2026)
    - CMA-Conducted outreach regarding stream gage permitting; Coordinated with permitting agency, GSA, and subconsultant. (Feb. 2026)
    - CMA-Conducted outreach regarding stream gage permitting; Coordinated with GSA and subconsultants regarding stream gage permitting; Coordinated with GSAs and County on well location. (Mar. 2026)
    - CMA-Encroachment permit issues outreach with City of Solvang, Legal Counsel (Feb. 2026)

  - WMA-Well location county outreach & permitting requirement eval (Jan. 2026)
  - WMA-Continued stream gage coordination with GSA, subconsultant, & permitting agency (Feb. 2026)
  - WMA-Continue stream gage coordination with GSA, DWR, County (Mar. 2026)

- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - None

- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)
  - Project schedule depends on cooperating landowners, completion of access agreements, and environmental document approvals by DWR.
  - Project schedule depends on cooperating landowners, completion of access agreements, and environmental document approvals by DWR.
  - CMA/WMA: Additional budget is needed for stream gage installation and GDE field verification due to the increased level of effort—specifically, permitting stream gage streamflow measurements to establish a rating curve (not included in the SOW), and higher-than-anticipated costs for GDE field verification.
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - Additional landowner outreach/coordination has been necessary.
- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - None

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Category (a) - update 3-month look ahead, attend check-in calls, coordinate with GSAs to review progress, attend board meetings, and conduct regular project management activities.
- Category (b) - continue to work on stream gage permitting application.
- Category (b) - continue to finalize regulatory document coordination and well drilling site access agreements, permits and bidding documents.
- Category (d) - continue to prioritize wells with missing well completion information for video logging/surveying, and plan for stream gage installation and GDE report.
- Category (d) - continue to prepare GDE tech memo.
- Category (e) - continue to conduct land or well owner's outreach.

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$78,239
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$716,145

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

Other Issues

Invoices this period, not submitted to Grant. Approved to Submit LATE with DWR Invoice #11 (per Scarlett Tovar):

- GSI Water Solutions: invoices for Feb. & Mar. 2026 services for Component 5 efforts were returned to consultant for revisions & have not been approved for payment by the EMA GSA yet.

Invoice this period, not submitted to Grant, pending approval of budget reallocation between categories:

- Component 5, Category A (WMA-Basin) expenses from EKI Environment & Water for January 2026, invoice #C40194.01-18, dated 3/4/26, $3,535.00

No other issues have occurred to date.

Component 6: Stormwater Capture and Infiltration Project Designs

Component 6 will lay the groundwork for planning and designing one to three suitable stormwater capture and infiltration demonstration projects. Component 6 consists of a desktop study in which data and modeling will be used to identify and screen candidate sites suitable for stormwater runoff capture, a pre-design field investigation to confirm candidate site suitability, a conceptual project plan and preliminary project design plans for the best suited sites. The goal of Component 6 is to have preliminary design plans that can be included in Santa Barbara County's clean water stormwater program to permit and construct the projects more efficiently in the future.

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) Component Administration.
    - Prepared invoice, PSR, and Project Planning.
  - Category (b) Environmental/Engineering/Design
    - WMA-Continue efforts to support 30% Design Plans and review survey report. Review conceptual design & permit requirements. Review local stormwater code. (Jan. 2026)
    - WMA-Continue efforts to support 30% Design Plans and develop Alternatives Matrix. Model results and summary for Rucker Ponds. Calculate river loss. Evaluate field work needs and review site field results and challenges. Coordinate with driller. (Feb. 2026)
    - WMA-Evaluate additional field investigation to support 30% Design Plans; Continue efforts to support 30% Design Plans. (Mar. 2026)
  - Category (e) Engagement/Outreach
    - WMA-Evaluate stakeholder engagement/outreach opportunities. (Mar. 2026)
- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - None
- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)
  - None
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - None
- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - None

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Category (a) - Prepare invoice, PSR, and Project Planning.
- Category (b) - Continue efforts on 30 % Design plans.
- Category (e) - Continue efforts to engage stakeholders.

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$18,348
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$167,858

Other Issues

No issues have occurred to date.

Component 7: Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan

Component 7 involves the formulation of a Basin-wide Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan (WUESP). The Plan will be developed through assessment of current water efficiency activities in the Basin, planning, constructing, and implementing demonstration projects, and stakeholder outreach and engagement.

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) Component Administration
    - Conducted project management tasks (staff coordination, subconsultant and Grantee/Grant Administrator coordination, invoicing).
  - Category (b) Environmental/Engineering/Design
    - Task 1: Develop WUESP and design demonstration projects
      - WMA-Update Tech Memo 3 & WUE Strategic Plan (Jan. 2026)
      - WMA-Update Tech Memo 3 and WUE Strategic Plan outline, import information from tech memos (Feb. 2026)
      - WMA-Continue updating Tech Memo 3 and WUE Strategic Plan (Mar. 2026)
    - Task 2: Environmental compliance and permitting
      - No work this period.
    - Task 3: Access agreements and/or encroachment permits
      - No work this period.
  - Category (c) Implementation/Construction
    - Task 4: Advertise, Bid, and Award:
      - WMA-Contracting with LandIQ on project (Mar. 2026)
    - Task 5: Monitoring Equipment at Efficiency Projects
      - WMA-Land IQ (Jan. 2026)
      - WMA-Continue efforts on evapotranspiration field station installation (Feb. 2026)
      - WMA-Continue efforts on evapotranspiration field station installation & demonstration project. (Mar. 2026)
  - Category (d) Monitoring/Assessment
    - WMA- Review pumping records & assessment (Jan. 2026)
    - WMA- Continued monitoring efforts for groundwater pumping & demonstration project (Feb. & Mar. 2026)

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

  - Category (e) Engagement/Outreach
    - WMA-Demonstration project outreach planning for landowners (Feb. 2026)
    - WMA-Demonstration project landowner outreach. (Mar. 2026)
- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - None
- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)
  - None
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - None
- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - None

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Category (a) - Continue project management tasks (e.g., staff coordination, subconsultant and Grantee/Grant Administrator coordination, invoicing); update the 3-month look ahead schedule; and prepare budget tracking and monthly progress reports.
- Category (b) - Continue drafting TM #3 and draft WUE Strategic Plan.
- Category (c) - Continue efforts on ET field station installation.
- Category (d) - Continue coordinating with landowners, AgMonitor, and LandIQ, and review and analyze data collected.
- Category (e) - Continue outreach to identify demonstration project sites and design and continue grower outreach.

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$65,938
Estimated Total Cost to Date:	$382,554

Other Issues

No issues have occurred to date.
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Component 8: Recycled Water Feasibility Study

Component 8 consists of a recycled water feasibility study, which will analyze possible service areas for the use of recycled water to assess hydrologic effects on river flows and identify the area that maximizes the benefit to cost ratio of using non-potable recycled water to replace groundwater pumped to support agriculture or infiltration to supplement recharge. Project alternatives will consist of the delivery of recycled water to different agricultural areas downstream of the LRWRP and infiltration to recharge the Lower Aquifer. The alternatives, including the No-Action alternative (current conditions), will be evaluated based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to technical feasibility, cost, energy requirements, benefits to stakeholders, and alignment with goals set by the GSP. The results of the analysis and the recommended project (including the costs, conceptual design, implementation plan, as applicable, and legal review and recommendations) will be summarized in the feasibility study report.

Project Progress

- Updates on All Tasks/Accomplishments During Reporting Period
  - Category (a) Component Administration.
    - Conducted project management, prepared monthly invoice and PSR, and held internal team meetings.
  - Category (b): Environmental/Engineering/Design:
    - WMA- City of Lompoc legal counsel services regarding possible change to City's wastewater treatment plan discharge point for groundwater recharge. (Sept. 2025) LATE SUBMISSION approved by S.Tovar, invoice received late.
    - WMA-Updated RW supply evaluation to incorporate recent data. Continued to prepare RW opportunities screening and develop initial content for Draft RWFS. Incorporate findings of City attorney legal analysis regarding changing permitted discharge point into the Draft RWFS. (Jan. 2026)
    - WMA-Continue to prepare RW opportunities screening and develop initial content for Draft RWFS. Incorporate findings of aquatic ecologist's environmental analysis white paper regarding implications of changing the City's permitted discharge point into Draft RWFS (Feb. 2026)
    - WMA-Continue to develop initial content for Draft RWFS. Finalized aquatic ecologist's environmental analysis white paper regarding implications of changing the City's permitted discharge point into the Draft RWFS. Prepared opportunities for screening matrix and draft alternatives evaluation matrix. Updated non-monetary benefits evaluation criteria. Prepared workflow sequence for groundwater modeling. Prepared plots with Lompoc WWTP effluent flows and water quality. Reviewed agricultural demands. Prepared draft maps for RWFS. (Mar. 2026)

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

  - Category (e) Engagement/Outreach
    - WMA-Coordinate Stakeholder Workshop #2 and prepare presentation draft (Feb. 2026)
    - WMA-Prepared for & participated in Stakeholder Workshop #2, including agenda preparation, stakeholder survey preparation, and follow-up communications with GSA staff and stakeholders (Mar. 2026)

- Milestones or Deliverables Completed/Submitted
  - None
- Impediments to Completion of Task(s)
  - None
- Activities that Negatively/Positively Impacted Schedule and/or Budget
  - None
- Other Activities Associated with Project Not Funded by Grant
  - None

Activities for the Next Reporting Period

- Category (a) - Conduct project management, prepare monthly invoice and PSR, and hold internal team meetings.
- Category (b) - Continue screening recycled water (RW) opportunities. Finalize RW supply evaluation. Coordinate with aquatic ecologist (subconsultant) on environmental assessment related to potential impacts of changing the permitted point of discharge. Incorporate findings of draft white paper from the City's attorney into Draft Recycled Water Feasibility Study (RWFS). Continue to develop RWFS content and figures.
- Category (e) - Initiate Stakeholder Workshop #2 coordination and planning.
- Category (e) - Summarize evaluation criteria weighting based on stakeholder survey input.

Grant Cost Update (Round to Nearest Dollar)

Estimated Total Cost Incurred This Quarter:	$50,890
Estimated Total Cost To Date:	$177,201

Other Issues

No issues have occurred to date.

Appendix A

	TABLE 1: Deliverable Table and Deliverable Due Date Schedule			
Comp. # /Budget Category	**Budget Category Work Items for Review**	**Estimated Due Date**	**% Of Work Complete**	**Date Submitted**
C1	**Grant Administration**			
	Grant Administration			
	Environmental Information Form(s) (EIFs)	2/29/2024	100%	12/13/2022
	Deliverable Due Date Schedule	2/29/2024	100%	12/13/2022
	Progress Report 01, Invoice 01, and all required backup documentation	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Progress Report 02, Invoice 02, and all required backup documentation	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Progress Report 03, Invoice 03, and all required backup documentation	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Progress Report 04, Invoice 04, and all required backup documentation	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Progress Report 05, Invoice 05, and all required backup documentation	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Progress Report 06, Invoice 06, and all required backup documentation	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Progress Report 07, Invoice 07, and all required backup documentation	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Progress Report 08, Invoice 08, and all required backup documentation	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Progress Report 09, Invoice 09, and all required backup documentation	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Grant Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Grant Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

C2	**Well Extraction Measurement Demonstration Projects and Basin Reporting Program**			
(a)	**Component Administration**			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
(b)	**Environmental / Engineering / Design**			
	All completed CEQA and NEPA documents	6/28/2024	80%	Submitted
	No Legal Challenges Letter	6/28/2024	90%	Submitted
	Landowner access agreement(s) Memorandum regarding DMS research and services	6/28/2024	90%	Submitted
	Access Agreements	6/28/2024	90%	Submitted
	Technical Memorandum Summarizing development of demonstration projects	6/28/2024	20%	Submitted

	Draft Implementation Rules and Regulations Document	6/28/2024	10%	Submitted
	Final Implementation Rules and Regulations Document	6/28/2024	0%	Submitted
(c)	**Implementation / Construction**			
	Summaries of activities, field notes, and photo documentation to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports, as required.	9/2/2025	10%	Submitted
	Proof of purchase of equipment	9/2/2025	95%	Submitted
	Proof of equipment installation	9/2/2025	65%	Submitted
	Technical memorandum summarizing extraction method findings and reported data	9/2/2025	60%	Submitted
(d)	**Monitoring / Assessment**			
	Technical memorandum summarizing groundwater extraction data	4/30/2026	55%	Submitted
(e)	**Engagement / Outreach**			
	All outreach and engagement materials	4/30/2026	99%	Submitted
	Meeting/workshop agendas and minutes	4/30/2026	80%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

C3	**Santa Ynez River Basin WMA, CMA and EMA – SGMA Rate Study**			
(a)	**Component Administration**			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
(b)	**Environmental / Engineering / Design**			
	N/A			
(c)	**Implementation / Construction**			
	N/A			
(d)	**Monitoring / Assessment**			
	Meeting agenda and minutes	3/31/2026	100%	Submitted

	Final Rate Study	3/31/2026	100%	Submitted
(e)	**Engagement / Outreach**			
	N/A			

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

C4	**Basin GSPs 5-Year Update**			
(a)	**Component Administration**			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
(b)	**Environmental / Engineering / Design**			
	N/A			
(c)	**Implementation / Construction**			
	N/A			
(d)	**Monitoring / Assessment**			
	Annual Reports for Water Year 2022	3/31/2023	100%	3/31/2023

	Annual Reports for Water Year 2023	3/31/2024	100%	3/31/2024
	Annual Reports for Water Year 2024	3/31/2025	100%	3/31/2025
	Annual Reports for Water Year 2025	3/31/2026	100%	Submitted
	Proof of submittal of 2022 GSP modifications to DWR	3/31/2026	10%	Submitted
	Revised 2022 Plan(s)	3/31/2026	70%	Submitted
	Draft Five-Year GSP Plan(s) Update	3/31/2026	70%	Submitted
	TM summarizing Updates to groundwater models	3/31/2026	33%	Submitted
(e)	**Engagement / Outreach**			
	All education and Outreach Materials	3/31/2026	10%	Submitted
	Meeting Agendas and Minutes	3/31/2026	10%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

C5	**Monitoring Improvement and Expansion**			
(a)	**Component Administration**			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/31/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
(b)	**Environmental / Engineering / Design**			
	All completed CEQA and NEPA documents	3/31/2026	85%	Submitted
	No Legal Challenges Letter	3/31/2026	85%	Submitted
	Access agreements and/or easements and/or encroachment permits, as required	3/31/2026	85%	Submitted
	All other permits, as required	3/31/2026	85%	Submitted
	Technical memorandum summarizing site specific information, as well as locations for existing well	3/31/2026	40%	Submitted

	modifications, new monitoring wells, piezometers, and stream gages.			
	Preliminary design plans and specifications (monitoring wells)	3/31/2026	70%	Submitted
	Preliminary design plans and specifications (stream gages)	3/31/2026	95%	Submitted
(c)	**Implementation / Construction**			
	Final design plans and technical specifications (stream gages)	3/31/2026	80%	Submitted
	Final design plans and technical specifications (monitoring wells)	3/31/2026	75%	Submitted
	Proof of Advertisement	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Bid Documentation	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Notice of Award	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Notice to Proceed	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Health and Safety Plan	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Summaries of activities and photo documentation pre-construction, construction and post construction to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Record drawings	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Proof of equipment and materials purchased	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Monitoring Well Completion Reports, as required	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Certification of Completion Letter	3/31/2026	%	Submitted
	Acknowledgement of Credit signage	3/31/2026	%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

(d)	**Monitoring / Assessment**			
	Technical memorandum summarizing updates to the Monitoring Network	3/31/2026	40%	Submitted
	Well Survey Report(s) and/or Video Logging Report(s), as required	3/31/2026	0%	Submitted
	Technical memorandum summarizing monitoring data and surveys, assessments, and DMS updates	3/31/2026	40%	Submitted
(e)	**Engagement / Outreach**			
	All outreach materials, as required	3/31/2026	60%	Submitted
	Advisory group meeting agendas and minutes, as required.	3/31/2026	50%	Submitted

C6	Stormwater Capture and Infiltration Project Designs			
(a)	**Component Administration**			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
(b)	**Environmental / Engineering / Design**			
	Technical memorandum summarizing site specific information and sites selected for project locations.	3/31/2026	10%	Submitted
	30% Design Plans and Specifications	3/31/2026	25%	Submitted
	Percolation Test results	3/31/2026	90%	Submitted
	Geophysical survey report	3/31/2026	90%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

	Topographic survey report	3/31/2026	95%	Submitted
(c)	**Implementation / Construction**			
	N/A			
(d)	**Monitoring / Assessment**			
	N/A			
(e)	**Engagement / Outreach**			
	All outreach materials, as required	3/31/2026	30%	Submitted
	Meeting agendas and minutes, as required.	3/31/2026	30%	Submitted

C7	Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan			
(a)	**Component Administration**			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
(b)	**Environmental / Engineering / Design**			
	Water Use Efficiency Strategic Plan	3/31/2026	70%	Submitted
	Technical memorandum summarizing updated land use datasets and water demand, as well as tabular and/or schematics of existing programs	3/31/2026	80%	Submitted
	Technical memorandum summarizing identified demonstration project sites, maps, and other relevant information	3/31/2026	80%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

	Technical memorandum summarizing the Routine Tracking and Reporting Protocols document and near-term basin-wide water use efficiency goals and objectives	3/31/2026	30%	Submitted
	All completed CEQA and NEPA documents, as required	3/31/2026	15%	Submitted
	No Legal Challenges Letter	3/31/2026	15%	Submitted
	Permits, as required	3/31/2026	10%	Submitted
	Access agreements and/or encroachment permits, as required	3/31/2026	0%	Submitted
(c)	**Implementation / Construction**			
	Preliminary and final design plans and technical specifications for demonstration projects, as required.	12/31/2024	70%	Submitted
	Proof of Advertisement	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Bid Documentation	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Notice of Award	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Notice to Proceed	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Summaries of activities and photo documentation pre-construction, construction and post construction to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Record drawings, as required	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Proof of equipment and materials purchased	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Inspection Reports, as required	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Certification of Completion Letter, as required	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
	Acknowledgement of Credit signage	12/31/2024	%	Submitted
(d)	**Monitoring / Assessment**			
	Technical memorandum summarizing BMPs	3/31/2026	50%	Submitted

(e)	Engagement / Outreach			
	All outreach materials, as required	3/31/2026	50%	Submitted
	Meeting agendas and minutes, as required.	3/31/2026	50%	Submitted
	Memorandum summarizing outreach survey data	3/31/2026	50%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

C8	Recycled Water Feasibility Study			
(a)	Component Administration			
	Component documentation for Invoice 01 and Progress Report 01	4/30/2024	100%	4/10/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 02 and Progress Report 02	5/31/2024	100%	5/31/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 03 and Progress Report 03	8/30/2024	100%	8/16/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 04 and Progress Report 04	11/29/2024	100%	11/20/2024
	Component documentation for Invoice 05 and Progress Report 05	2/28/2025	100%	2/25/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 06 and Progress Report 06	5/30/2025	100%	5/29/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 07 and Progress Report 07	8/29/2025	100%	8/28/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 08 and Progress Report 08	11/28/2025	100%	11/24/2025
	Component documentation for Invoice 09 and Progress Report 09	2/27/2026	100%	2/25/2026
	Draft Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
	Final Component Completion Report	3/31/2027	%	Submitted
(b)	Environmental / Engineering / Design			
	Recycled Water Feasibility Study Report	3/31/2026	50%	Submitted
	Technical Memorandum that documents model update and alternatives analysis	3/31/2026	25%	Submitted
(c)	Implementation / Construction			
	N/A	N/A		
(d)	Monitoring / Assessment			

	N/A	N/A		
(e)	**Engagement / Outreach**			
	All outreach materials, as required	3/31/2026	70%	Submitted
	Meeting agendas and minutes, as required.	3/31/2026	70%	Submitted

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM

Grantee: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Project Name:
Grant #: 46-00015625

Appendix B

Photo Documentation

Not Applicable

Appendix C

Projection Table(s)

IO#: UGF23SGM2SYR

Calendar Year (CY)	Quarter 1 Jan. 1 - Mar. 31	Quarter 2 Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	Quarter 3 Jul. 1 - Sep. 30	Quarter 4 Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	Total Grant Funds per CY
2024	$ 129,626	$ 18,436	$ 104,299	$ 260,967	**$ 513,328**
2025	$ 437,693	$ 475,163	$ 650,080	$ 528,169	**$ 2,091,105**
2026	$ 375,406	$ 350,000	$ 950,000	$ 650,000	**$ 2,325,406**
2027	$ 604,161		$ -		**$ 604,161**
			$ -	$ -	**$ -**
				TOTAL:	**$ 5,534,000**
				TOTAL GRANT AWARD:	**$ 5,534,000**

WMA
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Western Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Joint Powers Authority of:
City of Lompoc
Mission Hills Community Services District
Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Vandenberg Village Community Services District

P.O. Box 7098
Los Osos, California 93412

Telephone: (805) 430-9709

WMA-SantaYnezWater.com

June 11, 2026

Via Email

City of Lompoc
James Mosby, Mayor - j_mosby@ci.lompoc.ca.us

Mission Hills CSD
Jorge Magana, Board President – jmag@mhcsd.org

Vandenberg Village CSD
Richard Gonzales, Board President – rgonzales@vvcsd.org

Santa Ynez River Water
Conservation District
Larry Lahr, Board President – llahr@syrwcd.com

Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Joan Hartmann, Board of Supervisors Vice-Chair - jhartmann@countyofsb.org

Honorable Board President Larry Lahr:

Each of you are receiving this correspondence as members of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("WMA GSA"). At its May 27, 2026 meeting, the WMA GSA Board of Directors unanimously voted to request that each of its member agencies consider amending the WMA GSA Joint Powers Agreement to add an agricultural representative board seat. This letter officially requests that the proposed amendment (enclosed herein) be placed on your agenda and considered at your next available City Council / Board of Directors meeting.

For background, the WMA GSA was formed, and exists, to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA") and to sustainably manage its portion of the groundwater subbasin. The WMA GSA was initially funded from contributions from its member agencies. Accordingly, the WMA GSA Board of Directors is comprised of a representative from each of the five member agencies. However, in June of 2025, the WMA GSA adopted a groundwater extraction fee and is now funded through the collection of that fee. Therefore, entities pumping groundwater to provide domestic water service, as well as individual landowners pumping groundwater (mainly agricultural users), are billed based on the amount of water extracted. The collection of this groundwater extraction fee now funds the WMA GSA and its SGMA implementation. Given that agricultural water users now fund a large percentage of WMA GSA costs, there has been ongoing discussion about adding a board seat for an agricultural representative.

The addition of a voting agricultural representative director would give the WMA GSA Board

input from the agricultural community and help ensure diversity of WMA groundwater users on the WMA GSA Board. A permanent agricultural representative director with a vote would provide the GSA with an agricultural perspective to implement the WMA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). This input and perspective will help the WMA GSA consider all rate payers, users, and uses of groundwater when making future decisions regarding groundwater management in the WMA. As proposed, the WMA GSA Board would establish the policy to nominate and select the agricultural representative. This representative would likely be a private citizen nominated by the Santa Ynez Water Group, an established stakeholder group in the Basin, and endorsed by agricultural organizations such as the Farm Bureau, Growers and Shippers, and the Vintners Association.

Under the existing Joint Powers Agreement, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SRWWCD) representative has four (4) votes. The proposal would be to take two (2) of those votes and give them to the new agricultural representative. Therefore, the voting power of all other WMA GSA members would remain unchanged. If approved by all WMA GSA members, the voting structure would be as follows:

(a) The Director Representing Lompoc shall have two (2) votes; ***(unchanged)***
(b) The Director Representing Vandenberg Village shall have one (1) vote; ***(unchanged)***
(c) The Director Representing Mission Hills shall have one (1) vote; ***(unchanged)***
(d) The Director Representing SYRWCD shall have two (2) votes; ***(reduced by 2)***
(e) The Director Representing Santa Barbara shall be a non-voting member; ***(unchanged)***
(f) The Agricultural Representative Director shall have (2) votes; ***(new)***.

Enclosed for your review and consideration is the proposed First Amendment to Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Revisions are highlighted. We ask that this matter be placed on your entity's agenda for consideration and request that you advise the undersigned the date on which this matter will be considered. If you find it beneficial, a representative can be present at your meeting.

In order to either move forward with this matter, or put this issue to bed, the WMA GSA Board requests that your Council/Board consider this matter and advise whether or not your entity is agreeable to amending the WMA GSA Joint Powers Agreement as proposed. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or the WMA GSA Executive Director, Dan Heimel, at 805-430-9709 or via email at wma@SantaYnezWater.org.

Sincerely,



Ron Stassi
Vice Chair, Board of Directors / Presiding Chair of the May 27, 2026 WMA Board meeting
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

FIRST AMENDMENT
TO JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR
SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN WESTERN
MANAGEMENT AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

This Agreement is made and effective as of _____, 2026 ("Effective Date"), pursuant to the California Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Govt. Code, §§ 6500, et seq.) by and among the City of Lompoc ("Lompoc"); Mission Hills Community Services District ("Mission Hills"); Vandenberg Village Community Services District ("Vandenberg"); Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District ("SYRW"); and Santa Barbara County Water Agency ("Santa Barbara") and is the First Amendment of that certain "Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency" dated November 28, 2023 ("JPA").

The JPA is amended in the following:

A. Article 2.7 is amended to read as follows:

"Article 2.7 "Director(s)" and "Alternate Director(s)" means a Director, Alternate Director, appointed by a Member or appointed by the Directors representing the Members pursuant to Articles 7.2 and 7.3, or an Agricultural Representative Director or Alternate Director appointed pursuant to Article 7.8."

B. Article 2.16 is added to read as follows:

"Article 2.16 "Agricultural Representative" means an individual appointed pursuant to Article 7.8 to serve on the Board of Directors as a voting member for the purpose of representing the agricultural interests within the WMA."

C. Articles 6.2(a) and (b) are amended to read as follows:

"(a) The approval of the Board of Directors as specified in Article 11.3;
(b) Amendment of the Agreement in accordance with Article 17.2; and"

Commented [IS1]: Current JPA cite the wrong Articles (12.3 and 18.2) this fixes that.

D. Article 7.1 is amended to read as follows:

"Article 7.1 Formation of the Board of Directors. The WMA GSA shall be governed by a Board of Directors ("Board"). Directors shall include one representative from each of the Members identified in Article 6.1, and one Agricultural Representative appointed pursuant to Article 7.8."

E. Article 7.2 is amended to read as follows:

"Article 7.2 Appointment of Director. Directors shall be appointed by the representative Member's governing body. Each Director representing a Member shall be an elected official or member of management of the appointing Member. This provision shall not be applicable to the Agricultural Representative Director position which shall be filled pursuant to Article 7.8 and subject to Article 7.9."

F. Article 7.8 is added to read as follows:

"Article 7.8 Appointment of Agricultural Representative Director. The Agricultural Representative Director shall be appointed pursuant to the nomination policy adopted by the Board of Directors, and as may be amended from time to time. Approval of said nomination shall be by a majority of the Board as provided for in Article 11.3(a)."

Commented [IS2]: Either need direction from the Board as to the nomination policy or leave this language which let's the Board set it via another document.

G. Article 7.9 is added to read as follows:

"Article 7.9 Requirements for Agricultural Representative. The Agricultural Representative Director shall be appointed as set forth in Article 7.8 and shall serve for the term set forth in the nomination policy adopted by the Board of Directors or until resignation or removal by a Supermajority Approval of the Board per Article 11.3(b). The Agricultural Representative shall serve on the Board for the purpose of representing the agricultural interests within the WMA and should be adequately qualified to represent said interests and pursuant to the nomination policy adopted by the Board of Directors, which may be amended from time to time."

H. Article 11.2 is amended to read as follows:

"Article 11.2 Director Votes. Voting by the Board of Directors shall be weighed as follows:

(a) The Director Representing Lompoc shall have two (2) votes;
(b) The Director Representing Vandenberg Village shall have one (1) vote;
(c) The Director Representing Mission Hills shall have one (1) vote;
(d) The Director Representing SYRWCD shall have two (2) votes;
(e) The Director Representing Santa Barbara shall be a non-voting member;
(f) The Agricultural Representative Director shall have (2) votes."

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Members have executed this First Amendment of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency dated November 28, 2023, to be effective on the date stated above.

CITY OF LOMPOC
A California Municipal Corporation
100 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, California 93438-8001

By: _____

(Print name)_____

(Title) _____

Date: _____

MISSION HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
1550 Burton Mesa Blvd.
Lompoc, California 93436

By: _____

(Print name)_____

(Title) _____

Date: _____

VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
3745 Constellation Road
Lompoc, California 93436-1401

By: _____

(Print name)_____

(Title) _____

Date: _____

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

By: _____

(Print name)_____

(Title) _____

Date: _____

(Signatures Continued on the Following Page)

DRAFT

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

ATTEST:
INSERT NAME
County Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board, Ex Officio Clerk of the
Santa Barbara County Water Agency

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY:

By: _____
Chair, Board of Directors

Date:

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:
Santa Barbara County Water Agency

By: _____
Department Head

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Risk Management

By: _____
Risk Management

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

INSERT NAME
County Counsel

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:
INSERT NAME
Auditor-Controller

By: _____
Deputy

DRAFT

ACKNOWLEDGED AND APPROVED BY:

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY
GROUNDWATER BASIN WESTERN
MANAGEMENT AREA GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

By:_____ By:_____
Secretary to the Board of Directors Chairman

DRAFT

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 15, 2026

TO: Larry Lahr, Phil Carpenter, Robert Dunlap, Brett Marymee, Steve Jordan

FROM: Bill Buelow, GM

SUBJECT: Consideration of Changes to Basic Life Insurance and Cell Phone Reimbursement Benefits

AGENDA ITEM - 11

Staff recommends approval of two benefit updates: increasing the Basic Life Insurance maximum benefit from $100,000 to $200,000 with minimal additional premium cost and establishing a $25 monthly stipend for District-related employee cell phone use at an estimated annual cost of $1,200.

Proposed Change to Basic Life Insurance Benefit

Since 2022, the District has provided Basic Life Insurance coverage through the Special District Risk Management Agency (SDRMA) (District Resolution 711). Full-time employees, and part-time employees who work at least 30 hours per week, are eligible for this benefit beginning one month after their date of hire.

The current benefit provides coverage equal to 100% of annual earnings, up to a maximum benefit of $200,000. Effective July 1, 2026, SDRMA will make available coverage equal to 200% of annual earnings, up to a maximum benefit of $200,000, with an approximate $500 increase in premium per employee per year for three of the four employees, if the new maximum amount is elected by each employee. The General Manager's premium would not change.

Proposed Reimbursement of Employee Cell Phone Usage

The District does not currently issue cell phones to employees and does not provide reimbursement for the use of personal cell phones for District business. District employees routinely use personal cell phones for District-related communications, including text messaging, voice calls, conferencing, and access to District email.

Many public agencies have implemented Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programs that provide a modest stipend for business-related use of personal mobile devices. This

approach supports operational efficiency, maintains workforce mobility, and avoids the administrative burden associated with purchasing, tracking, upgrading, and managing District-issued devices.

A BYOD stipend also helps ensure that ordinary and necessary District operating costs are not shifted to employees when personal devices are used for District business. Under IRS guidance, cell phone allowances provided for substantial non-compensatory business reasons may be treated as a non-taxable working condition fringe benefit.

Staff recommends establishing a $25 monthly stipend per employee for business-related cell phone usage. If an employee incurs expenses above the stipend in a given month, the employee may request additional reimbursement with supporting documentation and GM approval under the District's existing reimbursement procedures.

The stipend would be administered through the District's existing reimbursement process, including expense reports, supporting documentation, and GM approval.

Financial Impact to the District:

The proposed increase in Basic Life Insurance coverage would increase the premium about $1,500/year for three of the four employees.

The proposed BYOD stipend would cost $25 per month per participant. For the District's four employees, the annual cost would be approximately $1,200.

Summary:

Together, these two changes improve employee benefits, support operational efficiency, and maintain responsible benefit administration with modest or no fiscal impact to the District.

Recommended Actions:

1) Approve an increase in the Basic Life Insurance benefit from 100% to 200% annual salary with a maximum benefit of$200,000, at an estimated annual cost of $1,500 to the District.

2) Approve a monthly BYOD stipend of $25 for employees, for business-related use of personal cell phones, at an estimated annual cost of $1,200.

3) Optional Action: Consider whether to extend the BYOD stipend to Directors, which would add approximately $1,500 in annual cost to the District.

Santa Ynez River

WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SUMMARY

REVISION EFFECTIVE JULY 1, ~~2025~~2026

BASIC LIFE and ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE

VOYA – ReliaStar Life Insurance Company
1-800-955-7736 voya.com
Life Insurance Claims: 1-888-238-4840

GROUP POLICY NAME: Public Risk Innovation, Solutions and Management (PRISM)

GROUP PLAN NUMBER: 316407

SDRMA Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Account #458

Eligibility:

- Participation optional
- Full time employees – 1st of the month following the date of hire
- Part time employees (30 hours per week or more) – 1st of the month following the date of hire
- Part time employees (less than 30 hours per week) – Not eligible

Benefit:
District pays entire premium for employees.

Coverage Information:

Employee Volume Amount:	~~100~~200% of annual earnings up to $200,000
Guaranteed Issue Amount:	$200,000
Benefit Reduction Formula:	65% at age 65 50% at age 70
Accelerated Death Benefit:	50% of Life Benefits if less than 6-month life expectancy

Optional Supplemental Life Coverage:
Employee may opt to purchase Supplemental Life Insurance from Voya, at employee's expense. However, employee must be enrolled in VOYA Financial Basic Life and AD&D. In addition, spouse or dependents can enroll in Supplemental Life, at employee's expense, only if the employee is enrolled in Supplemental Life.

VOYA FINANCIAL BASIC LIFE AND AD&D – RATES GUARANTEED UNTIL JULY 1, 2027

For Groups with 10(+) Employee lives Basic Life and AD&D Benefits		
Eligibility:	All Eligible Employees working at least 20 hrs/wk	
Life Benefits:	Groups may elect a flat amount of: $10,000-$200,000 in $10,000 increments Basic life benefits have to be defined by class of employee; i.e. City manager, confidential employees, etc. or All employees as one class or 1x Annual Salary or 2x Annual Salary	
AD&D Benefits:	Same as Life	
Guaranteed Issue Amount	$200,000	
Benefit Reduction Formula	Age	% of Original Benefit
	65	65%
	70	50%
Accelerated Death Benefit	50% of Life Benefits if less than 6 Month Life Expectancy	
Waiver of Premium	Included	
Seat Belt Benefit (AD&D)	Included	
Basic Life and AD&D Rate per $1,000:	$0.272*	

For Groups with less than 10 Employee lives Basic Life and AD&D Benefits		
Eligibility:	All Eligible Employees working at least 20 hrs/wk	
Life Benefits:	Groups may elect a flat amount of: $10,000-$200,000 in $10,000 increments Basic life benefits have to be defined by class of employee; i.e. City manager, confidential employees, etc. or All employees as one class or 1x Annual Salary or 2x Annual Salary	
AD&D Benefits:	Same as Life	
Guaranteed Issue Amount	$200,000	
Benefit Reduction Formula	Age	% of Original Benefit
	65	65%
	70	50%
Accelerated Death Benefit	50% of Life Benefits if less than 6 Month Life Expectancy	
Waiver of Premium	Included	
Seat Belt Benefit (AD&D)	Included	
Basic Life and AD&D Rate per $1,000: Under Age 30	$0.202*	
Basic Life and AD&D Rate per $1,000: Age 30-39	$0.264*	
Basic Life and AD&D Rate per $1,000: Age 40-49	$0.368*	
Basic Life and AD&D Rate per $1,000: Over Age 49	$0.507*	

<u>Example Calculation</u>

Sample for 10+ Employee lives

1 employee with 100,000 of life insurance

Volume X rate/1000

100,000 X 0.272/1000 = $27.20

* Rates provided on Ancillary invoice may vary slightly because of rounding.

Entities must contribute a minimum of 75% of the cost for active employees only. See page 3, note 3 for underwriting guideline of entity contribution for active employees.

NOTE: THIS SUMMARY IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY. IT DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND, OR ALTER THE CURRENT POLICY IN ANY WAY. IN THE EVENT INFORMATION IN THIS SUMMARY DIFFERS FROM THE PLAN DOCUMENT, THE PLAN DOCUMENT WILL PREVAIL.

THIS SUMMARY IS INTENDED TO COMPARE COVERAGE BENEFITS ONLY. THE ACTUAL PLAN CONTRACT SHOULD BE CONSULTED FOR A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF COVERAGE BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS.

2026 Local Agency Biennial Notice

Name of Agency: Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 719, Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Contact Person: Amber Thompson Phone No. 805-693-1156, ext 405

Email: athompson@syrwcd.com Alternate Email: _____

Accurate disclosure is essential to monitor whether officials have conflicts of interest and to help ensure public trust in government. The biennial review examines current programs to ensure that the agency's code includes disclosure by those agency officials who make or participate in making governmental decisions.

This agency has reviewed its conflict of interest code and has determined that *(check one BOX):*

☐ **An amendment is required. The following amendments are necessary:**

(Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Include new positions
- ☐ Revise disclosure categories
- ☐ Revise the titles of existing positions
- ☐ Delete titles of positions that have been abolished and/or positions that no longer make or participate in making governmental decisions
- ☐ Other *(describe)* _____

☐ **The code is currently under review by the code reviewing body.**

☑ **No amendment is required.** (If your code is over five years old, amendments may be necessary.)

Verification **(to be completed if no amendment is required)**

This agency's code accurately designates all positions that make or participate in the making of governmental decisions. The disclosure assigned to those positions accurately requires that all investments, business positions, interests in real property, and sources of income that may foreseeably be affected materially by the decisions made by those holding designated positions are reported. The code includes all other provisions required by Government Code Section 87302.

_____ _____

Signature of Chief Executive Officer *Date*

All agencies must complete and return this notice regardless of how recently your code was approved or amended. Please return this notice no later than **October 1, 2026**, or by the date specified by your agency, if earlier, to:

(PLACE RETURN ADDRESS OF CODE REVIEWING BODY HERE)

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE FPPC.